



Dear Child Advocate,

Summer is in the air! It's a time of renewal and new beginnings, and we are excited for the next stage of the Birth to 22 Alliance. At our last Steering Committee meeting, members all agreed that we need to reimagine our work and renew the Youth Master Plan.

With so many accomplishments over the past seven years – and yet still so many struggles and challenges facing our youth and their families, it is the perfect time to pause and reflect. This will give us time to determine the next phase of our work and ensure our priorities across the community are aligned. This is especially important given the social unrest, inequities and the pandemic we've all experienced in the last few years, which have had – and continue to have – profound effects on our residents.

We also are glad to report our updated system-level data (Palm Beach County Indicators of Child, Family and Community Risk, Well-being and Access to Supports), which can be found at [http://pbcbirthto22.com/communitydata/\[pbcbirthto22.com\]](http://pbcbirthto22.com/communitydata/[pbcbirthto22.com]).

And we have recently completed four community conversations, which gave us the opportunity to hear directly from residents about community assets, what's working well, areas of concern, and what community members see as top priorities. During these conversations, we had excellent participation from youth within our communities.

This information will shape the next version of our plan. Our Steering Committee will have a retreat in the upcoming months and we look forward to many opportunities for all of you to get involved.

Stay tuned and have a happy and safe summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor
CEO, Children's Services Council

Tammy K. Fields
Director, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department



Birth to 22 United for Brighter Futures NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 | Issue 3 | June 2022

Birth to 22 Hosts

2022 Community Conversations

Birth to 22 recently hosted a series of 2022 Community Conversations that were open to the public to support community input

Alliance Spotlights

Since its inception, Birth to 22 and its community alliances, have been working towards providing youth and young adults resources to reach their fullest potential.

Upcoming Events

Check out the Birth to 22 community alliance upcoming events.

Share Feedback & Stories!

Do you have feedback or have an inspiring story to share? We'd love to hear from you!

Contact us at, pbc-birthto22@pbcgov.org

Birth to 22: 2022 Community Conversations

Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures is an alliance of Palm Beach County community partners that engages and aligns existing coalitions, networks, systems, and youth-serving organizations, as well as connecting families, community members, and most importantly, with local young people directly. The voices of youth and the adults who care about them are vital to implementing the Youth Master Plan and ensuring a difference is made in our community. Birth to 22 recently hosted a series of 2022 Community Conversations that were open to the public and structured to support community input while providing relevant data regarding services and outcomes for youth.

Each community conversation focused on a few of the nine action areas. Participating students earned community service hours.

The March 8th conversation focused on Achieving Success in Higher Education, Strengthening Out of School Time (OST), and Ensuring Safety & Justice. At this conversation, 56 community members attended, of which 23 students participated.

The March 24th conversation focused on Trauma-Sensitive Communities and Health & Wellness. At this conversation, 42 community members attended, of which 12 students participated.

The March 29th conversation focused on Education to Employment Pathways for Disconnected Youth and Social-

Emotional Learning. At this conversation, 66 community members attended, of which 22 students participated.

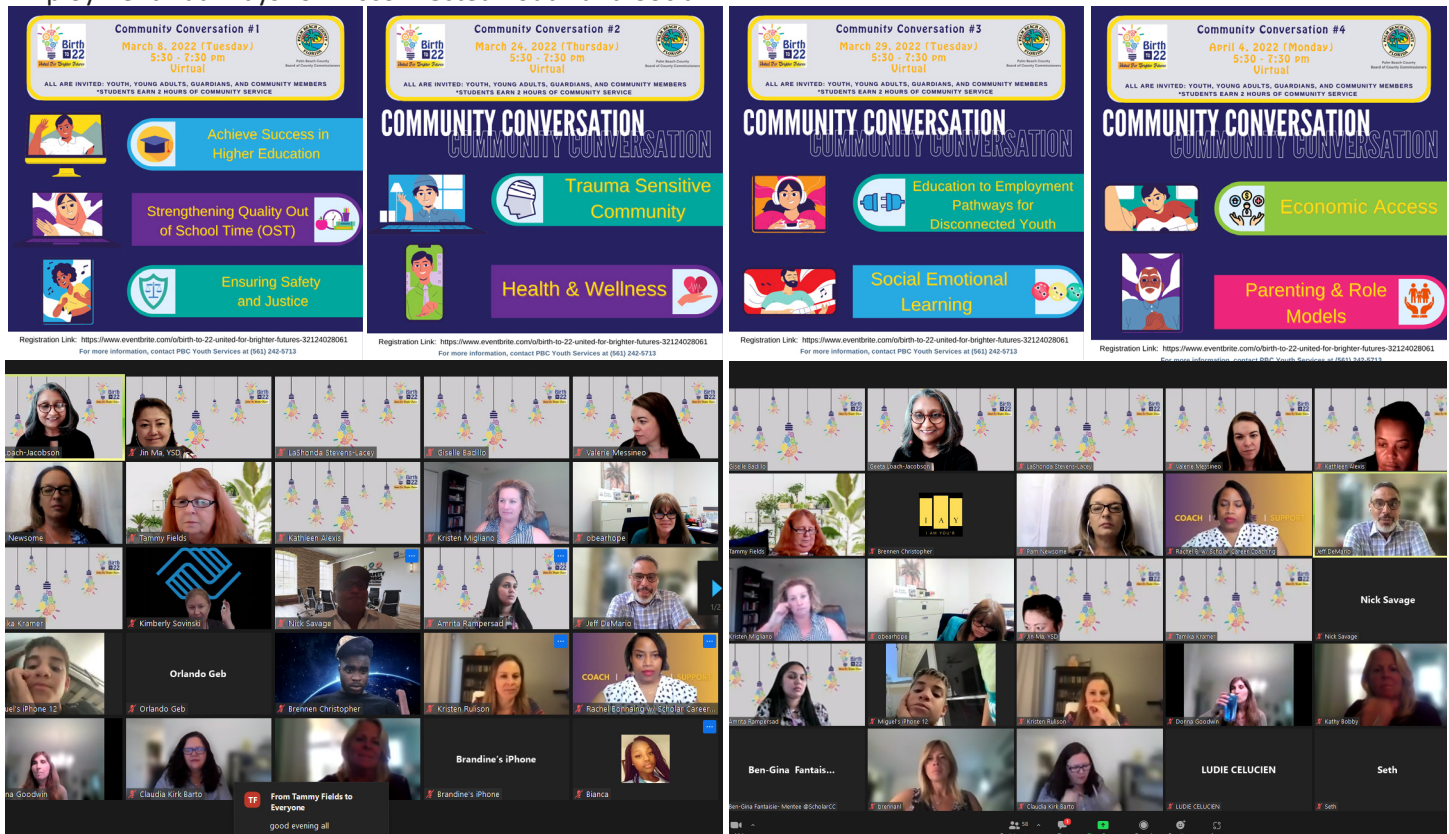
The April 4th conversation focused on Economic Access and Parenting & Role Models. At this conversation, 65 community members attended, of which 17 students participated.

