

# THE RIGHT WAY

RIGHT YOUTH. RIGHT PLACE. RIGHT TIME.

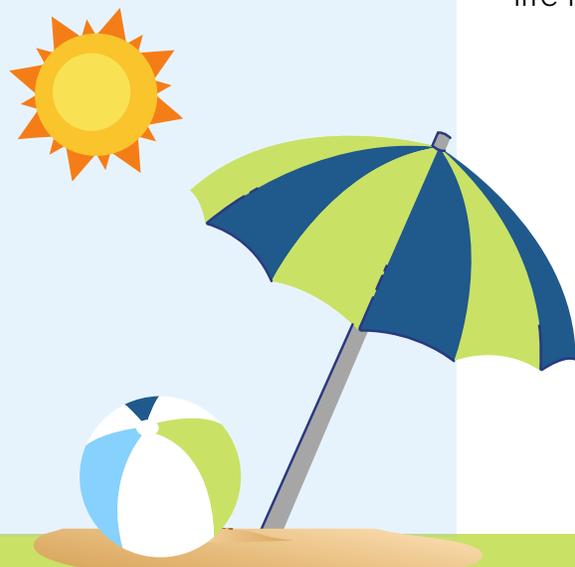


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## Organizations Are Like People

In every organization's life cycle, there comes a time when it is proper and essential to have a check-up, just like our personal medical check-ups to ensure we are practicing preventative health.

Each and every one of us depends on a quality way of life to support our families and to achieve our personal goals. Every part of our body needs nourishment just as every part of Youth Opportunity needs nourishment, good practices, and an economically sustainable culture.

The spotlight tends to shine brighter on organizations focused on health and social services. In our current unique climate, we need to be extra vigilant in assuring best practices are followed to provide a better life for the youth entrusted to our care.

For the last four years, we have seen continued advancements, additional programs, and innovative treatments at our multiple locations. Yet, like your personal health and well-being, it is not a sprint but a marathon; a constant journey filled with opportunities to be better than the day before.

We are extremely grateful for your continued commitment to our mission. Make your journey a challenging one and remember your routine check-up.



# Lebanon Youth Academy

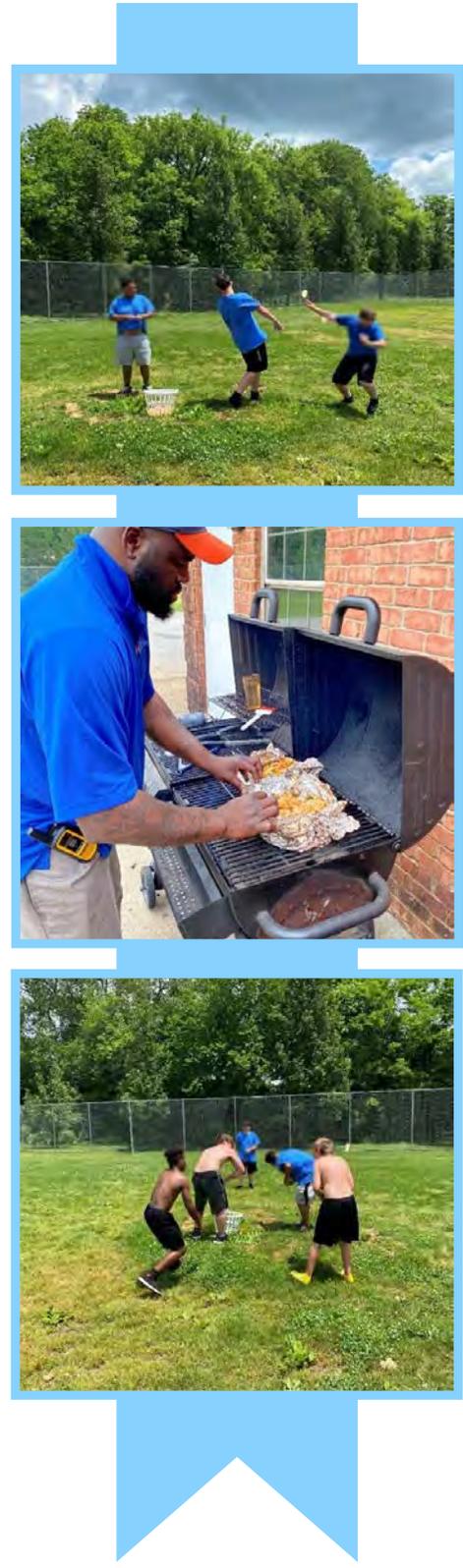
Despite the COVID-19 restrictions that have been put in place, Lebanon Youth Academy continues to come up with innovative ways to keep our youth busy and engaged.

