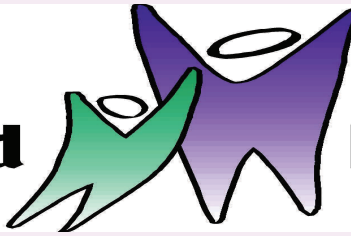


“Care Connection”

Coordinated Family Care



Upward Bound!

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Up, Up, and Away! Chantel is on her way—to college that is, as well as other great things. On June 29th, 2011 she received a \$500 scholarship from the Youth Advocate Program at their “Aging Out” youth conference held in South Jersey. Chantel submitted her essay “A Summer of Peace” detailing her thoughts and feelings regarding economic growth and how it effects youth as well politics around the world. Chantel will be attending Middlesex County College in the fall as a Liberal Arts major with the focus to study law. The entire Coordinated Family Care organization would like to congratulate Chantel on this achievement, your possibilities are endless as you continue your way Up!



Chantel B. (CFC youth at Y.A.P.)

CFC & Me: By Chantel (a CFC youth)

The first time I heard about CFC I was in the shelter and could care less. I was 15 and a flight risk, meaning I ran away from home a lot. My mom and I didn't see eye to eye at all, so CMO came to the rescue. I've been to 4 out-of-home placements, 2 hospitals, and in and out of the shelter all within 2 years. It took a while for me to get it right and take responsibility to for my actions. I swore that my mom and I would never get along and I would never be happy. My CMO worker Suzy has helped me and my mom through so much. Now, I am 17 years old and I am home for good. I am a high school graduate and I am going to be attending college in the fall. All of this wouldn't have been possible without the help of CFC and my CMO worker Suzy.



You Did It!

Suzy Barbosa, a Lead Care Manager with CFC for almost 3 years praises Chantel for all of her hard work and determination to make major changes in her life. “I'm proud but not surprised.” Suzy goes on to mention, “Through all the adversity Chantel and her mother never stopped giving and caring. The key for them is that they just don't hear each other, they actually listen!” That is what we call TEAM work! Excellent Job!



When I was you.....

For the teen who always had something to say, **Especially** when you couldn't get your way. **Every** word stained with disrespect, **Your** conscience held not a tinge of regret. **For** the teen who didn't know the word apologize, **Because** their own faults they did not recognize. **They** blame everyone else for their own actions, **And** hide the truth from themselves with distractions. **For** the teen who is always on the run, **Hoping** to get out and have a little fun. **Or** just leave for somewhere far and stay, **Never** realizing it just doesn't work that way. **For** the teen who's been to every facility, **Only** because they lack responsibility. **Telling** lies to try and play everyone else, **But** in the end wound up playing themselves. **For** the teen who is so defensive, **Won't** talk to anyone because their apprehensive. **Is** scared to talk because others may judge, **No** matter what they tell you, **You** won't budge. **For** the teen who keeps saying I don't care, **And** the other teen who says life isn't fair. **If** this is how you truly feel, **Either** make a change or quit whining and deal. **For** the teen who thinks they're not like the others, **The** one who grew up without a dad and a mother. **Well** I can't personally relate, **But** don't fill your heart with loneliness and hate. **For** the teen who has done things that leave others aghast, **Don't** keep yourself down, **live** for the future, **and** learn form the past. **For** the teen who is now with CMO, **They** are there to help and show you the right way to go. **At** first they may seem bad, **But** that is only because you are mad. **Take** it from me because I was all those “teens who”, **But** with CMO I learned the right thing to do. **But** they aren't the only ones to make things clearer, **The** one who can do that is in the mirror. **Poem Written By: Chantel B. 2011**



A DAY OF PLAY FOR CFC



On June 27th, 2011 CFC youth, their families, along with several service providers who volunteered as chaperones, enjoyed a fun filled day of team building activities at the Forest Lodge in Warren, NJ. We started our day off with a bus ride to the venue loaded with laughs, anticipation, and plans for a great event. Upon arrival we wasted no time and got busy engaging in many activities. As CFC staff challenged CFC youth in a quick pick up game of basketball it was clear the adults had no chance! Swimming helped our CFC families cool off



while they awaited lunch and the Talent Show! Our team building maze was a hit and CFC youth showcased their talent as if they were contestants on “American Idol”. A cool treat of ice cream ended our event and we played all day! We hope each and everyone had a great time!

If you missed it: Here are the highlights:

- 80 attendees participated including CFC youth, families, CFC staff, and Service Providers
- Activities for the event included: swimming, basketball, talent show, team building maze, softball, kickball, arts & crafts, caricatures, most importantly ice cream!
- A special Thank you to the following for supporting our event: Route 18 Sports, The Youth Success Network, Kaleidoscope, King DJ, MC -CCMAC, Supreme Consultants, Caring Family Community Services, and the Family Support Organization!

Thank you!

James P., Operations Manager & Elba H. RD/QI Specialist enjoyed ice cream.

WHAT ALEXUS THINKS ... (BY ALEXUS W.)

Day of Play Reflection



Alexus and her family at the 2011 CFC Day of Play

As a Day of Play planning committee member it was exciting to see it all come together! All of our hard work paid off and by the smiles on my families face you can tell they had a good time also. I loved the Talent Show and can't wait to plan the next youth event, 2012 here we come.....

Things to think about

Listen, Believe, and Trust.....those are things to hold onto when you are trying to be a better person, a greater influence to others, and get involved in your community. A few of the important things I have learned while being involved in the CMO is to help others by **listening** to those who may be in a similar situation as you. **Believe** that you have the strength to do what you need to do to get better and always **trust** the people who are around you because they love and care about you. Take every opportunity which may come your way to plan events for youth to show how you can be a good role model for your peers. Lastly, you will be a happier person when you give back. I hope my advice is helpful—just a few things for you to think about! *AW*

A Very Special Thank you!

CFC would like to formally thank the Day of Play Youth Committee for participating in the planning and facilitation of the event on June 27th, 2011. Their undying energy and commitment to the event shinned through from the beginning to the end of the event. We could have not done it without them!

- | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Alexus | Anthony | Jalen |
| Antoine | Devondree | Catherina |
| | Jaenelle | |

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