

October 2018

# UNION COUNTY YOUTH NETWORK NEWSLETTER



***BUILDING SUPPORTS FOR OUR KIDS***



## Save the Date

**6th Annual Union County  
Youth Networking Conference  
October 24, 2018  
8:00 AM—3:00 PM**

**Community Access Unlimited  
80 West Grand St.  
Elizabeth, NJ 07202**

For More Information Contact  
Rolando Zorrilla at 908-354-3040 x4305  
rzorrilla@caunj.org

Sponsored by:



**UNION COUNTY**  
*We're Connected to You!*

*Youth Comes  
But Once  
in a Lifetime*

*-Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow*

*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

**Maureen Segale Glenn**

Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Carol Russell**

Family Support Organization of Union County

**Lisa M. Bonanno**

Union County Workforce Development Board

**Marla Higginbotham**

CASA of Union County

**Laura Stanley**

Cooperative Counseling Services

**Hawa Bonds**

Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Pastor Pamela B. Jones**

Communities in Cooperation (CIC)

**Cathy Waters**

Reconnections Program,  
Urban League of Union County

**Pamela Capaci**

Prevention Links, Inc.

**Laura Margoetes**

The Gateway Family YMCA,  
Elizabeth Branch

**Haydee Zamorea-Dalton, MSW**

Middlesex/Union Area Office DCP&P

**Karen Dinsmore**

Union County Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Leila Molaie**

NJ Dept of Labor & Workforce Development (DLWD),

**Betsy Montalvo**

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

**Felicia Frazier**

Families and Community Together (FACT)



## 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 receive 24 hour supervision, staff support, practical one-on-one daily living skills training and therapeutic services

### Transitional Living Program (TLP):

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

### Semi-Independent (SEMI):

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

### Runaway & Homeless Youth Shelter:

Provides short term

emergency/respice 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](mailto:LPalmer@caunj.org)

Desiree Randolph (Intake Support Counselor) 908-354-3040 ext. 4310

[DRandolph@caunj.org](mailto:DRandolph@caunj.org)

# 2018 Youth Conference



# "Focus on Your Innergram"

Our annual Youth Conference for 2018 was a success. We had a great turn out for the event and we were fortunate to have our own CAU staff, Michael Williams Jr. as our Guest Speaker. Michael was able to relate to the youth. He talked about his personal trials and tribulations and how he was able to overcome the things that happened in his childhood / family and persevere to become the man that he is today. Michael understood that getting his education was the key to him being successful in his life. He wasn't the best student, but he knew if he put his mind to it he could become and do anything that he wanted to in his life. It was truly inspirational.

We had different workshops to teach the members about life and to guide them as they transition into young adulthood. The key to all the workshops was teaching empowerment. This year we were fortunate to add a workshop that was run by law enforcement officers to teach our youth how to deal with various situations that they may come across in their life. We wanted to make sure we are being relevant to our youth and teaching them about the current movements that are going on in our communities and throughout the world.

In this conference our new AED of Youth Services, Marshall Christie was introduced and he will continue to keep our program moving forward and take it to the next level. He is looking forward to help our youth to be the best that they can be.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Register Now!** Sign up for Day of Prayer and RSVP by October 5th at <https://5thannualdayofprayer.eventbrite.com> or call 908.354.3040 x4371

**5th Annual Day of Prayer and Reflection**  
**Unifying Our Community Through Prayer**



**Union County**  
**Day of Prayer**  
**October 9, 2018**  
**7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**



**St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church**  
**2032 Westfield Avenue**  
**Scotch Plains, NJ 07076**



*Working to facilitate the building of bonds within the interfaith community, promoting the respect, inclusion and welcoming of others.*

Sponsored by: Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council and Community Access Unlimited

**Reserve la fecha!**

**Suscribase ahora! Inscríbese para el día de oración para el 5 de Octubre y responda a <https://5thannualdayofprayer.eventbrite.com> o llame al 908-354-3040 x4371.**

**5 Aniversário del día de Oración y Reflexión unindo nuestra comunidad através de la oración**



**El Condado de Unión  
Día de Oración  
Octubre 9, 2018  
7 pm-8pm**



**St Bartholomew the Apostle Church  
2032 Westfield Ave  
Scotch Plains NJ 07076**



*Trabajando para facilitar la construcción de vínculos dentro de la comunidad de todas las religiones promoviendo el respeto y la bienvenida de los demás .*

*Patrocinado por: Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council y Community Access Unlimited*



