Caregiving Youth Project Newsletter

The Caregiving Youth Project helps identify, recognize, educate, and support students who care for chronically ill, injured, elderly, or disabled family members. This allows caregiving youth to achieve success, have fun, and make new friends, while promoting academic and personal growth.

Visit our Website

Caregiving Youth Bill of Rights

Dear CYP Students,

There is growing awareness of the rights of all people especially during this time of political unrest.

Do you ever wonder what your rights are as a Caregiving Youth?

We adopted this Bill of Rights for our country from the UK's Bill of Rights for "Young Carers" there.

If you have any questions about your rights, please let me know or speak with your Family Specialist! We want to support you in your valuable caregiving role!

Connie Siskowski, RN, Ph.D. Founder and President

New Monthly Contest!

Your chance to win a $15 gift card is as easy as 1.2.3!

Be the first to email the correct response to Kelly kelly@aalcy.org when you unscramble this phrase:

yrogassttn

Good Luck!

Events and Activities Recap & Preview

By Jessica Payano, Events & Activities Manager
Scholarship Opportunities Reminder

There are several scholarship opportunities available to Florida Schoolchildren. Please visit our website at aacy.org, visit the Caregiving Youth Project section, and select the Scholarships tab for more information! Some of the deadlines are fast approaching!

For students who may be looking for an alternative to college, there are options!

For questions or any assistance, please contact us at info@aacy.org.

Thank You HL Watkins and Pahokee Middle Schools!

AACY’s eight Family Specialists plus Care Manager are the backbone of the Caregiving Youth Project (CYP), and work directly with our Caregiving Youth in 33 different schools in Palm Beach County.

Family Specialists are working hard to complete intakes at each of their schools, for their participating students.

Two schools that we would like to thank are: Howell Watkins Middle School in Palm Beach Gardens and Pahokee Middle School.

"HL Watkins has been enthusiastic and supportive about bringing CYP to the school; and the sixth grade guidance counselor has also been helpful in getting questionnaires administered and following up with teachers and students. The enrollment process has gone smoothly as we worked together for the students," said Family Specialist Mary Craumer, MSW.

Cindi Joas, MSW, RCSWI, Family Specialist and North County Team Leader added:

"The Administration at Pahokee Middle School has been a great help ensuring that the students receive services they need, and is always willing to assist the AACY Staff as much as possible."

Cindi continued, "We received our questionnaires in a timely manner, and are enrolling students into the program and providing them the services they need."

Thank you to HL Watkins and Pahokee Middle Schools!

AACY started 2021 bright and full of color thanks to all who participated in our picturesque painting night! I hope you young artists have your finished artwork hanging proudly, I know I do!

Kicking off February with love and laughter, sound familiar? CYP’s Love & Laughter Drawing Contest is in full swing and some of you wasted no time in signing up. Remember, 1st prize winner gets an Amazon Echo Dot! All students who submit a drawing will receive a small gift, so be sure to sign up!

What better way to show love than by homemade Valentine’s desserts? We are hosting a special Virtual Valentine’s Desserts Class on February 11th, so you can enjoy some delicious treats safely in your homes.

We are excited to host Movie Night on February 22nd! Enjoy the care package including popcorn and snacks, that will be delivered to your home, while watching a movie with your loved ones.

All invitations for upcoming activities are sent via text so be sure to sign up when you receive that invite text, as spots are limited!

If you or your parent/guardian may not be receiving these texts, please email jessica@aacy.org or call 561-391-7401 to be added to the list.

I hope to see you at our next event!

Ongoing Ways to Support AACY

Just a few of the amazing paintings from our January Virtual Paint Night!
Welcome Back Stephanie!

AACY is pleased to welcome Stephanie Valery back to the team! Stephanie currently serves as Care Manager, and is working closely with our students. One of her first and major contributions since returning has been her work to organize food donations to some of our families most in need.

Welcome Back, Stephanie we are so glad to have you back with the team!

Thank You United Way of Palm Beach and Martin Counties!

The AACY Office recently received hundreds of necessary PPE Equipment, thanks to a generous donation from the United Way of Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

This helps to ensure that our caregiving youth and their families are able to stay safe and healthy during the ongoing pandemic.

Featured Community Partner:
Boca West Children's Foundation

We are so grateful to the Boca West Children's Foundation (BWCF) for their donation of more than 20 bicycles to our Caregiving Youth this most recent holiday season. BWCF has been a long-time, outstanding community partner to AACY and we are so grateful for all that they do, and for helping to make the holidays much more special. Just look at these happy faces!