Quarter 1
2026-2027 FY

JJC Newsletter

PEOPLE • PROGRAMS • PARTNERSHIPS • STRONGER COMMUNITIES

JJC
Serving children and families in Philadelphia since 1976

OUR MISSION

To prevent children and youth from entering the child welfare and juvenile justice system through supportive services in their homes, community and in schools.

ABOUT JJC

Since 1976, JJC has provided several thousands of children and youth programming through an array of in-home, out of home, community and school based services focusing on intervention, prevention, and community based services. JJC is a non-profit, multi-service organization dedicated to the safety and welfare of vulnerable children, youth and families in Philadelphia.



WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES

CONGRATS!

Welcome to our newest members of the JJC community!

Ikysha Dearry	(07/21/2026)	Program Director, Central CERC
Kayla Robinson	(08/10/2026)	Case Worker, In Home Detention
Ebony Gordon	(08/14/2026)	Program Director, Truancy
Dianna Phelps	(08/20/2026)	Outpatient Therapist, Behavioral Health
Toni Horn	(08/24/2026)	Site Manager, Central CERC
Rasheedah Small	(08/24/2026)	Youth Mentor, Central CERC
Sabu Hubert	(08/28/2026)	Youth Mentor, Central CERC
Victoria Aquilla	(09/08/2026)	Case Worker, In Home Detention
Chaya Avery	(09/08/2026)	Youth Mentor, Central CERC
Regina Prosser	(09/09/2026)	Case Manager, AERC
Justin Harris	(09/10/2026)	Youth Mentor, Central CERC

Inside this issue...

- Celebrating Our 10th Annual Community Day
- Growing Together: North Central CERC
- JJC Playlist: The Music That Moves Us

100 W Coulter St. Philadelphia, PA 19144 | 215-849-2112 | juvenilejustice.org | @jjcphilly

Happy Work Anniversary!

Your commitment makes a difference.

Thank you for all you do!

Today we celebrate our amazing team members and their years of dedication to JJC Family Services. Thank you for your hard work, passion and commitment to the children, youth and families we serve!

STAFF MEMBER	YEARS OF SERVICE
William Swain	29 years
Robert Sims	33 years
Tykeeyah Guinn	17 years
Wilma Sampson	17 years
Mary (Trish) Menszak	16 years
Nicole Ritty	4 years
James Irving	12 years
Michael Cassidy	12 years
Jamilynn D. Justice	2 years
Antoine T. Purnell	1 year
Wilfred Rivera	1 year

STAFF MEMBER	YEARS OF SERVICE
Heather Hess	1 year
Dwayne Moore	3 years
James Wright	1 year
Shanis Streams	5 years
Yaitza Maria Figueroa Rodriguez	1 year
Dyana J. Glasgow	2 years
Fatima Komoro	3 years
Sarah Malak	4 years
Kathy B. Seibert	5 years
Migdalia Hernandez	10 years

Our People Make the Difference!

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR Executive Director

As I reflect on the first quarter of our fiscal year, I am reminded of just how much we accomplish when we come together with a shared purpose. This newsletter is filled with examples of the incredible work happening throughout JJC, and I hope you take a moment to read it, celebrate one another, and feel proud of the difference you are making.

From opening our second Community Evening Resource Center in North Central Philadelphia to celebrating our 10th Annual Community Day, we continue to grow, strengthen relationships, and create opportunities for children, youth, and families. But what makes me most proud isn't simply the programs we operate or the services we provide. It's the people behind them.

It's the staff member who goes the extra mile for a family, the case manager who refuses to give up on a young person, the therapist who creates a safe space for someone to heal, and the colleague who steps in to help without being asked. These are the moments that may never make it into a report or a newsletter, but they are the heart of who we are.

One of the things I hope we continue to strengthen as an organization is our connection to one another. We have so many talented, compassionate, and dedicated people across JJC, yet we don't always have the opportunity to see or understand the work happening outside our own departments. I want us to change that. We are not simply individual programs operating under one agency. We are one organization, working toward one mission, and each of us has something valuable to contribute.

With that in mind, we are currently planning our first **JJC Resource Day**. My vision is to bring staff from across the agency together for a day of learning, sharing, and connecting. Each department will have an opportunity to showcase its programs, explain the services it provides, discuss referral processes, and answer questions. Just as importantly, it will give us a chance to get to know our colleagues and better understand how our work connects.

