November 2018

UNION COUNTY YOUTH NETWORK NEWSLETTER

BUILDING SUPPORTS FOR OUR KIDS

Achievement seems to be connected with action.

Successful men and women keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit.

- Conrad Hilton

To get involved, contact us:

Marshall Christie
908-354-3040 x4251 or
Mchristie@caunj.org

Nicholas Scalera
201-532-5851 or
nick@scalera.com

OUR MISSION

*The **Union County Youth Services Steering Committee** is committed to increasing the number, availability, and accessibility of youth services to youth and young adults, and works to ensure that Union County's youth/young adults know how to secure the resources they need to develop and realize their potential for productive, self-sufficient lives as adults.*

Members of the Steering Committee represent public and non-profit youth-serving agencies, child advocates, volunteers, and faith-based organizations. They meet regularly to share information and resources, identify and close any major gaps in youth service programs, and to disseminate found resources through websites, media announcements, public forums and an annual conference.

GOALS

∞ Serve as a vehicle for fostering communication and networking among youth services providers and youth consumers

∞ Improve youth service effectiveness and outcomes.

∞ Share information, resources and expertise among providers and youth and parent consumers.

∞ Improve coordination of and access to services by youth and parents.

∞ Encourage development of an integrated youth and young adult services system.

∞ Improve utilization of existing youth resources and promote development of new services.

∞ Foster cross systems coordination, encourage collaborations and build linkages among youth service providers and resources.

∞ Stimulate use of innovative and evidence-based practice models through research projects and pilot demonstrations.

∞ Provide training and educational opportunities for staff working with youth and young adults.

∞ Develop and share standardized outcomes, performance measures and evaluation tools.

RESULTS

∞ The establishment of a strong county-wide foundation within the Union County Youth Services Steering Committee

∞ An annual Union County Youth Services Networking Conference that happens in October.

∞ Creation of a network that conducts and shares meetings and forums to share information, resources, and services for youth and young adults

∞ The development of the **Union County Youth Directory,** a computerized public database rich with resources for youth and service providers

∞ A group of strong advocates interested in participating in public information and awareness campaigns to encourage additional youth service groups to join in the cause.

MEET THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

SID BLANCHARD is the founder and executive director of Community Access Unlimited. CAU began in 1979 with a $90,000 grant to move 20 individuals out of institutions to community living and has grown the agency to no support over 6000 people throughout the state in areas of housing, support services, vocational supports, recreation, money management, advocacy, and more. Services in the home are provided to anyone in need including at-risk youth and adults with developmental disabilities, seniors and veterans.

In the most recent years, Sid has created more opportunities for increased community integration – starting three councils to join the interfaith community, youth services, and non-profit leaders with the common goal to bring upon community wide benefits together.

Sidney is a pioneer, leader, and ardent advocate in providing community supports for people in need. He is active in both local and national level organizations that further initiatives for individuals with special needs.

MARSHALL CHRISTIE was born in New Jersey and raised in Scotch Plains. With the exception of a few years residing elsewhere within the state, he has been a lifelong resident of Union County. Marshall has a wealth of programmatic and organizational experience in children and family services. He has championed the causes of at-risk youth for nearly three decades. Prior to coming to CAU, he served as director of a program in North Jersey that partnered with up to 20 treatment homes and coordinated the efforts of three agency-owned professional parent homes. In that role, he oversaw the program in serving at-risk children, adolescents and families.

Previously, Marshall spent more than 20 years honing his childcare, counseling and managerial skills while working for an agency in Somerset County. Beginning as a youth counselor at their shelter program in 1989, he rose through the ranks to become the agency's Director of Residential Services in 2013. In that role, he coordinated a 24-hour direct care staff and services to residents of seven adolescent residential facilities, including a youth shelter, group home, transitional living and supportive housing program.

NICHOLAS R. SCALERA has over 40 years' experience in youth and family services management. He was State Director of the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) from 1989-94 and DYFS Assistant Director from 1972-89. Previously, Nick worked as a public information officer for the NJ Department of Community Affairs (1967-72) and NJ Office of Economic Opportunity (1966-67) and was a reporter for the *Associated Press* (1966) and *Newark News* (1964-66).

