

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INVESTMENTS



Volume 72 / Issue 27

*Committed to Positive Youth Outcomes
and Family Engagement*

UP CLOSE RONALD D. HUNTER



Ronald (Ron) D. Hunter, CEO of YOI, talks about staying calm under pressure.

I was asked recently, "How do you stay calm under pressure?" I don't always - I am human. When I face pressure, I begin with a threat assessment. That means looking objectively at the situation and asking, "What kind of problem or challenge is this?"

I think about a situation I had been in before that looked similar. How did I resolve it? What worked? Maybe I had never been in a situation exactly like the current one, but that's okay. Generalize. I probably dealt with something that was kind of similar or saw someone else do it.

Leveraging Experience

I leverage any prior experience (or the experiences of others) which allows me to wrap my brain around every scenario and see it as just another version of a problem I've solved before. And that allows me to keep moving forward when I am unsure and afraid to make a mistake.

Stay positive, focus on the good aspects of the situation, stay realistic about the facts; this helps me stay calm and focused.

Whatever situation you're in, if you can do one little thing to make it a little bit better, then do that. We're all frightened of the unknown. Remember, "If we knew the answer it would be a foregone conclusion, not a decision."

God Bless

Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC Expands Again

Youth Opportunity welcomes another campus to the Youth Opportunity Family of Companies, beginning August 1, 2017. The 54-bed facility in Crestview, FL will be called Crestview Youth Academy, "A Center for Success and Independence." Join us in welcoming the staff!



**Crestview Youth Academy
A Center for Success and Independence**

Farewell

By Carmita Rosenberg, Facility Administrator, BYTC

Farewell to Youth Care Specialist, Gregory Williams. After three (3) years of tireless service Mr. Williams will be moving on to other endeavors. Although we are going to miss his presence we are happy to see our staff and brother grow and prosper in all he may decide to do. Mr. Williams will now be utilizing his skills at an adult substance abuse treatment program.





Celebrating YOU: August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 8/01 Connie Hill (KYA) 8/11 Amy Ellis (CYA) 8/18 Darlene Wiltz (TCSI)
8/01 Nadege Loudor (BYTC) 8/12 Alfred Scott (TCSI) 8/21 Roslyn Brewer (CSI-Memphis)
8/02 Jacquelyn Creft (KYA) 8/13 Claudia Aguilar (TCSI) 8/21 Calundra Fleming Franks (CSI-Memphis)
8/03 Nancy Maldonado (KYA) 8/13 Clifford Cincinatus (KYA) 8/23 Patrick Luttrell (MRYH)
8/03 Jewell Montague (DCJDC) 8/14 Zachary Greiss (KYA) 8/23 Zoe Wales (TCSI)
8/04 Yolanda Hockett (DCJDC) 8/14 Christopher Jones (DCJDC) 8/24 Laia Johnson (DCJDC)
8/05 Brook Pratt (MRYH) 8/14 Randy Quist (MRYH) 8/26 Dallas Scott (Corp)
8/07 Mark Haley (MRYH) 8/15 Deza Edwards (MRYH) 8/27 Jerome Nelson (CSI-Memphis)
8/07 Marilynn Ledbetter (MRYH) 8/16 Alicia Brown (DCJDC) 8/27 Terrance Ware (CSI-Memphis)
8/07 Ana Morillo (KYA) 8/17 Marcus Elliott (DCJDC) 8/28 Janet Baker (DCJDC)
8/07 Carmita Rosenberg (BYTC) 8/18 Vanessa Price (TCSI) 8/31 Jasmine James-Holt (DCJDC)
8/11 Malsalekua Allison (DCJDC)



Work Anniversaries

- 8 years: Siegfried Steinwender (TCSI) 2 years: Romy Malone (DCJDC)
3 years: Lisa Dillon (Corp) 1 year: Janet Baker (DCJDC)
2 years: Ryan Caldwell (TCSI) 1 year: Edna Drake (DCJDC)
2 years: Sandra Castro (TCSI) 1 year: Stefanie Fisher (TCSI)
2 years: Joseph Chambers (TCSI) 1 year: Juan Ramirez (TCSI)
2 years: Cassandra Davis (TCSI) 1 year: Brandi Thompson (DCJDC)
2 years: Rodney Foster (DCJDC)



