The national resource for the support of children who are caring for chronically ill, injured, elderly, or disabled family members.

Celebrity Game Night Raised $12,000 for Caregiving Youth!

Special Thanks to our sponsors AvalonBay Communities & Allegiance Home Health!

Celebrity Game Night Team Captains & others, pictured here from l to r: PBC Vice Mayor & Celebrity Game Night Emcee Robert Weinroth; Ronnie Belletieri, Billy LaPato, Arlene Herson, Ron Wichowski, Danielle Rosse, AACY Board Chair Rosie Martin; Dr. Connie Siskowski, Earnie Ellison, Jr., Mimi Kinsler, & Joe Martin

Celebrity Game Night Team Champions, Black Diamond Skiers, Team Captain Billy LaPato!

*To view all photos from our Celebrity Game Night and other recent events, please visit our NEW Website!*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM DR. CONNIE

It’s more important than ever that the growing population of Caregiving Youth are recognized and supported in policy of both state and federal governments! Let’s all remember that this is a non-partisan issue and no child in the US should have to fall behind or drop out of school to provide care for
(From Left to Right): Isabel Parrado, CS SU, Dr. Connie Siskowski, Stephanie Valery, & Derek Hankerson, Constituent Service Representative for the Office of Congressman Brian Mast

The RAISE Act (Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage) Family Caregiver Council’s recommendations were presented to Congress on September 22nd. Click here to view the whole report -- and see pages 46 & 47 to learn about AACY’s involvement and contributions.

CYI Conference

Postponed from November 4, 2021; to be held Thursday, April 21, 2022

As part of its ongoing, continuous mission to recognize, champion, and support caregiving youth, AACY held its first ever VIRTUAL Caregiving Youth Institute (CYI) Conference on Thursday, April 22, 2021. This virtual conference featured national and international experts in the areas of Caregiving Youth as it relates to the Institute’s four tenets of C.A.R.E.: Connection, Advocacy, Research and Education. More than 100 people registered to attend.

Dr. Ann Faraone, AACY’s Director of Education Services organized and facilitated the conference with AACY President & Founder Dr. Connie Siskowski.

“Thanks to the support of presenting sponsors AvalonBay Communities and Schmidt Family Foundation, we were able to host a virtual conference that reached participants in three other countries, in addition to the dozens of national attendees,” Dr. Siskowski said.

*Expert presenters, in order of their virtual conference presentations:*

- Jodi O'Donnell-Ames, Hope Loves Company
- Hannah Hutler-Boyd, Camp Corral
- Family Specialist Cinthia Joas, MSW, RCSWI of AACY
- Dr. Richard Lindsay, University of Virginia
- Legislative Aide Abby Ross from Senator Lori

Save the Date!

Community Caregiver Awards Breakfast

Postponed from October 1; to be held Friday, February 4, 2022

AACY is proud to present its First Annual Community Caregiver Awards Breakfast, being held on Friday, February 4th, from 7:30 to 10 a.m. at the Marriott at Boca Center.

The theme of this breakfast is “recognizing those who care for our community.” AACY Board Member Dominique Renaud, Vice President of Access for Trustbridge, is the Event Chair.

The breakfast will honor Dr. Julie Belkowitz, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine; Comcast; and Stallone’s Italian Kitchen of Boca Raton, for all of their contributions to AACY and our greater communities.

For more information on this very special event, please visit aacy.org!

AACY in the News

Dr. Connie was published in the CSA Journal. Read the article here.

Additionally, we are so grateful for the recent coverage we have received from several different news outlets! See our most up-to-date AACY News, articles, coverage, etc. on our NEW website!

The National AACY Advisory Council Welcomes Two New Members!
During the conference it was also announced that AACY, along with Camp Corral, Hope Loves Company, Kaylin’s Caring Konnection, and Kids Are Caregivers Too, would host their First Annual USA Caregiving Youth Connect via Zoom on Friday, May 7.

USA Caregivers Youth Connect allowed us to connect youth from all over the country, and with one another so they can share their stories and support each other.

Stay tuned for more information on our next Caregiving Youth Connect event on November 3rd that will kick off National Family Caregivers’ Month. It will be moderated by AZ high school senior and co-author of “Basic Training for Caregivers,” Daniela Castro Martinez.

Ongoing Support

Here are a few ways you can support AACY!

- Sponsor a Caregiving Youth for $100/month or $1,200 a year. Please contact Stephanie Valery: stephanie@aacy.org for more information.
- Attend our upcoming events
- Become a corporate sponsor
- Share AACY News with your legislators and representatives
- Invite the AACY team to educate others in your life and/or work
- Shop on Amazon! Please consider signing up for the American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY) when you shop on Amazon! Select AACY as your charitable organization and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Sign up today at smile.amazon.com
- Donate HERE

Planning for the Year Ahead

- Thanks to funding partners, we continue to directly serve Caregiving Youth in 33 Palm Beach County middle and high schools, in addition to students in 23 other local middle and high schools where the Caregiving Youth Project (CYP) has yet to expand to!
- Further the four pillars of the Caregiving Youth Institute (CYI): Connect, Advocate, Research and Educate
- Educate legislators to include Caregiving Youth in legislation and policy
- Support child caregivers in military families
- Develop the AACY Network of national partnerships & affiliates
- Create recurring revenue streams to support sustainability

This is just a few of the many tasks we are working on. We are excited to continue our work for AACY and all of the children and families we serve.

We are most grateful to our funding partners:

AvalonBay Communities, Batchelor Foundation, Boca Rio Foundation, Boca West Children’s Foundation, BOMAR Foundation, Charles & Joan Hermanowski Foundation, City of Boca Raton, Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, The