

Inside YCS

A NEWSLETTER
BY AND FOR ALL YCS EMPLOYEES



VOLUME 30 | February 2026

PRESIDENT/CEO
TARA AUGUSTINE

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INSIDE YCS

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MONTH'S ISSUE OF THE
NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU FOR
YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

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Cover photo: Southern Region
Treatment Home Team

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President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

This is an exciting time at YCS. We stand on the precipice of truly transformative opportunities. While the Great Place to Work survey highlighted many strengths across our organization, your honest feedback also identified clear areas for growth. As CEO, I take that feedback seriously and see it as an opportunity for us to grow stronger together. This year, we are committed to addressing those concerns and launching an agencywide Culture of Caring initiative. Creating an environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and safe requires the engagement of each of us.



Tara Augustine

It is fitting that this work begins during YCS Employee Appreciation Month. Although Employee Appreciation Day is traditionally observed on March 6, we are extending our celebration throughout the entire month—and beyond—until appreciation becomes naturally embedded in our daily interactions. To support our Culture of Caring initiative, each newsletter will highlight one essential component of a supportive workplace. In this issue, we begin with the foundational practice of listening (p.33).

This winter tested us with dangerous snow and ice storms, along with a steady stream of unsettling news. These are undeniably challenging times. YCS Clinical Director Michelle Robbins addresses these realities in her thoughtful article, "Look for the Helpers." Michelle reminds us that even when the world feels unkind, "the compassion of humans is also visible in the underside of every story" (p. 19).

With the days growing longer and the first signs of spring beginning to emerge, our DCF programs and schools are already preparing for our annual Blossoms Art Exhibit and Awards Show on May 4. Thanks to the dedication of our art and music allied therapists in the south, along with the participation of youth from the former NJ Mentor homes, this year's event will include even more young artists. Blossoms is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to shine—and for us to celebrate the employees who encourage and support them.

As always, I am deeply appreciative of your commitment to the individuals and families we serve. Because of your dedication over the past six months, the financial stability of our agency remains strong. That stability allows us to reinvest in our people, our programs, and the environments where care happens (see p. 21-22 for examples of recent facility upgrades). As we move toward the close of this fiscal year, I remain confident in what we can accomplish together—and grateful to work alongside a team whose compassion and professionalism continue to define the mission of YCS.

Your compassion is the foundation of our mission.

Tara

Employee Appreciation Month

Congratulations to our winners of the Employee Appreciation Day, March 6, “We See You” Raffle:

Schools: **Yolanda Nickels**

Community: **Dosty Enrico**

Residential: **Nigeria Thompson, Joy Onyekuru, Sylvia Mosley, Erika Johnson**

Employee Appreciation Photo Raffle Contest

We want to see your teams at your program, in action! Submit a team photo during the month of March, and every team pictured will receive one raffle entry.

Photos can be:

- Taken during a team meeting
- Candid during a shift
- Themed or fun
- Simple group photos

How to Participate:

- Email your team photo to [insert email/link]
- Deadline: March 28
- Five entries per team

Photos will be included in a video presentation on the day of the raffle drawing.

The winning program will be treated to a team lunch or dinner.



Jerry “DJ Juiceman” Henderson will be streaming music live from 1-1:30 PM, on March 31st prior to the raffle drawing, which will occur promptly at 1:30 PM.

Welcome New Employees

New Employees and Interns who completed 90 days by February 22, 2026

Allen, Zakeyyah M. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Davis	Dawkins, Nia Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Malcolm House	Herald, Urshala D. Residential Assistant DCF-RTC Holley	Martinez, Stephanie A. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Coopers Crossing	Scott, Randa Teacher Aide DOE-Sawtelle Learning Ctr
Anthony, Jamila Shift Supervisor DCF-PCH Laurie Haven	Doe, Felix Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Phoenix	Holmes-Davis, Dante Residential Assistant DCF-PCH IDD Camden	McCain, Takeyah Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Fisher Hall	Seguin, Julie Nurse RN HealthSvc-ResidentNurse-N
Bizi, Raymond T. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Fisher Hall	Dossous, Naderge Intern - UnPaid DCF-PCH IDD Sawtelle Hall	Hutchinson III, Berkeley E. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Laurie Haven	Nelson, Sarah Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Laurie Haven	Sidney, India M. Residential Assistant DCF-SPEC Pinewood Valley
Black, Donaire R. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Phoenix	Doyle, John Clinician DCF-PCH Fisher Hall	James, Brandon Residential Assistant DCF-SPEC Kilbarchan	Ngwa, Evelyn K. ADV PRA Nurse HealthSvc-PsychPrescrib-N	Skripak, JoAnna Physical Therapist DOE-Sawtelle Learning Ctr
Blathers, Shane Teacher Aide DOE-George Washington	Dunn, Stefan Teacher Aide DOE-Sawtelle Learning Ctr	Johnson, Dana Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Sicklerville	Onyekuru, Joy Personal Assistant DDD - Cavan House	Spann, Savannah R. Teacher Aide DOE-Sawtelle Learning Ctr
Blouin, Michelle-Dominique Benefits Coordinator Human Resources	Ernsteen, Ilyssa Clinician DCF-RTC Holley	Kissi, Esther Residential Assistant DCF-PCH IDD Sawtelle Hall	Perdomo, Julia HR Assistant Human Resources	Tann, Dachemia Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Fisher Hall
Clark, Aminah Teacher Aide DOE-Sawtelle Learning Ctr	Floyd, Michelle Personal Assistant DDD-Buena Vista	Kopack, Kathryn M. Reading Specialist DOE-George Washington	Randleman, Gloria Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Laurie Haven	Thomas, Shamoneke D. Personal Assistant DDD-Greenbrook
Clay, Quanisha Personal Assistant DDD-Apts Supvr Buffalo	Fortson, Leona Y. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Laurie Haven	LaBarbera, Roberta Clinician DCF-IRTS Kilbarchan	Readus, Kyle B. Teacher Aide DOE-George Washington	Thompson, Sunni Residential Assistant DCF-RTC Holley
Comer Jr., Frank Shift Supervisor DCF-CSAP Hammonton	Hall Jr., Robert A. Personal Assistant DDD-Blackwood	Leigh, Karlie-Ann Residential Assistant DCF-GH1 IDD Wood Haven	Ridore, Gabriel Personal Assistant DDD-Walnut	Turay, Ibrahim Personal Assistant DDD - Cavan House
Cornish, Jayden Teacher Aide DOE-George Washington	Hannibal, Shydai I. Residential Assistant DCF-PCH Fisher Hall	Lewis, LaTora Personal Assistant DDD-EmergCapacity Haledon	Roberts, Nadia Personal Assistant DDD-Pearl	Wilkins, Alton Cook Food Services
Davis, Deyanna Residential Assistant DCF-PCH IDD Sewell	Hawkins, Keyarah Residential Assistant DCF-GH1 IDD Wood Haven	Loor Gomez, Shirley P. Teacher Aide DOE-George Washington	Rosencranz, Julianna Nurse RN HealthSvc-ResidentNurse-S	Younger, Lori M. Allied Therapist DCF-PCH Haddon Heights

Promotions

Congratulations!!!

