



THE CYC ADVOCATE

"Real Expertise Comes From Those Closest To The Challenge"



Our Mission: ACYCP's mission is to engage practitioners in building the child and youth care profession. We build collaborative partnerships, promote innovative training and education, shape public policy, and inform developmental practice through research and scholarship.

Our Vision: We envision a society which recognizes, understands, and supports the essential role of child and youth care work in ensuring the well-being and success of children, youth and families. ACYCP aspires to excel as an influential and innovative organization advancing child and youth care practice throughout the profession.

Our Value Proposition: There is probably no undertaking more essential to the stability of humanity than the nurturing of each generation into mature self-actualizing adults. This task falls mainly to youth and childcare workers. Often underpaid and overworked, these professionals are society's first responders to the many crises, which can impact human development in the most formative years. Primarily through its professional certification program, the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, Inc. (ACYCP) supports these care

providers in the acquisition and use of best practices. Employing research-based methods, plus personal dedication, ensures strong measurable outcomes. ACYCP bolsters both the individual and the collective field through communication, education, and advocacy. These activities encourage individual live-long learning, selfcare and career dedication. As such, ACYCP seeks the financial support of its Vision and Mission, which guide its daily practices. ACYCP reaches every community of care across the entire spectrum of youth and childcare services, with proven results. Through the prudent stewardship of its resources by an all-volunteer staff and board, ACYCP has maximized its direct benefit to its members and the profession at large for over 40 years. An investment in ACYCP is an investment in the quality of tomorrow's citizens.

Find out what ACYCP is all about. See a quick video at: <https://www.acycp.org/acycp-at-a-glance>

ACYCP is on social media! Follow us on [Facebook](#) using [The-Association-for-Child-Youth-Care-Practice-Inc-186063394783003/](#) and [Twitter](#) using [@ACYCP](#) and on [Instagram](#) using [@ACYCP_Inc](#) . We look forward to hearing from you!



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IF YOU LIKE THE QUARTERLY CYC ADVOCATE...Join ACYCP and get the monthly ACYCP Membership Memo, as one of many membership benefits!

TO JOIN ACYCP OR RENEW YOUR INDIVIDUAL, STUDENT, AGENCY or ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP, GO TO: <https://www.acycp.org/acycp-membership>

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Photo: allofus.gov

ACYCP PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Jody Rhodes, CYC-P, MS

Dear ACYCP Members, CYC Colleagues, and Friends,

Welcome to the Summer 2022 edition of the CYC Advocate!

As usual this issue of the CYC Advocate is full of great knowledge and resources.



It is with great sadness that we lost one of the great pioneers of the ACYCP to cancer in the past month, **Tony Maciocia**. We lost a true hero and youth worker advocate. He not only led the field in so many ways, but was a long-time mentor and supporter for the professionalization of the field for the past 4 decades. He helped countless youth and families. He was a conference planner extraordinaire, putting on amazing professional development opportunities for the field. We were glad that we got to see Tony when he attended ACYCP's 40th Anniversary event 5 years ago in Milwaukee. He will be truly missed. For more about Tony go to <https://cyc-net.org/cyc-online/cycol-0305-honor.html> .

"It is with deep regret and much sadness that I inform you that a long time and treasured friend of mine (and many more of you) Tony Maciocia passed away this week. Tony dedicated his life to working with children and impacted many young lives over his career. He was also a giant in the Child and Youth Care field with immeasurable contributions in arranging conferences, trainings and other events. Tony was the Master Hospitality man always making people feel welcome and important when they attended the conferences. As a colleague he added much to my career and to the field in general. As a friend he made an even bigger impact on me and others he came in contact with...always extending warm hospitality, willing to help in any way he could, and just being an exceptional person in so many ways and as good a friend as you could ever ask for. I had many connections with Tony over the years, but the ones in his home town of Montreal were always extra special. In many ways Tony represented the best of the essence of what the wonderful city Montreal is. The picture here is with Tony and the Charland Boys at one of their regular Montreal Friday night gatherings. Tony inviting me to join with that group on Fridays when I was in Montreal is something I will always treasure. The quality of guys in the Friday group also says a lot about Tony and his choice of friends. So many wonderful memories and fun nights there. Whenever I would go up to Montreal I could always count on Tony to provide the most most generous and warm hospitality to me and whomever I would be in Montreal with. This picture goes back to 2005 on a Friday night at the Charland Cafe. Tony is third from the left in the back row with his usual welcoming smile. We lost a good man this week, but he left much positive with many people he touched behind him."---- Frank Delano

"Tony will be remembered as one of the great contributors to CYC. His energy and intelligence was so inspirational. He was one of the early ones who just kept showing up. No one had a better touch for how to embed the spirit of connection and relationship into a meeting or conference. Being around Tony was to feel cared for and connected to whatever was going on...be it learning, planning, exploring ideas, dancing,

carousing, or just drinking until the club closed. I will miss him but will continue to carry what he taught me about working with others always....he changed me into a better version of myself."---Frank Eckles

"Tony loved us and we loved him. He was one of the best and most professional youth workers in the field. Tony must be in heaven explaining to God the organizational details of the next heaven-wide conference. We will all carry Tony in our hearts whenever we are learning, sowing respect, and helping one another. In his time, Tony was a founder of the field. Thanks, Tony for all you did for me and for others."--- Andy Schneider Munoz, Ph.D.



On a brighter note, we have 2 upcoming events that are happening soon- so watch for the announcements as they roll out:

ACYCP Board Elections- every year we hold elections to fill and renew our delegate positions. Our Board and Committee Development committee has been working hard to recruit and identify potential board members- more information is included in this issue of the Advocate. If you are interested, please reach out to us to chat.

ACYCP Awards- every year we also honor youth workers in a variety of awards. Two in particular are the Carol Kelly New-Comer Award, and the ACYCP Life Achievement Award. We are also excited to add a new award as well. The call for nominations will be coming out soon. Please take a few minutes out of your busy day and consider nominating a worthy colleague.

On a somewhat historic occasion, in July ACYCP 1st Vice President Michael Mitchell and I presented a complete set of the ACYCP Journal of Child and Youth Care Work to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, with the aid of **Tom Larkin**, head of the School of Social Work Library at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Thanks to Tom's efforts, the hard-copy collection will be made available to the entire UW system enrollment of some 165,000 students at 13 universities across 26 campuses, via intra-library loan. This is in addition to online access made possible by our esteemed supporter, the University of Pittsburgh. UW-

Milwaukee is the birthplace of ACYCP and home to our late founder, Mark Krueger, Ph.D. We are still looking for a copy of Volume 1, number 1, which may be in typed mimeograph format of just a few pages. If you have this volume in your possession and would like to donate same, please contact Michael Mitchell at propman46@gmail.com or call him at (608)846-2860.



To read the latest Journal article, go to: <http://acycpjournal.pitt.edu/ojs/jycw/issue/view/26> ◇

As usual this issue of the CYC Advocate is full of helpful knowledge and resources for child and youth care professionals. Please also take a minute to see that your membership is current, so that you continue to receive your full menu of membership benefits and services, including the monthly ACYCP Membership Memo. To renew, go to <https://www.acycp.org/acycp-membership> .

Happy reading and exploring!
Jody Rhodes, ACYCP President

The ACYCP has also formed new committees, in which any member can be a part of. We went through some strategic planning in late 2021 and these are our new working committees:

Board and Committee Development
Public Policy Awareness and Partnership Development
Research, Ethics and Publications
Professional Development
FICE USA Council

These committees are a great way to work with colleagues from across the US and Canada on important youth work field issues and projects. I welcome your interest, so email me personally and I will connect you to the committee chair. Committee involvement is also a great way to get involved and be considered in the future for a ACYCP Board position. My email is: jodyrhodeswi@gmail.com

[Come join us today!](#)

Happy reading and exploring! –Jody

Equity and Diversity-The ACYCP Position

The Association Child and Youth Care Practice (ACYCP) stands in solidarity with all who seek social justice and equality. We are grateful to be associated with Black Lives Matter and others, who demonstrate their commitment to these ideals and to a vision of a future that recognizes the value and worth of all human beings irrespective of their race, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, national origin, economic status, or religious beliefs. These are fundamental values upon which the child and youth care field is founded. It is the foundation upon which we humbly stand.

As an association, we strive to uphold these values but know that we, as a board and as a profession, have fallen short of living up to this vision. The recent tragic events connected to the killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and others, have brought to light just how big this gap is in our country as well as in our field. We promote diversity and inclusion, but racial disparity and exclusion are still prevalent. We proclaim justice and equality, but injustice and inequality are everywhere we turn.

As child and youth care practitioners, we meet our youth where they are at and accept them for who they are. We are the foundation of society, helping to raise the next generation of leaders. If we don't take this seriously, who will?

We can start making changes to better the world we live and work in – for the youth, children and families we serve, as well as our own. It won't happen overnight, but if we do this together, it will happen. ◇

Now Happening

ACADEMY FOR COMPETENT YOUTH WORK CELEBRATES 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

By Frank Eckles

"When the Texas Youth and Child Care Worker Association (TYCCWA) established the [Academy](#) in 2001, we recognized that we were doing something that was leading edge, but none of us realized how widespread our impact would be", says Frank Eckles, the Executive Director of the Academy. "We started operations in early 2002 with the launch of the *Child & Youth Care: Basic Course*. This training was the first course that was specifically based on the CYC Professional Competencies with the goal of helping practitioners become Certified."