Each conversation posed questions to community members regarding specific issues they are concerned about regarding each action area and to suggest solutions to the group in the following categories:

- A solution of relatively no/low cost
- A solution that is off the wall
- Relatively easy lifting, but high impact solution
- Something that expands on current success type solution

In surveying the room at all four community conversations, the committee learned that mental health, housing, education, and economic access were the most significant areas of concern. Learn more about the community conversation results at: <http://pbcbirthto22.com/engagement/>.

To stay connected with Birth to 22 and their upcoming events and initiatives, follow them on their Facebook and Instagram pages @Birthto22.



GYGO County Connection Show



In preparation for Mental Health Awareness and Trauma-Informed Care Month in May, the Get Your Green On (GYGO) Team, Palm Beach County Channel 20 TV, and the Birth to 22 Trauma-Sensitive Action Team recorded a feature on Channel 20's "County Connection" to highlight the Get Your Green On Campaign.

Tammy Fields, Director of Palm Beach County Youth Services served as the host of the segment and interviewed the

following Palm Beach County health and wellness leaders in the community advocating for mental health:

- Lauren Zuchman, Executive Director BeWellPBC
- Renee Layman, President & CEO of Center for Child Counseling
- Dr. Michael Kane, Manager, Behavioral Health Services, Palm Beach County School District
- Kenya Madison, Senior Director, Healthier Delray Beach
- Dr. Twila Taylor, Director of Residential Treatment & Family Counseling Division PBC Youth Services



GYGO 2022 Kickoff

In April 2022 the Get Your Green On committee hosted the [GYGO Kick Off Event](#) featuring presentations by:

- Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor, CEO, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County,
- Gregg K. Weiss, Vice Mayor, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
- Dr. Debbie Manigat, Program Specialist, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
- Dr. Mary Claire Mucenic, School District of Palm Beach County

- Randy Foley, Behavioral Health Captain Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO)
- Holly Stewart, The Young Singers of the Palm Beaches



VIRTUAL KICKOFF SPEAKERS

Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor, Children's Services Council PBC

Palm Beach County Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss

Dr. Debbie Manigat, Children's Services Council

Dr. Mary Claire Mucenic, School District of Palm Beach County

Captain Randy Foley, PBSO Behavioral Health Unit

Holly Stewart, The Young Singers of the Palm Beaches













Get Your Green On Kickoff 2022




GYGO Represents at Palm Beach Pride

On March 27 the Get Your Green On team represented at Palm Beach Pride Weekend, the largest cultural event in Palm Beach County, hosted by the Compass Community Center.



Safety & Justice Action Team Prosocial Resources

The Birth to 22 Safety and Justice Action Team has prioritized ensuring availability, awareness, and accessibility of prosocial resources and activities for juvenile justice involved youth ages 13-18. The Pro-Social Resources Workgroup was convened to make progress towards achieving this goal and include experts involved in serving youth and juvenile justice-involved populations, providing services, and coordinating services. Stakeholders comprising the core workgroup represent and bring expertise from the following agencies and continue to build a network of community agencies:

- Public Defender's Office
- Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
- Palm Beach County Government (Public Safety and Youth Services)
- Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
- State Attorney's Office
- City of West Palm Beach
- City of Riviera Beach
- Department of Children and Families

The workgroup prioritized the following tasks to make progress toward the overall objective:

- Create a directory of prosocial activities for target populations that went live 3/7/22: <http://pbcbirthto22.com/ensuring/>

- Create a sustainability plan to update the directory on a quarterly basis.
- Create a method for new agencies to join the directory and ongoing workgroup efforts to build a network of resources.
- Identify geographic areas and prosocial activities that are limited or non-existent.
- Connect with community agencies to add to the resource directory, and expand or create additional resources needed within identified communities.

With an initial framework of resources created through the directory, the foundation is created to show the current landscape of structured prosocial resources. With this, it provides a mechanism to bring awareness to these options for the public and target population, and offer opportunities for new agencies to get involved.

The workgroup will now delve into analyzing the availability of resources that meet the needs and interests of youth to ensure services are available and accessible for the targeted population. From this analysis, the workgroup can identify areas in which gaps in service exist, and take action to engage communities in filling those gaps and enhancing the community network to provide equitable resources to juvenile justice-involved youth.



Birth-to-22 Safety and Justice Action Team
Pro-Social Resources Workgroup
Pro-Social Partners Resource Guide



33407

Community Agency	Activities Offered to Target Population	Costs Associated Funding Help Available Transportation Options Program/Access Requirements
Pleasant City Park & Youth Empowerment Center 501 21st Street West Palm Beach, FL 33407 561-804-4930 or 561-804-5000 https://www.nyectv.com/		
Point of Contact: Erin Paige Campus Manager, WPB Parks & Recreation WPB Youth Empowerment Center EPaige@wpb.org 561-804-5010 Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday: 2PM-9PM Saturday: 12PM-6PM How to make a referral: Call: 501-804-4930 Email: yec@wpb.org or via https://www.nyectv.com/contact Visit: 501 21st Street, WPB	Available to ages 12-18 & their families. Education/Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutoring • Homework Assistance • Job Readiness (Resumes, Soft Skills, Interviewing) • College Tours • Digital Literacy Personal Development & Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multimedia Lab & Technology Classes • Radio Station 101 • Teen Council & Leadership • Certifications - lifeguarding, water safety • Art Classes • Intro to Film-Making 	No costs associated w/ any programming available. Parental consent is required, and participation is contingent upon completion of intake agreement and adherence to program rules. WPB YEC Brochure

Birth to 22 Safety and Justice Action Team

The data workgroup of Birth to 22's Ensuring Safety and Justice Action Team strives to enhance and expand resources and activities. With the help of individuals from different agencies who work directly with youth, a survey was created and distributed to obtain information critical to the work. Once the survey is closed and responses have been compiled, the workgroup will administer the survey multiple times throughout the year to ensure data stays current. Youth who complete the survey can earn one hour of community service.

In addition to the survey, the workgroup will publish an infographic that will be accessible to community members and stakeholders. This infographic will highlight the survey results and juvenile crime trends in Palm Beach County using data from the Department of Juvenile Justice.