In 1995, Nick formed Scalera Consulting Services, which works with public and private agencies that serve at-risk youth and/or vulnerable adults. Scalera holds a BA in Social Studies from Seton Hall University and an MS in Journalism "Cum Laude" from Columbia University. In 2007, he established the Nicholas R. Scalera Scholarship Fund at Seton Hall University to help academically qualified students with substantial financial and social needs secure a college education.

Nick has received many honors, including: Humanitarian Award from Seton Hall University; Public Administrator of the Year from the New Jersey Chapter, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA); Man of Achievement Award for services to at-risk youth from Phi Kappa Theta National Fraternity; and Humanitarian of the Year from the Association for Advancement of the Mentally Handicapped (predecessor of Community Access Unlimited, Inc.).

THE UNION COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES STEERING COMMITTEE

Sidney Blanchard
Community Access Unlimited

Lisa M. Bonanno
Union County Workforce Development Board

Hawa Bonds
Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Pamela Capaci
Prevention Links, Inc.

Karen Dinsmore
Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Felicia Frazier
Families and Community Together (FACT)

Maureen Segale Glenn
Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Marla Higginbotham
CASA of Union County

Pastor Pamela B. Jones
Communities in Cooperation (CIC)

Laura Margoetes
The Gateway Family YMCA,
Elizabeth Branch

Leila Molaie
NJ Dept of Labor & Workforce Development (DLWD),

Betsy Montalvo
Office of Adolescent Services, NJ
Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Carol Russell
Family Support Organization of Union County

Laura Stanley
Cooperative Counseling Services

Cathy Waters
Reconnections Program,
Urban League of Union County

Haydee Zamorea-Dalton, MSW
Middlesex/Union Area Office DCP&P

UCICC –CAU COMMUNITY HELP LINE

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH FOOD? HOME HEALTH OR PERSONAL CARE
HOME AND PROPERTY CARE
DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?

Call CAU's Information and Referral Office at
908-354-3040 [X 4272] for answers and resources.

CAU's community service mission includes providing direct services to people in need as well as information on how to locate services provided by other agencies. This month we highlight **three CAU services available to qualified recipients** in our Union County communities.

1] **Free home delivered meals** [6 week program; one meal per person per day] for Union County residents who are US citizens and their families who need food and who are:
*Age 59 or younger [head of household];
*Living in low income households;
* Unable to access adequate food for themselves and their families.
* Documents and interview are required to qualify.
Contact Gene Tavera X 4272.

2] **Homemaker-home health aide personal care assistance** in home for persons who require help to live independently at home. Services are provided at $20/hour but may be free for those who are low income and age 60 or over, or any age with a disability. Services include light housekeeping, meal preparation, errands and personal care assistance.
Contact Bill Webb X 4206.

3] **Home and property care services** are offered at reasonable fees to assist home bound residents with yard and lawn care, leaf and snow removal, deep cleaning and clutter removal, home maintenance, handyman repairs and home improvements. There are no age or income requirements for these services and costs are based on which services and projects are selected. **Contact Bill Webb X 4206.**

WE HAVE OPENINGS!

Group Home:

Youth ages 14-18 recieve 24 hour supervision, staff support, practical one-on-one daily living skills training and therapeutic services

Transitional Living Program (TLP):

Youth ages 16-21 recieve support with achieving housing stability, education, employment, permanent family/community connections and social and emotional well being

Supervised Transitional Living Program (STLP):

Youth ages 16-21 recieve 24 hour supervision, staff support, practical daily living skills training in a group setting

Semi-Independent (SEMI):

Youth ages 18-21 recieve advanced daily living skills training and prepare for independence with the staff guidance

Transitional & Permanent Supported Housing (SH):

Youth ages 18-21 are afforded the opportunity to move into an apartment supported by CAU.