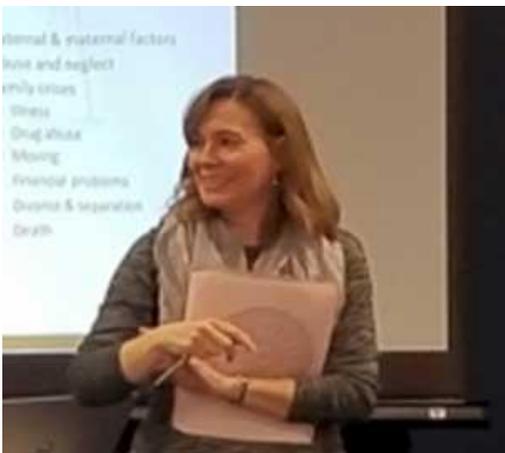
Remember, at that time, certification was new. TYCCWA members were supporting the certification in Texas, but really needed a course that would help organizations prepare their staff for Certification. Data coming back from certification testing was clearly showing that many people applying were not getting strong training in CYC ethics, understanding of their role as caregivers, child development, and developmental approaches. There needed to be a course that connected the pieces together so that people entering the field better understood their professional role and the 'best practices' that were improving our ability to support youth and families. The *CYC: Basic Course* offered all of these things in one package."



Since its humble beginnings in 2002, the Academy has trained over 3000 people from 700+ programs across the US and in 2 foreign countries. We currently have instructors in 13 states. We have collaborated with CYCs and programs around the globe to improve services and outcomes for children and youth. Most recently we worked with the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) and the National Resource Center for Youth Services (NRCYS) to create the *Youth Thrive: Protective and Promotive Factors for Adolescent Health and Well-being* curriculum.

In 2015 we completely updated the *CYC: Basic Course* and launched the blended online and live *CYC: Foundations Course*. In 2018 we worked with Youth in Focus and CSSP to develop the *Families Thrive: Protective and Promotive Factors to Enhance Thriving in All Children, Youth, & Families* to support community development initiatives. We partnered with the CYC Certification Board and Youth Build Philly in 2020 to create a 3-year pilot vocational program for high school students preparing for employment in youth services; the first of its kind in the US. In 2022 we partnered with the Indiana Youth Services Association (IYSA) to create a Spanish language version of the *CYC Foundations Course and Training for Trainers*.

The Academy supports Child and Youth Care Practitioners in every area of practice including child welfare, education, out-of-school time, juvenile justice, disabilities, recreation, transitional living, and community-based youth-serving programs. Our courses focus on core youth development principles used in all practice settings across the field of youth services that are relational, strengths-based, asset focused, trauma informed, brain-based, diversity inclusive, and evidence-informed. Our students continue to achieve some of the highest CYC certification exam scores. We often hear from our students that the ideas they learned in our courses changed how they view young people and themselves as service providers.



Jeananne Reich, Indiana CYC Certification Director, and Cindy Carraway-Wilson, Training Director for Youth Catalytics in New England, came on-board as senior Academy instructors in 2019. Their extensive backgrounds in after school, education, residential, and community youth services expanded the Academy's Leadership Team and its ability to offer both live and virtual trainings. Both Jeananne and Cindy work with Frank to teach Academy courses and offer trainer support. Eckles says, "Their addition to our team is re-energizing our work and helping us to continue to innovate and inspire transformative practices in the field."

Jeananne's work in Indiana through the Indiana Youth Services Association to train and certify the youth workers in the state has created an exemplary model for how stakeholders in education, juvenile justice, youth services, out of school time, and other sectors, can work collaboratively to bring resources together to fund training and certification of practitioners. We are looking forward to the day when ALL states have similar programs funded through Department of Education dollars and community foundation supports.

When Covid-19 hit in early 2020, the Academy had already implemented [CYC-SOURCE](#). This new program created a virtual marketplace where professionals who have training in need of an audience, can list their offerings so that practitioners in any practice setting can find training they need. This addressed a significant problem in the field that made it difficult to find training that might be offered in one practice setting but was relatively unknown across practice silos. By establishing a one-stop marketplace, the connection



between available training and access across the field was greatly strengthened. This program was created in partnership with the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice (ACYCP), CYC Certification Board (CYCCB), Youth in Focus (YIF), National SafePlace Network (NSPN), and the Meraki Institute of Learning (Tanager Place).

Currently a wide range of webinars, and live and virtual training events are listed on the site. Eckles says, "Over the next year we expect to double the number of partners listing their events. This has been well-timed since increasing numbers of organizations and practitioners are recognizing the benefits of virtual training post-Covid. Now, people anywhere can access quality professional development anytime, day or night. We are no longer restricted to whatever resources are in our local community. National experts and thought leaders can be included when we train staff locally. Travel costs are eliminated making this an attractive, cost-effective option. This has revolutionized how training can be offered and accessed."

The 20th anniversary has offered us an opportunity to review and reflect on what the Academy has accomplished", Eckles continues. "It is very affirming to see that so many of the ideas we were promoting 20 years ago are now mainstream. When we started promoting 36-hour courses because we knew that short, spotty training didn't produce strong results, many people told us it would never work... in fact, it works very well and is cost-effective. When people pushed back on the importance of CYC Certification we continued to tout the benefits... certification is now the international standard for the profession and recognized across the US. When naysayers told us that "old staff can't learn new tricks" we persisted... not only can they learn, but they are actually our strongest promoters.

"Ultimately, what matters most to us, are the success stories from children, youth, and families in our communities that have benefitted from the work of professionals trained by the Academy," says Eckles. The staff at the Academy still get up every day energized by the opportunity to support thousands of CYC professionals working with millions of young people. Over the next 20 years we will continue to identify the next round of "promising practices" so we can bring them to you. We have come a long way together... and we still have more to do. ♦

[Editor's Note: [Certification testing](#) is now available anywhere in the world at most times. Working in collaboration with Indiana University, CYCCB can now securely provide the Entry, Associate, and Professional Exams virtually.]

Illustrations: Academy For Competent Youth Work

Enroll Now!

ACYCP LAUNCHES VIRTUAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT BUNDLES - SUCH A DEAL!



Complete Required Professional Development 24/7 when it's convenient

Explore Innovative Ideas and Best Practices to Improve Your Skills.

Beginning in January 2022, ACYCP is offering bundles of archived trainings on selected topics. ACYCP members wanted a way to purchase multiple trainings together to provide more in-depth learning. They also wanted to continue benefitting from being able to attend engaging, relevant training 24/7 when time allows. So here you go!

The bundles are three archived trainings packaged together. Each session is conducted by a nationally recognized content expert. Buying a bundle offers a 15% discount over purchasing the sessions separately. Purchasing 5 or more bundles at the same time so groups of staff can receive the same training offers a 25% discount.

Learning bundles include content for CYC practitioners, supervisors/administrators, and staff development trainers. The following bundles are currently available. Additional bundles are in development. ACYCP will continue to offer NEW monthly live webinars in 2022.

NEW SUPERVISORS BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=supervision

Engaging conversations between a presenter and a group of supervisors that explore important issues encountered by beginning supervisors, coaches, and administrators.

Coaching Skills For Supervisors
Transitioning Into Your New Supervisory/Administrative Role
Cultural Appreciation in Supervision

YOUTH AND FAMILIES THRIVE BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=youth-and-families-thrive

Extend your learning of Youth & Families Thrive protective and promotive factors by taking a deeper dive into some of the key content from the courses.

Ambiguous Loss: What It Means And Why It Matters
Building Developmental Relationships
Exploring A Growth Mindset

SELF -CARE BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=self-care

Taking care of your personal needs while working in a CYC setting are critical skills to improve your effectiveness and job satisfaction. This bundle offers strategies to increase work/life balance and mindfulness practices for both practitioners and organizations.

Building Wellness Into Our On-Line Lives
Calming Down #1: Workplace Mindfulness
Calming Down #2: Creating Happiness In The Workplace

FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS FOR CYC BEGINNERS BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=fundamental-skills-for-cyc-beginners

CYC's entering practice are looking for concrete strategies they can use on-the-job today. This bundle offers important ways of understanding the role of CYCs, what young people need from us, and specific techniques for improving our approaches.

Emotional First Aid for Child Care Settings
Transformational Relationships
Effective CYC Practice: Developmental Thinking

DIVERSITY & EQUITY BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=diversity

Our changing understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion is transforming practice and our work places. This bundle explores emerging ideas about DEI through conversations between the presenter and groups of CYCs seeking better understanding. Each session offers meaningful ways to bring these ideas into practice.

Growing Inclusion, Diversity, Equity And The Belonging Mindset In Child And Youth Care
Cultural Appreciation In Supervision
Creating Safe Spaces For Difficult Discussions: An Introduction To Engaging In
Conversations On Race And Equity

STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRAINERS BUNDLE:

https://www.cyc-source.com/bundles?bundle_id=human-service-trainers

Staff Development Trainers increasingly encounter diversity, equity, and ethics conversations in their sessions. Understanding how to apply ethics to your training, and facilitating safe, effective conversations around diversity, equity, & inclusion can significantly improve your training outcomes. These facilitator-led conversations with master trainers offer insights and specific approaches.

Creating Safe Spaces for Difficult Discussions: An introduction to Engaging in
Conversations on Race and Equity
Ethics for Trainers: Applying the NSDTA Code of Ethics For Training And Development
Professionals Pt #1
Ethics for Trainers: Applying the NSDTA Code of Ethics For Training And Development
Professionals Pt #2

[Editor's Note: Also see Prof. Varda Mann-Feder's book promo at end of this issue.]

GET STARTED TODAY!

Illustration: Mohamed Hassan on Pixabay.com



Strengths-based > Asset focused > Trauma informed

Brain-based > Diversity inclusive > Relational

Evidence-informed

Learn valuable concepts and new skills based on leading-edge research and best practices relevant across the entire field of child and youth care services.

&

Prepare for the Families First Act transition to community-based, family-focused care.

Reflections from the JJ Side

TO SLEEP, PERCHANCE TO DREAM



By Felix Brooks, MS-CYC Advocate Staff Writer

For Mother's Day, my eleven-year-old grandson sent my wife a film short that he made. In it he played multiple characters each with his own dialogue and angle on the world. Watching the video, it occurred to me that the human mind can see multiple realities. This cannot be overstated. Creativity and imagination are what separate us from all other creatures on this planet.

During the last six years of my career in juvenile justice I oversaw a program that helped young people transition from the criminal justice system into the world. What I would learn during that time was very valuable. It was not enough to be able to provide the resources that many needed to be successful. The real art to this work was in convincing them that it was possible.