*Your dedication and hard work have truly paid off.
Wishing you all the best in this new chapter of your career at YCS.*



Garrison, Rayletta, COO Residential Services, Regional Admin - 5501

Hammond, Emani, Shift Supervisor, DDD-Morris

Rodriguez, Regina, Program Director, DCF-IRTS Holley Muller

Warrington, Latia R., Shift Supervisor, DCF-PCH IDD Cedarbrook

Williams-Lindsey, Ellen H., Case Manager, DCF-CSAP Hammonton



*Congratulations
on your promotion!*

RAYLETTA GARRISON
MS, LBA, BCBA

**CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER
OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES**

YCS
Embracing All the Possibilities

The graphic features a blue background with gold and white curved borders at the top and bottom. It includes a central circular portrait of Rayletta Garrison, a smiling woman with dark hair, wearing a black and grey top. The text is in a mix of white and gold colors, with the name and title in bold. The YCS logo is at the bottom.

Shoutouts

To All Our Amazing Employees!

- ✦ **Abioye Oyeyemi** continues to be a strong, dedicated worker at Pinewood Valley SPEC program. "Mr. B" is always running groups aimed at helping provide the youth with proper life and social skills that they can utilize once discharged from the program.
- ✦ **Alfred Smith** (3-11 supv) for providing consistent hands-on daily care to the youth and being present and supportive even during inclement weather.
- ✦ **Alfred Smith** (Supvr) & **Walik Albright** (RTC RA) for supporting staff with food during difficult conditions.
- ✦ **Amajanae Crumbley** (IRTS RA) established the Becoming Her and Him Group, creating a safe and supportive space where youth can grow, reflect, build confidence, and have fun. Her initiative empowers youth and fosters self-awareness in a meaningful way.
- ✦ **Andrea Lara**, GWS Teacher Asst. Thank you for using your contacts to bring incredible presenters for our students. We had martial arts and military presentations that were engaging, inspiring, and meaningful. The students absolutely loved it, and the experiences made a lasting impression. We truly appreciate your initiative and commitment to enriching our school community!
- ✦ **Ann Austin** is always very flexible to float to classrooms to help with staffing. She is always so positive and helpful no matter if she's in the gym or floating to SLC classrooms.
- ✦ **Ashlea Emberger**, PD for Fisher Hall is settling in with the new position and eagerly meeting the challenges that come with management.
- ✦ **Ashley Hill** for working hard to ensure her programs are filled to census and often starting intake tasks early in the morning to make sure that her programs have everything they need. The intake team is lucky to have such a strong worker.
- ✦ **Bashir Grimes** (Supv) & **Shayla** (Sup) for their daily leadership, guidance, and support.
- ✦ **Brandon James** for his exceptional dedication to KB and the youth in his care.
- ✦ **Carlene Colston**, **Carmeline Paul**, **Valerie Stella**, and **Silvia Lizarazo** for stepping up to manage reception and working together to support a smooth transition at our new West Orange office.

Shoutouts

To All Our Amazing Employees!

- ✦ **Cerentia McElroy** is the girls' "go to," she models the behavior she expects from the girls and embodies the term GIRL POWER. Whispering Mills girls take pride in Sunday resets with Ms. Cece and express feeling good about using her as their safe space.
- ✦ **Christina Staiger** has shown her dedication and care in her role as Case Manager at Sayre House in just her first few weeks/months. Christina is eager to learn and help the youth in any way she can. Her groups remain educational, clinical, and youth-focused. Awesome job, Christina!
- ✦ **Dachemia Tann** (Fisher RA), **Stacie Bridgeman** (Fisher RA), **Rontairey White** (RA), and **Takeyah McCain** (Fisher RA) for staying during the snowstorm and going above and beyond for the youth.
- ✦ **Danielle Wooley, Jessica Judy, Nicole Ciencin, Jennifer Reasoner, and Meadow Ridge staff Mr. John Cruz** for your patience and assistance while we recruit for a program nurse. Your communication and teamwork is greatly appreciated.
- ✦ **Deirdre, Kallisha, Sandra, and Kiara** at Harper's Lane for your communication and teamwork with nursing, especially during the late on-call hours and program crisis.
- ✦ **Dina Sundberg** and **Octavia Green** you two are the GOATs! Thank you for your unwavering support to Nursing!!
- ✦ **Dyamond Divine** is doing great as Intake Coordinator. Dyamond prioritizes her programs and ensures that her programs have prompt meet and greets and beds are filled timely! Thank you for all of your hard work, Dyamond!
- ✦ **Edna Castellanos** and **Michelle Simpson**, you two are rockstars for staying the weekend of the snowstorm at Holley Center to ensure nursing coverage was provided to the campus.
- ✦ **Edna Castellanos, Michelle Simpson** and **Paul McGann** your assistance in OOL prep for Holley RTC and Muller IRTS OOL inspection was appreciated... no medical citations!!
- ✦ **Elizabeth Dennis** is always happy to help with buses at SLC. She is very flexible, helping in the classrooms.
- ✦ **Emily Miller** for demonstrating great leadership in her role as PD at Sayre House. Emily has created schedules for groups to help ensure that the youth are receiving the services they need and has helped train incoming staff on best practices when working with our youth! Keep up the great work!

Shoutouts

To All Our Amazing Employees!

- ✦ **Faheemah Walton** for your assistance in nursing coverage at Harper's Lane while we recruit for a program nurse. Thank you.
- ✦ **Hannah Girard** and **Jennifer Wade** for all your hard work at the various programs you are assigned to and on-call coverage to several programs.
- ✦ **Holley Winter Storm Warriors - Takeyah McCain, Dachechia Tann, Stacie Bridgeman, Jessica Parades, Ms. Cleo, Eric Salvary, Randell White, Iesha Loyal, Walik Albright, Ashley Moctezuma, Alfred Smith, Nigeria Thompson, and Jashon Dawson** — your dedication and resilience exemplify the mission and spirit of our team.
- ✦ **Inisa Bey** is always early to shift and proactive in supporting her team. Ms. I is always willing to make her famous ziti for the girls and engage them in fun recipes on her off days. Kudos to Ms. I!
- ✦ **Isabella Festa** continues to demonstrate leadership within Vineland and other programs. Isabella shows compassion for the youth she works with and has been a great mentor for new clinicians in our region. You are awesome!
- ✦ **Jada Carter** for helping cover shifts across programs and provide support to staff! We appreciate all of your hard work and care for our youth!
- ✦ **Jahmilah Wilson** (RA) and **Rontairey White** (RA) assisted in ensuring youth at Fisher Hall received self-care with haircuts and manicures, reinforcing confidence and the importance of personal pride.
- ✦ **Jessica** (RTC RA) baked a beautiful Valentine's Day cake along with the youth, adding a sweet and collaborative touch to the celebrations.
- ✦ **Jessica Maye** (Supv), **Juanita Holt** (RA), **Eric Salvary** (RA), and **Sasha Sylvestre** (RA) hosted a Valentine's Day party for the youth at Fisher Hall, filling the day with joy, laughter, and connection.
- ✦ **Juan Carlos Fajardo, Latoya Pope** and **Paul McGann** thank you for assisting with nursing needs at Sawtelle Learning Center.
- ✦ **Julianna Rosencranz** for weathering the ups and downs during this transitional time for the new Southern Region programs. Your hard work and diligence do not go unnoticed!