Please note: If you have completed this survey in the last 30 days, you should not complete it again

1. How old are you <u>today</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 14 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
2. What zip code do you live in?	<input type="checkbox"/> 33404 (Riviera Beach) <input type="checkbox"/> 33407 (West Palm Beach)	<input type="checkbox"/> 33409 (West Palm Beach) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
3. What activities are you involved in outside of school hours now ? (Check ALL that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> None/Not currently anything <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/Softball <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball <input type="checkbox"/> Biking/BMX <input type="checkbox"/> Boxing <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Programming <input type="checkbox"/> Dance <input type="checkbox"/> Football <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/> Martial Arts/Wrestling <input type="checkbox"/> Music/Video Production <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis <input type="checkbox"/> Video/Computer Games <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group/Teen Center <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
4. What activities are you involved in outside of school hours before COVID (2019-2020)? (Check ALL that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/Softball <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball <input type="checkbox"/> Biking/BMX <input type="checkbox"/> Boxing <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Programming <input type="checkbox"/> Dance <input type="checkbox"/> Football <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/> Martial Arts/Wrestling <input type="checkbox"/> Music/Video Production <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis <input type="checkbox"/> Video/Computer Games <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group/Teen Center <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
5. Are there any activities near your home?		

National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA)

Palm Beach County was selected to share its local work to Advance the Mission for equity and justice at the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) conference held in Grand Rapids, Michigan from March 30-April 3, 2022. This year's conference theme, "Prism of Possibilities," offered a rich experience steeped in learning and devoted to achieving excellence in local government. Birth to 22's Racial Equity Core Team Leads Dr. James Green and Marsha Guthrie led a workshop titled *Getting to Results: Using Racial Equity Organizational Assessments to Build Action Plans within Your Organization*. The session highlighted the work of Birth to 22's Advancing the Mission Network (ATM) and its new Learning Cohort. They shared best practices, results/accomplishments, and lessons learned of how Palm Beach County promotes racial equity internally while leading its external cohort in collaboration with key community partners. Many public sector leaders and practitioners attended the session; several praised PBC's work and requested future collaboration. Specifically, the session centered on:

Why is it important to build organizational will for equity in the public sector?

What does the public sector need to do to lead by example to further diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts?

Current challenges facing government and is the public sector doing equity and justice work?

What's next for DEI?



The National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) is the principal and most progressive organization dedicated to the advancement of black public leadership in local and state governments. NFBPA is an independent, nonpartisan, 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization founded in 1983.

With over 2,500 members, NFBPA has established a national reputation for designing and implementing quality leadership development initiatives of unparalleled success. Members are leaders and managers of public programs and agencies in more than 350 (covering 36 local chapters) jurisdictions nationwide.

Racial & Equity Team Update: Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) Annual Membership Meeting

Palm Beach County had the opportunity to present in-person at the Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) Annual Membership Meeting, April 19-21, 2022, in Portland, Oregon. GARE gathers racial equity practitioners who work in local, state, and regional government to uplift best practices, celebrate victories, and share lessons learned from their work advancing racial equity in their jurisdictions.

This year's annual membership meeting explored the theme, "Reimagining Government for Racial Equity and Justice." Dr. James Green and Marsha Guthrie shared a panel with national allies from New Hampshire and Race Forward in a breakout titled, "Staying the Course: A Strategic Response to Legislative Actions to Ban Discussions about Race."

The session centered on the challenges and opportunities racial equity practitioners in government are being faced with as a result of a number of confusing and difficult to navigate legislative attempts that ban discussions on race in local and state government, including schools. The panel explored how government and community leaders have been coming together to generate productive strategies to ensure the crucial work of racial equity in government keeps its momentum in light of the evolving political climate.

It was a packed and lively session of participants exploring narrative and legal terrains through tools and education, hearing case study examples from Florida and New Hampshire, and engaging in active dialogue with and among

session participants to explore this critical challenge facing many cities, counties, and states.

Another highlight of the GARE Annual Membership Meeting was the installation of Dr. James Green and Marsha Guthrie. They were selected and confirmed to serve as members of the next GARE National Steering Committee cohort representing the South region. They will serve a two-year term, providing input to GARE staff on a biennial work plan, including an approach for tracking progress towards achieving racial equity results and, amongst other duties providing input to Race Forward on the strategy to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the GARE Network.



The Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) is a national government network working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. The Alliance is a joint project of the new Race Forward and the Othering and Belonging Institute.

Youth Services Department's 'Public Relations Specialist' Publishes Book To Uplift Others To Overcome Adversity

Tevin Ali, Public Relations Specialist of Palm Beach County's Youth Services Department, published a motivational book in March 2022 titled, *Forging Your Inner Diamond*. His novel is an adventure story blended with self-help wisdom and a tribute to how we all have the power to overcome our life adversities and transform into a 'diamond in the rough' if we believe in the transformation process it takes to forge a diamond. His book focuses on themes of mental health, overcoming adversity, and self-empowerment to help others lift themselves up through life's challenges.

Author Ali shares four key lessons in his novel that led him to overcome barriers as a first-generation college student, low-income minority, and an immigrant to achieve noteworthy achievements and hopes to pass the wisdom on to others. His novel's target audience is young adults, particularly college students, but can be for anyone seeking a bit of transformative inspiration at a low point in their life. Whether one is going through hardship, battling self-

defeating thoughts, or feeling stuck through life's tough experiences, this book will provide comfort and inspiration. His deepest hope is that his book reaches the hands of those who need inspiration to overcome their personal adversities, struggles, and hardships. Congratulations Tevin, continue to make us and Palm Beach County proud!



Alliance Spotlights

Boys & Girls Club of Palm Beach County

Names 2022 Youth of the Year

Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County crowned Jermaine Lovely from Smith & Moore Family Teen Center of Belle Glade as the 2022 Palm Beach County Youth of the Year on February 25, 2022. All seven teen finalists were awarded four-year college scholarships during the record-breaking event that also provided laptops for future college students. Guests gathered at the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa to listen to the finalist's heartfelt stories while witnessing a night full of surprises.



A Week of SELebrating



During the week of March 7, youth and adults across the community told the story of why Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is important and what it looks like in Palm Beach County.

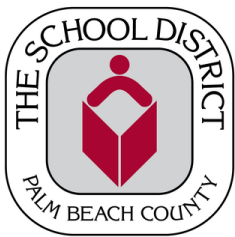
Schools participated in different dress up days to spotlight different SEL skills throughout the week. [A SEL Brochure](#) was sent home with every child in their preferred language of English, Spanish, Haitian-Creole or Portuguese.

The School District of Palm Beach County's SEL Team and The Education Network created videos with students and staff that were shared each day this week highlighting the SEL focus area for that day and why those SEL skills are important in school and in life.

Links to the videos are below:

- [Self-Awareness & Self-Management](#)
- [Social Awareness](#)
- [Relationship Skills](#)
- [Responsible Decision-Making](#)

School District Counseling Awareness Month



April was Counseling Awareness Month, and the Department of Behavioral and Mental Health (School District of Palm Beach County) celebrated all mental health professionals supporting students on their school campuses.

Schools have highly trained and skilled professionals in place to support student mental health:

- School Behavioral Health Professional
- School Counselor
- School Psychologist

- Co-located Mental Health Professional

These highly trained and skilled professionals help students to experience social, emotional and academic success. Call your child's school for more information or learn more at the Department of Behavioral and [Mental Health website \[palmbeachschools.org\]](#) and [Caring First website \[palmbeachschools.org\]](#).

