

YSD Scoop!



Volume 7 | Issue 4

Newsletter of the Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department



Youth Services Team at the Fourth Annual Employee Retreat

In This Issue

Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson
Scholarship Winners

I'Yunni Phillips and Skylar Rowley awarded
the 2021 Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson
Scholarship | 3

Employee Q & A:
Stephanie Jones

At YSD, we view our employees as one of
our greatest strengths. This quarter, we're
featuring Stephanie Jones. | 11

CBA Spotlight:
Boys Town South Florida

Boys Town aims to change the way America
cares for children and families. They
specialize in providing whole family care to
improve the well-being of children at home,
school, and in the community. | 12

Annual YSD Employee Retreat



Welcome to the Magical World of YSD!

On July 29, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department held its fourth annual employee retreat virtually. The retreat included presentations by staff, self-care yoga, and staff recognition.

This year, the Seeds of Success Cross-Divisional Action Team coordinated the event, including the theme, *The Magical World of YSD*, and virtual activities. The action team developed

themed backgrounds employees used during the retreat to generate unity.

The retreat began with remarks from Director Tammy K. Fields, who expressed her gratitude to the staff for their work and commitment to providing quality service to the youth and families we serve during these unprecedented times.

Staff participated in virtual Bingo, and the Seeds of Success action team announced the Employee of the Year, Dr. Danniella Jones. The retreat concluded with a year in review video presentation.

Back to School PBC!



Palm Beach County Youth Services Department Director Tammy K. Fields was joined by Holly Carotenuto, Tamika Kramer, Assistant County Administrator Dorritt M. Miller, and others at the *Back to School PBC!* event organized by the Office of Community Revitalization. The event ensures students are ready for the upcoming school year by providing them with essential school supplies.

grades K-12 received a backpack filled with school supplies, parent resources kits and meals.

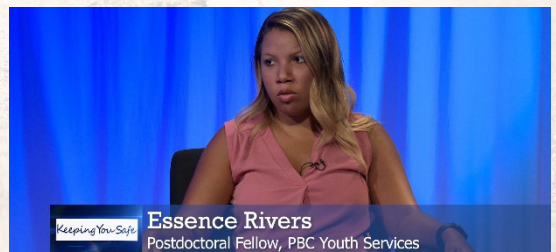
The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the community in countless ways. Most students had vast changes in schooling, less time with friends and family, and possibly unemployed or overworked parents. Some have fallen behind academically.

Back to School PBC! is an event like no other! On one day throughout Palm Beach County, over 10,000 students in

Keeping Us Safe: Channel 20

Ike Powell, Dr. Essence Rivers, and Department Director Tammy Fields recorded a "Keeping Us Safe" session on Channel 20.

This session was part of the Public Safety Cross-Departmental Team Public Awareness campaign. Regenia Herring from Criminal Justice Commission hosted the session. Also included was Adam Davis from the PBC Library. Topics included getting to and from school safely, backpack safety, internet safety, tutoring support, and stress management as part of the Back to School Episode aired throughout August.



Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship



Friends of Youth Services and Palm Beach County, Inc. announced this year's Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship recipients. The awarded scholarship provides \$1,000 a year for up to four years.

Recipients were selected from 69 applications based on application submission criteria, recommendation letters, and written essays.

The 2021 Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship recipients:

I'Yunni Phillips is an entrepreneur with plans of one day making an impact within her community, the Tri-City area. A graduate of Glades Central Community High School and a member of Birth to 22's Future Leaders United for Change, I'Yunni recognizes the impact of trauma in her community and plans to pursue a career in mental health at Tuskegee University. "I am so honored to be a recipient of this scholarship," said I'Yunni. "The moment I received the call was so surreal."

