

January 2019

UNION COUNTY YOUTH NETWORK NEWSLETTER



BUILDING SUPPORTS FOR OUR KIDS

*When educating the
minds of our youth,
We must not forget
to educate their
hearts.*

-Dalai Lama

*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/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

AUDITIONS FOR



hairspray JR.

Presented by the
CAU Community
Players

Tuesday, January 22, 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Thursday, January 24, 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Saturday, January 26, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Where? 80 West Grand St. Elizabeth, NJ 07202

**For more information, contact us at info@caunj.org
or visit caunj.org**

The Music Conservatory at Kean University & Community Access Unlimited's
Academy for Continuing Education presents:

CAU/KEAN COLLABORATIVE CONCERT 2019

INSPIRE. BELIEVE. UPLIFT

**JAN
11**

**WILKINS THEATRE
KEAN UNIVERSITY**

7:30 PM, Doors Open at 7:00 PM

This arts project is made possible in part by the
HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching
Thousands) Grant from the
Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders

FEATURING PERFORMANCES FROM

**CAU'S ACE PROGRAM
ELIZABETH, RAHWAY, ROSELLE PARK
& UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
THE KEANIACS**





GET READY TO HOOP IT UP!

THE ELIZABETH COALITION TO
HOUSE THE HOMELESS
25TH ANNUAL

HOOPS TO END HOMELESSNESS

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FEATURING

BATTLE OF THE BADGES

LAW
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS

VS

ELIZABETH
FIREFIGHTERS

3:30 P.M.

CLASH OF THE ENERGY TITANS

PSE&G

VS

INFINEUM

4:30 P.M.

5-6 P.M.

ENTERTAINMENT

ELIZABETH
HIGH SCHOOL
GIRLS

VS

BENEDICTINE
ACADEMY

6:30 P.M.

ELIZABETH
HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS

VS

ST. MARY
HIGH SCHOOL

8:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019
BEGINNING AT 3 P.M.

DUNN SPORTS CENTER
600 SOUTH PEARL STREET, ELIZABETH

EVERY STUDENT WHO DONATES GLOVES, HATS,
OR SOCKS WILL RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION.
CHILDREN AGES 12 AND UNDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

BUY TICKETS ONLINE

THEELIZABETHCOALITION.EVENTBRITE.COM

TICKETS

\$10

ADULT

\$5

YOUTH

(\$3 in advance or with
valid student ID)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
FRAN SULLIVAN AT 908-337-9287

Union County Homeless Services Resource Information

Prevention Services & Rapid Re-Housing (rent/mortgage/security/utility assistance):

- ❖ *Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark*- 505 South Ave East, Cranford, NJ 07016, (908)497-3900, M-F 9-4:30pm
- ❖ *Elizabeth Coalition*- 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-2060 x 0, M/T/Th/F 9-12 and 1-5pm W 1-5pm
- ❖ *Plainfield Action Services*- 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)753-3519, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *PROCEED, Inc.* – 1126 Dickinson Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)351-7727, M-F 8:30-4:30pm
- ❖ *Salvation Army/Elizabeth*- 1018 E. Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)352-2886, Open 24 hours/7 days
- ❖ *Urban League of Union County*- 288 North Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07208, (908)351-7200, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Family Promise*- 402 Union Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07208, (908)289-7300, M-F 9-5 pm

Emergency Shelters

- ❖ *Elizabeth Coalition*- 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, ((908)355-2060 x 0, M/T/Th/F 9-12 and 1-5pm W 1-5pm
- ❖ *Family Promise*- 402 Union Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07208, (908)289-7300, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *FISH Hospitality Program, Inc.*- P.O. Box 5440, Plainfield, NJ 07061, (908)968-5857, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Plainfield Area YMCA*- 518 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)756-6060, Open 24 hours/7 days
- ❖ *YMCA of Eastern Union County*- 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-9622, Open 24 hours/ 7 days
- ❖ *YWCA of Eastern Union County*- 1131 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-1500, M-F 9-5 pm

Transitional Housing

- ❖ *Community Access Unlimited*- 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202, (908)354-3040, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Elizabeth Coalition*- 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-2060 x 0, M/T/Th/F 9-12 and 1-5 W 1-5pm
- ❖ *Flynn Christian Fellowship of New Jersey*- 1089-1091 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)351-2265, M-F 6-6 pm
- ❖ *Homefirst, Inc.*- 905 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)753-4001, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *PROCEED, Inc.*- 1126 Dickinson Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)351-7727, M-F 8:30-4:30 pm
- ❖ *Raphael's Life House*- 231 Court Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206, (908)354-4750, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *YMCA of Eastern Union County*- 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-9622, Open 24 hours/7 days

