



Fall 2019/Winter 2020

HUMAN

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A HumanWorks Affiliates, Inc. Newsletter



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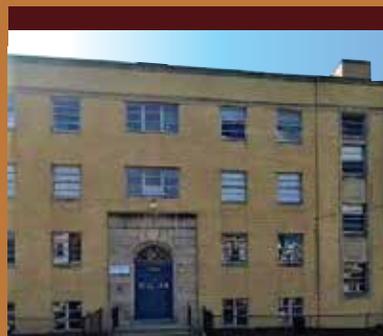


### ChildFirst Services, Inc. Visits Newly Appointed Mayor of Atlantic City, Marty Small Sr.

Organized by newly promoted Senior Engagement and Opportunities Director Selina Mack, a group of our young men accompanied by staff and president/CEO Dr. Nathaniel J. Williams traveled in early January to Atlantic City, NJ.

Young men from the regions of Philadelphia and Berks were invited to attend a reception at the office of mayor Marty Small Sr. At the age of 29 Mayor Small was

the youngest city council president elected in the history of the city, and the city's 4th black mayor. Three of our boys presented the '8 Domains' and the '4 M's of Mapping', and the mayor delivered an empowering message of hope and perseverance. The reception was followed by a catered dinner and an awards ceremony. We are so proud of the young gentlemen of ChildFirst!



Already the locations of Logan House on the 3rd floor and Thornbury House on the 2nd floor, the 1st floor of this spacious townhouse will afford ChildFirst Services, Inc. the opportunity to impact even more young lives in need.

### Newly Opened!

Opened in January with a maximum of 6 beds, Empowerment House has joined our ranks as the 19th location for ChildFirst Services, Inc. One of the facets of 'empowerment' is the process of becoming stronger and more confident, especially in controlling one's life and claiming one's rights. We are hopeful that the future children of Empowerment House will be able to do just that.



## PROMOTIONS

### Mapping Mindset

Encompassing the domains of Personal Development and Environment, standouts across our affiliates rose to new heights!



#### **Jorge Colon, Spectrum Community Services, Inc.**

Jorge has been employed with Spectrum Community Services for 3 years. He started as a Senior Direct Support Professional and was promoted to Engagement and Opportunity Supervisor. Jorge truly enjoys helping our individuals improve their social skills and wellbeing. He has grown personally and professionally under the tutelage of his mentor Dawn Uber, and he most appreciates the ability to work with so many new people and pass on what he has learned.



#### **Selina Mack, ChildFirst Services, Inc.**

Selina has been employed with ChildFirst Services for one year. Selina most enjoys being of service to children in foster care and providing opportunities for them to strive to success. She was hired as an Engagement and Opportunities Director and was promoted to Senior Engagement and Opportunities Director in January. Selina is looking forward to empowering a wider range of children utilizing winning strategies as set forth by Dr. Williams.

## Winter Emergency Preparedness

Winter storms can bring cold temperatures, power failures, loss of communication services, and icy roads. To keep yourself and loved ones safe, prepare your home and car before a winter storm hits.

### Prepare Your Home

- Weatherproof your home: install insulation, repair roof leaks
- Have your chimney or flue inspected each year
- Install a smoke detector/battery-operated carbon monoxide detector

### Create an Emergency Action Plan ahead of time

1. Find phone numbers for your physician, pediatrician, pharmacist, and veterinarian
  - Poison control: 800-222-1222
  - Animal Poison Control: 888-426-4435
  - Disaster Distress Helpline: 800-985-5590
2. Ask a friend/relative who lives outside the immediate area to be your family's Out-of-Town Contact
3. Identify a shelter-in-place location inside your home, 2 emergency meeting places outside your home, and at least 2 ways out of every room in your home
4. Ask your child's school/daycare about their emergency communication and family reunification plans

5. Update your Emergency Action Plan whenever your family moves, your child changes schools, you change jobs, have a child, or experience some other significant life event

### Prepare Your Vehicle

#### Create an Emergency Car Kit

1. Cell phone, portable charger, extra batteries, power bank
2. Extra hats, coats, gloves, blankets
3. Windshield scraper, shovel, tow chains/rope, road salt
4. Flashlight and battery-powered radio w/extra batteries
5. Booster/jumper cables, bright colored flag/help sign
6. Waterproof matches, water, snack food, road maps
7. First aid kit with any necessary medications, pocketknife

## Spotlight on Success—Michael

Michael came to Spectrum Community Services-CMP from White Haven center in 2007 and it's been quite a ride ever since. The easy-going, Pokémon loving Michael we all know and love has not always been this way; it took a lot of hard work and dedication from Michael and his team. When Michael first came to CMP, he was on 48 units of insulin throughout the day. Now he is only on 12 units! Additionally, he has lost over 100 pounds by making healthier food choices such as kale, fish, spinach, and broccoli. Michael used to eat all his meals slouched down using only a spoon but has since learned to use other utensils appropriate for the meal he is eating. Michael now chooses to go out into the community and engage with his peers. Through the change in behaviors in all aspects of Michael's life, he is a much healthier and happier individual!

