From the Desk of James Nixon, President & CEO

The recognition of the history, struggles, assets, needs and contribution of African Americans is an essential ingredient in providing culturally competent services to those constituents. Black History Month is an opportune time to discuss with our participants and reinforce to all staff how their race and ethnicity has shaped their values and choices. Different cultural and ethnic groups have varying perspectives on mental health that may have developed over hundreds of years. Such perspectives inform how we view others and ourselves. It is very important that these perspectives be respected and taken into consideration when developing a treatment plan to help persons in recovery.

According to the National Alliance of Mental Health, “Overall sensitivity to African American cultural differences, such as differences in medication metabolization rates, unique views of mental illness and propensity towards experiencing certain mental illnesses, can improve African Americans’ treatment experiences and increase utilization of mental healthcare services.” As we continue to provide quality services, let us remember the uniqueness of our participants!

Celebrate the month with staff and program consumers throughout with events and special programming. See Philadelphia activities at: visitphilly.com/articles/philadelphia/black-history-month-in-philadelphia
COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Witness To History: Selma Photography of Stephen Somerstein
February 1 – June 14, 2020
This exhibit on display at the Brandywine Museum of Art documents the historic 54-mile march for civil rights from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. (610) 388-2700, or visit brandywine.org

YOUTHadelphia 2020 Grantmaking Priorities
Grants totaling up to $60,000 will be available from Philadelphia Foundation for organizations with youth-led programs/projects serving primarily low-income youth of color. One grant of up to $25,000 will be awarded, with other grants ranging in amounts between $5,000 and $10,000. Priority for funding will be given to programs/projects that demonstrate how the program/project is youth-led, largely devised and implemented by young people. Grants will fund programs/projects that address these topics: Sexual Health, Mental Health, Education Reform and Youth Leadership.
The application will be due at 5 p.m. on Fri., February 14, 2020.
For more information, see https://files.constantcontact.com/91d2fd39001/0dc62fed-b668-4891-9275-3c6c4807d617.pdf

Drexel Free Job Training to Young Men Impacted by Violence
The Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice at Drexel University has developed a free job training program for men ages 18-30 with lived experience of violence to receive dual certification as Community Health Workers and Certified Peer Specialists. This program is a good fit for young men interested in becoming healers and helpers in their communities and entering the human service or healthcare fields. Applicants are expected to commit to nine (9) weeks of training four (4) days per week (Monday - Thursday).
The deadline to apply is March 13. For applications. For additional information contact Casey Chanton at crc72@drexel.edu

Philadelphia Pilots New Rental Voucher Program
Philadelphia is testing a new approach to helping city residents pay their rent. The new pilot program will provide monthly rent vouchers of $300 or less to help Philadelphia tenants who are spending more than a third of their income on rent and live in income-restricted properties built or renovated with taxpayer dollars. The Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation, a nonprofit group that recently merged with the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, will provide the rent money to the landlord who applies for the program for each eligible subsidized tenant. For more information, go to https://www.phila.gov/departments/housing-development-corporation/

Free Mental Health Support Group Offered in Philadelphia
The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA-HUP) has been meeting twice a month at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Meeting attendees share stories about what it’s like to live with mental health challenges. The meetings last about two hours happen on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month at 7 PM. Everyone has a chance to talk about whatever they want to. It is not therapy and not led by credentialed professionals. Anyone interested in attending meetings, should send an email to dbsaphilly@gmail.com and they will be sent information about the meeting location. Meetings are free though donations are accepted.

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”
- The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

Social workers are a part of the few who do care. They care about social injustices committed every day, across the globe—behind closed doors and out in the open. They are the ones who care enough to believe they can make the world a better place.
Economic Mobility Toolkit
Families in poverty have an increased chance of involvement with child welfare. Poverty during early childhood is related to lower academic achievement, lower rates of adult employment, and less long-term earning potential. Economic mobility and stability are important aspects of achieving family well-being and are related to improved child behaviors and mental health. The National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement within the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families Office of Head Start released a toolkit intended for Head Start and Early Head Start program directors, managers, or direct-services staff. The toolkit is divided into:
Part 1: Building Family Economic Mobility: Program Planning and Professional Development Tool—This tool can be used for program planning and professional development at any time during the 5-year project period.
Part 2: Building Foundations for Economic Mobility: Key Topics—This section explores eight key topics related to economic mobility. Each topic provides information and guides participants through action steps on how to start or expand economic mobility work in their program. Also included are appendices and additional resources. Toolkit available at: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/bfem-toolkit-hs-ehs.pdf

Child Trends Research: Special Health Care Needs And ACEs
Child Trends’ analysis of data from the 2016-17 National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) found that children and youth with special health care needs are more likely to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Child Trends authors point out the need to work to ensure that trauma-informed approaches are integrated into places and environments where these children (and their caregivers) receive services. Read more at https://www.childtrends.org/children-with-special-health-care-needs-are-more-likely-to-have-adverse-childhood-experiences

Research: Bullying Perpetration Associated With Internalizing Problems
A new study at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health published recently online in the Journal of Public Health found that youths who reported being perpetrators of bullying were more likely to develop mental health problems compared to those who did not report being perpetrators of bullying. The senior author, Silvia Martins, MD, PhD, is quoted, “Our findings provide an important extension to previous literature and indicate that bullying behaviors prevention and intervention strategies among youth should consider how to take into account and handle negative feelings and mental health problems.” Read the study at https://www.sciencedaily.com/