It's OK to be OK. It's OK to not be OK. It's OK to ask for help.

Li OK pou OK. Li OK pou PA OK. Li OK pou mande èd.

Está bien estar bien. Está bien no estar bien. Está bien pedir ayuda.

Não há problema em estar bem. Não há problema em não estar bem. Não há problema em pedir ajuda.

Students from Path to College (PTC) hosted Palm Beach County's distinguished leadership for a meal and the chance to shine.



On Monday, March 21st, PTC invited the community to the table to join their Student Fellows for dinner at the Falls Club of the Palm Beaches. Fifty-five students led 100 guests through formal dining etiquette, inspired conversations and thoughtful networking, and gave heartfelt toasts while carrying the night with confidence, charm, and authenticity. Shine & Dine was an opportunity for the PTC network to meet and mingle with students, who otherwise may not engage in rooms of influence such as this one. They were honored to have had Vice Mayor Gregg Weiss, Superintendent Mike Burke, school board member Alexandria Ayala, County Commissioner, Mack Bernard, along with our supporters from United Way, Hedrick Brothers Construction, VentureX, the Jewish Federation of the Palm Beaches, Miller Permitting and Land Development, Leadership Palm Beach, and many more.

A true testament to the success of Shine & Dine is evident in the internship placements already taking place. Hillary, class of 2022 senior at SouthTech Academy, during her toast reminded the crowd of the importance to show up

despite challenges. They are thrilled to share that she was offered a paid internship with The Tux Shop.

A standing ovation is due for Shawnte Parks, Vevienne Ebanks, Lavern Blackwood, Latasha Akoma, Kristin Aiello, Shona Castillo, Rachel Friery, and Ammu Warriar for their behind-the-scenes efforts.

"When I heard Roy [Assad] share his wise words – 'if it is meant to be, it is up to me' -my jaw dropped. That was my favorite moment from Shine & Dine. I needed to hear those words" shares Giselle, a senior at SouthTech Academy who will attend UCF in the fall.

PTC is so grateful to Christine Ramirez (Dale Carnegie Training) for their leadership and laughs, to Martine Pierre-Paul (Modern Etiquette and Leadership Academy) for her grace and instruction, and to Dr. Vassilia Binensztok (Juno Counseling and Wellness) for ensuring our students expressed their truest authentic selves through self-care. PTC wants to thank each of the generous donors who purchased raffle tickets - they raised over \$5000 and were overjoyed when Nephtalie (a junior at SouthTech Academy) took home this truly impressive prize.

The support of our Education Champions means much more than their generous contributions because they help to create the type of community we want to belong to and our students will lead in the future.

Thank you, Dr. Dudley Brown (Brown Institute for Health & Wellness), Steve Shnider (Florida Power & Light), Alex Price (Office Depot), Daniel Sayed (Falls Club of the Palm Beaches), Roy Assad (Human Capital Group) and The Law Firm of Lytal, Reiter, Smith, Ivey & Fronrath for their enthusiastic attendance and commitment to uplifting students.

City of Greenacres' Teen Programs ran the Easter Patches at the City's Eggstravaganza Event

The City of Greenacres hosted its annual Eggstravaganza Event on Saturday, April 16, 2022. This was the first time this event was held since the Covid-19 shutdown. This event brought in over 500 families, rivaling pre-pandemic numbers. At the event's core was the City of Greenacres Teen Programs, responsible for stuffing 260 prize eggs, creating five Easter baskets to be handed out as prizes for best hair, eyes, etc., and spreading over 19,000 eggs while maintaining three egg patches. Teens showed outstanding professionalism under pressure and did a fantastic job ensuring the event's most prominent stage ran smoothly.



American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY) Caregiver Awards Breakfast

AACY honored three supporters at their first Community Caregiver Awards breakfast as they partnered with their 36th Palm Beach County school.

Palm Beach County Mayor Robert Weinroth, Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer, Palm Beach County School Board Chairman Frank Barbieri and district officials were among 100 supporters at the Feb. 4 event in the Boca Raton Marriott at the Boca Center.

AACY is the only nonprofit in the U.S. to partner with schools to identify and meet the needs of middle and high school students taking full-time care of siblings or adult relatives. <https://aacy.org/what-we-do/>

“We have served over 2,000 children. And we’re excited we can add two more schools in 2022 to help students in this hidden population,” Dr. Connie Siskowski, founder and President, told attendees. She estimated that 290,000 students in Florida alone are youth caregivers.

The 2022 honorees were:

- Comcast, for donating Internet services to AACY families during the switch to virtual learning;
- Stallone’s Italian Kitchen in west Boca Raton, for donating meals, money, and manpower for regular and Thanksgiving meals;

- Dr. Julie Belkowitz, a pediatrician and University of Miami educator doing research aimed at informing legislation supporting Caregiving Youth as an advocate in the Caregiving Youth Project. <https://aacy.org/what-we-do/caregiving-youth-project/>

“We need to raise awareness nationally, so these students can qualify for benefits now only provided to older caregivers,” Siskowski said, including home health aides and reimbursement for caregiving. “Some people say it takes a village, but it takes a community,” she added. AACY just opened a satellite office near Washington D.C. and will collaborate with the Rhode Island Department of Education.

“It’s events like these that bring awareness and funding to help more Caregiving Youth who sacrifice their personal lives to care for their sick loved ones,” AACY board chair Rosie Inguanzo-Martin said via video.

Event sponsors included Allegiance Home Health, Boca Raton’s Promise, AvalonBay Communities, and Strikes Cigar Lounge.

Event chair and AACY board director Dominique Renaud emceed. Pastor Genine Rumph, assistant pastor, St. John’s Missionary Baptist Church of Boynton Beach, delivered the invocation and sang the National Anthem.

AACY Camp Treasure



In March of 2022, the American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY) hosted their largest ever overnight Camp Treasure at Everglades Youth Conservation Camp. This exciting time would not have been possible without the support of donors, AmeriCorps members, AACY volunteers, and a team who together created many unique experiences while giving Caregiving Youth a break from their responsibilities to have time to be a kid! They grilled hotdogs and hamburgers with the help of their newest board member, Romeo Siquijor. Their 6th and 7th grade student caregivers went kayaking, many of them for the first time. Students all went swimming, played games, and even tried archery. Additionally, students went

fishing, made s’mores over the campfire, and got to share caregiving stories with one another, while the AACY staff of Family Specialists were there to help give tips and coping tools. Here are some fun pictures from that weekend:



PBC School District Stay KidSafe

Palm Beach County District Schools are utilizing the Stay KidSafe!™ Program. HB519 legislation states that all public schools in Florida provide prevention health education to students K-12. The bill addresses child sexual abuse, exploitation, and human trafficking prevention. KidSafe has provided child sexual abuse prevention education in PBC schools since 2009 and recently launched, Stay KidSafe!™ to support educators in meeting this requirement. The Stay KidSafe!™ program is available online to qualified educators and is taught in individual classrooms by a teacher, school counselor, or another qualified educator. Participating schools have provided rave reviews regarding the use of 3D animation to introduce each new personal safety skill, the program's cultural diversity, and the easy to implement interactive lessons. "The Stay KidSafe!™ program is a wonderful resource for teachers to teach personal safety to their students. The interactive and engaging content allows students to learn, reflect on, and practice important safety

skills" said Heather, Elementary School Teacher.