Young people who enter the criminal legal system often come from chaotic environments. Chaos typically does not create a space for long-term thinking. If the concern is survival – food, shelter, freedom from violence - the mind does not have time to wonder or ruminate on life's possibilities. At a very early age I began to think about what it was I wanted to be. I was free to do this because my basic needs were being met by loving parents. In other words, I had the luxury of being able to operate in the land of fantasy. Because I could do so, I could visualize infinite possibilities for my future.

The young women and men I worked with had no such luxury. Their lives were filled with a sense of urgency. That sense forces you to think only in the here and now. Where I could defer my gratification, they

had needs that could not be deferred. What I quickly grasped was that my first task was to create a safe space for them to think beyond that day. The human mind is great at adapting to circumstances. That adaptation forced my young charges to never think ahead. To reverse this thinking, our program took up residence in an artist loft community outside of the stigma of the legal system. In this space I was able to surround my kids with creative thinkers, many of whom had similar histories as them.

Once I was able to engage my young charges, I began to see the creative sparks appear. Once I could account for many of their basic needs, they became free to show their creative side. Because they felt safe, they could relax and engage in meaningful conversations. Combined with a relationship with a person they now trusted, the ingredients for success were present.

Our jobs as practitioners in the legal system is to create a world of possibilities for each kid by allowing them the space to see what is possible. We can do this by not stigmatizing them and developing quality relationships. With the right resources in place, we can explore the right spaces and places. We can move the brain from "fight, flight or freeze" mode to a higher level of executive functioning.

That is what I saw from my eleven-year-old grandson in his movie, and it is what I know is possible for kids coming into the criminal legal system. Success here must be predicated on adults changing the narrative from a punitive heavy process to a preventive, habilitative model. If we want to see a different set of outcomes for juvenile justice involved youth, we must imagine a world where we can create a different set of possibilities for them and be intentional about being the architect of such a world. ◇

BONUS FEATURES

[New OJJDP Initiative Promotes Community-Based Alternatives to Youth Incarceration](#)

[New Toolkit for Preventing Mass Shootings and Other Attacks](#)

[Why Youth Violence Assessment Is Still Failing](#)

Enjoy!

Illustration: Pexels on Pixabay.com

Oh Canada!

MAJORITY OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE CONTACT WITH THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM FLOURISH IN ADULTHOOD



[Editor's Note: Would you like to write for this column? Please contact Michael Mitchell, propman46@gmail.com, or call (608) 846-2860 in Madison, WI (Central Time). The following article is reprinted in part with thanks to Eureka Alert! and was first posted on June 15, 2022.]

TORONTO -- Most research on children involved with the child welfare system focuses on the negative consequences, such as depression and suicide. A new study from University of Toronto researchers instead examined factors associated with resilience and flourishing among adults who had contact with the child welfare system as children.

"It is a testament to the amazing strength and resiliency of children in contact with the child welfare system that two-thirds of these individuals [64%] achieve excellent mental health as adults," said lead author Dr.

Esme Fuller-Thomson, Professor at the University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work (FIFSW) and Director of the Institute for Life Course & Aging.

To classify as being in excellent mental health in adulthood: Individuals had to report 1) being happy or satisfied with life most days in the past month, 2) having high levels of social and psychological well-being in the past month, and 3) being free of mental illness, suicidal thoughts and substance dependence in the past year.

Understanding the various factors that contribute to excellent mental health may be useful for tailoring interventions to enhance the long-term well-being of this vulnerable population.

Although the prevalence of excellent mental health among those with child welfare involvement is higher than was anticipated, it is still substantially lower than the prevalence among adults without this childhood experience [74%], emphasizing the importance of creating programs and interventions which work to improve mental health and overall quality of life for those with a history of child welfare contact.

Respondents who had a history of major depression or generalized anxiety disorder had much lower likelihood of being in optimal mental health, emphasizing the importance of providing timely and effective mental-health interventions for this population.

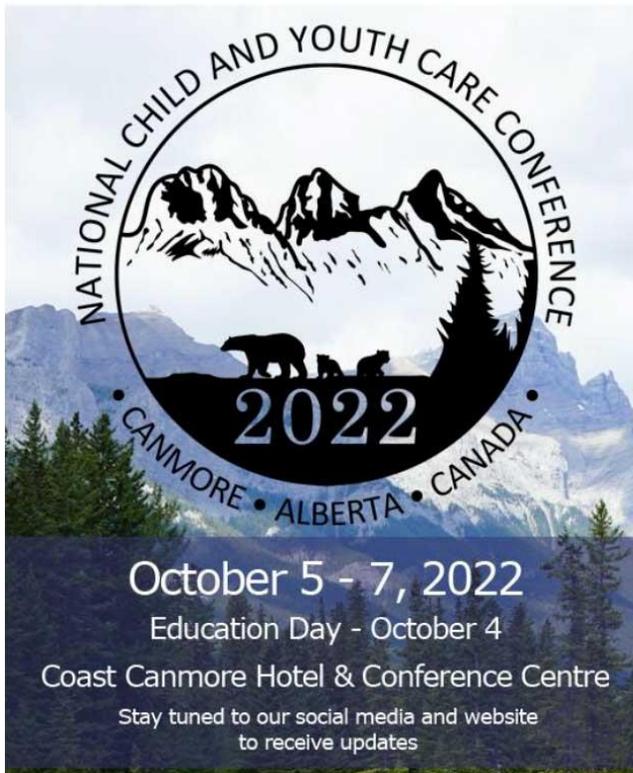
"Unfortunately, the survey did not have information on what interventions, if any, respondents received. However, there is substantial research indicating that cognitive behavioral therapy [CBT] reduces post-traumatic stress disorder and depressive and anxiety symptoms among the survivors of childhood abuse," said co-author Mahsima Nosrati-Inanlou, a recent Masters of Social Work (MSW) graduate of FIFSW.

Those who were socially isolated were particularly vulnerable to poor mental health. The odds of being in excellent mental health are more than five-fold for those with a confidant compared to those without.

"Recent research has identified promising interventions to promote independent living and better quality of life for foster children aging out of care. Such interventions include mentorship programs, programs designed to provide life skills training, transitional housing programs, and residential education programs. Overall, youth who received such interventions had better outcomes than those who had not, including a lower incidence of homelessness, greater economic stability due to higher employment rates and financial training, and higher quality of life," reported co-author Alex Sellors a recent MSW graduate of FIFSW.

Not surprisingly, individuals who reported the most types of childhood adversities were least likely to be in optimal mental health. Only 29% of those who reported experiencing all three types of childhood adversities investigated (childhood sexual abuse, childhood physical abuse and chronic parental domestic violence) were in flourishing mental health.

[READ MORE](#)



SAVE THE DATES

October 5 - 7, 2022
Education Day - October 4
Coast Canmore Hotel & Conference Centre
Stay tuned to our social media and website to receive updates

<https://cyc-canada.org/>

Enjoy!/Profitez! ◇

This Is For You!

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!



By Kareema Boykin, LCSW

I recently joined The Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, Inc. (ACYCP) board and am looking for YOU to join me too. Since the late '70s, ACYCP has been committed to improving and promoting the field of child and youth care (CYC) work. Through our various year-round committees we work to support youth workers through our journal, certification, scholarships and awards, professional development, strategic outreach, online periodicals, ACYCP-FICE/USA and professional partnerships. This is where you come in. We have open board positions and are looking specifically for people of color, people of various regions of the county, younger folks (Millennials, Gen Z), and those who are excited to make a

difference in the lives of youth care workers. If this sound like you or someone you know, let's connect and find out how this is mutually beneficial.

[**Come Join Us Today!**](#)



◇

Illustration: Kareema Boykin/ACYCP Inc.

What About Me?...Self-Care When You're Giving It Your All

BEATING THE HEAT



[Editor's Note: The unusual yet thought provoking article is reprinted with thanks to My Medline Today Newsletter Today, and was first posted on July 6, 2022. [Follow this link to subscribe](#)]

Getting outdoors in the summer can be good for you in many ways. It provides opportunities for exercise and can also boost your mental health. But as the temperature rises, some health risks also increase. Intense heat can put strain on both your body and brain. Two types of heat illness are

especially dangerous:

Heat exhaustion is serious and happens when your body can no longer keep itself cool. You may start to feel dizzy or nauseated. Other symptoms include feeling thirsty, weak, or uncoordinated.

Heat stroke is life-threatening, so seek medical help right away. Symptoms include fainting or having trouble walking, feeling confused or agitated. You can also feel very hot but not sweat or have dry, flushed skin.

To help prevent heat illnesses:

- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing.
- Rest often and seek shade when possible.
- Avoid exercise or heavy physical activity outdoors during hot or humid weather.
- Drink plenty of fluids every day. Drink more fluids before, during, and after physical activity.
- Be very careful to avoid overheating if you are taking drugs that impair heat regulation, or if you are overweight or an older person.
- Be careful of hot cars in the summer. Allow the car to cool off before getting in.
- NEVER leave a child or pet in a car exposed to the hot sun, even after opening windows.

[READ MORE](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[Reproductive Health Information & Resources](#)

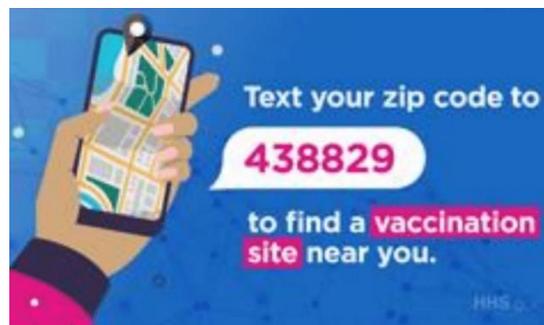
[12 Habits of Super-Healthy People](#)

[Sleep, Health, and the Brain: Article Collection Reviews](#)

"I'm a veteran with PTSD. People are always thanking me for my service, which I appreciate, but I have 2 ideas if you want to thank the military. One is to vote for candidates who support better care for veterans. The other is to please not shoot off random fireworks except on July 4th. It's really triggering for many veterans, as well as terrifying for pets. Thank you for understanding and reading!"