Jorge Colon, former SEOP at Kipling who has worked closely with Michael, stated, "Michael is a completely different individual from when I first started; from being out in the community and enjoying the outings to the way he makes healthy choices with food. I consider working with him and seeing the changes he has made to be very gratifying."



# Events and Happenings

Celebrations and fellowship abounded across ChildFirst, HumanWorks, Phoenix, and Spectrum.



## Spectrum Community Services, Inc. 2019 Holiday Celebration

The Carbon-Monroe-Pike office celebrated the holiday with music, games, and a catered luncheon. Smiles and laughter were everywhere as the individuals received thoughtful gifts and heartfelt expressions of joy from their caretakers and each other. The sense of camaraderie and community was palpable as the afternoon went on. The work that is done here is truly exceptional, as evidenced on the faces of everyone in attendance that afternoon.

## Phoenix Services, Inc. 2019 Holiday Celebration

The individuals at the Phoenix Day Program were treated to a home-cooked luncheon and a visit from Santa, who brought laughter, smiles, and gifts that elicited joy from the hearts of not only the recipients but of those that work with them on a daily basis. Sometimes the best gifts do not arrive in boxes and bags but are packaged in the hearts and souls of the people who are dedicated to selflessly serving those in need.



## ChildFirst Services, Inc. 2019 Holiday Gift Wrapping Event



Team members from Allentown, Philadelphia, and Berks and Wayne counties came together to organize and package almost 400 gifts for the youth of Childfirst Services, Inc. The tissue, bows, and ribbon seemed boundless, but spirits were light and joyful as this monumental task was accomplished. Throughout the day recollections of holidays past with the children were shared, and the work became a labor of love.



## HumanWorks Affiliates, Inc. 2019 Holiday Celebration

The departments of Fiscal, Operations, Education/Vocation, Quality Assurance, and Corporate Advancement gathered to celebrate the holiday at a local restaurant. The lighthearted luncheon was followed by a Secret Santa gift exchange and office awards. These teams often operate behind the scenes; nonetheless they are highly committed to the 'big picture' of improving the lives of the individuals across all of our affiliates.



## LICENSING

### Danken House Passed Licensing!

Painting, sanding, and moving furniture, team members from ChildFirst, HumanWorks, and Spectrum came together to assist with the licensing preparations for this new ChildFirst home.



Nestled in the idyllic landscape of Wernersville, PA is newly licensed ChildFirst Services, Inc.'s 18th home, Danken House. Wernersville was once a noted resort community. City dwellers from Philadelphia and New York City would make a stop on the Reading Railroad to partake of the cool mountain air of South Mountain. Many of the spacious resort homes from the late 19th and early 20th centuries have since been converted for institutional purposes, and some cottages once associated with the resorts are now private homes. For ChildFirst Services, Inc. Danken House will serve as a place to inspire and impact the lives of up to 12 youth at a time.

## Message from the CEO...



March is National Professional Social Work Month. Over the last 25 years, we have developed methods and modalities contained within the recently released Engagement and Opportunities Manual of Winning Strategies. This book serves as a compilation of efforts to strive to engage, support, and confront many of the most challenging circumstances the individuals we support face, along with what their families, our communities, and society face in their everyday lives. We have been and continue to be committed to truly leaving no individuals or staff behind. The development of over 200 engagement

options denotes this. We want to ensure every angle and dimension is considered in overcoming or celebrating the circumstance and challenges that exist.

As President and CEO of HumanWorks Affiliates, Inc., I would like to thank you all for your support. For over 30 years HumanWorks Affiliates has been providing supports to children and youth, people with developmental disabilities, the socially disadvantaged, and more recently to other service providers as a management company. For more information, contact me at [nwilliams@humanworksaffiliates.com](mailto:nwilliams@humanworksaffiliates.com). I look forward to the future as we help people reach their potential. All the best.

Sincerely,

**Nathaniel J. Williams, Ed. D, MHS, MPA, MBA**  
President and CEO

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