STEM YES! Camp Welcomes Ronald D. Hunter

By Kara Brooks, Intern, Direct Employers Institute

2017 was a great year for the STEM YES! camp. The youth visited Dow AgroSciences, Salesforce, Eli Lilly, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Medical Academic Center, Charles Schwab, and Duke Realty to participate in a job shadow opportunity. While there, the students were able to learn more about the types of jobs available at each company

this helped students explore their own career paths. Additionally, several businessmen from around Indiana, including Ronald D. Hunter, mentored the students. This inspired the students, and showed them that if they are willing to work hard, they too can find great success. The campers also worked on a group project throughout the 2-week camp that was targeted at problem-solving in various third world countries. The youth were also visited by designer and participated in an in-house fashion show. The camp provided the students with an opportunity to dive deeper into several STEM related careers, learn more about the workforce, and take on real world tasks themselves.



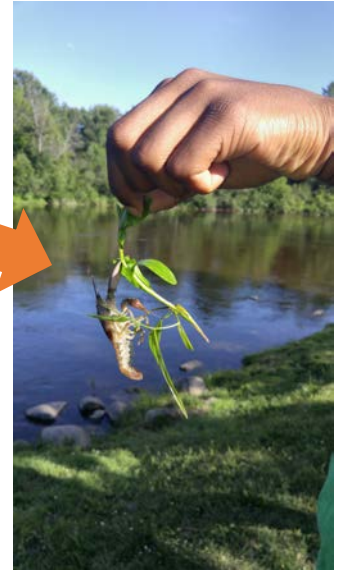


Muskegon River Youth Home Fun and Activities

By J. Wing, Assistant Director of Operations, MRYH

Clients in the open unit at **Muskegon River Youth Home (MRYH)**, in Ewart, MI, recently had a fun outing to a local park situated along the Muskegon River. The youth enjoyed walking along the river, catching crayfish, minnows and frogs by hand. Pictured [here](#) is a successful catch!

New games and activities have been introduced to the clients thanks to **Mr. Adron Wright**, a Direct Care staff member, who is working on enhancing physical activities as part of his intern project. Youth have been enjoying new activities such as Bumper Bubble Ball Soccer, KanJam Ultimate Frisbee Disc game, Spikeball, Tug of War and Volleyball.



The Girls Treatment Unit outdoor volleyball area recently got all new sand delivered which they are excited to put to good use. Cooking marshmallows and smores on the weekend is now possible for all open unit clients to enjoy thanks to a new fire pit added on campus.

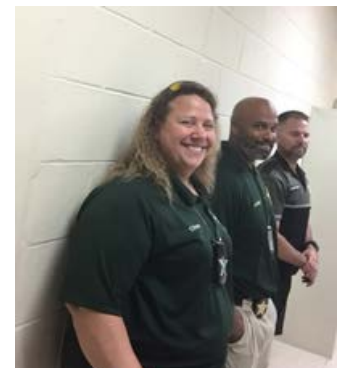
Youth Citizen Academy & Kissimmee Youth Academy

By Sumpter James, Program Director

On July 20th, **Kissimmee Youth Academy (KYA)**, a secure program for boys, ages 14 to 21, which is operated by **Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC**, hosted the Youth Citizen's Academy. The Youth Citizen's Academy, established by the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, allows teenagers (12-19 years of age) an opportunity to get a comprehensive look into today's Criminal Justice System during a seven-week period of instruction and demonstration at local facilities.



Deputies Sandy Hildago, Cheryl Porter and Joe Whitson from the Osceola Sherriff's Office arrived with guests to tour and speak with 2 Kissimmee youth and KYA Administrative staff. The youth were able to articulate how the program has assisted them. In addition, they spoke about their future plans and gave advice to others to help them avoid potential mistakes.



KYA continues to foster a great partnership with Osceola County Sherriff's Office, and has several future events in the works.