----- Valerie Walasek [Wisconsin]

Illustration: PDPics on Pixabay.com



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GET HELP HERE WITH YOUR CYC CERTIFICATION APPLICATION!



HELP IS HERE!

CYCCB offers monthly webinar-based Certification Help. If you need help completing your certification, application, references, documenting your training and experience, finishing your portfolio, or a host of other things, COME TO OUR HELP WEBINAR.

If you need immediate help, call the CYC Office (979) 764-7306. They can answer most questions and provide you with necessary forms.

If you need more, attend one of our webinars. The webinars will be focused on whatever issues are brought to the session relating to certification completion. If you need more help than can be offered during the hour session, a resource person will be assigned to you who can stay involved until you get your application filed.

Go to this [link](#) to sign up. You will receive an email confirming you are signed up. The day before and the day of the webinar we will contact you with instructions for how to join the webinar.

You will need a computer with high speed internet access. You can either use headphones at your computer or call-in using a phone. Certification staff will be available during the webinar to answer your questions.

If you have questions, please contact us at (979) 764-7306 or CYCoffice@YouthWorkAcademy.org . There is no charge for attending the webinar. Your phone company may charge for the phone call.

CYC Certified practitioners renew their certificates every two years. Beginning in 2019 a \$50 late fee is due for anyone not renewing before the deadline. The deadline is the month and day the certificate was issued on a two year cycle (if your certification was issued on July 1, 2018, your renewal due date is before July 1, 2020). The renewal process is simple and can be accessed by visiting www.cycb.org and going to the RENEWAL tab.

Webinars are all scheduled at:

3:30 - 4:30 PM Newfoundland

3:00 - 4:00 PM Atlantic

2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern

1:00 - 2:00 PM Central

12:00 - 1:00 PM Mountain

11:00 - 12:00 PM Pacific
10:00 - 11:00 PM Alaska

Webinars will be held once-a-month on the following Wednesdays in 2022:

August 10
September 14
October 12
November 9
December 14

Plan your participation today! ◇

The Other Half of the Job

NONPROFIT WORKFORCE SHORTAGES: A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS EVERYONE-AN UPDATE



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted in part thanks to the national Council of Nonprofits,, and was first posted on July 11, 2022.]

The shortage of workers in all sectors is a matter of common knowledge, but the significance of the crisis affecting the work of charitable nonprofits – which often involves human lives and well-being – is different. The loss of nonprofit jobs means people suffer because nonprofits cannot deliver services the public needs.

As documented at the end of 2021 in *The Scope and Impact of Nonprofit Workforce Shortages*, charitable nonprofits from across the country and all subsectors have been experiencing higher job vacancy rates than their for-profit and government counterparts. Causes include unbearable salary competition from those other sectors poaching nonprofit employees. Also, nonprofits must deal with burnout from the relentless pressure to deliver higher volumes of services without much relief since the pandemic began more than two years ago.

While job vacancies in the government and business sectors may cause disappointment and lost profits, the lack of adequate nonprofit staffing means the public suffers delayed or complete loss of needed services.

Today, the National Council of Nonprofits is publishing the updated Special Report, *Nonprofit Workforce Shortages: A Crisis That Affects Everyone*, to identify progress and continuing challenges in the effort to alleviate workforce shortages that hurts real people. The report calls on public officials to commit to advancing policy solutions at the local, state, and federal levels to eliminate a crisis that affects everyone.

[**READ UPDATED REPORT**](#)

ression in the U.S. Child Welfare System: Reflections on Administrative Barriers to Equity



Diversity Works!

"If the only tool you have in your toolkit is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."—Abraham Maslow

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration gerdalt on Pixabay.com

The Accidental Practitioner

HAVE I ACCIDENTALLY CAUSED HARM TO YOUNG PERSONS IN MY CARE?



By Dale Curry, Ph.D., LSW, CYC-P, Professor Emeritus-Kent State University; CYC Advocate Staff Writer

Most professional codes of ethics have a major standard that basically says something like "above all, do no harm." The Standards for Practice of North American Child and Youth Care Professionals includes the following standards:

II. Responsibility to children, youth and families

A. Does not cause harm

1. Encourages safe and ethical practice
2. Does not disrespect, exploit, or intimidate others
3. Association for Child and Youth Care Practice (2017).

Thinking back to when I "accidentally" entered the field in 1975, the North American Code did not yet exist and little training was available specific to child and youth care (CYC) practice. I started my CYC journey in a children's psychiatric program which provided an enormous opportunity for learning but also many situations that I was insufficiently prepared to successfully manage in a professional manner. Although I was considered one of the most proficient practitioners in what was considered a high-quality program, I can think of several situations where young persons in my care were unintentionally subjected to potential emotional distress.

To this day, I can still visualize a young shivering, non-verbal child that I placed into a cold shower after the child smeared feces over the bedroom and self. Since the child had done this several times before, I rationalized that the child's smearing behavior might have been reinforced/rewarded by taking a warm shower. So, I did not want to reinforce the undesirable behavior. This cold shower only lasted for a short time when I finally, asked myself "what am I doing?" and adjusted the water to a more comfortable level. But, under stress and insufficient available support and guidance, we sometimes grasp for solutions based on our existing knowledge. Apparently, I initially drew upon simplistic behavioral concepts of positive reinforcement and punishment to guide my response to the situation. Fortunately, the young person's shivering triggered a more caring and humane response.

At the time, I was the only CYC on duty and was requested to simultaneously respond to a variety of situations. Our program was on the fifth floor of the hospital wing and our school classrooms were on the second floor. Shortly before this incident, I responded to a crisis situation in one of the classrooms and left the program area on the fifth floor to respond. Prior to leaving the floor, I placed the child in the bedroom and "toweled" the door closed so that the child was confined to the room during the period that I was not available for supervision on the floor. "Toweling" the door closed was a common practice done by many of the CYCs in the program at that time in order to keep young children in their bedrooms if they were prone to come out without permission. This involved placing a towel between the door and door frame so that it was more difficult to open, especially for the smaller children. I surmise that this was a violation of fire, seclusion, and other regulations even back in 1975. Certainly, learning how to "towel" a child in a room was not an intended program-sponsored training activity; but instead a result of unintended (accidental) informal learning through observation of more "experienced" practitioners.

Although I was an inexperienced CYC practitioner who had insufficient program support at the time of this incident, the child deserved more appropriate care from me and the program. Those in our care must also be protected from unintended harm. We must continue to develop more intentional (non-accidental) approaches to our individual and program/institutional practices based on the highest ethical standards.

Although there are standards of practice for organizations such as the Council on Accreditation, individual practitioners should become intimately familiar with the Standards for Practice of North American Child and Youth Care Professionals. For example, there are standards pertaining to a professional's self-responsibilities pertaining to education, training, and supervision. Standard I.B. states that a professional "develops knowledge and skills necessary to benefit children, youth and families." Furthermore, standard I.B.1. indicates that a professional "participates in education and training for ongoing professional development" and standard I.B.2. states that the professional "engages in ongoing supervision and/or counsel as appropriate."

Many years have passed since I began my CYC journey and numerous opportunities currently exist to support professional development. A starting place for many accidental practitioners could be the Professional Development section of the website of the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice which links to the Standards for Practice as well as other resources such as live and archived webinars.

Reference

[Association for Child and Youth Care Practice. \(2017\). Standards for Practice of North American Child and Youth Care Professionals.](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: Gerd Altman on Pixabay.com

Resources In Review

988 LIFELINE TRANSITION BEGINS JULY 16!



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted thanks to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727) | www.samhsa.gov]

"The U.S. is getting close to the July 16 transition to 988—the easy-to-remember number to reach the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. This transition is an important step to strengthening and transforming the crisis care continuum in the U.S.

To help our partners communicate about 988, SAMHSA has added downloadable print files for wallet cards, magnets, and posters to its 988 Partner Toolkit. The toolkit already includes logo and brand guidelines, key messages, frequently asked questions, fact sheets (English and Spanish), radio PSA scripts (English and Spanish), and more. SAMHSA is also working to make the print materials available for ordering from the SAMHSA store and will be adding social media shareables by mid-July about the basics of 988.

SAMHSA anticipates 988 will continue to grow and evolve over the years. In 2021, the Lifeline received 3.6 million calls, chats, and texts. That number is expected to at least double within the first full year after the 988 transition.

SAMHSA continues to hold convenings with state, territorial, and tribal leaders—as well as crisis contact centers, public safety answering points, and behavioral health providers—to prepare for 988. One of the most urgent needs involves staffing at crisis centers. Anyone interested in serving in these critical positions is encouraged to visit the..."

[READ MORE](#)

Enjoy!

Global Perspective On Youth and Child Care Work

ON THE GROUND WITH OLDER YOUTH LEADERS IN VIETNAM



By Andrew Schneider-Munoz, Ph.D.

Two-thirds of the people of Vietnam are under 24 years of age. It's critical to prepare a new generation of young leaders. Vietnam is leaving communism behind and fully embracing entrepreneurship, especially small business, neighborhood by neighborhood, plus sustainable farming in a world food crisis, complicated by the war in Ukraine. The number one challenge that Vietnam faces is to advance economics that can

care and support families, while the country faces competition from other Asian nations.

Past Vice President of the Child and Youth Care Certification Board (CYCCB) and long-time Board Member of ACYCP, Sister Madeleine Rybicki, is on the ground there now. For the third summer in a row, she's teaching English to candidates for the Catholic priesthood. Whether these young men become ordained or not, the capacity to speak English puts them at the decision-making table, to address these new developments in their respective neighborhood. After so much abuse from the old regime, it's critical that work and everyday life be more ethical and equitable than not.

Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) is thriving! This year the English teaching mission takes on the new challenges of the times. The same course will be taught intensively in only five weeks, so the young leaders can be at home for the crop harvest and get products from their small businesses to market.