I believe we have an incredible opportunity to support even more children and families simply by becoming more familiar with the resources available within our own organization. A family receiving services from one JJC program may have needs that another program can help address. But we cannot make those connections if we don't know what one another does or how to access those services. When we work collectively, share resources, and intentionally refer families across programs, we can make a much greater impact than any one department can make alone. I'm excited about what this day can mean for all of us and hope it becomes the beginning of even stronger collaboration throughout JJC. More details will be shared as plans come together.

To our longtime employees, thank you for your dedication and the knowledge and experience you bring. To our newest team members, welcome to the JJC community. And to everyone in between, please know that your work, your compassion, and your commitment do not go unnoticed.

My hope is that as we move forward, we continue to support one another, remain open to learning and growing, and never lose sight of why we do this work in the first place.

Thank you for all that you do, especially the things that no one sees.

Jeanine

With appreciation,
Jeanine

JJC PROGRAMS

Supporting children, youth & families in Philadelphia



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AERC: JJC's Aftercare Evening Reporting Center, launched in March 2020, serves justice-involved youth ages 16-20 who are completing probation requirements or working to prevent re-placement in the juvenile justice system. Operating Monday-Friday from 4-8 p.m. (with community service on select Saturdays), the program provides case management, life skills, education and employment coaching, pro-social activities, and behavioral health linkages to help participants remain arrest-free and successfully transition forward, with referrals made through probation officers, judges, public defenders, or district attorneys.

Behavioral Health Services: JJC's Behavioral Health Program provides children and adolescents in Philadelphia County with psychiatric and psychological services, including evaluations, therapy, and behavioral rehabilitation, using trauma-informed, evidence-based practices such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. For nearly 20 years, as a licensed outpatient provider, JJC has offered comprehensive supports including medication management, group and individual therapy, and family psychotherapy.

CERC: JJC's Community Evening Resource Center in Germantown and North Central Philadelphia serves youth ages 10-17 from 6 p.m.-2 a.m., providing a safe space with structured activities that promote positive development through creative, educational, and wellness programming while addressing violence prevention and life skills. It also supports curfew-violating youth referred by Philadelphia Police offering guidance, safe transport, and resources for families to help youth make healthier choices.

The Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) Community Schools Program at Edmonds School is committed to supporting students, families, and faculty by removing barriers to learning and strengthening the connection between home, school, and community. Through intentional collaboration with school leadership and staff, JJC provides both Attendance and General Case Management programs that support and promote student engagement, family involvement, and academic success. Our presence at Edmonds extends beyond case management, as we actively create opportunities for families to feel informed, supported, and connected to their child's educational experience.

JJC's Department of Permanency Planning (DOPP) has been facilitating child adoptions since 1994 through the Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN).

JJC PROGRAMS | CONTINUED

Supporting children, youth & families in Philadelphia



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Foster Care: JJC's Foster Care Program licenses and certifies resource homes to provide temporary, supportive care for children and youth from birth to age 21 who cannot remain with their birth parents or guardians due to circumstances such as loss, incarceration, or poverty. The program's primary goal is permanency—whether through reunification, kinship care, adoption, or legal custodianship—and JJC is currently seeking resource parents for older youth, LGBTQIA youth, and youth with specialized behavioral and emotional health needs.

Home Based Detention Services: JJC's In-Home Detention (IHD) program, in partnership with Philadelphia Family Court, has served justice-involved youth for over 30 years by providing intensive home-based case management and mentorship. Youth spend up to 22.5 hours per week with a dedicated case worker, engaging in one-on-one and group sessions focused on goal setting, life skills, leadership, education, employment readiness, cultural awareness, community service, and character building to address underlying issues and support positive development.

Intensive Prevention Services in Southwest and Northwest Philadelphia: JJC's Intensive Prevention Services (IPS), launched in 2011, serves youth ages 10-17 who are at risk of drifting into delinquency by providing in-home family counseling, site-based programming, and community service engagement. Offered four times a week, the program partners with schools, diversionary programs, and police districts to reduce the school-to-prison pipeline, while teaching life skills, character development, and the 7 C's curriculum—competency, connections, coping, compassion, character, control, and confidence.

