



The CONNECTOR

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PAT Walk and Read Event

On May 22, the Parents as Teachers team hosted a storybook “walk and read” event on The Sheepskin Trail in South Union Township.

The featured book was *The Belonging Tree* written by Maryann Cocca-Leffer and illustrated by Kristine A. Lombardi. Families were guided through the story by signs displayed along the side of the trail. The event was self-guided, allowing participants to move along and interact with the story at their own pace. As the story concluded, attendees finished at a picnic area where snacks and crafts were provided.

The event received a great turnout due to the high foot traffic of the trail. Our Parent Educators in attendance marveled at the number of new families that came to participate.



NCA Leadership Conference

The National Children's Alliance (NCA) hosted their annual leadership conference in Washington D.C. from June 2nd to 5th, 2024. A Child's Place was one of hundreds of child advocacy centers in attendance. The conference invites child advocacy centers nationwide to network and recognize the important work that we do all year round. The event is also a pivotal moment for our leadership to represent the children and families we serve to our elected officials in Washington D.C. On Hill Day, CAC leadership took to Capitol Hill to tell our stories and help our lawmakers understand the role that they play in healing our communities. Child advocacy centers from

across Pennsylvania had the opportunity to meet with Senator John Fetterman to advocate for his support to the Victims of Crime Act Fund (VOCA). The VOCA fund is crucial to the operations of child advocacy centers. Together we discussed the anticipated cuts to VOCA and the best plan of action to continue supporting what we do.



Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman (top middle) with leadership from child advocacy centers across Pennsylvania.

Come Celebrate ACP's 25th Anniversary!

On Friday, June 21st, from 10am to 2pm, ACP is holding an Open House to celebrate the Allegheny County CAC's 25th Anniversary. This event will take place at ACP's Pittsburgh location at Mercy Health Center (1515 Locust Street, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15219). Come and join us in this opportunity to mingle with ACP staff along with our Multidisciplinary Team partners and collaborators. Light refreshments will be provided.





Hi, We're Featherfin Squeakers!

- **Position:** Waiting Room Staff
- **Team Start Date:** May 2024
- **Office Location:** MHC Fish Tank
- **Species:** Synodontis catfish (also known as “upside down” catfish for their ability to swim upside down at will)

- **What aspect of your role do you enjoy the most?:** The newest residents of our Allegheny location's fish tank thrive as bottom scavengers, consuming any food or algae that finds itself at the bottom of the tank.
- **What is your definition of success?:** Squeakers are observed to be rather adaptable, surviving in a wide range of water conditions and quickly adjusting to community tank environments with multiple different species of fish.
- **What do you like to do in your spare time?:** The name “squeaker” is derived from the unique sound the fish make to signify when they are excited or frightened. In the wild, they use these squeaking noises to ward off predators and competitors.
- **If you were to write a self-help book, what would the topic be?:** Just Keep Swimming
- **Favorite go-to spot:** When not sifting through the rocks at the bottom of the tank for food, Squeakers enjoy hiding behind larger rocks, plants, or even in a quiet corner.
- **Favorite movie and/or book:** Big Fish
- **If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?:** Featherfin Squeakers are native to freshwater habitats in Central Africa. They can be found swimming in rivers and other freshwater bodies in Nigeria, Sudan, Niger, Chad, Ghana, Mali, and Cameroon. They also reside in the White Nile River system.

Get to know [Featherfin Squeakers](#) better!

Work Anniversaries

We're so happy you're here!

