



*Pictured left to right: Dr. Mary Carrasco giving her acceptance speech, ACP Staff group photo, Wyndam Grand Hotel Ballroom, Dr. Mary Carrasco with Joan Mills and Dr. Karen Morris.*

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## PAAR Teal Ball 2024

On May 4th, ACP Staff attended the annual Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR) Teal Ball to support Dr. Mary Carrasco as she received the Laura Ditka Visionary Award. The award named in honor of Laura Ditka recognizes individuals or organizations who have made a significant impact in the lives of survivors and in the prevention of sexual violence.

Dr. Carrasco graciously accepted the award and took the opportunity during her acceptance speech to thank the team here at ACP for the role each individual plays in supporting our mission of improving the health, safety, and well-being of children.



*Congratulations Dr. Carrasco!*

## Westmoreland County Trainings

On April 19th, the Law Enforcement Liaison team had a successful all-day training in Westmoreland County at Penn Township Police Station. The session covered details about basic child abuse, minimal facts interviewing, and forensic interviewing. The training received full registration with “standing room only” and was very well received by all attendees. Participants from both law enforcement and Children’s Bureau (CYS) were in attendance. Workshops are specifically designed for networking and interaction between these agencies. Forensic Interviewer, Tiffani, presented on the Minimal Facts Interviewing & Forensic Interviewing portions of the training and Parent Educator, Megan S., shared information about the parenting program soon to be offered in Westmoreland County. The following training that took place on May 1st also had full registration, with a third workshop requested for Westmoreland County!



*Attendees of the training on April 19th wore blue to show their support for Child Abuse Prevention month.*

## Beaver County Open House

The staff at our Beaver satellite office held an Open house on April 25th to showcase the newly renovated office space. Attendees came from CYC, Housing Authority, Mental Health and other agencies. Many of our very own ACP staff came out to show support as well, including Lauren, Rich, Marlana, Megan S., and of course our members of the planning committee: Megan C, Shelva and Ann. The office was painted,



decorated, and updated by Family Advocate, Shelva, with much help from Family Therapeutic Specialist, Beck, and other staff assistance. ACP first moved into the Beaver office in January 2020, and with the pandemic hitting that year, the office never had the opportunity to be updated. As newer staff affectionately coined it, it looked like “the apocalypse”. Now it is warm, welcoming, family & kid friendly. A family came in recently with two children for forensic interviews, and excitedly stated, “this place is so nice”, not knowing all the work had just been done to make it that way. It made everyone happy to hear.



# Hi, I'm Tristan!

- **Position:** *Parent Educator, Healthy Parenting Program*
- **Team Start Date:** March 2021
- **Office Location:** Community Action in Fayette County
- **What aspect of your role do you enjoy the most:** I really enjoy interacting with parents and caregivers. I learn a lot from the collaborative process with parents and value their perspective.
- **What are you looking forward to most this year at ACP:** I'm very excited about the new program, I.G.N.I.T.E. at the Fayette County Prison. I conduct a Healthy Parenting Group inside the prison, alternating between the Fathers and Mothers. The group will now be part of IGNITE geared towards inspiring inmates and teaching valuable skills.
- **What is your definition of success?:** Living the life that you want to live in the moment while building on what you have. Success is a lifelong goal, not a destination.
- **What do you like to do in your spare time:** I really enjoying reading, listening to music, spending my time with family whether it's playing video games or shooting hoops at the park.
- **If you were to write a self-help book, what would the topic be:** I would love to write about changing negative thought patterns. Our attitudes and beliefs can make or break our day.
- **Favorite go-to Pittsburgh spot:** We really love Urban Air - it's a place for my sons to cut loose and have fun. And I'm usually right there with them.
- **Favorite movie and/or book:** Lord of the Rings is a great answer for both. I read Lord of the Rings and the Hobbit to both my boys. The Lord of the Rings did an amazing job capturing the epic scale and the beauty of the world and languages Tolkien created. And in the Hobbit so much of the music was taken right from the book.
- **If you could travel anywhere, where would you go:** That's always a tough question. I really want to see Japan - I'm fascinated with their culture. Also I would love to see Oxford and the pubs that Tolkien and CS Lewis met in to discuss their budding works.

Get to know [Tristan](#) better and reach out!

## Welcome to the Team!

**Jonathan**

*Case Manager, Mom's Turn*

**Kristina**

*Forensic Interviewer*

**Heidi**

*Forensic Interviewer*

We're so happy  
you're here!

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## Work Anniversaries

### Marlena

*PAT Team Lead*

**4 Years**

### Karen

*Certified Registered*

*Nurse Practitioner*

**2 Years**

### Megan

*Healthy Parenting*

*Supervisor/Agency Liaison*

**1 Year**

## Healthy Parenting Spotlight

— Marlena and Megan C. met with partners at Beaver County CYS Partner Meeting to announce that Parents as Teachers curriculum has received an expansion grant for Beaver County. The news was met with great excitement! PAT education will be offered in Beaver County starting July 2024.



— Jenyne & Megan C. joined the Reentry team at the Beaver County Jail to speak with funders of the KFC grant and discuss the work we do with incarcerated individuals and the families of these individuals in their communities. The reentry team is very supportive and grateful for the work Healthy Parenting does in Beaver County.

— In Allegheny County, Parent Chats were held at Duquesne City School District, Women's Behavioral Health IOP, Hearth, and Hilltop Family Center. Parent Chats allow families currently participating in our Healthy Parenting Program to come together to support one another and share their experiences. Groups continued at ACJ, Auberle House of Healing and Passages Mens Group.

— Megan S. attended the Outreach event at Allegheny Community Hospital and had the opportunity to speak with many partner agencies. She also traveled to Westmoreland to announce that the Healthy Parenting Program will now be providing Triple P education for the county in partnership with CYS.

— In Fayette County, groups at the new Prison have resumed. They were previously on hold as the Prison moved location and we are happy they are up and running again.



## Birthday Crew!

**Julianna**

*Parent Educator*

**Haley**

*Forensic Interviewer*



All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world.

- Fred Rogers

## ACP Open Positions

- [Parent Educator: Allegheny](#)
- [Intake Coordinator](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner](#)

## Tech Tip: Tell Microsoft Word

A quick shortcut you can use in Microsoft Word to find a desired feature is the "Tell me what you want to do" ribbon. If you click on it at the top of your screen, it functions similarly to a search bar. Whenever you're having trouble finding a specific feature, typing in key words will lead you to what you're looking for without having to manually click through each tab until you locate it.