Shoutouts

To All Our Amazing Employees!

- ✦ **Kayla Billups** for effectively coordinating campus operations, providing timely staffing updates and communicating clearly regarding youth weekend passes, including pick-up and drop-off details.
- ✦ **KB IRTS team** who have been working together in meeting the needs of a challenging youth who seems to have given up on the program.
- ✦ **Kilbarchan nursing – Torie, Tori Ann, Willy and Cardett** for your continued hard work to make sure the campus consistently maintains contractual outcome compliance and high QAPI audit scores. YOU ARE APPRECIATED!
- ✦ **Lakirah, Ashley, Jonquea, and Dawn** (SRT) for assisting, decorating, and attending our Paint n Chill for our Northern Region youth programs in Newark. We could not have done this without you all.
- ✦ **Laura Gustad** for always going above and beyond for students and staff – and always giving POSITIVE vibes.
- ✦ **Liz Jessen** is always happy to help when asked. She is always whipping up new recipes in the SLC kitchen for the students.
- ✦ **Louella Favor**, nurse at GW school, congratulations for an excellent Hackensack Board of Health immunization audit.
- ✦ **Makeda Woodson** and **Reginald Rosarion** for helping to implement the "Buddy Program" between Malcolm House and Laurie Haven.
- ✦ **Marsha Armstrong** for her strong work ethic and leadership at Whispering Mills. We appreciate you prioritizing the safety and security of your youth and staff.
- ✦ **Melissa Ottey** has a GREAT attitude! She is super quick to learn how every student at SLC works. She did not hesitate to help anywhere she can.
- ✦ **Nicole Ciencin** and **Meadow Ridge staff** for making your program a second office for me while West Orange was in development. Thank you.
- ✦ **Nia Dawkins** (new hire) and **Shaneika Fortenbury** for working through the storm.

Shoutouts

To All Our Amazing Employees!

- ✦ **NR Maintenance Dept.** for being readily available and responding promptly to requests for support in maintaining the heat on KB1 during colder temperatures.
- ✦ **Randell White** (Holley Supv) for maintaining stability with our most challenging youth as the weekend supervisor.
- ✦ **Riley Young** for meeting your contractual outcomes! We appreciate your hard work and care provided to the youth. Great job!
- ✦ **Shaerisa Bank** is always willing to pivot and self-reflect. She has focused on providing therapeutic supports for the girls through journaling and intentional listening.
- ✦ **Shenika Miles** is always willing to support the team. If there's a challenge, she's the lead on troubleshooting and prioritizing the girls' feelings.
- ✦ **Stacie Bridgeman** (Fisher RA) worked with the youth to surprise Anna Taylor (Cook) with a Valentine's Day gift. Ms. Ann shared, "I've never felt so much love."
- ✦ **Tahjanay Johnson** for continuing to demonstrate strong leadership as CRS at Davis House.
- ✦ **Taina Montalvo** continues to demonstrate strong advocacy as Intake Coordinator in the Southern Region.
- ✦ **Tara Earl** (RTC RA) delivered desserts to all units, ensuring every youth felt included in the celebration.
- ✦ **Tracey Ridley**, Laurie Haven, Asst. PD for his nomination to the Emerging Leaders Program.
- ✦ **Urshala Herald** (RTC RA) for steady leadership and clear communication throughout the storm.
- ✦ **Willy DeOrbe** for accepting the undertaking of nursing oversight at Haven Court and becoming a full-time YCS employee!
- ✦ **Yahnique Jordan** and **Eshyna Sackey Bennett** are the dynamic duo—always compliant with documentation, always positive, and always SHOW UP!

Clinical Rounds

Reactive Attachment Disorder
April 2 | Virtual

Facilitated by **Michelle Robbins, LCSW**
CEUS are available

Get Well



Yesenia Fulgencio, AVP of NR DD Services, delivered a get-well-soon fruit basket to **George Opoku**, NR House Manager, on behalf his leadership team.

On behalf of all our colleagues, we would like to wish George a smooth and speedy recovery.

Work Anniversaries

Congratulations!

YEARS	Name	YEARS	Name
30	Beckford, Andrew	5	Smith, Christopher G.
28	Mangual, Luis	5	Thomas, Parrish
26	Magazine, James C.	4	Barry, Elizabeth A.
26	Waller III, William E.	4	Hawkins, Laura
26	Corvino, Caroline O.	4	Kablansi, Djabia A.
23	Favor, Louella	4	Butler, Kasheim
21	Wdzieczkowski, Kyle	4	Woodard, BiYonce C.
20	Taylor, Taj	3	Friday, Khalah
20	Sarpong, George O.	3	Guerrero, Laura M.
19	Toth, William	3	Pierre, Guerdy
18	Dailey, Toni E.	3	Roth, Theresa C.
18	Beauvil, Chantal D.	3	Turner, Devin R.
15	Clark, Aaron	3	Burke, Tarsi
15	Garrison, Rayletta	3	Bush, Chartel D.
10	Amara, Wuya S.	3	Casey, Danielle
10	Johnstone Sr., Michael W.	3	Lloyd, Rashad
9	Malone, LaShayna	3	Oates, Shantay
8	Maye, Jessica L.	3	Sanders, Shamees
8	Parks, Erica	3	Way, Courtlynn
8	Johnson Babalola, Cardinal	3	Gutierrez, Katherine
8	Grant, Aaron	3	Hill, Ashley N.
8	Tripp, Brian	3	Davidson, Aqueelah A.
7	Lofland, David D.	3	Miller, Jamil
6	Ragsdale, Wadirah	3	Jackson, Courtney



Work Anniversaries



Congratulations!

YEARS	Name	YEARS	Name
2	Robinson, Mark	1	Woods, Michael C.
2	Williams, Tawanda A.	1	Aponte-Beltran, Kayra
2	Dean, Jahmani	1	Little, Grace
2	Rivera, Melissa	1	Urena, Melissa
2	Roberson, Tyler		
2	Barr, Iajaiyah		
1	Gehrig-Mullins, Lorraine		
1	Healey, Taylor		
1	Houston, Shauna		
1	McAlister, Brandi		
1	Mears, Paris		
1	Robinson, Beth		
1	Waters, Jessica		
1	Parker, Justin		
1	Rogers, Onassha		
1	Acevedo, Tania D.		
1	Brito, Jasmine A.		
1	Gentry, Ronald C.		
1	Regel, Claire		
1	Wilson, Wendy A.		
1	Chandler, Maurese		
1	Harris, Sabrina		
1	Malhi, Gunneet		
1	Salvary, Eric		
1	Sodeko I, Ibrahim A.		