Vietnam has been closed to visitors until now, due to the pandemic. Nuns in Sister's congregation, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, are Vietnamese. They each English proficiency was a top priority for social, spiritual, and economic growth, so negotiated re-entry for Sister's team to enhance the program. Until recently it was a major crime to have a book.

Working on five continents over the long term, ACYCP Board Members have worked in El Salvador, to do bilingual violence prevention; India, to support youth workers in orphanages as the country worked its way out of horrible monsoons leaving no clean water; Spain, to join the outdoor education movement; Australia, for The Journey Experience retreat; Russia, to recognize and respond to the needs of Moscow homeless youth and; The Arctic to deliver training about healthy teens and family for the Eskimo/First Nations community. Add to this now, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to ensure that young leaders will be heard through their leadership in the local neighborhood parishes. If you, dear reader, attend a house of worship, with youth ministers, please encourage them to take a membership in ACYCP and become certified.

Resource to Read: "The Possibility for the Development of Young People in Viet Nam", by Thao Thi Dang and Thi Diem Hang Khong, in Adolescent Psychology in Today's World: Global Perspectives on Risk, Relationships, and Development; by Michael J. Nakkula and Andrew J. Schneider-Muñoz, Editors, November 2018, 1059pp, 6 1/8 x 9 1/4, 3 volumes, Praeger. *

Resource Online: Chat with Sister in Vietnam at sister.madelienerybicki@aol.com Sister is noted for having more than fifty different trainings for child and youth care workers. She has been deeply committed to preparing hundreds of youth workers for professional ACYCP Certification.

*Purchase Here: <https://www.abc-clio.com/products/a4173c/>

BONUS FEATURE

[Child Advocate Speaks About Ukrainian Orphanage Experience and the Future for Orphans](#)

[UNICEF Recently Posted New Jobs](#)

[International: COVID is turning millions of children into orphans. A leading early childhood researcher outlines the perils ahead.](#)

Editor's Note: Looking to get more involved with international CYC work? Want to bring your international experience to the ACYCP Board?

ACYCP-FICE is working on some exciting major international initiatives. For more information contact:

**Janet Wakefield, CYC-P, CEO
The Journey
6744 Falcon Ridge
Indianapolis IN. 46278**

317-440-7260 [Eastern Time]
janet@thejourneyonline.org

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: ACYCP file photo

From Campus to Community

PROJECT PAIRING STUDENTS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES SEEKS TO BOLSTER FRIENDSHIPS, END ISOLATION



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to Disabled Youth Today, and was first posted May 27, 2022. To subscribe go to: <https://youthtoday.org/youth-with-disabilities-navigating-todays-world/>]

After a year of remote learning and seeing each other online only, Elizabeth Mancini and Kelsey Heaney were glad to set foot on campus at The College of New Jersey last fall.

"I spotted Kelsey and started running towards her," Mancini said. "She saw me and ran towards me. We gave each other the biggest hug."

The college sophomores still hang out together as they nurture a friendship begun through Best Buddies, an international nonprofit that pairs students without learning disabilities with students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Those pairings are in keeping with the organization goal of stemming social isolation often felt by disabled students and to integrate them more fully into society.

LOGO Disabled Youth Today Gray & lime green text on white background banner, "We weren't close when we first met. I blame it on Zoom," Heaney said, noting the constraints imposed by a year of online-only Best Buddies meetings.

With COVID-19 restrictions eased, Mancini said, "We spend more time together when we meet in person ... We can focus on one another when we're together, not on the computer."

Heaney, whose traumatic brain injury results from a childhood operation that went awry, is in the career and community studies program at the college. That four-year certificate program for 18- through 25-year-old students with learning disabilities aims to prepare them for careers after college; live independently; and socialize more easily with their peers and others.

Mancini, a special education major seeking to become a classroom teacher, heard about Best Buddies from a former high school teacher. "It sounded like a good way to make friends," she said, "and increase my awareness of people who I may not have had the opportunity to connect with. Best Buddies is about inclusion. And without this program, I would have missed out on connecting with people I care deeply about."

At The College of New Jersey, Best Buddies meets every other Wednesday. Events include karaoke, ice cream socials, movie nights and a recent tie-dye shirt party. "That was my favorite so far," Heaney said.

Ice cream socials, dances, charity-fundraiser walks and other activities take place at Best Buddies' chapters around the globe. Founded in 1989 at Georgetown University by Georgetown student Anthony Kennedy Shriver, the nonprofit's current CEO and chairman, Best Buddies has more than 1.3 million participants in its 3,000 chapters; chapters are in each of the 50 United States. In the nation's Capitol and Miami, Best Buddies operates residences for people with and without disabilities.

"The unprecedented challenges we faced together in 2020 has highlighted just how important our mission of inclusion is for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities," Kennedy Shriver said. "They need us now, more than ever."

RECIPROCITY AND MUTUAL BENEFITS

Mancini was the first college classmate Heaney met who wasn't in her four-certificate program for learning disabled students. "I had 'friends,' in high school," Heaney said, punctuating her point with air quotes. "I just couldn't count on them. It's not like the friends I have now. Elizabeth listens to me and is there for me."

And Heaney was Mancini's first friend on campus. They talk about sports, movies, their family and friends and school. They both play on the school's soccer and basketball teams. "We're part of a large community," Mancini said. "It's nice to have a buddy I'm close with."

Disabled friendship program: Two hand-drawn outline characters in yellow and orange with arms across each others shoulders with pale teal background
Students involved in the Best Buddies' program stay together from freshman through senior year. "Many of the students remain friends long after college," said Daphne Stanfield, president of The College of New Jersey chapter of Best Buddies, noting that there are chapters in 522 middle schools, 1,389 high schools and 512 colleges across the United States.

[READ MORE](#)

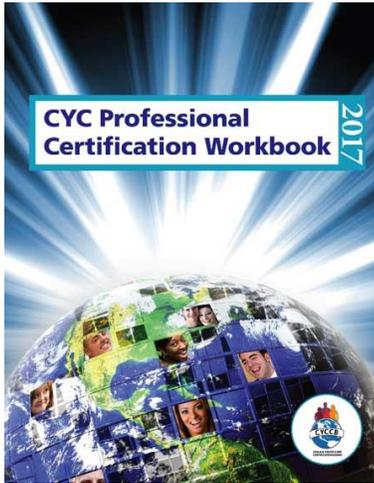
BONUS FEATURE

[Mentoring Through the Ages: Supporting Young People During Transitions from High School to College and College to Workforce \[Webinar\]](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: Clement Therlez on Pixabay.com

CYC PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK : GET IT NOW AND COMPLETE THAT CERTIFICATION TODAY!



CYCCB is pleased to announce that the long awaited ***CYC Professional Certification Workbook*** is now available. The workbook is designed to help child and youth work practitioners prepare and apply for professional certification (CYC-P) offered by the Child & Youth Care Certification Board.

It provides a wealth of information in an easy-to-use format. It includes information on the history of the CYC certification effort, characteristics of certified practitioners, the testing and application process, forms, costs, and sources for a wide variety of articles, publications, and professional development supports useful to CYC practitioners working in any setting. The sections on test preparation and the professional portfolio offer sample exam questions and portfolio responses. Information about the Entry, Associate, and Professional level certifications is included.

The workbook is in response to the need for a one-stop source of information that addresses applicant questions and needs. Whether you are preparing for testing, completing an application, or simply exploring how to improve your CYC knowledge and skills, this workbook is designed for you. The workbooks is constructed with tabbed sections to make it easy to find answers for whatever certification related questions you might have.

The workbook is available from CYCCB for \$30 (which includes shipping costs).

[Order a manual at this LINK](#)

Resources In Review

PARENT CENTERS WHO SERVE FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to US Department of Health and Human Services-Child Welfare Library and was first posted on July 5, 2022. To subscribe go to:

https://www.childwelfare.gov/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery is taken from the SFCD website.]

Support for Families of Children with Disabilities is a Parent Training and Information Center that serves the area of San Francisco, California. It offers information, education, and parent-to-parent support free of charge to families of children with any kind of disability or special healthcare need, and to the professionals that work with them. Check out the Information Packets from Support for Families.

[To sign up for the newsletter, go here](#)

[To find your state parent center, go here](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: Queen21bee on Pixabay.com

YES, RACISM IS TAUGHT — BUT NOT THE WAY YOU THINK



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to The Good Men Project and was first posted June 24, 2022. To subscribe to their email bulletins, go to: <https://goodmenproject.com/about/>]

By Tim Wise

The most effective teacher of racist thinking is systemic inequality itself.

In the 1949 Broadway musical *South Pacific*, by Rodgers and Hammerstein, there is a song, "You've Got to Be Carefully Taught," which stirred quite the controversy at the time.

As a tune about racism, the song provoked howls of protest from Southern lawmakers and even charges of communist "race-mixing"

propaganda during the early days of the Cold War.

Here are the lyrics:

You've got to be taught to hate and fear
You've got to be taught from year to year
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear
You've got to be carefully taught
You've got to be taught to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made
And people whose skin is a different shade
You've got to be carefully taught
You've got to be taught before it's too late
Before you are six or seven or eight
To hate all the people your relatives hate
You've got to be carefully taught

Many years later, the National Conference of Christians and Jews would adopt a variation on this theme as their semi-official slogan: "You Have to Be Taught How to Hate."

On the one hand, there is little doubt that people are taught racism.

Racist parents often pass along their biases to their children, the latter of whom are also taught hatred and bigotry in online rabbit holes down which they too often jump nowadays.

Yet, the idea that one is taught racism rather than being born with it, though obvious, fails to account for how that teaching occurs.

Or rather, it suggests a teaching and learning process that is too simple: the parent instructing the child on who to like and dislike as if part of some family ritual through which intergenerational bias is transmitted.

But what if bias is taught through less direct means? Perhaps not hatred, per se, but certainly prejudice and beliefs about group superiority and inferiority?