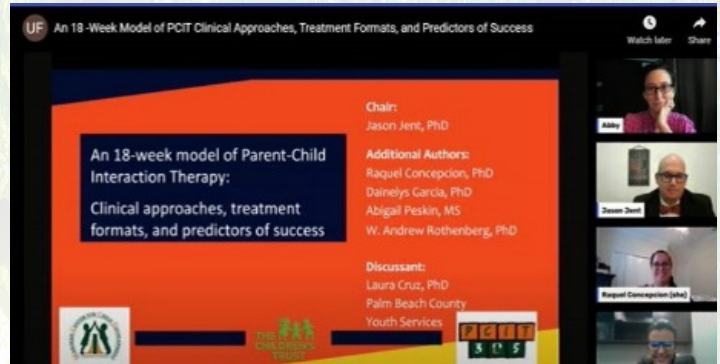
Skylar Rowley is a graduate of Glades Central Community High School. Skylar will attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in the fall, majoring in broadcast journalism, and aspires to become a sports commentator for the NFL. "By becoming a sports commentator, I hope to inspire other Black females to join the field of journalism," said Skylar.

Congratulations to the recipients of the Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship.

The scholarship is in memory of Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson. Alyssa was committed to living a self-sufficient life and discovering her passions. Her determination to pursue education, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees, enabled her to live consistent with those commitments. She hoped others could have support to achieve their goals. The Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship is dedicated to those who need a little extra assistance in achieving educational goals.



Dr. Laura Cruz at the PCIT International Convention



Dr. Laura Cruz represented YSD at the PCIT International Biennial Convention on August 25, 2021. The 2021 PCIT International Biennial Convention is where innovation meets collaboration for the Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) community.

The 2021 Convention, hosted virtually, focused on growing together as participants progress the field of PCIT into the future.

The theme “From Roots to Fruits” celebrated the PCIT model’s origins and the impact that PCIT has made over the

past 50 years. The convention recognized the importance of the core PCIT model and how the model has borne fruit for individuals, families, groups, communities, and countries.

Dr. Cruz was a discussant in the symposium on “An 18-week model of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy: Clinical approaches, treatment formats, and predictors of success,” where she discussed the success YSD has had with PCIT in a community-based setting.

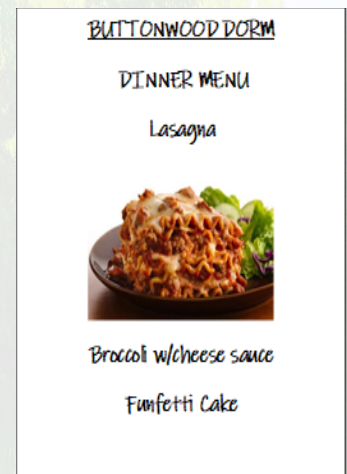
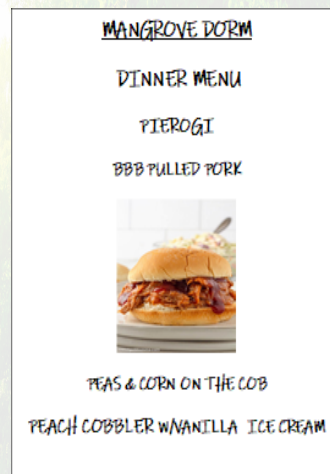
Highridge Family Center Offers Cooking and Nutrition Classes

On August 17th, 2021, Youth Services Department’s Highridge Family Center launched its first Cooking and Nutrition class to youth enrolled in the free residential program. The course is scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays during their afternoon 'Enrichment Hour.' While in the class, the youth learn basic cooking skills, grocery budgeting, recipe reading, measuring skills, and cake decorating. Iris Reed, Highridge Food Service Manager, developed the program. Iris is leading the class along with the assistance of Yiaunna Wallace.

So far, the youth in the class have been engaged and learning about different vegetables. Each dormitory worked together to create lunch & dinner menus with the understanding that they had to include a vegetable! Some of the menus have even included foods based on the child’s heritage which helps youth explore different aspects of diversity through food. Ralph Engle, Cook III, and Lenworth “Patrick” Parkes, Cook II, have worked diligently to incorporate their menu choices and have prepared all the meals.

Everyone at Highridge has thoroughly enjoyed the variety that the kids have added to the menus!

If your child or family is in need of free behavioral or mental health services, either outpatient or residential, please call 561-625-2540 to schedule an appointment or learn more about Youth Services programs.