Milestones



Professional Accomplishments

We'd like to congratulate **Dr. Esther Elbaum** on becoming a licensed psychologist. She started with the Institute as a psychology intern and has played an important role in our outpatient clinic's psychological and developmental evaluations.

Congratulations to **Kelly Butryn**, on being selected to participate in the NJ Department of Health's new taskforce. To be chosen as one of only four Unit Coordinators across the state is a true testament to your expertise, collaborative spirit, and the leadership you bring to this work. We're proud to see your contributions recognized at the state level.

We'd like to congratulate **Myesha Eutsey**, Hilltop Home PA. She has earned three degrees: Associate: Bucks County Community, Bachelor of Social Work: LaSalle University class of 2022, Masters of Social Work: Delaware State University class of 2025. She continues to grow both personally and professionally "while doing work she loves" at YCS.

Employee Snapshot



Myesha Eutsey

Princeton Hilltop Personal Assistant

Moving On

It's Hard to Say Goodbye

After a career at YCS that has spanned more than two decades, **Dina Sundberg**, IMS Manager, is moving on. For Dina's colleagues who were challenged by technology and electronic reporting, her kindness, patience, and cheerfulness, cannot be understated. Michele DiFilippo, IMS Support Specialist, says, "it has truly been a pleasure working with Dina. Her leadership, support, and the way she genuinely cared about our team made a lasting impact on all of us. Dina set a standard of professionalism and kindness that won't be forgotten. Wishing her continued success and happiness in her next chapter... [wherever you go] they are lucky to have you!"

On behalf of the YCS Family, we extend our deepest gratitude to Dina for her dedication to her work and her genuine concern for her colleagues. We wish her continued good health and success as she begins her next chapter.

After more than 20 years with YCS, it is bittersweet to say goodbye. YCS has truly been a home away from home for me. I will deeply miss my colleagues – the friendships, the teamwork, and the shared commitment to making a difference every day.

It has been an honor to serve alongside such dedicated professionals, while helping the children and families with support. From collaborating with fellow employees to working directly with those in our care, the mission of helping others has always been at the heart of my journey.

Thank you for the memories, the growth, and the opportunity to be part of something so meaningful. YCS will always hold a special place in my heart. ~ Dina Sundberg

Employee Spotlight

For this month's issue of Inside YCS, the Employee Spotlight will shine a light on all the staff of the YCS Treatment Home program - honoring their belief that every member of their team is equally important to their success.

YCS Treatment Home's Core Beliefs

Our treatment homes are more than just a location; they are structured, supportive environments where healing, growth, and transformation happen every day. What truly makes our homes unique is the intentional combination of safety, structure, compassion, and teamwork that guides everything we do.

We understand that healing happens best in environments where individuals feel safe, respected, and valued. Our homes are designed to balance therapeutic structure with warmth and normalcy.



Treatment Homes Team

Youth are not just participants in a program; they are individuals with strengths, goals, and potential. We focus on building life skills, emotional regulation, healthy relationships, and personal accountability in a setting that feels supportive rather than institutional.

Every youth comes to us with their own story, challenges, and strengths. Our approach is individualized, meaning treatment plans are tailored to meet specific needs. We address emotional, behavioral, social, independent living, and educational goals while helping youth build confidence and resilience. By focusing on the whole person, we promote long-term success rather than short-term change. We follow the model of FAMILY: Forget About Me, I Love Youth (You). This philosophy reminds us daily that our work is rooted in service, compassion, and putting youth first. **TH Team**

Tracie Bass, AVP of Treatment Homes

I have been with YCS for 11 years, beginning my career as a clinician and advancing through the organization to my current role as Assistant Vice President. What truly sets our treatment home program apart is how well we work together as a team. Our staff operate with open communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to our mission. Case managers, clinicians, mentors, nurses, psychiatrists, and Treatment Home Parents collaborate closely to ensure consistency in care. Treatment Home Parents play a vital role in creating a nurturing, family-like environment while reinforcing therapeutic goals in everyday interactions. They provide stability, guidance, and positive modeling that help youth practice the skills they are learning in real time.

We support not only our youth but one another. Tx Homes staff steps in during difficult moments/crisis, encourages, and recognizes each other's strengths. This culture of teamwork reduces burnout, builds morale, and creates a stable environment where youth can thrive, and where we see long-term commitment from both staff and families. When our team works well together, our youth feel it. They experience stability, trust, and genuine care, and that makes all the difference.

Employee Spotlight

Ashley Gledhill, RN, BSN Nurse Manager

I was gifted the opportunity to work at treatment homes in 2020 during Covid. I say gifted, because this is the sort of team of coworkers you dream of working with. Being a part of the youth's progress as they (hopefully) become one step closer to being back home or with a new forever family, is truly rewarding. I am grateful to be part of a team that not only supports the youth but also supports one another.

Anitra Frayer, Mentor

I remained in my role as a Youth Mentor for 13 years because of the strong alignment between my values and the mission of the agency. I deeply appreciate the flexibility Treatment Homes provides, which allows me to grow in other areas of my life. Working with youth, building relationships, helping them work through and taking pride in their goals. That flexibility ensures that support is individualized, timely, and meaningful. Being able to serve our youth and work as a team has helped keep our team strong and like family.

Overall, being able to provide consistent guidance, fun and real experiences, we can encourage our young people and help them build confidence and stability. The combination of flexibility, teamwork, and the opportunity to make a lasting impact is what has made my 10 years and returning 3-year journey both rewarding and purposeful.

Fran Feigl MD, Vice President of Psychiatry

I am grateful for the many blessings YCS Treatment Homes have given me. Treatment Homes youth, families and staff give their best love, respect, and care to each other. Every youth who comes to Treatment Homes has survived trauma, loss, and many other assaults on their dignity, personhood, and well-being. All Treatment Homes youth have, by their own strength and will, survived extreme hardship and continue to survive. Treatment Homes families and staff understand the battles youth have fought, respect youth's strengths and experience, and honor youth's needs and identities while supporting and guiding them through growth beyond survival to setting goals and taking control of their lives. It is an honor and my privilege to work with the YCS Treatment Homes community!

Yajaira Samayoa, Treatment Home/ IMS Admin Assist.

I've been working for YCS for 17 years (2008). I love working for Tx Homes because we are not just co-workers in this department, we are more like a family. Whether there is a youth crisis or just an activity here for the youths at the office, we have each other's back. With a great boss like Tracie and awesome co-workers, I can see myself working here for another 17 years.

Christopher Bertino, LCSW Clinician

I have been at YCS treatment homes for 12 years and I like being in treatment homes because I get to work with lots of different children and we don't have a lot of turnovers within the program. I have a great supporting staff from higher ups of Treatment homes and my colleagues, who always try to work together to solve problems.