Resource: Supporting Relationships Between Children and Their Incarcerated Parents
The National Child Abuse and Neglect Technical Assistance and Strategic Dissemination Center (CANTASD) has published a resource with guidelines by age range for caseworkers and caregivers to support children whose parents are incarcerated. It also includes links to additional resources. Download the resource at https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov

Mental Health Care Provider Shortage Impacting Children
This recent article published online in HuffPost describes the national statistics on the lack of mental health professionals and includes interviews with some affected families. The article cites research published in Pediatrics that although the number of child psychiatrists increased in the U.S. by 20% between 2007 and 2016, it is insufficient for the estimated 17 million children in the U.S. with diagnosable psychiatric disorder. Read the article at https://www.huffpost.com

“ar one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do”
- Edward Everett Hale
SAFE Dates Facilitator Training  
Sponsored by Philadelphia Black Women's Health Alliance (PBWHA)  
Friday, February 21, 2020  
8:30 am – 4:00 pm  
Location To Be Determined  
Registration Fee: $100.00  
Certified individuals may qualify for paid workshop facilitator consultant opportunities with PBWHA. February is teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. You can become a certified safe dates: teen dating violence prevention facilitator. The alliance is hosting a facilitator training on the Safe Dates Teen Dating Violence Curriculum. Individual curriculum may be purchased for $250.00. Certified individuals may qualify for paid workshop facilitator consultant opportunities with PBWHA. To register, contact Liz Kent at bwhaorg@gmail.com or call 215-225-0394.

Nonprofit Executive Leadership (NELI) Certificate Program  
This leadership program targets the professional needs and challenges experienced by members of the executive team, such as CEOs, executive directors, vice presidents, deputy directors, COOs, CFOs, and department or division heads. NELI Fellows engage in a 360-review process under the guidance of an executive coach, participate in advanced training seminars, work on complex action projects, and build their professional networks through peer-based learning communities. Scholarships are available through United Way, TD Charitable Foundation, and family foundations. Application deadline: Tuesday, March 31, 2020. For questions, contact Margie Dubrow, Director of NELI at mdubrow@brynmawr.edu. More program information at https://www.brynmawr.edu/neli/leadership-certificate-programs/executive-leadership-certificate-program

33rd Annual Research & Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Behavioral Health  
March 15 – 18, 2020  
Tampa, FL  
Known widely as "The Tampa Conference," this annual gathering of more than 700 researchers, evaluators, policymakers, administrators, parents, and advocates is focused on the development of the research base essential to improved service systems for children and youth with mental health challenges and their families. The keynote speakers for the 2020 conference will be: David R. Williams, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Sandra Gasca-Gonzales, Annie E. Casey Foundation; and Gary Blau, The Hackett Center for Mental Health. To register for the conference, go to: https://www.cmhnetwork.org/tampa-conference/

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)  
2020 Conference: 100TH Anniversary Year  
March 25 – 29, 2020  
Hyatt Capitol Hill, Washington, DC  
CWLA is excited to bring together colleagues from across the globe for an engaging and thought-provoking conference that will share and advance more effective family supports and systems of care for children and families in the 21st century. For registration and info: https://www.cwla.org/cwla2020/  
For more information or to register, go to https://humanresourcesleadership.org
Licensed BSCs
A licensed professional as a Psychologist, Social Worker, Clinical Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapy, or a Professional Counselor OR Pennsylvania Licensed Behavioral Specialist Consultant in good standing. Requirements include:

- Master's Degree or higher in school, clinical, developmental or counseling psychology, special education, social work, speech therapy, occupational therapy, professional counseling, behavioral analysis, nursing or another related field.

- Verification of substantial relationship of major to behavioral specialist practice: school, university or program must verify that major course of study that has a substantial relationship to the practice of behavioral specialist.

- Specific Coursework: 90 hours of evidence-based coursework 3 hours of professional ethics 16 hours of assessment coursework or training 8 hours of crisis intervention 5 hours of family collaboration 18 hours of autism-specific coursework/training 16 hours of instructional strategies & best practices, 8 hours of co-morbidity & medications ,and 16 hours of addressing specific skill deficits training.

- At least two (2) years verified post-master’s experience providing behavioral health treatment to children (at least one of which is experience using behavior analysis/ modification techniques).

Non-Fidelity Case Managers
This role assists individuals in making full use of natural community supports, in addition to all available mental health and drug and alcohol services which will enable the individual to live a stable, healthy and safe life in the community of their choice.

This will be accomplished by assessing the individual's needs, developing a personal goal plan with the individual, linking the individual to agreed upon services and ongoing monitoring of these services and supports. Minimum requirements for a Case Manager:

- Bachelor’s degree with major coursework in sociology, social work, psychology, gerontology, anthropology, political science, history, criminal justice, theology, counseling, education.

- Minimum of one (1) year experience (paid or unpaid) in a human service field. This experience must involve direct contact with the individual receiving services (i.e. coaching, teaching, case management, etc.)

- A valid PA driver’s license and an operating car are required.

- All Case Managers must also show proof of current insurance with minimum limits of $100,000 per occurrence and $300,000 aggregate.

For additional information contact Nakida Coleman, Non-Fidelity Act Supervisor at 215-473-7033 ext 7167