YSD Holds Seventh Annual Super Summer Spelling Bee

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department hosted its seventh annual Super Summer Spelling Bee on July 21, 2021. The spelling bee is for students enrolled in the Summer Camp Scholarship Program's participating camps and provides academic activities to encourage the spirit of learning. Using Kahoot!, a virtual learning-based platform, campers' spelling skills were tested in a fun and interactive way, allowing spellers to compete with campers throughout the county.

The competition was held virtually, with 129 campers from 34 Summer Camp Scholarship Program sites participating.

The winners were campers from Bethel Evangelical Church, City of Greenacres, Digital VibeZ, Neil S. Hirsh Boys & Girls Club, and Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders summer camps.

Participating agencies included the County Attorney's Office, City of West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County Library System, Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, Prime Time Palm Beach County, Friends of Youth Services and Palm Beach County, Inc., and Florida Power & Light.

Spelling Bee Winners:



K – 2nd		
1st Place	Neil S. Hirsh Boys & Girls Club	Jadah
2nd Place	Neil S. Hirsh Boys & Girls Club	Natalya
3rd Place	Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders	Robert
3rd – 5th		
1st Place	Digital VibeZ	Sean
2nd Place	Neil S. Hirsh Boys & Girls Club	Andres
3rd Place	Neil S. Hirsh Boys & Girls Club	Neysa
6th – 8th		
1st Place	Bethel Evangelical Church	Sanai
2nd Place	Bethel Evangelical Church	Alexzander
3rd Place	Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders	Jamiriah
9th – 12th		
1st Place	Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders	Jay'Shawn
2nd Place	Bethel Evangelical Church	Valerie
3rd Place	City of Greenacres	Amelia



Launch of Palm Beach Community Remembrance Project Coalition



August 31st, 2021, marked the official launch of The Palm Beach County Community Remembrance Project Coalition. In 2019, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners directed staff to explore claiming the County Monument located at the Equal Justice Institute (EJI) National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, AL.

This initiative envisions opportunities in Palm Beach County for people to come together and discuss our history. It is the coalition's hope that educators, officials (elected and appointed), and community members will participate. Among many instances of racial terrorism in Florida are two recorded lynchings in Palm Beach County in the 1920s.

The coalition commits to:

- Narrative Truth-Telling, defined as facilitating a deeper understanding of the era of racial terrorism.
- Trauma-Informed Approach, defined as prioritizing the voices of those closest to the individuals being memorialized, while recognizing the trauma inflicted on the community as a result of racial terror lynching.
- Collaboration, defined as consistently making space for your strength and my strength to become our collective strength.
- Listening with Respect, defined as paying attention to what is and what is not being said.

- Just Kindness, defined as consistently acting and speaking from a place of goodwill toward others.
- Open Communication, defined as sharing any information that is relevant to the work.
- Self-Awareness, defined as often reflecting on whether your own participation is advancing the work.
- Commitment, defined as committing to a long-term engagement with this work.

Palm Beach County accounts for at least two of the more than 4400 lynchings of Black citizens in the United States that were part of a regime of racial terror flourishing long after Reconstruction. The legacy of this terror continues today in a resurgent white supremacist movement aimed at fomenting a "race war" that would eliminate our Black population.

EJI describes the process of claiming the Monument as a "culminating feature of that community work and dialogue" that advances truth and justice by confronting history in a way most communities have never done. EJI encourages the County to work with a community coalition referred to as a 'Community Remembrance Project Coalition.' Working collaboratively with the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, a group of dedicated community partners coordinates the Palm Beach County Community Remembrance Project.

This group is comprised of community organizations, community advocates, local entrepreneurs, and concerned citizens, including Assistant County Administrator Dorritt Miller and PBC Youth Services Director Tammy Fields.



Summer Food Program

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's (YSD) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that school-aged children, 18 years and under, continue to receive nutritious meals beyond the school year and during the summer months. The program utilized cold meals for sites operating daily in-person and shelf-stable meals for sites that distributed weekly. The stable shelf meals consisted of seven breakfast and seven lunch meals in a single box given to a child. In total, there were 89,459 cold meals served and 63,924 shelf-stable meals served.