Lebanon Youth Academy kicked off the month of May with our infamous Cinco de Mayo celebration. In addition, we celebrated Memorial Day. The youth enjoyed the experience of having a friendly balloon battle and a delicious cookout. The highlight of the gathering was when the youth could sing a song of their choice during our karaoke time. Youth and staff alike took place in this auspicious occasion.

Incentives for rewarding good behavior are in full effect. We recently upgraded our game room to make it more fun and entertaining for the youth that earn these special privileges. We hope this will attract the interest of those youth who have not yet earned the privilege of going to the game room.

The staff and youth have had a couple of “activity days”, and a cookout to try and relieve some of the stress from the current circumstances.

Throughout the month, we carried on with our "McDonald's Mondays", and recently implemented "Wendy's Wednesdays", "Thirsty Thursdays", and "Fun Friday". These activities are enjoyed by those who have earned the adequate amount of points through good behavior towards staff and their peers.



# TEACH

## Mt. Juliet Youth Academy

Mt. Juliet Youth Academy is keeping busy with activities and celebrations. To celebrate Cinco de Mayo, Mr. Kirk and Mr. Pete cooked tacos and nacho bowls for all the girls and the staff.

To celebrate Earth Day, the youth cleaned out the flower beds around the property and planted new flowers. They put up bird feeders around the property as well. The youth enjoyed being outside and their hard work gave life and brightened up the flower beds around the facility.



## Elizabethton Youth Academy

With the beautiful weather upon us, we've been spending a lot of time outdoors. One activity was an exploding watermelon experiment. The youth placed rubber bands around a watermelon forcing it to change shape. The youth observed the watermelon deform as it began to bulge above and below the rubber bands. The water and fruit were forced out of their structure as well. The rubber bands continued to cause pressure until the watermelon split. The result: an exploding watermelon!

We concluded the experiment and decorated doughnuts. We used decorating kits from Dunkin Donuts, and our youth let their artistic creativity flow. Everyone had a great day and a lot of fun!





# Bledsoe Youth Academy

At the end of May, Bledsoe Youth Academy celebrated Memorial Day with a cookout. The youth enjoyed the festivities, bringing in the unofficial first day of summer, and began attending classes the following week. The summer session started with new ideas and fresh minds. Students were issued Chromebooks to complete their assignments. The youth were very engaged in completing their schoolwork!



# Cleveland Youth Academy

The end of May at Cleveland Youth Academy was focused on Memorial Day. We studied the men and women who fought for our freedom. To celebrate, we had a cookout, a 20-foot waterslide, water balloons, and lots of other fun activities. It was a great way to kick off the warm weather, and a welcome change for the youth since the pandemic started.. The youth had a great time. The youth also wrote letters to family members, in our area, who have lost loved ones to war.

The staff and youth planted lots of goodies in the garden: corn, cucumbers, watermelons,



squash, carrots and tomatoes to name a few. Also, we were very excited to celebrate our Employee of the Month, Ms. Tammy. She does so much for everyone at the Academy. She made each staff member and youth COVID-19 masks. She turned old jeans into “new” shorts for the youth. She is a true rockstar at Cleveland Youth Academy!



# Roane Youth Academy

Roane Youth Academy celebrated Cinco de Mayo by decorating the gymnasium, and had a wiffle ball tournament. Prior to the pitcher throwing the ball, the teachers asked the batters questions about Cinco de Mayo. The pitcher could not throw the ball until the batter got the question right. Like baseball, three wrong questions counted as a strike. If the batter answered the question correctly, he could swing at the pitch. This was a fun way to educate and exercise while having fun!

With two different ways to strike out, the game became more challenging and taught the youth to think outside the box. They came together as a team, and huddled up when questions were asked. The youth showed impressive skills not only physically, but they showed great teamwork and stumped everyone with their knowledge about Cinco de Mayo!