Racism is taught even without direct instruction

For instance, think about the lessons taught by the social structure itself and how we speak about it.

If a child is taught that America is a place where anyone can succeed if they try, but they look around and see that some (disproportionately of color) aren't succeeding as readily, and others (disproportionately white) are, what might they conclude?

In that situation, isn't it likely a child might decide there was something wrong with Black and brown folks and something potentially superior about whites?

Might not a kind of racism become almost a default position?

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BONUS FEATURES

[Transforming Policy Standards to Promote Equity and Developmental Success Among Latinx Children and Youth](#)

[Financial Security and \[Domestic\] Violence Prevention: Survivor Wealth and Wellness! \[Webinar 7/28/22\]](#)

[These Children Lost Young Parents To Covid-19. Here's What They Want Other Kids -- And Adults -- To Know](#)

Enjoy! ◇

Illustration: MoteOo on Pixabay.com

Thinking Like the Fox

LET'S TALK ABOUT DEATH OVER LUNCH



By Lorraine E. Fox, Ph.D.-CYC Advocate Staff Writer

Unless the young people you work with have no access to media – no radio, no television, no phones, no social media – they have all, like the rest of us, been swimming in stories about death for many months. Following a million deaths from the pandemic, it has come to this in America: not a week without violent deaths and not a place in the country where it does not exist. So, my friends, it is time for us to expand our “comfort level” with uncomfortable subjects: it’s time to talk with our clients about death. Regularly, not just when we are forced to by immediate circumstance. It is cruel to leave them alone to face their feelings and fears about death, just as it is cruel to leave them alone with

their feelings and fears about their unfortunate life experiences; incest, sexual abuse, domestic violence, neglect, physical and emotional cruelty, and everything else that brings them to us.

I would like to suggest that, unlike these other topics that we have learned to expose and talk about openly in our counseling and group therapy sessions, we treat death differently.

I say that because death is now anything but a secret. It has become part of almost every news report. Sometimes a single death here and there; too frequently multiple deaths to innocents, who thought they were safe: shopping, in school, on a neighbor’s porch. Years ago, I was working as a consultant in a Special Education school outside of Los Angeles and during a training workshop, one of the teachers told the group that after another night of gang violence, how she casually asked the students in her classroom how many of them knew someone personally who had been killed by violence. All but two raised their hands. For many of our young people death has been a regular feature in their lives. For all of us recently, death has

become a regular feature in our lives. It's time to make it part of our everyday conversation with our young children and teens. All of them.

I am always amused listening to a bunch of adults talking about death. Everyone has an opinion. To listen to some talk with such certainty, you'd think they had been there yesterday! Opinions range from "I'm never going to die because I'll have eternal life," to "When you're dead you're dead." Here's my truth: the only people who know about death are dead people! This truth creates so much anxiety that a majority of adults decide to believe almost anything about death, just to relieve the uncertainty. Believing something, however, does not make it so. We are free to believe as we choose. Many choose to have "faith". Faith is necessary when we really don't know. Differences in beliefs is good news for us and for our kids. We don't have to agree to be able to talk, just as we don't have to agree about sports teams to talk about sports. It will probably take a staff meeting or two to set some parameters around such discussions, but we do that about a lot of issues. It's time to add death to the list. Ignoring what is hitting our kids in their face every day, doesn't make sense, and it certainly doesn't help them to sort out their own feelings and fears. Some of us may have to do the same sorting, because death is often not part of casual conversation. I'm suggesting that it is now necessary for it to become so.

I would like to suggest that we treat it casually, as part of everyday conversation, and not as a private, or secret, or forbidden topic. Talk about it over lunch. Let the kids know we are all concerned about how many people, and how many kids, are dying in our country. Let them talk about their own experiences and ask their questions, with us and with each other. It has become part of almost every day somewhere in our country. it's okay for it to become part of our time together as well, along with everything else we face and deal within a day.

Don't let me find out that you were so fearful of some staff not being able to stay in their professional lane ,that you prohibited such conversations. I will show up, unannounced, at your next staff meeting, and you won't want to be there. Being a kid and being alone is scary. Death is scary. Don't leave them alone. ◇

Compassionate Caring:
Using our Heads and Hearts in Work with Troubled Children and Youth
by Lorraine E. Fox, Ph.D.

[Access It Here Now!](#)

Illustration: Pixabay.com

From the Soapbox... Again!

ACTIVITIES AND ACTIVITY PROGRAMMING



By ("Crafty") Karen Vander Ven, Ph.D.* with input from ("Activities") Andy Schneider-Munoz, Ph.D.

*[Karen Vander Ven, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Department of Psychology in Education, University of Pittsburgh; CYC Advocate Staff Writer at kvander@pitt.edu]

Rarely do I have trouble coming up with one of my Soapbox columns, even though I've been writing them for years. There's always 'something' that I can rant (or rave) about.

Luckily, I got to talk to my dear friend and colleague, Andy Schneider-Munoz (Ph.D.) just in time for this deadline. He suggested writing about activities again (our mutual interest for decades). We agreed that we can never advocate for them too much. Given our years of observations in child care programs and facilities, the lack of quality activities is "the weakest link" in the daily lives of the children and youth in a multiplicity of settings. Boredom reigns, and when that happens, an escalation in difficult behavior ensues. This is especially important during the current pandemic, with all of its challenges to promoting positive youth and child development.

We all talk about the centrality of relationships in child and youth care work. But we need to continue to recognize the importance of contextual factors. That is, how their environments are actually designed and implemented through activities, which is crucial in providing the opportunity for relationships to be formed, grow, and attain maximum benefits.

For example, working together to build a model airplane, will provide an experience that brings forth behaviors that can be jointly examined, in what might be a more harmonious context. Some years ago, in a residential treatment program, a very large and difficult young man continually challenged and intimidated the staff. It was my job, as an activities specialist, to have sessions with him and so I did. I forget how we came to be building a model airplane out of a kit, but that's what it we did. He showed more self-control than I ever would have expected. For some reason the requirements for self-control and precision were not lost on him. Completing it successfully gave him a new sense of pride and a reduction in acting out behavior as the staff admired his accomplishments.

Spend some time reflecting on your favorite childhood pastimes and hobbies. Can you bring them into your work setting? Those stamp and coin collections, baseball cards, drawings and paintings, items made in "shop" classes, the telescope that you used to scan the heavens with before turning out the lights, just for examples. These can give you some ideas for sharing your own heritage with children and youth, who may not have had such experiences. Knowing these facts about you is not over-intrusive. Rather, sharing something meaningful to yourself is an important way of forming a helpful relationship with a child.

Again, we know advocating for activities is hardly new. But we're doing it because children and youth need them even more now and because we know that inside each and every one of you are activity ideas. Why not try something new with the children in your group, perhaps something you loved doing as a child, or a current hobby, and keep a record of how it went? That could not only be helpful to you in your own future activity work, but also might be a good thing to share with peers through the various communication outlets available to us. ◇

Illustration: Jude M on Pixabay.com

Resources In Review

CAN OUR DEEPEST PAIN BE A DOORWAY TO HEALING?

THE WISDOM OF TRAUMA

FEATURING DR. GABOR MATÉ

As of today, over 6 million people from over 230 countries have watched, shared the film message and are inspired to create a trauma-informed society.

Trauma is the invisible force that shapes our lives. It shapes the way we live, the way we love and the way we make sense of the world. It is the root of our deepest wounds. Dr. Maté gives us a new vision: a trauma-informed society in which parents, teachers, physicians, policy-makers and legal personnel are not concerned with fixing behaviors, making diagnoses, suppressing symptoms and judging, but seek instead to understand the sources from which troubling behaviors and diseases spring in the wounded human soul. More

This website has been translated in the following languages: България, čeština, Deutsch, Français, עברית, Italiano, Magyar, Português, Türkçe and subtitled in 23 languages.

Over 6,000,000 human beings from 230 countries and territories have seen the film so far. Join the movement towards a trauma-informed society. The film is available by donation. Your contribution will help us bring the movie and resources to many communities in need across the globe.

[See The Film Here](#)

JOIN OUR GROUP ON FACEBOOK

This group is for people interested in the film "The Wisdom of Trauma," based on the work of Gabor Maté. The group holds a space to exchange ideas, share experiences and offer encouragement around the topic of trauma healing. We welcome community members sharing personal insights and stories about their own experiences, and listening to one another with open minds and hearts.

[Go Here](#)

What Viewers Have Said

√ "This film is brutally honest while at the same time being hopeful and tender about human potential-honest and tender in the most eloquent way possible. I am not exaggerating when I say that I don't believe

that this film could have delivered its message any more impactfully, at least for me....This documentary is truly a film from the heart- in my mind (and heart), a work of art."

√ "Everybody needs to see this. Everybody has trauma and this is a great introduction to doing the work. The concepts make so much sense and Gabor Mate is so brilliant. This gave me more motivation to put in the work in rediscovering my true authentic self."

√ "Dr. Mate has been on a one-person campaign to help people deal with past traumas and move on with their lives. After decades of working with people - first as a doctor, then as a real physician who takes the time to care about his patients and help them heal, he shares his realizations in laymen's terms. We need to change the way we raise children (to be more present and to not violate their biologically evolved expectations for care). Adults need to move past their storehouses of unprocessed painful experiences so they can move on with their lives. If delving a little deeper into these topic is interesting to you, then you'll like this movie."

Enjoy!

Now Hear This!

YOUR AGENCY NEEDS THIS ACYCP MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT NOW!



Yes, believe it or not, **CYC agencies SAVE a whopping 40% on individual staff ACYCP memberships**, when firms join as an Agency Member!

When your agency joins ACYCP, it received 20 Individual Memberships, among many other benefits. That represents a 40% savings over the cost of the same number of solo memberships. This, in turn, meets the individual CYC association membership requirement for Certification.

How great is that!?

NEWS BREAK!

But that's not all! Organizations with 41 or more employees for membership get a further discount as a Corporate Member. Just contact Michael at the information below for further details.