YOUTH MUST BE ON THE ADOLESCENT HOUSING HUB OR YOUTHLINK FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-877-652-7624

Pathways to Academic & Career Exploration to Success (PACES):

Members ages 18-21 recieve advanced daily living skills training and prepare for independence with the staff guidance

Runaway & Homeless Youth Shelter:

Provides short term emergengy/respite care for youth ages 13-17

Parent Enrichment (PEP)

PEP supports families through the provision of parent education classes, and medical and health care linkage. Services are tailored to support pregnant women, young adult/teen parents, parents of special needs children and parents with disabilities

Please Contact:

Latanya Palmer (Intake Coordinator) 908-354-3040 ext. 4394
LPalmer@caunj.org
Desiree Randolph (Intake Support Counselor) 908-354-3040 ext. 4310
DRandolph@caunj.org

Transitional Opportunities Program presents:

Who Wants *to be* INDEPENDENT?!

Join us for this FREE event, with:

FUN GAMES FOOD PRIZES

When: Saturday, November 17, 2018

Time: 10:00AM—2:00 PM

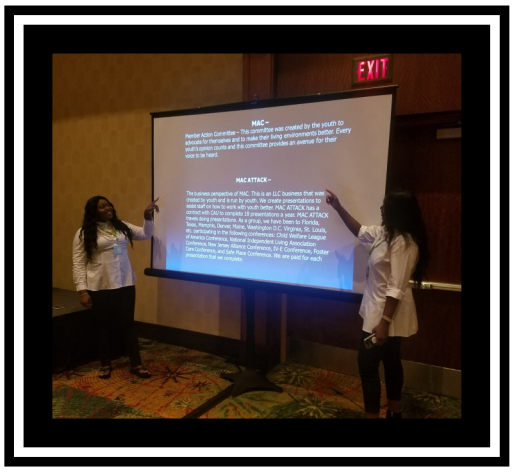
Location: CAU Main Office , 80 West Grand St., Elizabeth NJ

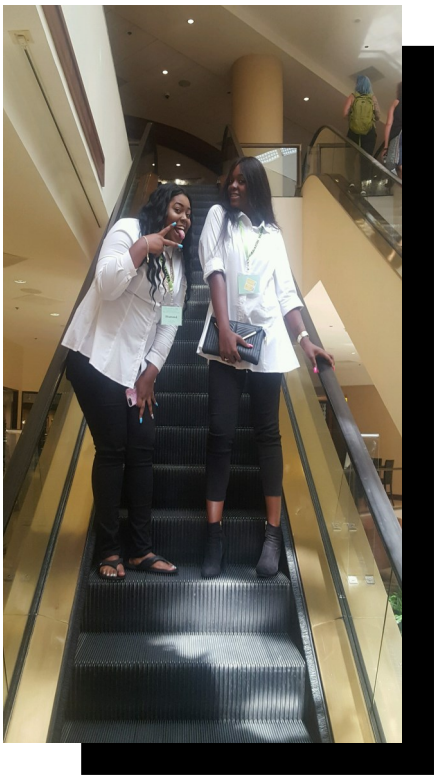
Please join us for an event where youth & young adults (13-21) can participate in games teaching them information on becoming Independent.

RSVP to Marie Guillaume (mguillaume@caunj.org)
Aliyah Wood (awood@caunj.org) or
Howard Wingard (hwingard@caunj.org)

COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

2018 NILA Conference





COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED SUPPORTS:

Participate in the Nationwide wear green day by wearing green (shirt, tie, socks, etc) on

Wednesday November 6, 2018

in support of Runaway and Homeless youth

*Pictures will be taken that day.

Post it to social media with hashtag: #NRPM2018

COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

2NDFLOOR® 888-222-2228 YOUTH HELPLINE

2NDFLOOR.ORG

2NDFLOOR® is a confidential and anonymous helpline for New Jersey's youth and young adults. We are here to help you find solutions to the problems that you face and we are available 24/7 and 365 days a year.