Parent Empowerment Program: JJC's Parent Empowerment Program is designed to empower parents of all ages to build their confidence and competency skills as parents. The mission of the program is to help parents recognize and respond lovingly and appropriately to their children's developmental needs at various ages and stages of child development. Our classes are designed to strengthen the relationship between parents and their children and reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect.

Truancy Intervention and Prevention Services: JJC provides a rapid three tier intervention and prevention service to children and youth that have been identified as being truant or at risk of being truant from school. JJC provides case management services to families whose children are experiencing problems with attending school on a regular and consistent basis. Our case managers work within schools in the Northwest region of Philadelphia. JJC truancy case managers work in collaboration with the identified schools, the Department of Human Services, and Regional Truancy Court to help eliminate the barriers impacting school attendance and adhering to Pennsylvania's Act 138.

Staff Spotlight
Wilma Sampson

Making a Difference Every Day



Ms. Wilma has built her caseload that includes some familiar faces; however, has also been flexible, open and understanding of the needs of incoming families by offering rapid engagement, flexible schedules and open communication.

Cheers to Ms. Wilma for helping to revitalize our Outpatient Program!

A Journey of Dedication

Ms. Wilma has been with JJC since 2009 lending her skills to both the Behavioral Health department and the parenting program. Ms. Wilma served as a Behavior Consultant for 17 years; up until the time that IBHS ended in June 2026. She was dearly loved and appreciated by children, families and schools alike. Mastery Charter School at Smedley particularly had a connection with Ms. Wilma as evidenced by years of collaboration and such a kind message upon her departure.

With the closing of IBHS, Ms. Wilma has accepted a new role as an Outpatient Therapist. This change was not an easy one for anyone involved! Ms. Wilma has accepted the challenge with grace, dedication and remarkable resilience. Ms. Wilma has welcomed new children and families to JJC with open arms. She made adjustments to have a "home base" on the second floor and furnished an office with pride; making the space a safe and friendly place for all.

A farewell to a friend...

As IBHS at JJC is ending, Master Charter School at Smedley presented Ms. Wilma with a gift from her current caseload of children. The School Social Worker provided the following message –

"With JJC's departure, we will also be saying goodbye to a team that has been an integral part of our school community. In particular, I would like to recognize Wilma Sampson, who has been a consistent and invaluable collaborator since JJC began providing IBHS services in our building. Wilma has worked tirelessly to deliver high-quality clinical support to students and families while partnering closely with staff to help students succeed in the classroom. Her contributions have left a lasting impact on our entire community."

Ryan Kelly
Licensed Social Worker (LSW)
Mastery Charter Schools – Smedley Elementary

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JJC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

OUTPATIENT THERAPY • MEDICATION MANAGEMEN

Here for You. Here to Help.

NO WAIT TIME FOR THERAPY!

SUPPORT. STRENGTH. SUCCESS.

We provide compassionate, high-quality behavioral health care for children, teens and families.

No matter where you are on your journey, we're here for every step.

Philadelphia Medicaid/Community Behavioral Health eligibility is required.

OUR SERVICES

OUTPATIENT THERAPY

Individual, family, and group therapy to help children, teens, and families build coping skills, improve well-being, and reach their goals.

MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

Comprehensive psychiatric evaluations and medication management provided by experienced providers focused on mental health and overall wellness.

TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENTS

Convenient and secure virtual appointments so you can access the care you need from the comfort of home.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

We're here to listen, support, and empower you.

CONTACT US TODAY

to schedule an appointment or learn more about our services.

100 W Coulter Street
Phila., PA 19144

215-849-2112 ext. 5221

jjcbh@juvenilejustice.org

Building brighter futures—together.

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Stronger Families Brighter Futures

Support Today for a Warmer Tomorrow



NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

LIHEAP may be able to help keep your home warm and safe.

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) provides cash grants to help eligible households with their home heating costs. **Grants do not have to be repaid** and are **sent directly to your utility company or fuel provider.**

Warm Homes Stronger Communities

Who Can Qualify?

- Renters **and** homeowners may qualify.
- You do **not** have to receive public assistance.
- You do **not** need to have an unpaid heating bill.
- Income limits apply.