Want to know more? [Follow this link.](#)

Questions?

Just contact:
Michael Mitchell, MAT
ACYCP Membership Services Chair
propman46@gmail.com
(608)846-2860
[Madison, WI]

Join today and show your hard working staff that you're invested in their professional growth, development, and future!

**ASK US ABOUT RECIPROCAL CYC ADS
&
PLEASE LET OUR ADVERTISERS KNOW YOU
SAW THEIR POSTINGS IN THE
ACYCP CYC ADVOCATE!**



July is Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

Community Outreach: Discover the NIMH is a newsletter from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to help community advocates and health professionals raise awareness about mental disorders and the importance of mental health research. Find free education and outreach materials in this newsletter and in our Get Involved web section to share with your community. We encourage you to use the hashtag #shareNIMH to connect with people and organizations with similar goals. Go here to subscribe: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/get-involved>

NIMH offers basic information on mental disorders and related topics in Spanish:

https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/espanol?utm_campaign=NMMHM22&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govd



[ENROLL HERE TODAY!](#)



[Neu-Life Community Development | Facebook](#)
[Neu-Life Community Development - YouTube](#)

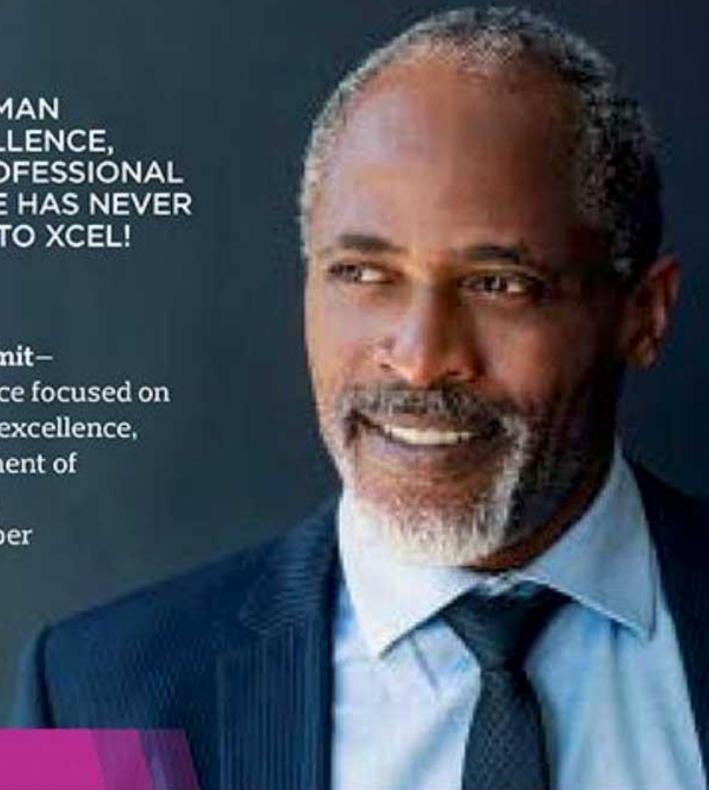
Editor's Note: Neu-Life is an esteemed agency member of ACYCP

THE NO. 1 CONFERENCE CELEBRATING THE EXCELLENCE OF BLACK MEN IS BACK!

BLACK MEN
XCEL
Sponsored by FedEx®

IF YOU ARE A BLACK MAN
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE,
LEADERSHIP, AND PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, THERE HAS NEVER
BEEN A BETTER TIME TO XCEL!

The Black Men XCEL Summit—
the nation's No. 1 conference focused on
advancing the leadership, excellence,
and professional development of
Black men—returns as an
in-person event this October
in National Harbor, MD.



Our mission: To elevate and empower Black men as a valuable and necessary pool of talent for the success of companies, industries, communities, and the nation. Beginning with the XCEL Awards, the nation's highest recognition of the excellence and leadership of Black men, we'll highlight men in areas ranging from business and technology to sports and the arts.

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the very best of who we are!
Join us and hundreds of amazing Black men, and the
companies who recognize your greatness, at the
Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, Oct. 12–14, 2022.
Register NOW for the Black Men XCEL Summit!

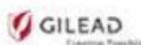
**BLACK
ENTERPRISE**

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO
OR TO REGISTER TODAY!**

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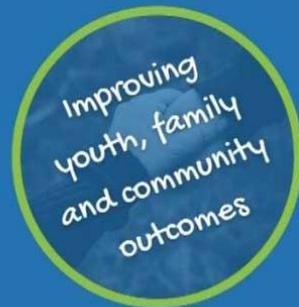
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2022 | **COURAGE**
TO CHANGE:
Creating New Opportunities
National Symposium on Juvenile Services

The Galt House Hotel | Louisville, KY
September 27 – 30, 2022
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SCAN ME

Call for Presentations
Due April 30, 2022

Sponsored by: National Partnership for Juvenile Services
Co-host: Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice

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NUESTRAS VIDAS
FIGHTING FOR
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US Conference on HIV/AIDS



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Child Welfare Information Gateway

PROTECTING CHILDREN ■ STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

A free service to connect child welfare and related professionals to daily news.

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HELP ADVANCE MEDICAL RESEARCH TODAY!



[WATCH VIDEO HERE](#)



[Help Rescue LGBTQ Families From Imprisonment and Death](#)

[Read Annual Report Here](#)



CHILD USA presents



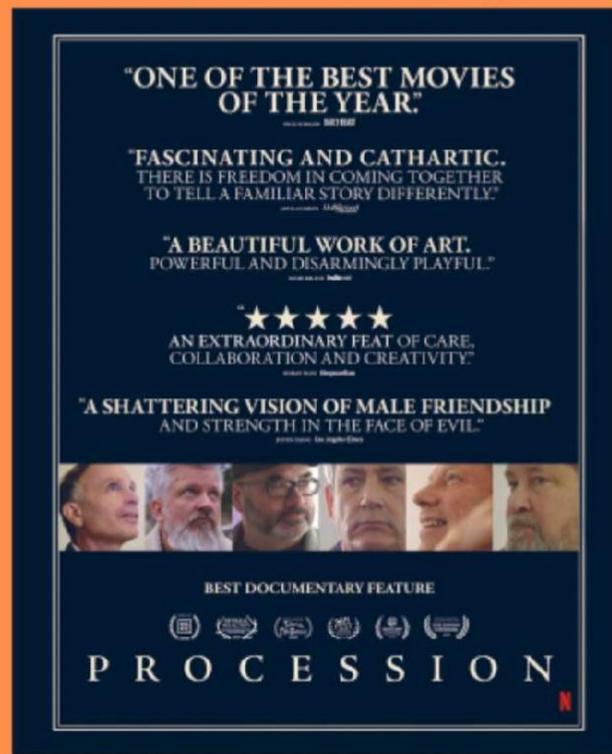
SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

PROCESSION

July 28th, 2022

Film screening begins at 4pm EST

Panel Discussion and Live Q&A begins at 6pm EST



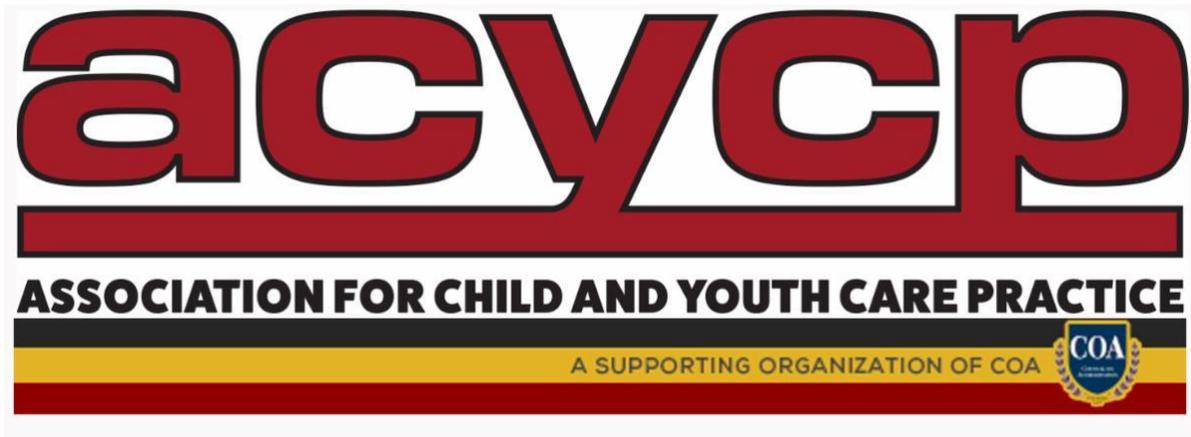
Panelists:

Robert Greene, Director
Professor Marci Hamilton, CEO and Founder of CHILD USA

Joe Eldred
Mike Foreman
Ed Gavagan

Dan Laurine
Michael Sandridge
Tom Viviano

[REGISTER HERE](#)



**Supervising/Leading to Excellence:
Not Settling for Services "Just Good Enough"**

Frank Delano, LMSW

**Monday, August 8th, 2022
11:00 - 2:00 Central Time
3.0 Hours**



As we all adapt to coming out of the COVID Pandemic, and are often operating with limited resources, it has become more difficult for leaders and supervisors to reach the true level of excellence they would like.

This highly interactive and provocative workshop will open discussion and present strategies to go beyond "just good enough" to push ourselves and our programs to excellence.

The training will be delivered in the trainers unique conversational, "coaching style" of training (high emphasis on critical thinking and collaborative learning).

Content meets CYC Certification continuing education requirements in the Professionalism domain.

[Register Here](#)

PLEASE NOTE: There is NO ACYCP Member Discount for this webinar. Thank You.



Frank Delano, LMSW
President, Professional Package Consulting

Frank Delano is the President of Professional Package Consulting and is a member of the Board of the Association of Child and Youth Care Practice, Inc. (ACYCP).

He previously worked 37 years in a large social service agency, was an Adjunct Faculty at the Fordham University MSW program for 20 years and has presented at numerous agencies, and national and international conferences in 9 different countries.