This year, the program's overall goal was to continue to grow partnerships within the community through mobile sites. This entailed utilizing an area of a park where YSD staff set up a table and gave out free meals to any youth that wanted food. YSD staff brought and supplied the food, set up, gave the food out, broke down the setup, and cleaned up. By bringing food to the community, staff was able to reach youth and family's that may not have transportation or the ability to receive meals from attending summer camp.

At the mobile sites, SFSP served a total of 6,443 meals. The program also served shelf-stable meals at 15 county libraries for a total of 36,288 meals served. Out of the shelf-stable sites, SFSP provided meals at five different mobile sites, including the Town of Lake Park Parks and Rec and four County Pools (Aqua Crest Pool, Lake Lytal Park, Pioneer Park, and Santaluces Aquatic Complex). This summer, the program served 73 sites for a total of 153,383 meals.



Presentation to the Royal Palm Beach Library Teen Advisory Board

On September 28th, Youth Services Director, Tammy Fields gave a virtual presentation to the Royal Palm Beach Library Teen Advisory Board. Tammy started off the presentation with an Ice Breaker question to teens inquiring, "If you could create a new Mount Rushmore – what four people (alive or not) would you include on it and why?"

Tammy then proceeded to give a detailed presentation on the mission of Palm Beach County Youth Services, the different departments, Birth to 22, and initiatives such as the Future Leaders Program. Tammy also gave an introduction to mindfulness.



Cross-Divisional Team Update: Sanctuary

The Cross-Divisional Sanctuary Core Team continues to provide information to YSD staff monthly via email to help staff become more familiar with key concepts related to Sanctuary.

The team continued to focus on the seven commitments with the second of the seven. July's focus was Commitment to Social Learning, which is:

- The chance to learn from our mistakes rather than be punished and ashamed,
- Viewing mistakes as positive learning opportunities, and
- Respecting and sharing the ideas of our peers and teams.

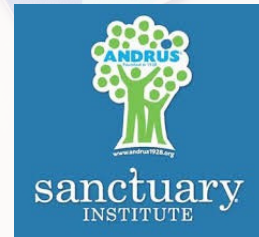
In August, the team shared details on the Commitment to Growth and Change, which is:

- Understanding that change does not happen all at once or in the same way for every person,
- Engaging in self-reflection or openness to feedback, and
- Learning to generate positive change and a

better future.

In September, the team provided details on the Commitment to Nonviolence, which is:

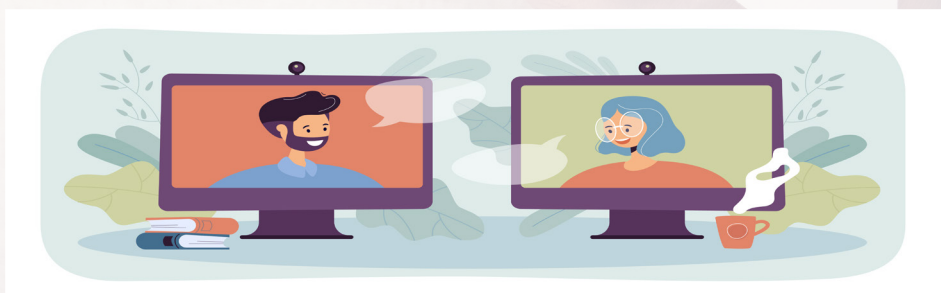
- The ability to talk and express oneself freely without the need to behave aggressively,
- Showing respect by listening in a nonjudgmental way; and valuing the opinion of others,
- The need to be honest and accountable by acknowledging past use of violence;
- Owning up to mistakes and communicating what happened truthfully, and
- Treating each other with respect and fairness while seeking resolution to bring forth change



Trauma-Informed, Strengths-Based Treatment

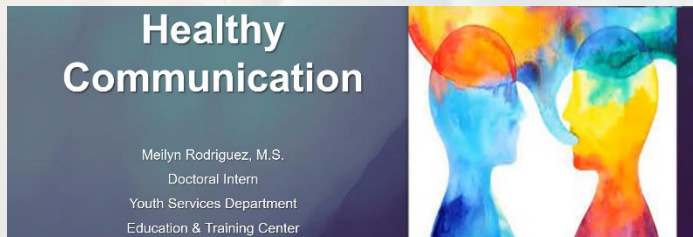
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Education & Training Center hosted the training "Trauma-Informed, Strengths-Based Treatment for Low-SES, Urban Youth."