Since Cinco de Mayo did fall on a Tuesday, we celebrated Taco Tuesday! The tables were piled high with everything needed to make any type of taco, and every topping you could think of. There were nachos, quesadillas, and fajitas too. The kitchen staff even made homemade restaurant style salsas, and different types of queso dip, which seemed to be everyone's favorite!

Even though the tournament had to be moved inside due to weather, the staff and youth really enjoyed the day.





# Memphis Youth Academy

At Memphis Youth Academy, the young men have been active in recreation, art work, and school during quarantine time. Freestyle art is always a good way to social distance as well as being able to keep your creative juices flowing. This is a frequent activity for the young men, because they are so awesome at it!

In history class, our residents have been studying the Medieval Times. The youth created their own Coat of Arms. Ms. Chipman, our English, History & Special Education teacher, helped guide the youth through understanding what the Coat of Arms means, and how to think about what would be important for them to consider when developing their own shield.

Ms. Gray, Ms. Chipman and Mr. Baldoni helped one of the youth, Youth M, complete the requirements to graduate from high school. He was awarded his high school diploma, and is a proud member of the Class of 2020.



# Rosewood Youth Academy

The staff at Rosewood Academy were so excited to receive our first four youth to the facility. Our team received extensive training. As soon as we opened our doors, we received youth who seemed to have high risk behaviors. The treatment team worked together to develop a plan that met the specialized needs of these youth. The operations and administrative staff greeted each youth and welcomed them wholeheartedly into our program. The case management and clinical staff worked together to ensure that each youth received preeminent services from the start. We have provided top of the line services from daily interactions to therapeutic services.

A mantra that we have adopted at Rosewood Academy is TEAM: Timing, Ego, Area, Manager. Each of us completed our tasks timely; we put our egos to the side to give room for collaboration; we took care of our designated area; and managed a key aspect of the admission process. The TEAM approach is highly valued and successful, so far. We look forward to welcoming and treating more youth with the same standard of excellence in the near future!



## New Hope Youth Academy

May was a great month of growth for our residents! Several of the senior residents have truly stepped up to lead and support peers with their struggles. This has resulted in a feeling of togetherness.

New Hope has adjusted well to the current changes caused by COVID-19, and everyone has remained healthy so far. On the very warm days, the youth have enjoyed the slip-n-slide and water gun fights. We look forward to the summer and continuing to work and play together.

The youth took part in a Memorial Day project at a local cemetery where they honored our fallen veterans by placing American Flags on the grave sites.

We appreciated the thoughtfulness and remembrance that the youth exhibited.



## Pathway Youth Academy

During the month of May, we have been blessed to be together! We have enjoyed multiple projects and team building activities. We have also celebrated many birthdays, and are thankful that we have all remained safe and healthy.

The topic for this month was *forgiveness*. This was discussed on many different levels. One activity that the residents participated in was to write letters to themselves. These letters included thoughts of things that they needed to forgive or move on from. When they were complete, the group went to the fire pit and set the letters on fire to let the memory go. This was a very powerful activity for some of our residents.

For Memorial Day, the youth took a trip to the local cemetery. They made “rubbings” of some of the local military heroes' grave stones. When they returned to campus, they did some research about that person and their service. After researching, the youth shared stories about their “hero”.





# Evert Youth Academy

Memorial Day was a little different this year, since we were unable to host extra family visits and activities due to the pandemic. Water balloons were provided to the youth to enjoy a fun way to cool off. The staff also took the opportunity to challenge the youth to a game of volleyball.

The Resident Council has been doing community service. They wanted to honor the essential members of the community. They made posters in appreciation of the essential front line workers that are serving the community during the current COVID-19 pandemic.



# Ocala Youth Academy



Dr. Prino, Clinical Director, and Andrea Bednarz, Assistant Clinical Director, joined by Facility Administrator Mr. Diab, hosted a celebration of teamwork. The event kicked off with a historical overview of the clinical progress, and how far we have come in the last seven months.

The equine students had the opportunity to learn how to care for a horse, and how to apply polo wraps to their legs. They learned that caring for the horse can help prevent injury during strenuous workouts.





# Broward Youth Treatment Center

Recently, the youth were surprised with a Hibachi themed Family Day, COVID-19 edition. The youths' families sent in heartwarming videos giving them various, yet still positive messages to the youth. Ms. Johnson fixed meals on the grill and talked about "Hibachi Express". Not only did everyone savor the taste of the prepared food, but we were completely entertained by the family videos.