⇒ CALL: 888.222.2228 to speak with counselors 24/7

⇒ VISIT: www.2ndfloor.org for message board posts

⇒ TEXT: 888.222.2228 for support

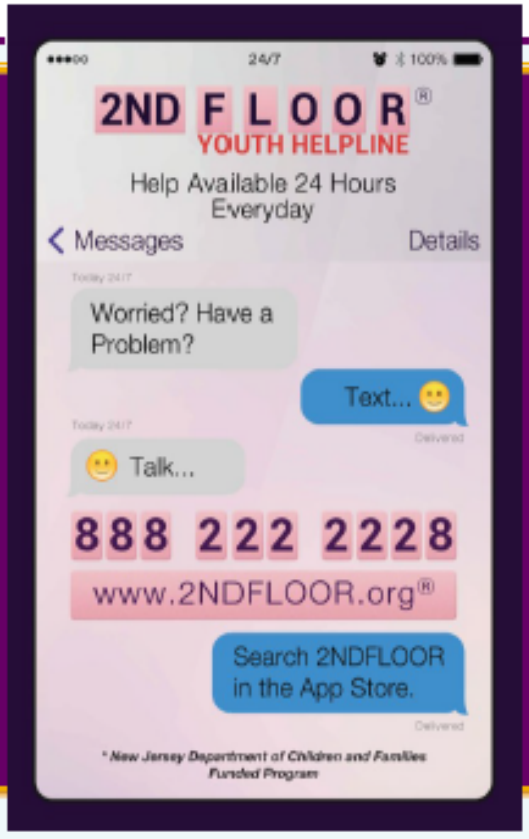
2NDFLOOR® YOUTH HELPLINE is a program of 180 Turning Lives Around, Inc. 1 Bethany Road / Bldg. 3, Suite 42 Hazlet, NJ 07730

2NDFLOOR Youth Helpline is a free and confidential service for youth and young adults in NJ who can reach out for support with ANY problem or concern

~ Youth can call or text to connect with a counselor 24/7 and can also post messages on our website message boards

~ Youth, put our number directly in your cell-phone so you can access our services with ease and/or share our contact information with a friend or peer who may need our support.

~ If you have an Apple phone download our free app!



Single Point of Entry for All Referrals

COOPERATIVE COUNSELING SERVICES

is proud to announce the opening of our

ACCESS CENTER

908-731-7099 (x504) or 1-833-5-WE-HELP
accesscenter@COOPERATIVECS.com

Recognizing the need for immediate access and instant answers, we are proud to announce the opening of our ACCESS CENTER! Our new team has been trained in all aspects of service delivery and superior customer service to ensure that you receive the best service when calling COOPERATIVE COUNSELING SERVICES.

We are ready and waiting to serve you while providing the highest quality of care.

Union Location
407 Chestnut Street
Union, NJ 07083

Mountainside Location
1139 Spruce Drive, 2nd Fl.
Mountainside, NJ 07092

Middlesex Location
147 Union Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846

Cooperative Counseling Services

www.COOPERATIVECS.com

Hope and Healing Since 2005

- NEW LOOK
- IMPROVED ACCESS
- NEW LEADERSHIP MEMBERS
- COMMITMENT TO TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE COMPANY-WIDE & TRAINING IN EVIDENCE-BASED MODELS

WE HEARD YOU! We recognize the need for immediate access and instant answers. It is not enough to want to be the best. We must continue to dedicate our time and energy to creating systems and operational excellence to ensure that our promises are being delivered.

By creating our ACCESS CENTER and adding new leadership across our organization, we are renewing our commitment to our children and families, and improving our service delivery to our customers. We recognize you have many choices when it comes to the care of your loved ones. Believe in us and trust that we will care for your family as we do our own.

Cooperative Counseling Services

Hope and Healing Since 2005

Visit our website to find out what else is new at Cooperative Counseling Services

www.COOPERATIVECS.com

- **CHILD/ADOLESCENT OUTPATIENT SERVICES**
  Focusing on family systems and complex trauma
  Middlesex and Union Counties
- **INTENSIVE IN-COMMUNITY SERVICES**
  Renewed focus on evidence-based, short-term-solution focused therapies
  (Bergen, Hudson, Morris/Sussex, Passaic, Essex, Tri-County, Union, Monmouth, Mercer, Ocean, Burlington, Camden, CGS, Atlantic Counties)
- **VISITATION SERVICES**
  Partnering with DCPP and families to provide a safe, therapeutic environment for children
  Middlesex and Union Counties
- **TRAINING/WORKSHOPS**
  Providing education to our families and system partners in self-care, trauma, family dynamics and Nurtured Heart Approach®