# *Annual Gala Dinner Dance*



*Senator Stephen M. Sweeney  
NJ State Senate President  
Humanitarian of the Year*



*Senator Nicholas P. Scutari  
NJ Legislative District 22  
Public Leadership Award*



*Christopher Zucosky  
Phoenix Specialties, LLC  
Ira Celler Award*

**Thursday, October 18, 2018**

Time: 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Newark Liberty International Airport Hotel  
1 Hotel Road Newark, NJ 07114

Tickets: \$135 each, Table of 10 for \$1300

**To RSVP or Reserve an Ad or Sponsorship visit**  
<https://2018galadinnerdance.eventbrite.com>

Or contact Cara Clair 908-354-3040 x4376  
or [cclair@caunj.org](mailto:cclair@caunj.org)

JOIN US FROM  
**6-9PM**

**T.O.P**  
**PRESENTS A**

**OCTOBER**  
**25TH**

# **HALLOWEEN**

**-PARTY-**

**Music**

**Food**

**Games**

**PRIZE FOR THE  
BEST COSTUME**



**COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED  
AUDITORIUM  
80 WEST GRAND STREET ELIZABETH, NJ 07202  
AUDITORIUM**

# 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](http://www.2ndfloor.org) for message board posts

⇒ **TEXT:** 888.222.2228 for support



2NDFLOOR® YOUTH HELPLINE is a program of



*Turning Lives Around, Inc.*

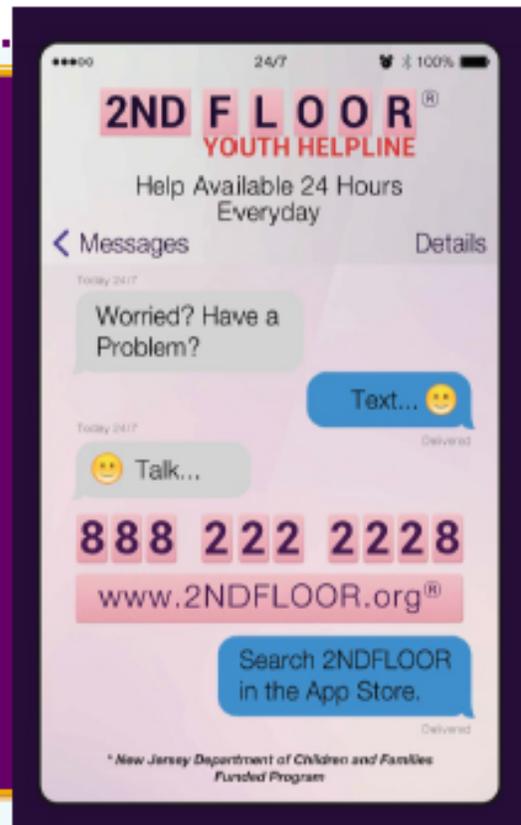
1 Bethany Road / Bldg. 3, Suite 42 Hazlet, NJ 07730

**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!



\* New Jersey Department of Children and Families Funded Program



# DRUG PREVENTION WALK



**10.20.18**

#Everyone knows someone...  
...help prevent the next one.

**UNION COUNTY Red Ribbon**

Take a stand with us at our annual Red Ribbon Day and Drug Prevention Walk on Saturday, October 20th at Nomahegan Park in Cranford, New Jersey.

Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, City of Elizabeth, Dept. of Health & Human Services, Recreation Dept., Office of Youth Services, & Union County Freeholder Sergio Granados Present:

# harvest fest



**Tuesday, October 30, 2018 • Bank of America Parking Lot • 5:00pm - 8:00pm**  
135 Jefferson Avenue

## COSTUME CONTEST



**Music, Free Food, Games, Entertainment, & More Fun For The Entire Family!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (908) 820-4051





## 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

**R**ecognizing 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.*



<b>Union Location</b> 407 Chestnut Street Union, NJ 07083	<b>Mountainside Location</b> 1139 Spruce Drive, 2nd FL Mountainside, NJ 07092	<b>Middlesex Location</b> 147 Union Avenue Middlesex, NJ 08846
---	---	--

[www.COOPERATIVECS.com](http://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.



Hope and Healing Since 2005

Visit our website to find out what else is new at Cooperative Counseling Services  
[www.COOPERATIVECS.com](http://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 DCPD 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 DCPD 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.cooperativescs.com](http://www.cooperativescs.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.cooperativescs.com](http://www.cooperativescs.com)

(908) 731-7099





NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 225  
Elizabeth, NJ

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

 Help us go green. Please visit [www.caunj.org](http://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>