We continued our Monthly Social Incentive and chose six youth who were improving in all areas of the program. These youth chose to be rewarded with ice cream and nachos.

Not only did we hand out rewards, but we also congratulated one of our youth who received his high school diploma. We also congratulated Mrs. Robinson who graduated with her bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and Mr. Scott who graduated with his master's degree in criminal justice as well.

We all celebrated Memorial Day. Ms. Adelson prepared a "Build Your Own Hot Dog" luncheon for the youth. The youth really enjoyed this year's Memorial Day celebration.





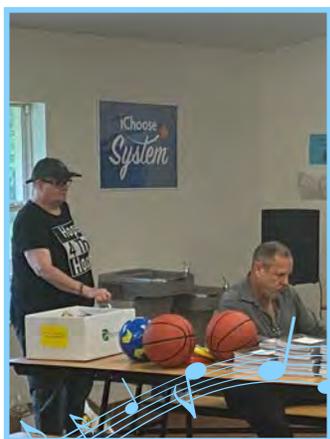
# Kissimmee Youth Academy

The youth honored their mothers on Mother's Day. All the mothers were presented with a personalized glass with their name on it, filled with delicious treats, and a special Mother's Day poem. Thanks again to all the mothers for your dedication and sacrifices!

The youth participated in a Brain Bowl. They displayed their overall knowledge in a variety of topics and competitiveness, making it to the second round. The final score was 126, only 5 points shy of moving on to the final round. Kudos to our Brain Bowl team for doing a great job, and for their participation and sportsmanship!



# Brooksville Youth Academy



The youth recently had a very special treat! On June 6th, Mama Rita and other members from *Hope 4 The Hood* performed a gospel concert. The main performer is up and coming Gospel Rapper, Azeekah. During the performance the youth enjoyed snacks and drinks.

The youth received a pencil and notebook as well for writing their own lyrics. *Hope 4 The Hood* also donated basketballs and volleyballs, which the youth have been having fun with during their recreation time!

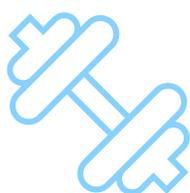


# Crestview Youth Academy

Crestview Youth Academy recently hosted Spirit Week. On “Talk About It Tuesday”, staff wore their green mental health shirts in support of mental health awareness. Our mantra is that no one in our family at Crestview Youth Academy is alone! During this spirit week, we spent extra time educating our youth on ways to stop the stigma associated with mental health.

The Wednesday of spirit week was named “Wellness Wednesday”. Staff dressed in work-appropriate fitness clothes. We also provided healthy snacks and randomly had mini-workouts around the facility throughout the day.

We hosted a luau on Tropical Thursday! The day was filled with events and activities, and we handed out prizes to the winners of: How Low Can You Go? (a limbo contest), Lip Sync Battle and Best Dressed. One of our local-area restaurants catered a nice meal with a Hawaiian twist. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship!



# Redwood Youth Academy

The administration team at Redwood Youth Academy coordinated a week of fun activities for the staff. The week consisted of different themed days to include: Farmers Day, Team Spirit Day, Camo Day, 80’s Day, and Celebrity Lookalike Day. Not only did the staff dress up, but they enjoyed catered meals and music to match the different themes.

The goal of spirit week was to motivate, appreciate and bring the Redwood team closer together during this tough time.

A special thanks to Mr. Knighten and Mr. Nixon for their involvement in spirit week!



# Youth Opportunity at a Glance

Youth Opportunity was founded in 2009. Our corporate headquarters are located in Carmel, Indiana and our regional headquarters are located in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Youth Opportunity has multiple locations with an operational presence in Michigan, Tennessee, Florida, and Texas with specialized programming ranging from substance abuse to sexually reactive rehabilitation.

With a national established footprint combined with a dynamic team of seasoned leaders, Youth Opportunity is uniquely positioned to offer best in class care in an effective and therapeutic environment.

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## National Headquarters



12775 Horseferry Rd.  
2nd Floor  
Carmel, Indiana 46032  
317.587.8880

## Regional Headquarters



701 94th Avenue North  
Ste #100  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702  
727.800.3511

[www.youthopportunity.com](http://www.youthopportunity.com)