Permanent and Supportive Housing

- ❖ *Bridgeway, Inc.* – 265 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202, (908)355-2060 x 0, M-F 9-4:30 pm
- ❖ *Community Access Unlimited*- 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ, (908)354-3040, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Elizabeth Coalition*- 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)353-4006, M/T/Th/F 9-12 and 1-5 W 1-5pm
- ❖ *Faith, Bricks, & Mortar, Inc.*- 164 East Front Street (Rear), Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)756-5774, M-F 8:30-4:30 pm
- ❖ *Greater Plainfield Habitat for Humanity*- 315 West 7th Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)769-5292, M-F 10-1
- ❖ *Homefirst, Inc.*- 905 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)753-4001, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Plainfield Area YMCA*- 518 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)756-6060, Open 24 hours/7 days
- ❖ *Volunteers of America*- 205 West Milton Avenue, Rahway, NJ, (732)827-2444, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *YMCA of Eastern Union County*- 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-9622, Open 24 hours/ 7 days
- ❖ *YWCA of Eastern Union County*- 1131 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)355-1500, M-F 9-5 pm

Food Assistance

- ❖ *American Red Cross*- 121 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090, (908)232-7090, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark*- 505 South Ave East, Cranford, NJ 07016, (908)497-3900, M-F 9-4:30pm
- ❖ *El Centro Hispanoamericano*- 525 East Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908)753-8730, T/Th 10-6 W 12-7 S 10-2
- ❖ *Elizabethport Presbyterian Center*- 200 Second Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206, (908)659-2184, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Jefferson Park Ministries*- 477 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201 (908)469-9508, M-Th 9-5 pm F 9-4 pm
- ❖ *First Baptist Church of Cranford/Elizabeth*-402 Union Ave, Elizabeth, NJ 07208,(908)352-0519, 2nd & 3rd Th 4-7pm 4th Th 10-1 pm
- ❖ *Liberty Baptist Church*- 515-517 Court Street, Elizabeth, NJ (908)354-3362, M 10-12 pm
- ❖ *Salvation Army/Elizabeth*- 1005 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201, (908)352-7057, M-F 9-5 pm
- ❖ *Saint Mary of the Assumption*- 155 Washington Ave, Elizabeth, NJ (enter church basement), (908)352-5154, Last Tuesdays of the month

We are all called to serve the poor, the homeless, the sick, the hungry...

Information/Documents Online at: <http://wp.me/PeqFK-8HO> * Social Media Hashtag: [#HomelessSabbathNJ](#)

GOT A SIMPLE WISH?

WE WANT TO HELP!



One Simple Wish grants simple wishes to foster children and underserved youth and families.

If you have a simple wish, you can contact us to submit it and we will do everything we can to help you*!

THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF WISHES ARE ACCEPTED:



- Baby items
- Grocery Store Gift Cards
- Clothing & Shoes
- Toys
- Books
- Music Players
- Digital Cameras
- Bicycles



- Lessons
- Eyeglasses
- Small Home Appliances
- Bedding
- Bath Towels
- Beauty & Personal Care Products



CONTACT US:

info@onesimplewish.org

 One Simple Wish™



*One Simple Wish cannot guarantee that all wishes will be granted but we will make every effort to offer as much support as possible. Wishes must be under \$500. Wishes under \$50 are granted the fastest.

Become a Part of A Nationwide Network
of Support for Underserved Children &
Young Adults ...

JOIN ONE SIMPLE WISH'S COMMUNITY PARTNER NETWORK



At One Simple Wish we believe that every child deserves joy, hope and love in their lives! Together with our Community Partners across the US, we help create happy childhoods one simple wish at a time.

As a member of our Community Partner Network, you can make wishes on behalf of the children and families you serve!

WHO CAN JOIN?

Any registered nonprofit that has been operating for at least one year (examples: schools, churches, group homes, foster parent support groups and social service agencies)



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Community Partner membership is free! All we ask is that you tell the world about the great work we're doing together and send thank you notes every time a wish is granted!



HOW DO WE APPLY?

Go to onesimplewish.org and click on "Community Partner"



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

onesimplewish.org
info@onesimplewish.org
609.883.8484

One Simple Wish™





80 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202

Phone: 908-354-3040 TTY/TTD: 908-354-4629
Fax: 908-354-2665 www.caunj.org

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

 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>