Webinar Provided by CYC-Net in partnership with ACRC supported by ACYCP.

All proceeds donated to CYC-Net.com

MED
Week 2022
Minority Enterprise Development


**MINORITY BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Save the Date

WASHINGTON, DC

September 18-24, 2022

Live from the Capital

[MORE HERE](#)



CYCCB is the Child & Youth Care Professional Community raising standards and improving practitioner competence.

Greetings CYC Colleagues Everywhere,

We at the Child and Youth Care Certification Board want to thank each of you for your participation in our important work. Now, more than ever, the Child and Youth Care field is in need of a high-quality workforce. We are in a time of shifting priorities and are on the verge of seeing significant shifts in our field as well. The pandemic made clear to communities worldwide just how important and essential skilled Child and Youth Care practitioners are to healthy children, youth, families, and communities.

Child and Youth Care practitioners engage children, youth and families in every area of our communities. They provide services and supports to our most vulnerable young people who are accessing housing, mental health, judicial and behavioral support. They engage young people in afterschool programming and in scouting, summer camps, 4-H, YMCA/YWCA programs and the Boys and Girls Clubs. Child and Youth Care practitioners teach your children at school, interact with them on the school buses, educate and relate to them in your faith communities. Child and Youth Care practitioners are literally everywhere in your community. This is why it is so essential to ensure they are well educated, well trained and certified at the highest professional standards.

So it is in gratitude that we approach you today to consider making a one-time or on-going gift to CYCCB to support our work. We have established a Workforce Development Fund through the Academy for Competent Youth Work to continue to support our efforts to contribute to ensuring the highest standards for our field. CYCCB will use these funds to support programs designed to promote training and education of CYC practitioners, to promote professional certification to help ensure adherence to the highest standards, to educate practitioners and communities about the work we do and the importance of CYC practitioners to the fabric of our societies, and to engage in on-going research into workforce development, training, recruitment and retention in the Child and Youth services field.

Please support us today!
WORKFORCE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
Make Your Tax-deductible Donation Today At
<https://cyccb.org/donate>

Our efforts are essential to the future of young people, families, & practitioners.

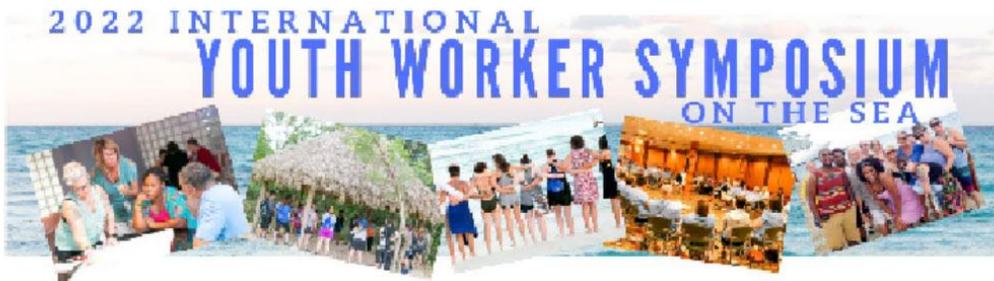
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Pollygrafx, LLC specializes in Search Engine Optimization and the development of Joomla content management websites. If you're in need of a website refresh, SEO or website maintenance, please contact us to schedule a meeting!

[Paulette Marzahl](#)
262-215-9477

RESERVATIONS NOW OPEN



At the 5-star, all inclusive resort...

September 20-27, 2022

Majestic Elegance Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

Join leading nonprofit professionals and youth workers from around the globe as we gather to reflect upon and improve our practice, deepen our relationships and refresh ourselves as practitioners dedicated to serving young people.



- Networking and building professional relationships with other cool youth workers
- Focus on your own personal and professional development
- Conversations and workshops about leadership development, managing nonprofit orgs, and building the field of youth work in Indiana and beyond
- Learn about best practices and challenges in other states and other countries
- Get away from work distractions and spend time thinking bigger with other movers and shakers
- Get Grounded, Connected and Inspired to finish the year strong and plan for a spectacular 2023.

Symposium Pricing:

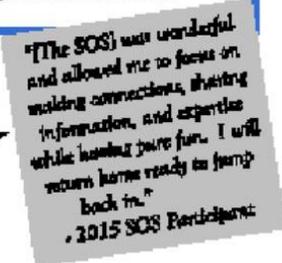
All Youth Workers: \$1,100
 Journey Fellows: \$850 (discounted)
 Prices are per person, based on double occupancy.

Includes: Conference registration and learning materials, accommodations, all meals, drinks, land transport to and from resort, taxes and tips

Not included: Air travel to Dominican Republic, travel insurance, optional excursions

*This is a family-friendly event. A special rate for companions, family and friends is available at \$975 per person.

Additional info and registration can be found at the website.



Details / Registration online at sos.thejourneyonline.org

Conference Registration and Questions: Melinda Bowman, The Journey, sos@thejourneyonline.org
 Travel Arrangements: Lora Gohmann, LG Retreats and Travel LLC; lgetreats@gmail.com

Would you like to advertise a job opening, service or event? Contact Michael Mitchell at propman46@gmail.com. ACYCP members ads are free as a membership benefit!



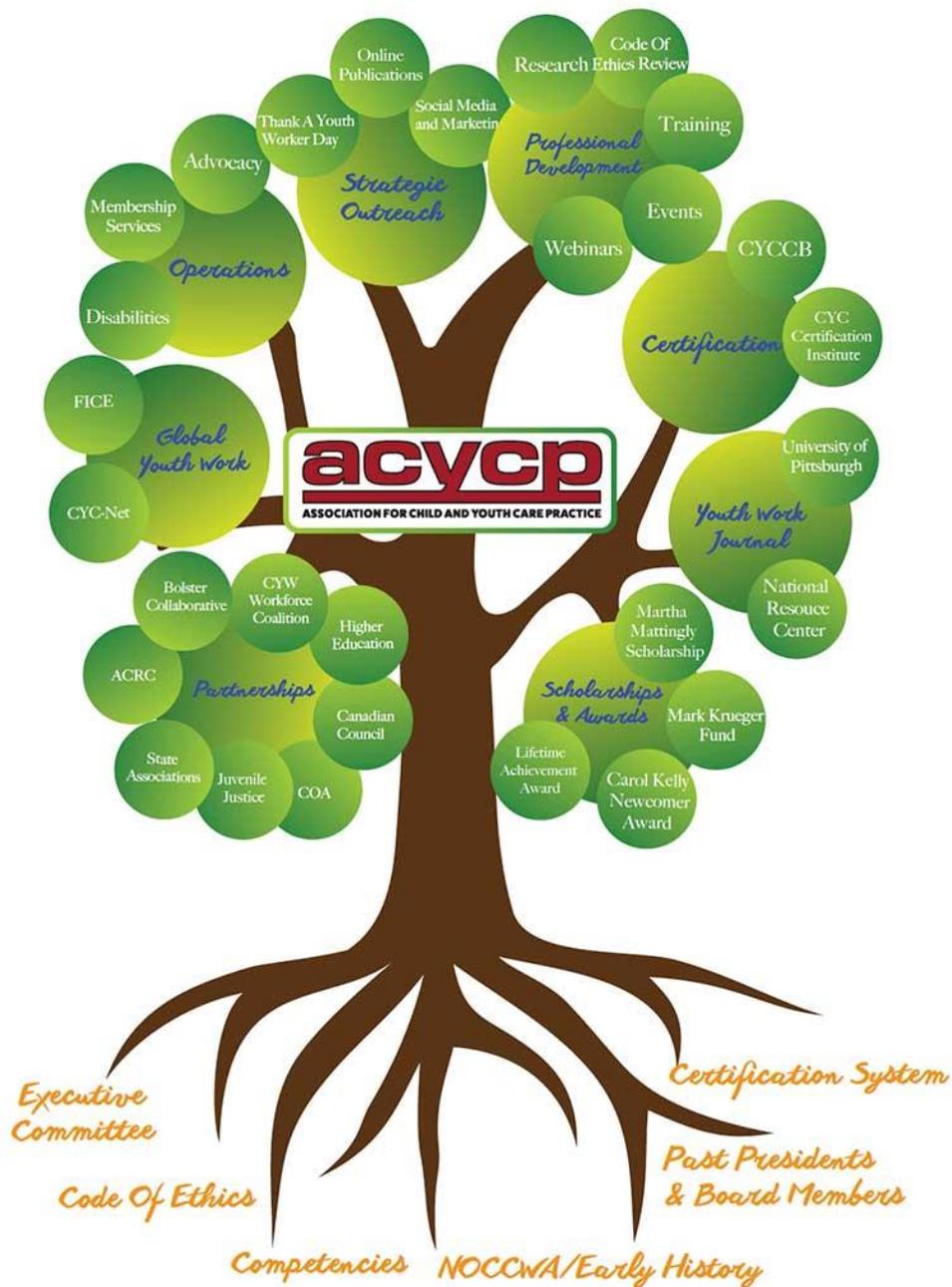
Member: White House COVID 19 Community Corps



Associate Partner



Associate Member



ACYCP organization tree update, v6.0
10/3/2019

MOVING? CHANGE OF JOB? GOT A PROMOTION?...

Well, we wish you all the best of success! But don't forget to take us along! Who knows, your ACYCP membership benefits and resources may come in real handy in your new situation. Or does your current email not permit personal or outside messages? Just get us your new email contact and any other membership data updates. So put us on your calendar or to-do list to make sure our contact remains unbroken. Just shoot off a quick easy email to acycp2011@yahoo.com with all your relevant changes, and we'll take care of the rest. We're soooo confident you'll be glad you did!

LINK WITH US!

CYC agencies and organizations may email the general email address at: acycp2011@yahoo.com and send their logo and web link, along with the name and contact information of a designated representative.

Please put "Invitation To Link-ACYCP" in the subject line. We look forward to welcoming you to our communications and resource network!

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Staff Writers

Felix & Carol Brooks
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