

YES NEWS

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ACCREDITATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Towards the end of July, we received the news that, on behalf of the Council on Accreditation (COA), Youth Encouragement Services, Inc. has been accredited.

Accreditation is an amazing achievement that shows that our organization has been recognized as a provider that has successfully implemented high performance standards and delivers the highest quality services to all of our stakeholders. This is such a huge accomplishment for our organization and we are proud to be recognized as a successful trauma-informed agency and residential group home.

SUMMER WRAP-UP AND GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

This summer has been filled with many activities for our youth to engage in. Although our activities have been limited in order to follow state restrictions from the current pandemic, our youth were able to participate in outdoor-friendly activities such as hiking at Red River Gorge, bonfires and the making of s'mores, visiting the community garden in Lawrenceburg and picking blackberries, visiting Busse's Farm, going on an outdoor scavenger hunt in

Lawrenceburg, planting flowers around the YES Home property, visiting Madison pool for swimming, going to Brookville Lake, fishing, putt putt golf at Eagle Eye Miniature Golf Course, painting flower pots, and tending to our garden and harvesting fresh produce. The pandemic has not stopped our youth from engaging in activities and we are so blessed to live in an area that is filled with so much to do in the outdoors and with nature.

LATEST MAKING MEALS PROGRAM UPDATES

The 'Making Meals' program has been a wonderful addition to the summer activities our youth were able to engage in. This summer our youth were able to learn new recipes that use the ingredients and produce grown in our very own garden and indoor plant tower. Not only have our youth learned about the creative ways to use garden produce, but they have also learned about the importance of nutrition and how to incorporate the food pyramid when making and eating meals. Two groups that our youth really enjoyed were the smoothie bowl and smoothie groups with our Making Meals team. Check out these nutritious and delicious treats!



Our most recent Making Meals groups included starting the planting of produce in our greenhouse and making two delicious dishes using produce from our garden. Our youth planted radishes, beets, and broccoli in one of the greenhouse garden beds. The greenhouse will allow our youth to plant fall produce and continue making meals with nutritious vegetables. Our two delicious meals included zucchini parmesan and eggplant parmesan. It was such a fun experience for our youth to try new foods that they grew themselves.



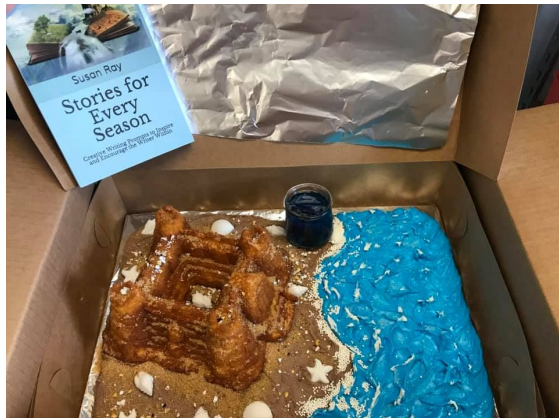
Our garden has truly proven to be bountiful and there isn't a day that our youth are not enjoying a nutritious (and delicious) meal!



GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

We would like to give a special 'thank you' shout out to Susan Ray. Susan is the YES Home's 'Baking Angel' who blesses our youth with desserts and treats for every holiday and sometimes just because. Susan

is not only a baking queen, but an author as well! She sent our youth a copy of her book, *Stories for Every Season*. The youth are always so excited when they get a delivery from Susan and our staff greatly enjoy it as well. **Thank you Susan!**



Our summer themed cake from Susan - it was TOO GOOD!!

We would also like to thank all of our community members for your continuous donations and kind support for our youth. A huge thank you goes out to the following community members and businesses for their recent generous support:

-Tanner Valley United Methodist Church
-Global Atlantic Financial Group
-Mayor Mark Drury and the City of Aurora
-Busse's Greenhouse
-Dearborn Savings/FCN Bank
-Mayor Mollaun and the City of Lawrenceburg
-Kate Busse, Colleen Perfect, and Stephanie Brown (Making Meals program team)

-Manchester EMS and Fire Department

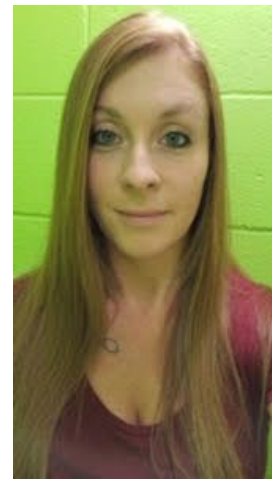
-Janice Bates

-Hogan Hill Baptist Church

We greatly appreciate all of you!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

In this issue, we are starting a 'staff spotlight' for our awesome team. Our staff have been dedicated to the care of our youth during these difficult times and we are so happy to have such a strong team of people. This month's spotlight is our Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Widener. Jen first joined



the YES Home as an intern in 2011 through the Ivy Tech Human Services program and upon completion, was hired on as a full time staff member. Jen's skilled strengths include organization, multi-tasking, and running a 'tight ship'.

Jen became our Wellness Coordinator and Administrative Assistant in 2018. Jen coordinates all medical, dental, and eye appointments and streamlines processes to make them simpler for staff and especially the Executive Director, Amy Phillips. Jen is Amy's 'right hand' when it comes to streamlining processes and paperwork. The YES Home consistently receives excellent ratings from licensing and accreditation

because of the hard work that Jen does. We are so thankful to have such a dedicated and hard-working staff member!

YES HOME FUN FACTS

Did you know that the YES Home...

- ★ sits on 14 acres
- ★ used to be the County Poor Farm
- ★ Increased services to youth as an alternative to detention by 33% since 2018



A couple of our youth picking blackberries at the Lawrenceburg Community Garden.



“One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an adventure”

-William Feather

CONTACT US

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