Karen M.
Pediatric Physician
11 Years

Maura
Healthy Parenting Intake Coordinator
3 Years

Beck
Family Therapeutic Specialist
3 Years

Maggi
Parent Educator
1 Year

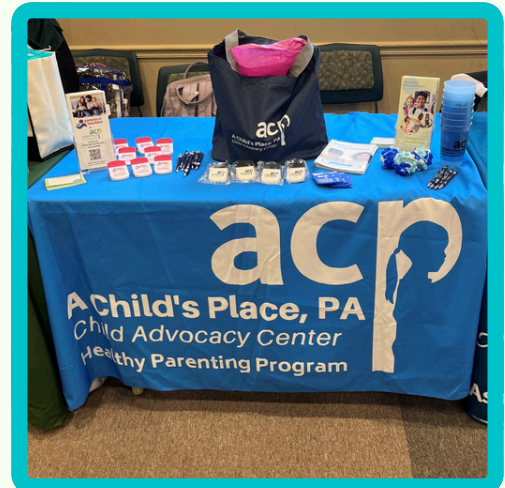
Healthy Parenting Spotlight

— Parent Educator Danae applied for the position of Triple P Team Lead in Allegheny County and is a welcome support! She is settling in and supporting staff while maintaining a caseload.

— Our Parent Educator and Law Enforcement Liaison teams are working together to meet with Magistrates and Police Departments to promote programs at ACP around Allegheny County.

— PAT Team Lead Marlana and Parent Educator Greg connected with partners and tabled at a CYS event in Beaver County featuring Dr. Chasnoff, one of the nation's leading researchers in the field of child development and the effects of fetal alcohol syndrome.

— Parent Educators Megan C. and Alicia attended a Community Baby Shower hosted by Beaver County CYS and Life Steps. They spoke to new and expecting mothers about the curriculum the Healthy Parenting Program offers. The event had a successful turn out with over 140 moms and moms-to-be in attendance. It was a great day to make connections with Beaver County partner agencies.



— Megan C. and Marlana attended the Beaver County Head Start parent education event. They spoke about the Healthy Parenting Program and the curriculum we offer. A prize basket filled with ACP swag was raffled off to a local parent.

— Tristan participated in the Fayette Head Start *Munch & Mingle* event to connect with partners and promote the Healthy Parenting Program.

HIGHLIGHT: Allegheny Parent Educator, Julianna, completed work with a client that came to us through forensic interviewing. This was a challenging case, and Julie's work with this family is a testament to the power of parenting support and demonstrates the amazing work our Parent Educators do across all counties.



Birthday Crew!

Johnathan
Case Manager

Mary
Executive Director

Lindsay
Family Advocate

LeeAnn
PAT Parent Educator

Kate
Parent Educator

John
Law Enforcement Liaison

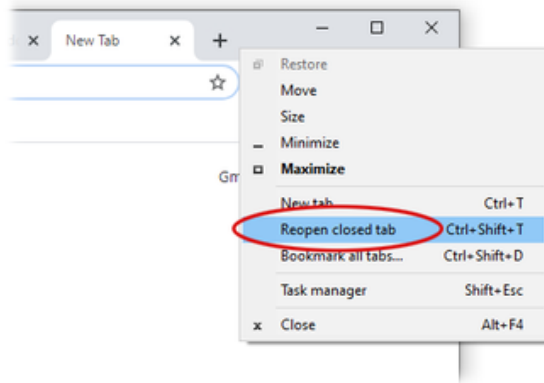


ACP Open Positions

- [Triple P Parent Educator: Allegheny](#)
- [PAT Parent Educator: Beaver](#)
- [Family Advocate](#) (all-sites)
- [Nurse Practitioner](#) (multi-sites)

Tech Tip: Restore Tabs

Have you ever accidentally closed a tab or a window that you were still working on? Don't fret, a quick solution to restore recently closed tabs is pressing Ctrl + Shift + T on your keyboard. This can also be done by right clicking a new tab at the top of your browser.



SOGIE Training

The upcoming training for Introduction to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression (SOGIE) for new hires is taking place on June 20th, 2024.

Trainings are virtual and from 10:00am to 4:00pm. To register for this month, email training@hughlane.org with subject "CYF Intro to SOGIE"

Click [here](#) to view the full schedule of intro trainings for 2024. Stay tuned for the upcoming schedule of [enhanced trainings](#) for those who have already completed the introduction course.

“When you put love out in the world it travels, and it can touch people and reach people in ways that we never even expected.”

- Laverne Cox