Presenter Courtney Molina, PsyD, Postdoctoral Fellow, defined emotional and behavioral dysregulation among low-SES, urban youth; explored the impact of risk and protective factors among low-SES, urban youth; and provided knowledge and guidelines for the practical treatment of low-SES, urban youth.



Education & Training Center: Healthy Communication

This past quarter, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Education and Training Center hosted a Lunch & Learn titled "Healthy Communication." During the presentation, Doctoral Intern Meilyn Rodriguez, M.S., described healthy communication and provided examples and strategies associated with healthy and unhealthy communication.

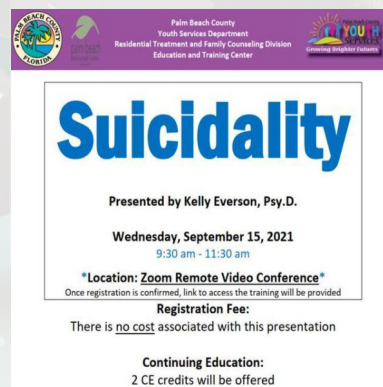
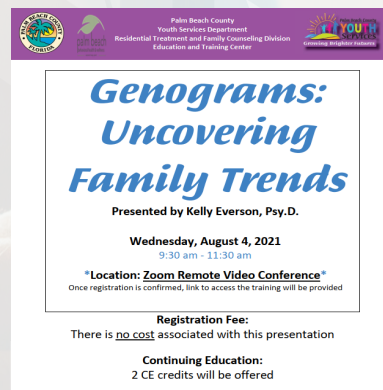


Education & Training Center Hosts Presentations

In August, the Education and Training Center hosted the training "Genograms: Uncovering Family Trends." The presentation explored the clinical implications of Genograms and when they are useful in practice.

In September, the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Education and Training Center hosted the training "Suicidality."

The training allowed participants to delve into recent statistics on suicide behavior, including special interest areas such as adolescence, prenatal and postpartum women, and specific ethnic populations with different trends. Participants learned about warning signs and risk factors and understood the practice of developing a safety plan.



"If you are positive, you'll see opportunities instead of obstacles"

- Widad Akrawi

Guardian Ad Litem



GUARDIAN AD LITEM

What is happening in the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) program? GAL is a program of fantastic staff and volunteers who pride themselves on being superheroes. They work together as a multi-disciplinary team that advocates and represent a child's best interest in court.

Guardian ad Litem has had many training's they have participated in during the past few months to keep all their volunteers fully informed about their ever-changing policies and procedures. Some of the training's included Active Shooter preparedness presented by an FBI Agent out of the Miami office, Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies, Poverty, Department of Children and Family facts, and Educational Surrogacy.

Guardian ad Litem is slowly getting back into the community to represent their GAL Volunteer program by presenting at outdoor events and other virtual get-togethers. They attended and set up a GAL booth at a back-to-school event in Belle Glade. They also held monthly virtual community town halls to introduce prospective volunteers to their program.

The children in their program are abused, neglected, and abandoned and may not have ever

experienced a proper birthday. Their continuing "Gift-a-Birthday" program welcomes new donors. By donating \$25 to the "Gift-a-Birthday" program, a cake, gift, and card will be given to a child to help celebrate their special day.

Believe it or not, the holidays are upon us! Guardian ad Litem has been planning for the season since July, and now it's a reality. GAL hopes to count on the support of the community once again for their toy drive. Contact info@speakupforkidspbc.org for local drop-off locations or to learn how to donate.

The program appreciates all the help the community can provide for the children in the dependency system. They are collaborating with "Forever Families" to promote the Guardian ad Litem program on network television.

