Caregiving Youth Project Newsletter

The Caregiving Youth Project (CYP) 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.

A Note from Dr. Connie

Dear CYP Students,

Spring is a season of new beginnings! At AACY, we have had some fun outside events this month - the ocean and the beach on both days were magnificent!

This is also a time to "dig deep" and do your best to complete this unusual year. Stay tuned for more happenings as we celebrate and support you, your family, and the important work you are doing!

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

Monthly Contest!

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

Be the first to email kelly@aacy.org when you unscramble this phrase:

hbteergrotetet

Good Luck!

Activities Recap & Preview

By Jessica Payano, Youth Activities Manager

Scholarships and Contests

There are several scholarships available to you, a Florida student. Please visit the AACY website for more information, as many deadlines are fast
If you are looking for an alternative to college, there are options! Click here to learn more about the TradeUP award or to apply!

This award is designed specifically for you, an AACY Caregiving Youth Project (CYP) student! If you are considering a trade or technical school, this is a great opportunity for you to receive financial help. The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2021.

The 2nd Annual Humans of Dementia Storytelling Contest is open to high school and college students nationwide. You may enter a written or photo submission or both. There are cash prizes and winners are invited to a private Zoom celebration with contest partners, judges and Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen (HFC founders). The deadline to enter is April 22, 2021. For more information click here!

For questions or any assistance with applications, please email Kelly: kelly@aacy.org

Welcome New Behavior Health Care Manager!

Hello! My name is Rachel Viselman, and I am the new Behavior Health Care Manager/Family Specialist here at AACY.

I graduated from the University of Florida (Go Gators!!) with a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Tufts University with a Master's degree in Child Study and Human Development.

Since receiving my degrees, I have worked as a counselor, case-manager, and advocate for students in academic and personal settings, in schools, camps, and hospitals with children from birth to 18.

When I am not working, I enjoy traveling, painting, and spending time with my family. After countless experiences in a variety of settings, I am looking forward to working with students in Palm Beach County, where I was born and raised!

*Don’t forget to submit your Community Service hours for your work at home!

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Second Place Drawing: Desiree B.

Third Place Drawing: Grace D.

Let's give a warm AACY congratulations to our Top Three Winners of CYP’s Love & Laughter Drawing Contest: Asa M. (1st place), Desiree B. (2nd place) and Grace D. (3rd place) (see their beautiful photos above!)

Winners were selected by an independent judging panel. Special thanks to AACY Board Chair, Rosie Inguanzo-Martin for contributing gift cards for all students who participated.

I'd also like to thank all of you amazing artists for participating and submitting a drawing, the judges were inspired and blown away by the drawings that were submitted.

How was everyone’s Spring break? I know those who participated in CYP’s Beach Day field trips had some well-deserved fun! Some of you lucky South County students took a tour of Sandoway Discovery Center located in Delray Beach while North County students enjoyed MacArthur State Park! Both field trips ended with recreational activities, relaxation and lunch on the beach.

Zumba was the perfect end to Spring break because you all were able to release some stress by dancing along to upbeat music provided by Island Beats. We hope you learned some new dance moves you can share with your whole family!

April is going to be extra special with field trips to Sawgrass Recreation Park for a boat tour of the Everglades! Be sure you sign up before spots fill up!

CYP’s first ever two-day VIRTUAL Camp Treasure is just around the corner. We will be incorporating Earth Day in our camp because we want to inspire awareness of and...
Did you know that Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice?

Please consider signing up for the American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY), as you do your shopping.

Support AACY by selecting us as your charitable organization. Sign up today: https://smile.amazon.com

Celebrating Women

We are proud to recognize amazing women and their accomplishments every day! The month of March is widely known as Women's History Month. In the spirit of this honor, here are five iconic women to be celebrated:

Susan B. Anthony was a key person in the Woman Suffrage Movement. She co-founded and served as president of the National Woman Suffrage Association, fighting for women's voices to be heard in the political realm. She even voted in an election, illegally, to make her point. She was arrested, charged, and fined $100 – however, she didn't pay it.

Thanks to Anthony's tireless efforts, the Nineteenth Amendment was passed in 1920, finally giving women the right to vote.

Billie Jean King, a tennis legend, won her first major singles title at Wimbledon in 1966. She went on to claim a total of 39 Grand Slam titles throughout her career. However, King didn’t just work hard on the court – she fought hard for equal pay. Using her position as a tennis champion, she led the formation of the Women's Tennis Association in 1973 and that year, the U.S. Open began offering the same cash prize to men and women.

Coretta Scott King worked alongside her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and played a critical role in the American Civil Rights Movement and the passing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. She continued to advocate for equal rights for African Americans after her husband was assassinated in 1968. King was also powerful in the Women's Rights Movement, hosting the second convention of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in Atlanta.

Gloria Steinem first made a name for herself as a freelance writer fighting for women's issues and went on to help launch Ms. magazine. Under her direction, the magazine covered important women's issues and became the first national magazine to feature a piece about domestic violence on its cover. Steinem also helped create the National Women's Political Caucus.

Sweet Dream Makers has been a great long-time partner of AACY. We were fortunate to recently receive several bedding items for AACY families in need.

Sweet Dream Makers has "the dream that every child should have a clean, safe bed of their own. A good night's sleep will help a disadvantaged child dream."

So far in 2021, they have provided 400 beds to children and families in Palm Beach County — all thanks to the generosity of their friends and supporters. They will celebrate their fifth anniversary this year. For more information: www.SweetDreamMakers.org

Thank you for your wonderful work!

Featured School: SouthTech Preparatory Academy

From our Family Specialist Shulamith Smith, MSW:

"A special shoutout to Ms. Patricia Colas, School Counselor at South Tech Prep for being a helping hand in the Intake process for AACY. She has been a tremendous asset to the team as she has assisted me with providing services to the students who are ..."
Oprah Winfrey first cemented her place in the public’s consciousness with her broadcasting career, creating what became the highest-rated talk show in television history. A staunch advocate for girls’ education, Winfrey founded the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls, a boarding school in South Africa; and also funds several other organizations that improve the quality of life for women.

I cannot thank her enough, along with the teachers and Principal Handy, for their contribution to AACY, the students, and their families. We are so thankful to have their continued support, teamwork and assistance during this difficult time.