Reflecting on the Black Music Month Celebration - JUNE 2017 at DCJDC

By Dallas A. Scott, MS, Director of Program Support



Black Music Month was first recognized in the United States on June 7th, 1979 and was created to celebrate the historical influence of African-Americans. Black Music

Month is a time when the music industry honors artists, writers, songs and albums that have shaped American pop culture and the inspiring musical moments that have brought citizens - white, black and every other skin color- together. On Thursday June 29th, 2017, the youth of **Davidson County Detention Center (DCJDC)** showcased their musical talents through music programs that were provided by the [Global Educational Center](#).



Over a six (6) week period, the youth participated in three (3) Music Studio Sessions, Weekly Drumming Sessions and two (2) YOGA Sessions weekly. On behalf of YOI Program Administration, "WE" thank all those involved in making these moments possible.

A "Summer Opportunity" for TCSI

By Sharon Dearman, Director, Marketing and Development, TCSI – Houston



Compass Bank surprised **The Center for Success and Independence – Houston (TCSI)** with a \$1000 donation on July 18th as a beneficiary of their "Summer of Opportunity" campaign. Its Compass banker nominated the Center and then Compass employees voted with their own \$25 gift cards. Compass Bank sought to express how much they value the long-term relationship they have had with the Center, the community impact of the Center, and how the Center is changing lives with its therapeutic program.

But most of all, the people at the bank wanted to show their appreciation for **Robert Woods**, the Center's CEO. Like being in a small town, Robert is on a first name basis with the tellers. He's been known to bring donuts to the local branch. He has been banking with that branch long enough to watch one girl start off as a teller and work her way all the way to being an assistant manager over the years.

The Center for Success and Independence truly appreciates the support of Compass Bank and the community in which it serves. The monies will help fund summer outings for the Center's residents.





YOUTH OPPORTUNITY HIRES INDUSTRY LEADER

Raises bar for behavioral treatment

Carmel, IN, July 17, 2017 – Youth opportunity Investments is proud to announce seasoned veteran **Steven B. Reed** to its management team.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer **Ronald D. Hunter** stated, “The addition of Mr. Steven B. Reed as Chief Operating Officer confirms our commitment to bring meaningful improvement to Behavioral Health care with America’s Youth.”

“Industry leader Dennis Armington - Past President Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana (RHI) - acknowledges the advances Youth Opportunity is making in a wide range of treatment modalities- particularly trauma based care and substance abuse.”

The company also announced the promotion of **Mr. Brian Neupaver** to Senior Vice President of the Parent Company, Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC.

Chairman Hunter stated, “Rarely in business does an organization have the privilege of having two individuals with the breadth of experience in complimentary fields working in unison.”

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Ronald D. Hunter at 317-587-8880 or email at ron.hunter@youthopportunity.com.

BYTC Youth Participate in Career Fair

By Carmita Rosenberg



On July 13, 2017, seven (7) youth participated in the Pompano Youth Treatment Center Career Fair. **Broward Youth Treatment Center’s (BYTC)** transitioning youths took part in creating their future by interviewing on-site for jobs with Isles Casino and Florida Technical School. Other participants included the US Army, Florida Barbering School and Beauty Schools of America to name just a few. Upon their return, they were excited about their future possibilities.



Congrats to the youth who received major kudos from the hosting facility for their behavior and mannerisms!

Breakfast with the Director

By Sumpter James, Program Director

On July 19, several young men at **Kissimmee Youth Academy (KYA)**, a secure program for boys, ages 14 to 21, which is operated by **Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC**, participated in the Bi-Weekly Breakfast with the Director!



The event was established to provide KYA youth with an opportunity to discuss any program issues with the Facility Director or designated Staff over the Breakfast of their choice.

Youth have to meet some specific criteria to be considered for Breakfast. The criteria include, consistently having their room clean, participating in school, groups and displaying pro-social behavior.

In addition to discussing any program related issues, youth have an opportunity to learn assertive communication skills, adaptive social engagement and to model proper meal etiquette.