If you see GAL's Facebook/ Next door/ Instagram posts, please share them on your social media handles. They also welcome any ideas or leads to help us acquire new volunteers for the children in the program. Please contact Beth.zigler@gal.fl.gov or christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov.

Remember, it takes a village to help the children we serve, and you are all members. Thanks so much. For more information, www.galpbc.org.

Community Outreach | Volunteer Recruiters

Christie Geltz | christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov

Beth Zigler | beth.zigler@gal.fl.gov



Q&A with Stephanie Veronica Jones



At YSD, we view our employees as one of our greatest strengths. This quarter, we're featuring Stephanie Veronica Jones at Palm Beach County Courthouse.

Stephanie works as a Court Case Advisor and certified Mediator by the Supreme Court of Florida with the Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP), a Diversion Program within Youth Services.

In her role, Stephanie works closely with the State Attorney's Office, youth (up to the age of 18), and their families who have been charged with domestic violence offenses. Through mediation, a case plan is completed to provide families with needed services. Cases are supervised until youth have met all requirements of the program.

"Our goal is to keep the youth out of the criminal justice system," said Stephanie.

1. Where is your hometown?

I was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Florida.

2. What was your first job?

McDonald's at 14 years old.

3. What are the three most important skills you need for your job?

The ability to communicate, be a great listener and prioritize while being sensitive to our clients.

4. What is your favorite thing about your job at YSD?

Seeing clients and families go from Trauma to Triumph.

5. Is there a memorable moment that you would like to share in relation to your work here, at YSD?

My most memorable moment was when I received a letter from a client expressing how much I've touched her heart and changed her life.

6. What hobbies and interests do you have outside of work?

I absolutely love family time, dancing, exercising, and traveling.

7. What is the most important lesson you've learned in the last year?

To always cherish your loved ones.

8. Where would you like to go on a dream vacation?

I can truly say that I would love to vacation at several locations, including "South Africa, Bora Bora, and Dubai."

9. What is your favorite quote?

"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." - Philippians 4:13

10. Who or what inspires you?

God first and far most, and my two beautiful children.

11. Is there something about you that your fellow coworkers would be surprised to know?

I come from a family of 10 children where I'm the first and only to graduate from college.



"Seeing clients and families go from 'Trauma to Triumph' is my favorite thing about my job."

- Stephanie Veronica James

CBA Spotlight: Boys Town South Florida



1. What is your mission?

Boys Town’s mission is to change the way America cares for children and families. We specialize in providing whole family care to improve the well-being of children at home, in school, and within the community.

2. What does your organization do?

Boys Town South Florida has provided life-changing services to more than 60,000 children and families for 30 years. Boys Town’s programs focus on preventing and treating the underlying conditions leading to child welfare, juvenile justice system involvement, and academic failure. Our services stabilize families and help children and parents cope with and overcome child abuse, behavior, mental health issues, and trauma.

We partner with children, parents, caregivers, community service providers, and educators to strengthen children. By treating childhood behavioral health issues and teaching parents effective parenting skills, we help parents keep children safe, in school, and out of trouble. In 2020, Boys Town South Florida served 3,231 youth and 946 families.

3. What key programs does your organization offer?

Boys Town South Florida offers preventative programs to help children and families:

- Build better relationships and learn how to cope with youth behavior challenges through our In-Home Family Services.
- Link to support services to provide the best care for each child suffering from mental and behavioral health issues through our Care Coordination Services.
- Access mental health services through our outpatient Behavior Health Clinic.
- Deal with youth misbehavior through our Common Sense Parenting, an evidence-based model.
- Access school-based services through our Primary

Project at selected elementary schools.

- Provide social-emotional development to toddlers and guidance to their parents through our ParentChild+.

4. How does your agency benefit the community?

By identifying at-risk children early and providing them and their families with the assistance they need, Boys Town South Florida helps kids stay out of the social services system and stay in their homes, setting the stage for future success. When children can live in a safe, nurturing home, they are more likely to succeed in school and life. With improved skills, parents and other caregivers can provide proper guidance for their kids and solve family problems independently. At the same time, society can save millions of dollars on social services.