The Stay KidSafe!™ program teaches personal safety skills to children from kindergarten through grade 5. This groundbreaking research-based, age-appropriate curriculum introduces children to problem-solving, accessing help from trusted adults, and understanding they have a right to be safe and have healthy boundaries – online and offline.

If you would like to learn more about this program, including bringing it to the children you serve at your organization, reach out to learn@KidSafeFoundation.org or preview the program at <https://learn.KidSafeFoundation.org>.



Vita Nova Engage Forward



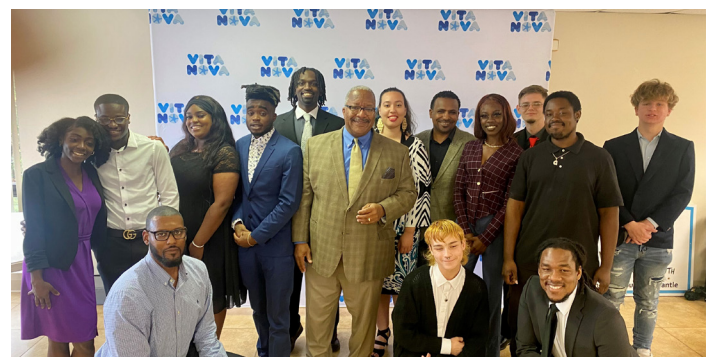
Vita Nova's mission is to eliminate homelessness for former foster care, LGBTQ, and other homeless youth ages 18 to 25 in Palm Beach County. This mission led Vita Nova to consider additional ways their youth can increase income to meet the current rise in housing costs and avoid homelessness. They also recognized that in the community youth had expressed an interest in entrepreneurship and one day owning their own business but had no existing platform to explore their aspirations.

Over the past six weeks, they were proud to team up with Leadership Palm Beach County members to host a new pilot program called "Engage Forward." This entrepreneurship program, which included a trained facilitator in Junior Achievement curriculum, helped youth learn about being a small business owner, cultivating their entrepreneurial spirit, and creating generational wealth to lead them out of poverty.

The comprehensive sessions provided youth with leadership skills, networking opportunities, project management guidance, creating a business plan, marketing, finance, and business education. With every session, their participation and engagement, comfort, confidence, and self-esteem increased. They utilized group activities, workshops, zoom presentations, games, and videos to plug into different learning styles and keep the youth coming back each week.

During their final class, they celebrated with Mayor Keith James, LPBC, and other distinguished guests to recognize the 17 graduates and future entrepreneurs! Our sincere thanks to Leadership Palm Beach County (LPBC) for their passion and commitment to Vita Nova's entrepreneurial program and its success.

"I took away so much from "Engage Forward!" I have more insight now than I could have imagined. I learned that even the smallest decisions could greatly impact my business and its outcome. The biggest hurdle I had to overcome was my self-esteem and self-confidence and feeling empowered to make those big decisions that may not have the knowledge and the confidence to make. Everyone has infinite possibilities but can be limited by mental hurdles. The entrepreneurial program gave me the skills to be more confident and believe in myself, and my business idea. My favorite part of the program was the local community guest speakers that shared their insight and truths about owning their own business" - youth testimony.



Advancing The Mission Hosts Its Fifth Workshop



Advancing The Mission:
Operationalizing and Institutionalizing
Racial Equity within Your Organization

On Thursday, April 28, 2022, the Birth to 22 Racial Equity Core Team hosted session #5 of its inaugural Advancing the Mission (ATM) Learning Cohort. The Racial Equity Core Team opened the session with a Land Acknowledgement, a formal custom that recognizes and

respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. To learn more visit: [A guide to Indigenous land acknowledgment - Native Governance Center](#). To find what native territory you live and work in visit Native Land Territory Map – <https://native-land.ca/>.

During this session, participants also reflected on the new legislation passed by the state of Florida, discussed ways to stay resilient in our fight for racial and social justice, and listened to the progress made by three organizations participating in this cohort.

The next ATM Learning Cohort session is scheduled for July 28, 2022, and is anticipated to be an in-person orientation for new organizations interested in joining the cohort. Organizations that are interested in learning more about Birth to 22's Advancing the Mission work should visit <http://pbcbirthto22.com/equity/>. You can also sign its racial equity pledge at <https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/YS-Birth-to-22-Advancing-The-Mission-Racial-Equity-Pledge>.

Organizations interested in learning more about Advancing the Mission and joining its Learning Cohort 2 can email pbc-birthto22@pbcgov.org to be connected to Birth to 22's Racial Equity Core Team.

United Way Summer BreakSpot



United Way of Palm Beach County

Free Meals for Kids and Teens!

Summer BreakSpot offers balanced breakfasts, lunches, snacks, or dinners at no cost

for children 18 and under. No application is necessary. Any child 18 or younger can come to a site during mealtimes to enjoy well-balanced, healthy meals in a safe and supervised environment.

Summer BreakSpot meals are designed to provide the kinds and amounts of food necessary to meet the nutrient and energy needs of children. Each meal includes milk, a fruit or vegetable, grains, and protein. The types of fresh meals served vary by location, including breakfast, lunch, a

snack, and/or supper. Meals are served at parks, libraries, community centers, and churches. Many sites are within walking distance, and some sites are mobile, moving to different neighborhoods throughout the day. To find a location near you, text the word "Food" or "Comida" to 304-304, visit summerbreakspot.org, or Dial 2-1-1.

For Outreach Resources to promote Summer BreakSpot, visit summerbreakspot.org/Outreach-Resources.

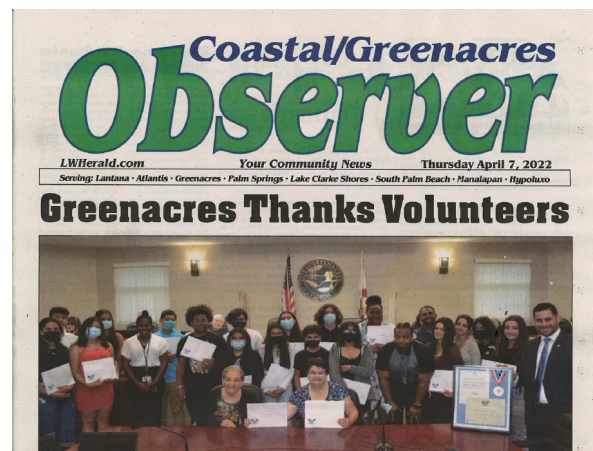
The Summer BreakSpot Program is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered, in Florida, by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Sites are locally operated by nonprofit sponsors that provide the meals and are reimbursed by the USDA.

