



YES NEWS

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PRESENTING THE FIRST FAMILY AND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR YOUTH ENCOURAGEMENT SERVICES (YES HOME)

Welcome! We are so glad to kick off our first newsletter that will provide the latest news and information to our families and community. We want to thank everyone who has shared a part in supporting, teaching, generously donating to, and praying for our youth and staff during this strange time that we are enduring in 2020.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

The YES Home has had a busy, yet wonderful start to the year of 2020 and we are seeing some big changes that will positively impact our youth for years to come. Some of the big changes that have been in the works include our partnership with Stephanie Brown, Colleen Perfect, Kate and Wayne Busse and Busse's Farm, and Shyra Tedesco on the greenhouse and gardening program, and supporting our youth during the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to sharing our latest news, as well as all of the pieces that make up the 'YES Home puzzle' with you.

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PARTNERING WITH STEPHANIE BROWN, COLLEEN PERFECT, KATE BUSSE AND BUSSE'S FARM, AND SHYRA TEDESCO ON THE GREENHOUSE / GARDENING PROJECT

This spring, we entered into an amazing partnership with a wonderful team of people in the community on the launch of the 'Making Meals' program. In this program, our youth are learning how to garden, meditate and practice yoga, and cook with the produce they are growing in our garden and indoor plant tower. This program was designed to bring more positivity, encouragement, and love into our youths' lives and it has been a joy to watch our youth develop these skills. **We would like to also thank the Purdue Extension Dearborn County, Ivy Tech in Lawrenceburg, Busse's Fruit and Vegetable Farm, and everyone else that has been supporting this program!** We cannot wait to continue sharing our gardening updates with the community and are so thankful and blessed to have the opportunity to make such a positive change to the lives of our youth.



Garden beds are placed and plants are planted! We will have vegetables, fruits, and even flowers.



Kate Busse and her mom, Margaret, showing our youth the ways of gardening! Fun fact: Kate is also leading our youth with a yoga and mediation group every Friday! **Thank you again Kate for all of your continuous hard work and dedication!**



Strawberries!



Our indoor garden tower, made possible by a grant from Southeastern REMC.

Thank you again Southeastern REMC!



Our beautiful greenhouse, made possible by the Southeastern Board of Realtors.

Thank you again!



The beginning process of getting our plant seeds ready for the indoor garden tower!



Sprouting plants in the garden tower!

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE
GREATER CINCINNATI
FOUNDATION AND UNITED WAY OF
GREATER CINCINNATI**

We would like to give a very special ‘thank you’ to the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and United Way of Greater Cincinnati for their very generous grant to be used for the COVID-19 Regional Response Fund in the amount of \$7,000.00. The Greater Cincinnati Foundation and United Way of Greater Cincinnati partnered to activate a coalition of philanthropy and business partners to create the COVID-19 Regional Response Fund, which we were so appreciative to receive. With this grant, we were able to meet the changing needs of families and youth due to Covid-19. We were lacking the technology needed for our youth to have virtual visits with their families and therapists. Thank you for

recognizing the changes in the way we connect with our families and our youth. **We greatly appreciate your support!**



Our Operations Manager, Natalie Workman, holding the brand new technology that will allow our youth to have virtual visits with their families and therapists.

YES HOME PROM NIGHT

Due to the unfortunate COVID-19 circumstances that our youth have experienced throughout the last few months, we decided to pull together a prom that would allow them to dress up, enjoy a nice meal, and dance the night away. Our youth had a blast and one resident even stated that it was “one of the best nights of her life”. The night was filled with laughter, delicious food and snacks, and some awesome dance moves. Our youth picked out their theme right away, which was a ‘Beauty and the Beast’ theme, and our very talented and artistic residents crafted nearly every day for 3 weeks in order to make the perfect props and decorations for their prom. We are so thankful that we were able to pull this off quickly for our youth and we cannot thank our community enough for their willingness

to generously donate and assist us during this difficult time. We truly appreciate everyone that helped!



Some of our youth showing off their beautiful corsages, made possible by Cheryl from Flowers and Gifts of Love.

Thank you again Cheryl!



Beautiful (and delicious) cookies made by Mary Beth Ballard and Bakes by Beth.

Thank you again Mary Beth!



Dancing the night away! Thanks to Ken Maddin, we were able to host a dance contest for our youth at prom in which Ken

generously donated \$10 to every participant, as well as \$50 to the winner. We actually had 2 winners that both won \$50 and we cannot thank Ken enough for his amazing donation. **Thank you again Ken!**



More delicious sweets that were made possible by Pam at Plug's Sweet Tooth.

Thank you again Pam!



The dance room!



The photo backdrop!

YES HOME FUN FACTS

Did you know that...

- YES stands for Youth Encouragement Services
- Increased the number of staff by 6.25% since 2018.
- Our aftercare program has grown by 93% since 2018, which includes emotional support, transportation, scheduling appointments, and other various contacts.

CONTACT US

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