Our programs are accredited and built on best practices. Boys Town’s researched-based Model is rated as a promising program by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and is highly regarded by other leading authorities. Our Common Sense Parenting approach is considered “evidence-based” by the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare.

5. What is your agency’s focus for 2021?

Because of the pandemic, we have seen an increasing number of families facing more familial stressors and adversities, especially related to children’s behavior and mental health. In 2021, the focus of our organization has been to make sure that we look at how we are supporting our staff to keep serving the children and families referred to us in the best way possible, despite all the challenges related to virtual versus in-person visits. It is important for Boys Town to meet each child and family where they are and provide them with quality services despite their circumstances. We also focused on continuing to provide high-quality services to families despite the many challenges of the pandemic.

And lastly, we focused on COVID safety by taking every precaution available to us to protect staff and clients.

6. How do the funds received from Palm Beach County enhance the services your agency provides?

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), such as poverty, abuse, bullying, community violence, and trauma, affect the wellbeing of children. ACE-related stress, instability, and fear impacts health, wellbeing, and opportunity – causing lifelong struggles with learning, mental health, disease, relationships, employment, and finances, even crime and suicide (CDC).

Alternatively, children exposed to protective factors (positive life experiences) can heal and cope with future crises. Researchers believe trauma-informed interventions that teach parents how to alleviate the negative effects of ACEs can help improve life outcomes for children (CDC).

PBC Youth Services Department provides funding for two of Boys Town South Florida's programs, including:

- 1) In-Home Family Services, which helps families resolve problems safely and early before they become disruptive.
- 2) Care Coordination Services provides a lifeline for children suffering from mental health issues by connecting them with programs or resources that can provide the best care.

This funding enhances Boys Town South Florida's reach in Palm Beach County to provide services to more vulnerable children and families who would not have where to turn for help otherwise. Fiscal sustainability is always a challenge for not-for-profits. The funding we received from PBC has continued to strengthen our fiscal resilience despite the many unforeseen challenges brought on by COVID and the difficult year we have all endured. This, in turn, has allowed us to continue bringing high-quality services to some of our community's most vulnerable children and families.

Website:

www.boystown.org/south-florida

Youth Success Story

Meet Sharonda and Alonzo, mother and son. They became a forever family while Alonzo was receiving services from Boys Town South Florida. Alonzo was placed in foster care at age three due to being exposed to abuse and neglect. Due to several behavior and mental health challenges, Alonzo had five different placements by the time he was eight years old. Without much consistency throughout his young life, Alonzo had a hard time accepting change, looking at people in the eyes, and trusting others. He was referred to Boys Town's Care Coordination Services and was linked right away to therapeutic services to help with his behavior and mental health needs, and academic delay. While receiving services through Boys Town, Alonzo was matched with Sharonda, an adoptive parent who had an immediate connection with him.

From the time he met his adoptive family, Alonzo's attitude changed. He started to talk more and to feel hopeful again about his future.

On his 10th birthday, Alonzo officially joined his forever family. "There were hard days, I mean, tough days when I doubted myself and my ability to be a mom to Alonzo. But Boys Town was there to help me, to teach me new skills... and it was because of Boys Town that I did not give up on my son." During the post-adoption phase, Sharonda and her husband also participated in Boys Town's In-Home Family Services, which helped them build a strong, healthy relationship with their new son, showed them new parenting skills to correct and change their son's problem behavior, and provided guidance to avoid future power struggles.

Boys Town helps treat childhood behavioral health issues and teaches parents evidence-based parenting skills to help families keep children safe, in school, and out of trouble.



Welcome Aboard!

Join Us In Welcoming Our Newest Team Members!

The following Youth Services employees were hired between July 1 and September 30.