Employee Spotlight

Demira Brown, LSW Clinician

I began my journey at YCS as an intern in 2021. I have remained with the organization while studying to earn my LCSW and completing my required supervision hours. The flexibility YCS provides, including the ability to adjust my schedule as needed, has been a key reason for my continued commitment.

Ashia Jenkins, Case-manager

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation as a dedicated member of the YCS team since 2017. My journey with the organization began as an intern, and I was honored to transition into a permanent position in 2019. Over these years, YCS has provided an invaluable environment for both my academic and professional growth. It has been particularly rewarding to build a career in a field that deeply aligns with my passion and interests. My commitment to YCS stems from the positive and collaborative work culture, the support from my colleagues, and, most notably, the exceptional leadership I've received from my direct supervisor.

Katia Smith, Case-manager

I have been with YCS treatment homes for over 23 years. Throughout my time with YCS treatment homes, it has been great. Treatment homes staff feels like a family away from home. The staff is very supportive, and we all practice great teamwork.

Anthony Raymond, Recruiter

What has impacted me most throughout these 18 years is the relationships built along the way. Professionally, I have grown through collaboration with dedicated colleagues who share the same heart for service. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated successes, and remained steadfast in our commitment to children and families.

Equally meaningful are the relationships formed with our treatment home parents. Walking alongside them with their questions, sacrifices, and victories has deeply shaped both my professional and personal growth. Their resilience, compassion, and willingness to provide structure, nurture, and unconditional support to children in need continually inspire me. Supporting them in their journey has strengthened my own sense of purpose and reinforced why this work matters.

William Waller, VP of Treatment Homes

It has truly been a blessing to be a part of a team with shared values across the multidisciplinary team throughout my tenure at YCS. While I have been responsible for ensuring that everyone understands and supports the "vision", it has been my great honor to see that the canvas is large enough and requires each member of the team owns their part and contribute in their own unique way to the motif. This of course includes our treatment home parent community who are the heart of the service. Together, this creative ensemble of artists combines to form a unified whole that has produced a meaningful difference in the lives of many children and youth served. I am grateful to lead such a distinguished group of human beings!

Clinical Focus

Look for the Helpers

From a clinician's lens,
Michelle Robbins, LCSW
Clinical Director
YCS Southern Region PCH-IDD/CSAP



Mr. Rogers

I have been called to remember a quote by Mr. Rogers, from a story about his mother. It goes "When I was a boy and would see scary things in the news, my Mother would say to me 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping'...I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers—so many caring people in this world".

I doubt I only speak for myself when I say that I am struggling with the enormity of "it all". It is difficult to know where to look to find bright spots in the world today; With each news story or social media post things get heavier and vicarious trauma and burnout are widespread.

For me, I am finding hope in that regardless of how dark and cruel things seem, the compassion of humans is also visible in the underside of every story. I am finding light in the beautiful moments of community rebellion, of people standing up for people who are unable to have a voice. In the background of every tragedy, there are people who are there to pick up the pieces and help victims put their lives back together again. I am heartened to remember that WE are the helpers, we are the people who care every single day for people who need us, and we do so because we are called to be there for them.

There is still immense good in this world, and you are all a part of it.



Happy Birthday!!



February Birthdays

Aaron Hairston	Demira Brown	James Kiamie	Kylen Robinson	Stefan Dunn
Abioye Oyeyemi	Diana A. Brown	Jayla Dozier	LaShayna Malone	Stephanie Florestal
Alexis A. Treanor	Diana Kinsley	Jannah M. Mangar	Latia R. Warrington	Steve Alce
Andre Snead	Dionne D. Perry	Jermaine Dunkins	LaToya Chestnut	Tania Isley-Robinson
Andres Hernandez	Djems S. Pierre	Jovanna Foster	Laura M. Guerrero	Tempestt S. Hutchinson
Angela Newman	Donald E. Jones III	Kamaria C. Vaughn	Lorenzo Joyce Jr.	Thereasa Johnson
Aquita Randall	Duquan Baskin	Karen Nevarez	Maribette Ramirez	Tia D. Smith
Barbarha Nelson	Edward Bonacci Jr.	Katherine Gutierrez	Michael Bonsu	Tyriq B. Rease Sr.
Beth Wecksell	Emily R. Wolfson	Kathryn M. Kopack	Molly Holt	Tyson Hardnett
Bianca Q. Leary	Emma Holmes	Katia C. Smith	Mujahid Abdul-Hamid	Vanessa Brown
Brittany Statuto	Erika M. Mero	Kayla B. Billups	Mylyn Dumas	William Heins
Caliegh K. Anderson	Ernst Renondeau	Keanie K. Gaime	Nicholas Anthony	Yajaira Samayoa
Carolyn F. Mullen	Estherline J. Nicol	Keisha Allen	Nicole Ciencin	Yesenia Fulgencio
Carolyn Fischer	Federick S. Gayle	Kelley D. Williams-Womble	Paige Johnston	Zakeyyah M. Allen
Charles E. Knight	Gabriela Lakhman	Kenneth T. Ford	Paulina Y. Giron	
Cheryl Moore	Garey A. Palmer	Keona L. Lane	Rafael Hernandez	
Christopher R. Lee	George O. Sarpong	Keyshaon Robinson	Ronly C. London	
Clifton Brown	Harmony C. Pollard	Khaleem Bartley	Rugiatu Kabia	
Danayah Sanders	Iajaiyah Barr	Kimberley Zisa	Sade Moore	
David Huang	Ibrahim Turay	Konah Mabande	Shannon N. Beachem	
Dawn Atkins	Ilissa Kaufman	Krystal Roman	Shatiek Billups	
Dawn M. Jones	Jamaiya F. Harris	Krysten Woods	Stacie Bridgeman	

Foundation News

The YCS Foundation Team has been working diligently to build meaningful relationships with individual donors, charitable and religious organizations, and corporate partners. Thanks to their commitment, these collaborations have led to thoughtful facility upgrades, expanded allied therapies, and a growing range of supports that strengthen the care we provide.

Grants

- Morgan Stanley Foundation** – ****NEW**** "Nurturing Spaces Project" to create Zen Dens in all 7 of the new NJ Mentor programs
- St. Elizabeth's Church** – Supportive funding for yoga at Holley Center
- Party with Purpose** – Supportive funding for Union City clinic
- Greater Newark Holiday Fund** - Davis House bedroom refurbish
- Greater Bergen Realtors Care** - Holley basement project

Allied Services

- Yoga Services:** weekly sessions for Holley, Newark, Malcolm & SLC
- Creative Arts Program:** biweekly sessions for 7 new programs
- Music Services:** 15+ programs with weekly or monthly sessions
- Equine Therapy:** pilot program completed in December
- Dance Program:** weekly sessions for 7 programs
- Digital Arts Program:** ongoing series offered at Holley Center
- Pet Therapy:** monthly sessions for 9 residential programs & GW

Facility Upgrades Thanks to Our Generous Partners

Newark Campus Basement Transformed into a gym for the youth
Courtesy of donations from Bernice Drapkin



Foundation News

Facility Upgrades Thanks to Our Generous Partners

New Blackwood Home Kitchen Courtesy of grant funding from Camden Home for Children, Columbia Bank, and M&T Ban



Pearl Street Renovations _ Adaptive furniture and exercise equipment
Courtesy of grant funding from Kearny Bank.