City of Greenacres' 2021 Presidential Volunteer Service Awards

On Monday, April 4, 2022, the City of Greenacres Mayor and City Council recognized and presented awards to volunteers who earned the President's Volunteer Service Awards for the 2021 Calendar Year. Among the volunteers recognized, twenty-eight teens from the Youth Programs Department received awards for their services. All the teens awarded were or are still currently enrolled in the Youth Programs Department (a Palm Beach County Youth Services Department funded Community Based Agency).

A total of 7,435 hours of community service were logged during the calendar year 2021. Youth volunteered at numerous events, including Community Events, Community

Service Learning Projects, Beach Clean-ups, and in the City's OST program mentoring and helping Elementary participants with homework, reading, math, Spanish, etc.



About Child Bereavement Center



Children's Bereavement Center provides **FREE** grief support groups for Palm Beach County

- All virtual grief peer support groups are FREE
- **For all ages (4+)**
- Orientations held weekly; registration required
- Groups for:
 - Elementary School Children
 - Middle School Youth
 - High School Teens
 - Adults (English & Spanish)
- Groups facilitated by mental health professionals
- Music and art activities included in children's groups

- Groups meet virtually every week in the evening via Zoom
- Children, teens & adults decide how long they wish to participate
- Open to anyone who has lost a loved one as a result of illness, accident, suicide or homicide
- Access to support available nationally
- Dedicated perinatal and infant loss groups for child loss before birth or during infancy

Register Now: Call 888-988-5438 OR email support@childbereavement.org

Over the past few months, CBC has launched:

- Spanish-language Perinatal & Infant Loss Grief Support Groups
- Creole-language Grief Support Groups
- Individual Training to be a Grief-Informed Provider (sign up's online) <https://mailchi.mp/childbereavement.org/griefinformedtraining>

DCF Announces the Award Winners of the \$12 Million Procurement of Behavioral Health Services for Florida's First Responders and their Families



The Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary Shevaun Harris announced the award winners of the \$12 million procurement of behavioral health services for Florida's first responders and their families. These services will connect first responders to a provider or peer who is trained to provide referrals, information, and counseling. For more information, [click here](#).

"We are happy to announce the expansion of additional behavioral health service providers for first responders in each region," said DCF Secretary Shevaun Harris.

"These local vendors are experts in their field and will provide much needed prevention and early intervention services to Florida's first responders and their families."

The providers chosen for each region are the following:

- Florida A&M University: Northwest Region
- Lutheran Services Florida Health Systems: Northeast Region
- UCF RESTORES: Central Region
- Crisis Center of Tampa Bay: SunCoast Region

- 211 Broward: Southeast Region

In December 2021, First Lady Casey DeSantis announced \$12 million in funding to implement or expand behavioral health services, such as peer-to-peer supports, throughout the state. In addition to local behavioral health services, the procurement also includes the creation of a toolkit for local first responder agencies.

This toolkit will contain resources for improving behavioral wellbeing and stress management through employee training. Florida A&M University has been chosen to create the toolkit.

To learn more about the new Peer-to-Peer Behavioral Health Services for First Responders, visit www.myflfamilies.com/FirstResponderResiliency.



Prime Time Visits More Than 145 Afterschool Programs to Ensure Practitioners Feel Recognized and Appreciated



Prime Time Palm Beach County celebrated Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week in April, along with the National AfterSchool Association to recognize, appreciate, and advocate for those who work with young people during out-of-school time hours.

"Research shows that afterschool professionals make a profound difference in the lives of our youth," said Katie Jacob, Director of Communications, Prime Time Palm Beach County. "We encourage everyone to join us during this week in thanking the afterschool professionals in their lives."

This year they took an all-hands-on deck approach to ensuring afterschool professionals feel appreciated. As an organization and members of the community, their team recognizes the practitioners who have showed up for youth and families during some of the scariest times they could have ever imagined. They showed up and cared for youth ensuring their safety and health were at the forefront of every decision while helping to make the hours after school a time where they can laugh and learn with friends.

"This year our entire organization is taking part in making sure that afterschool programs that are part of the Palm Beach County Quality Improvement System and Martin County OST Quality Improvement Initiative (more than 145 sites) are visited by a Prime Time staff member who will greet the program with a small token of our appreciation" said Teal Chance, Director of Quality Improvement, Prime Time Palm Beach County. "Our youth spend many hours in their afterschool programs, and the staff who participate in our Quality Improvement System strive every day to make sure the youth develop the skills necessary to be successful in school and life. Those staff need to know how valuable they are."

Why is it important to recognize Afterschool Professionals?

An estimated 10.2 million children participate in afterschool programs each year, and for every child in an afterschool program there are two more waiting to get in. Every young person deserves quality afterschool experiences that positively impact their development. It takes skilled professionals to create these experiences. Because of the important role afterschool professionals play in the lives of youth, they deserve recognition and support!

What is Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week?

Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week is a time to recognize, appreciate and advocate for those who work with young people during out-of-school hours. Out-of-school hours are defined as time before school, after school, summer and school breaks. The week is marked by celebrations, public relations, and advocacy efforts encouraging appreciation and support for afterschool professionals who make a profound difference in the lives of young people.

Who is an Afterschool Professional?

Afterschool professionals are skilled individuals who work with children and youth in diverse school and community-based settings to provide a wide variety of positive developmental relationships and experiences during out-of-school hours.

Currently in this country, an estimated 850,000 individuals are practicing members of the afterschool profession.

For more information about Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week visit: <http://www.heartofafterschool.com>



Upcoming Events

The Crown Act Event Celebrating Hair, Music & Culture

Join the Movement #PASSTHECROWN

What is Crown Act?

National CROWN Day is a day of solidarity to defend the rights of all women or men, as well as kids to show off their hair proudly and boldly and without the worry of being discriminated against at work or in school. CROWN means creating an open and respectful world for natural hair.

Information about Crown Act Event

Salon Café Inc (SCI) as well as Talented Teens Club Cosmetology Program Crowned the day with community leaders, entertainers, entrepreneurs as well as top hairstylists, and advancement for people of color. The inaugural CROWN Awards honored women, girls, and men for their contributions to society, culture, and furthering the tradition of Black beauty. They also celebrated the CROWN Awards celebrates with top DJs from South Florida, teen dancers, and singers. The CROWN Awards brought hair, music, and culture together to inspire, educate and encourage people to PASS the CROWN.

