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*Newsletter of A Second Chance, Inc.*

*A Second Chance, Inc.'s Mission:*

*Strengthening and Preserving Healthy Kinship Families for Children*

*Hours of Operation*

*9:00 A.M.—4:30 P.M.*

*One Agency: Two Locations*

*The Enrichment Center—8350 Frankstown Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15221*

*100 North 17th Street Suite 1401 Philadelphia, PA 19103*

*Main Number*

*412 342-0600 Frankstown Avenue*

*215 564-0790 Philadelphia*

*Emergency assistance is available after hours through our on call services*

*Concern Line*

*412 342-0701 (press option one)*

*Voice your concerns, questions, opinions, and compliments about the agency at any time.*

*We will respond to all concerns within one business day*

*Services & Programs*

*A Second Chance, Inc. (ASCI) provides a full range of kinship foster care, adoptive, and supportive services.*

## *Management Retreat*



On May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, over 80 ASCI employees attended a Management Retreat at Seven Springs Resort. The theme of the retreat was “A Season of Change: Renewing, Revitalizing, and Renewing Our Commitment.” The Agenda included presentations on the issues of Negativity in the Workplace, Corporate Culture, and Evaluation and Accountability. The highlight of the first day was an excellent presentation by ASCI President and CEO Dr. Sharon Lowe “Please Understand Me.....” using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator-an Introduction to TYPE in Organizations. Day Two consisted of Team Building where participants divided into groups and took on a series of outdoor tasks that required imagination, leadership and teamwork. The Retreat was a complete success in that it provided training, management interaction, team building and, in fact, renewed and revitalized the management team of ASCI.

## *EYO-Educational Youth Opportunities*



Educational Youth Opportunities or EYO is the after school component of A Second Chance, Inc Kinship Care. EYO provides a safe after school program that stresses academic and cultural enrichment, while at the same time providing developmentally appropriate activities and social stimulation for children. EYO also provides job opportunities for teenage youth as they supervise younger children in the after school program. During the school year, children are transported to the program at the ASCI Frankstown Avenue Enrichment Center Monday through Friday from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm.

The students are provided with many activities during their after school stay including computers, creative writing and a literacy program. On Mondays and Wednesdays, the focus is on Math and Reading. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the focus is health, education and wellness. Each Wednesday and Thursday the children participate in a program that teaches and encourages various forms of creative dance, poetry and art. Children bring their homework with them daily and if they do not have homework age appropriate assignments are issued. At various times, ASCI staff are able to take the children on cultural and recreational outings. At the end of the school year there is a celebration commemorating the year at EYO.



## *Continuous Quality Improvement*

The Continuous Quality Improvement Department (CQI) of A Second Chance, Inc. exists to provide a strength-based framework to critically review and assess the programs and services offered by ASCI. The purpose of the CQI process is monitoring compliance with our contract with Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families (CYF), internal ASCI policy and procedures, and with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare regulations.

Reports and reviews by CQI are used to recommend changes and improvements that will enhance the delivery of services to all of our stakeholders, which includes the Kinship Triad (Birth Parents, Kinship Caregivers, and Children), and our funder, Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Families. The CQI Department is headed by Senior Director L’Tesha Gamble-Pettis, and consists of Konrad Kammerer, Assistant Director, Tara Ghee, Compliance Supervisor, and Bonita Flanagan, Administrative Assistant.

## *CAMP C. O. P. E. S.*

An extremely successful program run by ASCI is Camp C.O.P.E.S--- Children Optimizing Personal Experience Through Sports. The Transitional Living program of the TECD ( Training, Education and Community Development ) Department of ASCI operates this program. The Program was developed by ASCI Executive Vice President, Mr. Brace Lowe.

The program, which began July 9<sup>th</sup>, consists of 17 boys basketball teams broken into 2 age groups; 14 and Under and 17 and Under. There are 8-10 boys on each team. Games are played Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at the ASCI court located at 8350 Frankstown Avenue. The regular season is comprised of 10 games with a Championship Playoff that begins August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Teams are welcome from the community and the league also includes Kinship youth from ASCI. Teams are sponsored by individuals including employees of ASCI at a cost of \$200 per team. If you have any questions about this program, please call 412-342-0600.

### **What else is New?**

We welcome your story, ideas, employee news and comments.

If you have news we would like to hear it. Contact Joseph Jaffe at A Second Chance, Inc. 8350 Frankstown Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15221 412 342-0703



A Second Chance Inc.