Highlights

BCBA Appreciation Outing

It has been truly a blessing to be a part of a team with shared values across the multidisciplinary team throughout my tenure at YCS. While I have been responsible for ensuring that everyone understands and supports the "vision", it has been my great honor to see that the canvas is large enough and requires each member of the team owns their part and contribute in their own unique way to the motif. This of course includes our treatment home parent community who are the heart of the service. Together, this creative ensemble of artists combines to form a unified whole that has produced a meaningful difference in the lives of many children and youth served. I am grateful to lead such a distinguished group of human beings! **Jacky Maddi**



Having fun at Dave and Busters

Black History Month at GW School



Ms. Yolanda and Ms. Capers

Highlights

Sawtelle Learning Center Students Spread warmth and Sweetness to Montclair Library

This February, our transition-aged students (ages 18-21) in **Mr. William Toth's** class at the Sawtelle Learning Center brought warmth and sweetness to the Montclair Public Library's "Warming Wednesday" program.

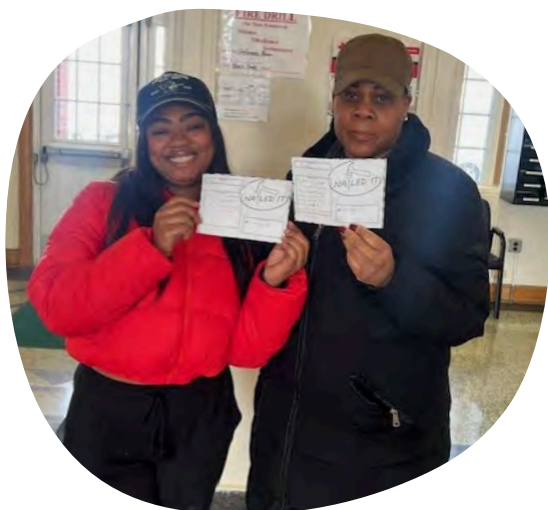
Our students spent time in the kitchen baking a delicious assortment of muffins and heart-shaped sugar cookies, specially prepared for the library's weekly community gathering. Warming Wednesdays provide a welcoming space at the Main Branch where community members can enjoy free coffee, hot cocoa, and snacks while participating in relaxing activities like coloring and word searches, all hosted by the library's social worker Margarete Ouj.



This project gave our students a meaningful opportunity to practice valuable life skills, from following recipes and working as a team to contributing to their local community. The Valentine's-themed treats were a perfect way to share kindness and connection during the winter season.

We're proud of our students for their hard work and community spirit, and grateful to the Montclair Public Library for creating such an inclusive and supportive program for our neighbors.

Sawtelle Learning Center's "Nailed It" Winners



This month's two "Nailed it" winners are **Ayannah Richardson** and **Dionne Perry**. The staff at the Sawtelle learning Center take pride in consistently shouting out their coworkers on an everyday basis "Nailed It!" board.

Highlights

Sawtelle Learning Center Art Project



OT activity that Room 209 did during their infused session of Occupational Therapy with **Elizabeth FineSmith**.

Room 209 students colored and placed stickers on a vertical surface for increased shoulder strength as well as working on their fine motor coordination and control!

~ **Caitlin Corlett-Jacoby**, MEd., Principal

Treatment Homes Valentine's Day Celebration

On Thursday, February 19, 2026 with the coordination of another successful event led by our mentor **Anitra**, the youth participated in a Valentine's celebration. The evening included fun "getting to know each other" activities, meaningful discussions about the question "What is love?", followed by a movie, and enjoying Chinese food and deserts together. The event provided a great opportunity for everyone to connect, reflect, and build stronger relationships in a warm and welcoming environment.



Highlights

Sayre House Name Project



This month at **Sayre House**, our psychoeducation groups have been centered on building self-esteem, practicing self-love, and developing positive affirmations.

The youth created "conversation hearts" featuring encouraging messages and affirmations, which are now displayed throughout the house. They also made personalized hearts for each staff office, helping to spread positivity across our entire community.

In addition, the youth participated in a name-chain activity where they chose positive adjectives to match each letter of their names. This activity not only encouraged self-reflection and confidence-building, but also fostered teamwork and peer support. It was wonderful to see participants helping one another brainstorm affirming qualities, especially when someone needed a little extra encouragement.

Both activities were met with great enthusiasm, and the youth demonstrated meaningful engagement and growth in reflecting on their self-esteem. We are proud of the positivity and support they continue to show one another. ~ **Christina Staiger**, Case Worker

Highlights

Estell Manor Therapy Room



Thanks to the Foundation for their support in helping bring our new therapy room together.

The bean bag chair area is designed as a reflection and regulation space for youth. The mirrors support grounding and self-awareness, and affirmations will be placed between them to reinforce identity, self-worth, and emotional resilience during periods of dysregulation. Once stabilized, youth are able to engage in therapeutic games, utilize wrist weights, and access a variety of sensory-based interventions.



The room also includes a game closet and an EM store stocked with personal care items, including feminine products and other essentials, which youth can earn through the token economy system. This promotes autonomy, motivation, and skill-building in a developmentally appropriate way.



This space was intentionally designed to feel safe, calming, and youth-centered, as I aim to support emotional regulation through soft lighting, music, and sensory input. Most importantly, this is their room; a place to stabilize, reflect, and engage in treatment with dignity and comfort.

Thank you again for your collaboration and investment in this project. We look forward to welcoming you into our new therapy room ... Please note, the photos truly do not do the room justice, the space feels even more welcoming and calming in person. 😊



Dominique M. Jones, LSW
MSW | BSW
Clinician
PCH/IDD - Estell Manor

Highlights

Treatment Homes' Parent Training



On Saturday, February 21, 2026, a new parent/family orientation was completed, followed by a presentation from our VP, **Bill Waller**, on behavioral management. The orientation provided families with important information about program expectations, support systems, and effective strategies to promote positive youth behavior. It was an informative and engaging event that helped strengthen the partnership between families and TX Homes staff.

Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday to **Keena, Natayia, Charlotte, LaShayna, Kallisha**. "May God grant you many more." ~Yesenia Fulgencio, AVP

Agency Updates

QAPI Update

2026 PCH/IDD and CSAP Inspection Schedule

Estell Manor: Wednesday 3/11 - Thursday 3/12

Arcadian/Winslow: Monday 3/16 - Tuesday 3/17

Lawn ridge/Orange: Wednesday 3/18 - Thursday 3/19

New Brunswick/Cedarbrook: Monday 3/23 - Tuesday 3/24

Hurffville/Sewell: Wednesday 3/25 - Thursday 3/26

Woodhaven: Wednesday 4/8 and Thursday 4/9

Anticipating Adult Licensing April 2026.