The event is also expected to draw vendors from across the state, which will provide a unique experience to the event, far beyond simply selling. Additionally, more than 75% of those who attended purchased services or products; and we're still receiving reports of new business contacts who are working together.

This event provides the sale of space to organizations and businesses and they anticipate that space to be sold out quickly. The Crown Act is a movement all over the United States and the world. It is believed that the Crown Act is the biggest hair and culture movement that the United States has ever seen. More than 13 states have enacted the Crown act law.



The Crown Act Event
Celebrating
HAIR, MUSIC & CULTURE

WE ARE ARTIST

The Crown Event highlights extraordinary strength, grace and perseverance of notable women, men and girls, whether at the forefront or behind the scenes of change, whose talents and leadership help advance the legacy of black excellence and beauty.

DATE: SUNDAY JUNE 12, 2022
TIME: 2PM-6PM
PLACE: LAKE PAVILION
101 S FLAGLER DRIVE
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401

Join The Movement #PASSTHECROWN



TICKETS:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crown-act-event-tickets-236691740367>

Unicorn Children's Foundation Family Fun Night



Join Unicorn Children's Foundation the last Wednesday of each month from 5:30pm - 7:30pm for 'Family Fun Night'. For more information visit www.unicornchildrensfoundation.org or call 561-620-9377 x 102 to RSVP.



Unicorn
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
EVERY LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
5:30PM - 7:30PM

99 SE Mizner Blvd. • Suite 120 • Boca Raton, FL 33432

Karaoke • Dancing • Lite Bites and Refreshments • Crafts • Board Games • Cups of Kindness served by our Special Percs Café baristas • Tours available upon request

This event is open to people of all ages and abilities.

RSVP: 561.620.9377 x 102
www.UnicornChildrensFoundation.org

Soil Collection Ceremony for Mr. Samuel Nelson

The Palm Beach County Community Remembrance Project in collaboration with Palm Beach County and the City of Delray Beach invite you to participate in the Soil Collection Ceremony for Mr. Samuel Nelson. The ceremony will remember Samuel Nelson who was lynched on September 26, 1926. He was being held in the Delray jail on a charge of attempted assault of a white woman in Miami. The next morning, the steel door of his cell was found battered open and Samuel Nelson's body was found riddled with bullets on a canal bank west of Delray Beach. No one was held accountable for this murder.

The soil that was collected near the site of the lynching will be put into glass jars and on display at the Equal Justice Initiative's National Memorial for Peace and Justice, the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum and other sites around Palm Beach County.

Date: June 18, 2022. 10:30am

Location: Pompey Park Gymnasium
1101 NW 2nd Street, Delray Beach, FL, 33444

The Palm Beach County Community Remembrance Project in collaboration with Palm Beach County and the City of Delray Beach invite you to participate in...

Soil Collection Ceremony for Mr. Samuel Nelson

— Lynched on September 26, 1926 —

June 18, 2022
10:30 a.m. event start
(part of a larger Juneteenth event at the site)

Pompey Park Gymnasium
1101 NW 2nd Street
Delray Beach FL 33444

"In this soil, there is the sweat of the enslaved. In the soil there is the blood of victims of racial violence and lynching. There are tears in the soil from all those who labored under the indignation and humiliation of segregation. But in the soil there is also the opportunity for new life, a chance to grow something hopeful and healing for the future."
Bryan Stevenson,
Equal Justice Initiative
Executive Director

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To learn more about Samuel Nelson and the Palm Beach County Community Remembrance Project, visit pbcremembrance.org.



Children Services Council Training's

Check out upcoming free trainings offered by the Children Services Council (CSC) of Palm Beach County at learn.cscpb.org.

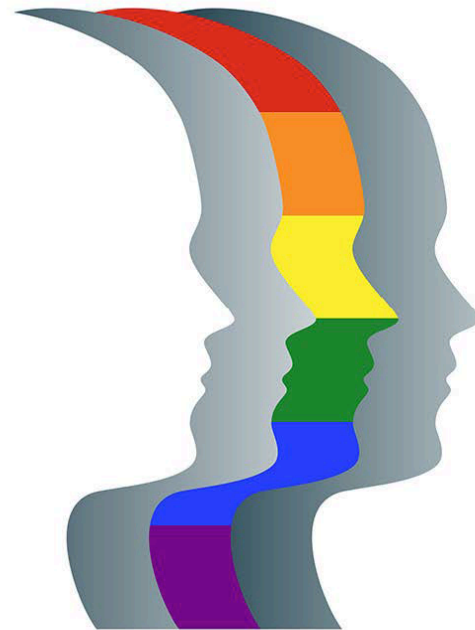


INTRODUCING

A Strength Based Practice:
Working with LGBTQ+ Youth and
Families Utilizing an Affirmative Lens.

DATES AND TIMES: 9:00 AM- 12:30 PM
June 14, 2022
June 21, 2022
June 28, 2022

ONLINE WEBINAR
Register via: Learn.CSCPBC.org



Your Presenter: John Soria, PhD(c)

John William Soria (he/him/his) is a Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT-S) with clinical experience working within community mental health setting(s), residential treatment and private practice. John William embraced his calling to become a therapist while serving as a volunteer Guardian ad Litem in Florida's 11th court district (Miami-Dade County). He is passionate about collaborating with children and families in developing therapeutic goals that facilitate positive relational changes. As an allied AAMFT mental health professional, he has worked with LGBTQ+ youth and their families. He is the founder and director of Affirmative Family Therapy Institute.

John William received a BA from Rutgers University (NJ) where he majored in Psychology with a focus in Early Childhood Development and Education. He achieved a MS in Family Therapy with a concentration in Infant Mental Health from Nova Southeastern University in 2015. John William received a distinguished honor to present at the Zero to Three National Conference (2014). And, he is a member of the International Marriage and Family Therapy Honor Society. John William is a PhD. Candidate in Couples and Family Therapy at Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (a COAMFTE accredited residential program within Nova Southeastern University). He has received extensive supervision and training in strength based models such as Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT), Collaborative Therapy and Narrative Therapy.

In addition to his clinical training in strength based models, John William has completed training in Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) and Neuro Affective Relational Model (NARM), hence, his strength based approach integrates clinical practice and research informed by these models. John William considers possible developmental trauma or intergenerational trauma experienced by his client(s) when exploring their unique challenges and predicaments.



Many of the clients he has worked with experienced Adjustment Disorder, ADHD, Depression, Anxiety, Substance Use Disorder and C-PTSD. And, his clients have possessed unique strengths, resources and capacities that invited healing and positive relational changes. He believes his clients have the capacity and agency to build a life that matters!