Venise St. Hiliare
Therapist
RTFC



Rachelle Sosu
Psychologist
RTFC



Nigel Johnson
On-Call Paraprofessional
RTFC



Kia Williams Pusey
Residential Youth Counselor
RTFC



Tevin Ali
Public Relations Specialist
FCA



Jin Ma
Planner I
OCP



Transfers



Jacqueline Burke
Therapist
RTFC

Farewell 2020-2021 Graduating Doctoral Trainee Cohort



On July 29, 2021, RTFC said farewell to the graduating doctoral trainee cohort of 2020-2021. From L to R: Gabriella Hill, Lauren Stroker, Tonise Florexil, Courtney Molina, Meilyn Rodriguez, Essence Rivers

Welcome New Postdoctoral Trainee Cohort

On August 2, RTFC welcomed the new doctoral trainee cohort of 2021-2022, including (from L to R): Ed Center (Maria Chiriboga – Pace University; Caroline Haskamp – Nova Southeastern University; Cristin Lin – Regent University; Dr. Gabby Hill – Regent University) and Highridge (Emily Deming – West Virginia University; Dr. Essence Rivers – Xavier; Monica Mendes – William James College)



**“Don’t be pushed by the fears in your mind.
Be led by the dreams in your heart”**

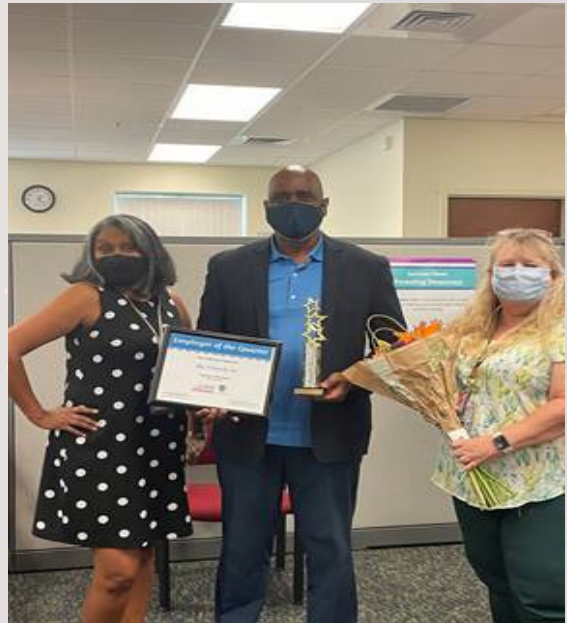
- Roy T. Bennett

Employee of the Quarter

Special to YSD Scoop!

Congratulations to Ike Powell for earning the Youth Services Department's "Employee of the Quarter" award. Ike was awarded the quarterly honor for his dedication to serving youth while working at YSD and in his free time as a mentor.

Thank you, Ike, for all you do for the department and the youth and families in our community.



Congratulations Ike Powell!

Employee of the Year

Special to YSD Scoop!

Congratulations to Dr. Danniella Jones for earning Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's "Employee of the Year" award. Dr. Jones received the award for her dedication to the doctoral internship program and the Equity and Diversity Program development. Her contributions have positively impacted the department and community.

Dr. Danniella Jones was awarded the first-ever YSD employee of the year for (1) her dedication to the doctoral internship program (2) the development of the Equity and Diversity Program. Her contributions have gone above and beyond her regular duties and positively impacted the department and community.



Congratulations Dr. Jones!

Retirement Presentations



Clara Hessing
34 Years of Service



Patty Hindle
35 Years of Service



Share Feedback and Stories!

Do you have feedback on our newsletter or have an awesome story to share? We'd love to hear from you!

Contact Youth Services
Department Public Relations
Specialist Tevin Ali
at TAli@pbcgov.org.

Connect with Us!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram for more exciting updates!



pbcyouthservices



PBCYSD



PBCYSD

Youth Services Department Director

Tammy K. Fields

Director of Finance, Contracting and Administrative Services

Michelle Liska

Director of Outreach and Community Programming

Geeta Loach-Jacobson

Director of Residential Treatment and Family Counseling

Dr. Twila Taylor

Editor-in-Chief

Tevin Ali



Palm Beach County

Board of County Commissioners

Dave Kerner, Mayor, Robert S. Weinroth, Vice Mayor
Maria G. Marino, Gregg K. Weiss, Maria Sachs,
Melissa McKinlay, Mack Bernard