Anticipate CARF Survey April or May 2026.

Positive Outcomes

The Mood and Feelings questionnaire MFQ is an evidence-based tool that looks at symptoms related to emotion, specifically depression. So far, the first half of the fiscal year, July to December, the initial average at intake was 7.82, and at discharge, the average was 4.15. This is an effective decrease in depression symptoms by 47%. Our objective is to have a 20% reduction in the average MFQ score from admission to discharge.

The Children's Hope Scale is a tool with a lot of strong research back up that measures optimism and self-efficacy in our youth. The initial CHS average scores at intake was 22.29. At discharge, the average score was 27.5. This is a positive increase of 5.21%. Overall, we are seeing positive progress on those two scales.

These scores demonstrate the effectiveness of our clinical teams.

New from QAPI!

QAPI team is adding a monthly HIPAA Tip to the employee newsletter. Every month, QAPI will provide a key reminder for staff on some aspect of personal health information privacy and security.
~**Mathew Hopkins**, Data Analyst and Privacy Officer

February HIPAA Tip



How do we ensure private health information stays secure when emailing outside entities? YCS utilizes encryption. It's easy: start an email in Outlook and enter the word "encrypt" in the subject to instruct the Barracuda Email Encryption service to encrypt the message.

Agency Updates

The Training Department launches the Emerging Leaders 2nd Cohort

YCS' greatest strength is the scores of dedicated, compassionate frontline supervisors who often go beyond their job descriptions to care for participants. Three years ago, in response to their requests for training to help them increase effectiveness and prepare them for future advancement, the YCS training department, with the assistance of Phil Janson, a consultant from The Mahler Co. designed a six-session advanced course for supervisors. Based on positive feedback from members of the first cohort, the second Emerging Leaders cohort was launched on February 25, 2026 at the Somerdale office. The 10 candidates selected from the VPs' recommendations will participate in six sessions over the next six months and present individual projects that they have designed to address a program's need or introduce an innovation. "When I think of Emerging Leaders, I see individuals with the potential to take on greater leadership responsibilities and drive meaningful change within an organization. I am confident that these emerging leaders will be proactive problem solvers, effective communicators, and collaborative team members who will inspire and influence those around them," said **Mike Baguidy**, VP of Training.

Emerging Leaders Program Participants

- Jordan Guglielmino - PD Pheonix
- Lakirah McNeal - SRT Behavioral Asst.
- Tracey Ridley - Asst. PD Laurie Haven
- Elizabeth Barry - PD Davis House
- Sasha Henriquez - PD Sicklerville
- Kallisha Moore - PD Harper's Lane
- Brittany Works - PD Wood Haven
- Ayana Baker - HM Absecon

Emerging Leaders Program Trainers

- Phil Janson - YCS Consultant
- Mike Baguidy - VP of Training
- Pfeni Flicker - AVP Program Operations

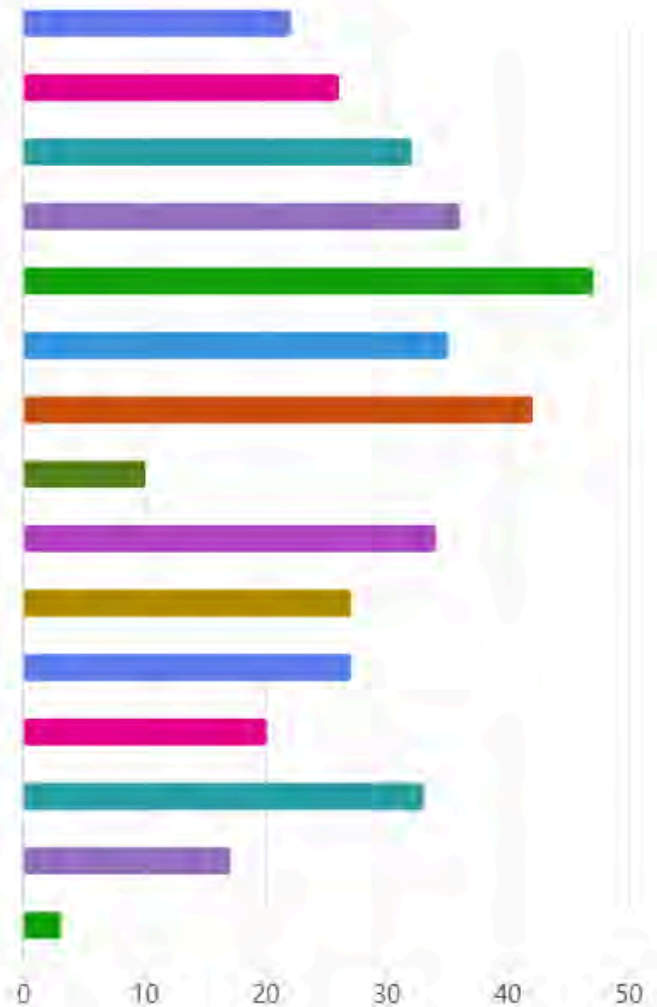
Agency Updates

Inside YCS Newsletter Survey Results

Thanks to everyone who took the time to take this survey! Sixty people took the survey. The results of the survey are below.

1. What are your favorite parts of the newsletter? Select all that apply.

President's Message	22
Welcome New Employees	26
Promotions	32
Work Anniversaries	36
Shoutouts	47
Milestones	35
Employee Spotlight	42
Intern Corner	10
Highlights	34
Employee Snapshot	27
Birthdays	27
Innovations	20
Agency Updates	33
Managers Meeting Bulletin	17
None of the above	3



Agency Updates

Inside YCS Newsletter Survey Results

2. What are your least favorite parts of the newsletter? Select all that apply. (0 point)

President's Message	1
Welcome New Employees	2
Promotions	1
Work Anniversaries	2
Shoutouts	2
Milestones	1
Employee Spotlight	2
Intern Corner	6
Highlights	1
Employee Snapshot	1
Birthdays	6
Innovations	0
Agency Updates	2
Managers Meeting Bulletin	3
None of the above	44



Agency Updates



Key to Creating a Culture of Caring: #1! Listening

Listening well at the workplace is essential for fostering trust, increasing productivity, enhancing collaboration, and reducing errors. It shows respect, aids in effective conflict resolution, encourages innovation, and helps leaders understand team needs, leading to higher job satisfaction and better, more informed decision-making.

Here are some quick, fun listening games your team can do to improve listening skills.

1. **Telephone Game:** A classic game where a message is whispered from one person to another, testing how well the message is retained.
2. **Storytelling Circle:** Each participant adds a sentence to a story, requiring careful listening to maintain coherence.
3. **Musical Statues:** Participants dance to music and when the music stops, they must freeze instantly and hold their pose until the music resumes.

Mike's note of the day:

Protecting with A Purpose

Every young person we serve deserves to be seen, heard, and valued as a human being, not just as a participant.