Series will highlight:

Although enactment of marriage equality has brought forth significant rights to LGBTQ+ families, there is more progress needed to better support the social-emotional-wellness of LGBTQ+ youth across our communities. LGBTQ+ youth remain at high risk for completing suicide. They are more likely to experience violence, harassment, and homelessness. A contributing factor to these presenting concerns are often due to lived experiences associated with family rejection, peer rejection and community rejection. LGBTQ+ youth are less likely to experience suicide ideation, self-harming behaviors, anxiety and depression when they are provided with an affirmative home environment and a safe school environment. While considering the current social-political-environment in the United States, transgender and non-binary individuals rights to gender affirming medical care may be limited through legislative initiatives (bills). Family members of LGBTQ+ individuals can also be negatively impacted by all the stressors described here. Mental Health Professionals and related interdisciplinary professionals are in a unique position to foster a supportive and affirming environment for LGBTQ+ youth and families. This aim of this workshop is to provide diversity and competency training to community-based-practitioners in order to better support LGBTQ+ individuals and families in Palm Beach County. Participants will be invited to integrate strength based practices using an affirmative lens that honors the cultural richness, unique capacities and resiliency of our LGBTQ+ youth, families and allies.

Children Services Council Training's

Check out upcoming free trainings offered by the Children Services Council (CSC) of Palm Beach County at learn.cscpb.org.



INTRODUCING

Summer Training Series: Effective Leadership

DATES AND TIMES: 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

June 14, 2022
June 29, 2022
July 12, 2022
July 19, 2022
Aug. 1, 2022
Aug. 8, 2022

ONLINE WEBINAR
Register via: Learn.CSCPBC.org



Your Presenter: Tessie Watts, MS



Tessie Watts is a Transformational Leadership Consultant, Trainer, and Speaker. Since 2017, she has been on a divine journey to Co-Power Leaders to identify and remove every limitation that comes against their Leadership and Business Potential. As the CEO of The Leadership Haven Resource Center, LLC, Tessie is committed to turning leaders into the positive "Change Agents" they are called to be. She does this through her Executive Training and Coaching Program, and her power-packed DEI, leadership and business development workshops. She is also the visionary behind the "REIGNITE FLORIDA" Small

Business Leadership Summit that brings hundreds of leaders together annually, under one roof, for a full day of Leadership and Business Development. Tessie has a master's degree in Organizational Leadership and coupled with multiple years of training, public speaking, and coaching experience, her specialism is a "Co-Powerment" platform that equips leaders with "Strategically Strong" Habits to GROW and LEAD by.

Series Overview

The call to leadership is one that some people appear to naturally be more adapted to, a role some grow into and others have thrust upon them. However, like IQ and EQ, leadership can also be measured and represented and this is known as the leadership quotient (LQ). How do you measure up?

The leadership haven has a passion to serve leaders and to support leaders on their journey to maximizing their full leadership potential. We put our extensive experience and expertise to work to help leaders surpass the goals that transform and cultivate the strengths of their key talents.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES:

- Learn their dominant Strategic Leadership Style
- Hone in on Positive and Negative Emotions and Triggers
- Embrace their Operational Capacity
- Develop a Personal Constitutional Statement
- Create a Compelling Personal "PURPOSE" Statement
- Identify their Accountability Squad
- Learn ways to Unleash Talent in others
- Motivational drivers, emotional intelligence, and communication methods to establish a personal leadership style
- Applying or adapting unique leadership styles to meet specific challenges
- Managing the conditions that drive team performance
- Handling stressful and demanding leadership situations
- Navigating the challenges of transitioning from an individual contributor to a leader

Collective Impact Pledge



Birth to 22 is committed to a common agenda, we are an alliance of community partners that engages and aligns existing coalitions, networks, systems and youth-serving organizations as well as connecting families, community members, and most importantly, young people.

Take the *Pledge*, be listed as a Collective Impact Partner of the Birth to 22 Alliance to improve outcomes from cradle to career for all Palm Beach County children, youth and families.

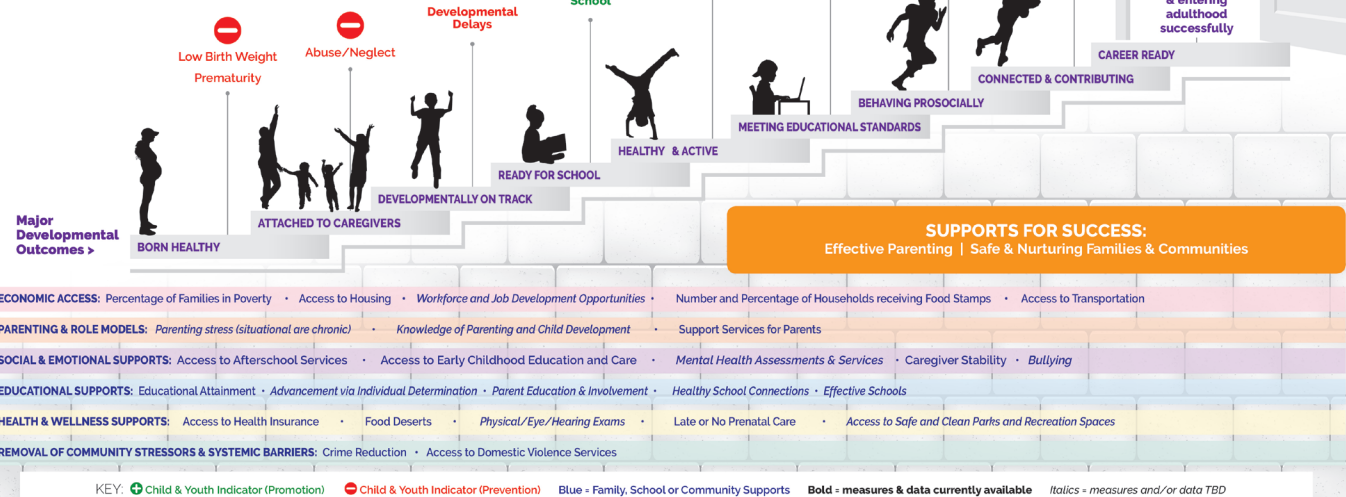
Click [here](#) to join us in envisioning and creating a culture that values our youth from cradle to career.

Steps to Success

The Steps to Success represent 6 domains of child and youth development – physical health, behavioral health, academic readiness, social/emotional well-being, career readiness and connection and contribution to community and society. These steps represent key markers of success that allows us to access developmental outcomes. As children and youth make their way up these stairs, we are able to track their progress or lack thereof. The indicators, or measures, for these different areas are shown above the stair steps in the green text (for things we are trying to promote) and orange text (for things we are trying to prevent). Understanding what this data looks like for different subpopulations within Palm Beach County is also essential. In order to achieve those outcomes, children and youth need key supports along the way, through a combination of effective parenting and safe and nurturing families and communities. A sample of possible measures are listed below.

Steps to Success & Supports for Success

STEPS TO SUCCESS: Child & Youth Outcomes & Indicators



www.pbcbirthto22.com