MEET THE TEAM

Leslie K. Moorman, LCSW - *Chief Executive Officer*
John E. Moorman, Jr., MPA, MBA - *Chief Financial Officer*
Elisa Jacobson, MS, LCSW - *Chief Compliance Officer*
Silvia Pascarella, MA - *Chief Operating Officer*
Dunell Ridore, ESQ. - *Human Resources Manager*
Carl Rosenberg, LSW - *Quality Assurance Manager*
Danielle Zsamba, MS - *Marketing Manager*
Ashley Jones - *Financial Manager*
Francesca Hamilton, LCSW - *Outpatient/Visitation Program Manager*
Laura Stanley, LPC - *IIC/Access Center Program Manager*

COOPERATIVE COUNSELING SERVICES

INTENSIVE IN-COMMUNITY SERVICES (IIC)

- BPS Strengths and Needs Assessments
- IIC, BA, Mentor, Parent Coaches
- Staff trained in Nurtured Heart Approach
- Serving 16 Counties across NJ

OUTPATIENT SERVICES

- Serve youth ages 3 to 21
- Individual, Family & Group Therapy
- Psychiatric Evaluations & Medication Monitoring
- DHS Licensed & Medicaid Provider
- Therapy available in English & Spanish
- Sliding scale fee available
- Therapists trained in ARC Framework

VISITATION SERVICES

- Therapeutic and Supervised Visitation
- Union and Middlesex DCPP Contracted
- Private referrals accepted
- Therapists trained in ARC Framework

LOCATIONS

Outpatient Services
407 Chestnut Street, Union NJ
Outpatient and Visitation Services
1139 Spruce Drive, Mountainside, NJ
Outpatient and Visitation Services
147 Union Avenue, Middlesex NJ

www.cooperativecs.com
(908) 731-7099

Accessing Services For Your Child Through The Children's System of Care (CSOC)

CSOC serves youth with emotional or behavioral health care needs; intellectual or developmental delays; or substance use challenges.

Services are based on the individual needs of the youth and family.

To access services, please call:

PerformCare
(877) 652-7624

A Member Services representative will collect and provide information to help you learn about and access resources and services.

Cooperative Counseling Services is a provider within CSOC thus you may request us directly if you are referred for a BPS Strengths and Needs Assessment or for IIC services.

www.cooperativecs.com
(908) 731-7099

COMMUNITY ACCESS
UNLIMITED

80 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Phone: 908-354-3040 TTY/TTD: 908-354-4629
Fax: 908-354-2665 www.caunj.org

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Help us go green. Please visit www.caunj.org to receive this newsletter electronically

Sidney Blanchard
Executive Director,
Community Access Unlimited (CAU)

Lisa M. Bonanno
Deputy Director, Union County Workforce Development Board (WDB)

Hawa Bonds
Assistant Director, Division of Youth Services, Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Pamela Capaci
Executive Director, Prevention Links, Inc.

Karen Dinsmore
Assistant Director, Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Felicia Frazier
Community Resource Manager, Families and Community Together (FACT)

Maureen Segale Glenn
Director of Community Services, Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

Marla Higginbotham
Executive Director, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County, Inc

Pastor Pamela B. Jones
CEO/Executive Director,
Communities in Cooperation, Inc. (CIC)

Laura Margeotes
Associate Branch Executive, The Gateway Family YMCA, Elizabeth Branch

Leila Molaie
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor/TCIS, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD)

Betsy Montalvo
Supervisor, Office of Adolescent Services, NJ Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Carol Russell
Community Outreach Coordinator,
Family Support Organization of Union County

Laura Stanley
IIC Program Manager,
Cooperative Counseling Services

Cathy Waters
Manager, Reconnections Program,
Urban League of Union County

Haydee Zamora–Dalton
Director, Middlesex/Union Area Office, Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP),
NJ Department of Children and Families (DCF)

THE UNION COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTORY

is being updated and will be accessible via the county's website. If you have not already submitted an entry for each of your agency's youth service programs for inclusion in the *Directory,* please visit:

http://ucnj.org/youth-directory