When staff lead with love, dignity, and respect, they create safety, trust, and hope in lives that may have known instability or trauma. Our words, actions, and attitudes shape how these young people see themselves and the world around them.

Compassion isn't just part of the job—it is the job. It is also our responsibility to protect them and ensure their safety at all times.

When we treat them with humanity and care, we help them believe in their own worth and future.

Mike Baguidy, VP

Innovations

New Allied Therapy

Youth at Meadow Ridge Home Perform Comedy Improv for Family and Staff



On Saturday, February 28, all five participants who call themselves “**The Horsemen**”, performed a comedy improv show for their family members and YCS staff at their residence, the Meadow Ridge home in Lafayette, NJ. Parents attended in person and virtually online.

The show was performed in week 5 after 4 weeks of classes in short-form comedy improvisation taught by **Barbara May**, Director of Communications. Barbara has a background in performing and teaching improv comedy.

The participants did great! They were engaged in the activity and had fun doing it. Parents enjoyed the show. Afterwards, the participants went out and spent time with their families.

The program aims to foster creativity, communication, confidence, and collaboration through interactive theater-based exercises. Improv is not only a performing art but also a powerful tool for personal growth, education, and team development.

Improv teaches participants to think quickly, listen actively, and respond creatively — all while building trust and having fun.

If you are interested in offering this class at your program, contact barbara.may@ycs.org. The class is offered in the northern region.

Managers Meeting Bulletin

February Manager Meeting Summary

Human Resources

Survey Update: By now, every program should have had the opportunity to review the results of the Great Place to Work survey. All programs should now be in the action planning and implementation phase. Agency-wide action planning is focused on ensuring that staff feel comfortable and protected in the workplace, can trust and collaborate with team members, and receive consistent communication from all levels of management.

Competency-Based Reviews: For new staff completing 90 days of employment, managers will assess employee competency skills. Most discussions will focus on how the new employee can develop professionally. However, if an employee does not demonstrate the professionalism, capability, or demeanor required to work with our clients, it is recommended that the employee be terminated without progressive disciplinary action.

For New Jersey Mentor employees who completed their 90-day period at the end of January. If you have not already done so, please ensure that their competency-based reviews are completed as soon as possible.

Second Jobs: Employees may hold a second job outside of YCS as long as it does not create a **conflict of interest** or interfere with their attendance, job performance, or responsibilities at YCS.

Family Members Working at YCS: Family members should not be assigned to the same location. It is recommended that they work at different sites. If they are assigned to the same site, they should not be scheduled to work on the same days.

Training Department

Completion of required training across the agency is progressing in the right direction. As of the managers' meeting, over 81% of employees have completed their required trainings.

March Trainings:

- Preventing Suicide in Youth (DCF)
- Community-Based Interventions to Reduce Risk (DCF)
- Civil Rights Nutrition Program Professionals (DCF, SRT)

Infrastructure* Business Affairs Department

YCS Vehicles: All YCS vehicles should have QR codes installed, so drivers can easily enter the required pre-trip and post-trip information. The goal is to eliminate paper reporting and improve compliance during licensing inspections when trip logs are reviewed.

Facility Repairs: Please submit repair requests to Freshdesk@ycs.org. Requests can also be submitted through the YCS Community Intranet landing page by clicking the "Repairs" icon and providing the details of the repair needed. This is the optimal way to ensure requests are addressed efficiently. To prepare for licensing, we are reviewing all outstanding **Freshdesk tickets**.

Managers Meeting Bulletin

February Manager Meeting Summary

Finance Department

All programs are performing at a high level of service, largely due to the high-quality care provided and your attention to maintaining full program capacity. Because of these efforts, the agency remains in a strong financial position.

Company Credit Cards: The Finance Department is rolling out a new credit card form. All employees currently using a company credit card must attend the updated training. For questions, please contact Douglas Wilton.

Note: All purchases made with company credit cards require prior approval in Oracle.

IMS Department

OPS & IMS Reports: The OPS and IMS reports you receive monthly have now been migrated to the **YCS Community Intranet**. If you have questions regarding the data in these reports, please contact the IMS Department.

Over the past several months, the reports have been streamlined to make them easier to use and provide a clear snapshot of program statistics.

YCS Advanced Scheduler: DCF and DDD programs are responsible for ensuring staff ratios are maintained in **UKG** and that all open shifts are filled.

Shift reports are run every Tuesday, and open shifts for the pay period are reported every Friday.

Staff responsible for scheduling must use the new Quick Post tool to finalize schedules. If you need training or support, please contact IMS.

Note: A training manual and video are available on the Intranet. Managers are strongly encouraged **to log into UKG** daily to ensure program schedules remain accurate and up to date.

Documentation Reminder: Use the widgets in Evolve to complete your notes. This is important because if notes are not entered, deliverables will not be documented, and the program will not receive credit for the work completed.

IT

YCS Community Intranet Logins: approximately 52% of employees have logged into the new Community Intranet. Additionally, there has been a 4.6% monthly increase in employees signing into Microsoft products.

Note: All managers receive Microsoft 365 login reports for individuals in their programs.

Managers Meeting Bulletin

February Manager Meeting Summary

Clinical - Practice Integration

The DCF Training Center in New Brunswick has been very supportive of our in-person clinical care rounds and training meetings. We will continue to use this site periodically, with the next training scheduled for June. These meetings are mandatory for all clinicians.

Upcoming Trainings:

April: Michele Robbins will conduct a virtual training on Reactive Attachment Disorder.

May: Molly Holt will provide virtual LGBTQ training.

QAPI

Please refer to the Agency Updates page for:

- Upcoming licensing visit dates
- PMMP results for Reports on Mood and Feelings Questionnaires and Children's Hope Scale results

EOC Reminder: All residential programs should have flashlights with working batteries in case of power outages. Please ensure that all fire and evacuation drills are completed, documented accurately, and maintained in compliance for licensing audits.

QAPI Information & Reports: All reports and guidelines are available under Management Tools → Compliance → Licensing → Risk Management on the Community Intranet.

Chaplaincy

If participants or staff have needs that would benefit from chaplain support, please feel free to reach out. Reminder A Corporate Prayer Call is held every Tuesday at 12:00 PM.

The next Spiritual Mindfulness Group graduation will be held in March for Bright Start, Laurie Haven, Malcolm House. KB Muller

Foundation & Allied therapy

Please visit the Facilities Upgrade Photos & Grant News page for updates.

The Foundation's goal is to support programs by assisting with facility improvements, participant outcomes, allied services, and enhancements to the experience of individuals in our care. To request assistance, please email heart@yca.org.

Allied Services: Congratulations! The number of allied services sessions reported for January greatly exceeded the previous month.

Communications

The Blossoms Art Exhibit will be displayed at Bergen PAC throughout the month of May. The Awards Show will be held **May 4 from 6:00–8:00 PM** with the theme: "Art Frees & Lifts Me." Programs should be working on submitting children's artwork & poetry.

For notes



Embracing All the Possibilities®