Help is available. You are not alone.

2026 – 2027 Income Guidelines

Household Size	Annual Maximum Income
1	$23,940
2	$32,460
3	$40,980
4	$49,500
5	$58,020
6	$66,540
7	$75,060
8	$83,580
Each additional person	**Add $8,520**

Heating Emergency?

Crisis assistance may be available if you are experiencing:

- Broken heating equipment
- Leaking heating lines
- Lack of fuel
- A shut-off heating source

2026 – 27 Crisis season begins November 2, 2026.

Crisis assistance is for emergency situations only.

Apply through PA COMPASS

The easiest and fastest way to apply is online at:

compass.dhs.pa.gov

Need Help?

If you need assistance applying or have questions, please contact your local County Assistance Office or visit **compass.dhs.pa.gov** for more information.

People • Programs • Stronger Communities

Program information subject to Pennsylvania DHS updates.

Sometimes We Just Need the Words:

My Experience in Parenting Classes

By Migdalia Hernández Pérez



One of the things I enjoy most about facilitating parenting classes is that every group brings something different to the experience. I currently have two groups, Girard and Jardel, and although the groups are different, I look forward to spending time with both of them and seeing what each class will bring.

My Girard group meets with me on Wednesdays, and one of the most rewarding things is seeing how excited they are when I arrive. They are ready to learn, participate, and see what new topic I have brought for us to discuss. As a facilitator, that excitement means a lot to me because it tells me that they are not just attending a class, they are becoming involved in their own learning.

Recently, we had a discussion about empathy. I asked the group about empathy and was surprised to discover that the men did not really know what the word meant. Once I explained that empathy is being able to understand another person's feelings and, in a sense, put yourself in that person's shoes, something interesting happened.

They began to recognize it.

They had experienced empathy before. They had shown empathy toward others and had moments when they understood someone else's pain or situation. They simply did not know that what they were experiencing had a name.

That moment stayed with me.

Sometimes people already carry important qualities within themselves, but no one has ever given them the words to identify those qualities. Education can do that. It can help us recognize something that has been there all along.

My evening group at Jardel gives me a different but equally meaningful experience. It is a smaller group, which allows us to have very personal and open conversations. When we discuss different parenting topics, they are comfortable expressing their feelings and sharing their experiences. What I especially appreciate is the way they listen to one another.

They do not only speak; they listen.

They give one another feedback, share their thoughts, and allow other parents the opportunity to be heard. They get along well, and there is a sense of respect within the group. They also show excitement about coming to class, and that tells me that we have created an environment where learning can take place without judgment.

Working with both groups continues to remind me that parenting classes are about much more than providing information. Yes, we discuss parenting skills, communication, empathy, relationships, and many other important topics. But we are also creating a place where parents can reflect, speak, listen, learn from one another, and sometimes discover something about themselves.

I may walk into the classroom as the facilitator, but I also walk away having learned something from them.

Perhaps one of the greatest lessons from my experience with Girard and Jardel is this: sometimes people do not need us to tell them what they are missing. Sometimes they simply need someone to help them recognize what they already have inside of them, and give them the words to understand it.

That is what makes this work exciting for me. Every class is another opportunity to plant a seed, share knowledge, encourage a parent, and watch learning become something meaningful.

Rooted in story. Rising with purpose. Siempre creciendo.

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Serving children and families
in Philadelphia since 1976



JJC FAMILY SERVICES

SEEKING LOVING FOSTER PARENTS

OPEN YOUR HOME. CHANGE A LIFE. BUILD A FUTURE.

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT?

JJC is seeking foster parents of diverse backgrounds to open their homes and hearts.

YOU BRING THE LOVE, WE BRING THE SUPPORT.

NURTURING HOMES
Provide a safe, stable and loving environment.

COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT
We provide training, resources and ongoing support every step of the way.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Help children heal, grow and thrive in a caring home.

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROCESS AND HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

215-849-2112 X 5162
MMENSZAK@JUVENILEJUSTICE.ORG

TO INQUIRE, REACH OUT TO TRISH MENSZAK–DIRECTOR OF FOSTER CARE AND PERMANENCY SERVICES.

@JJCPHILLY

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WE DID IT!

1,000 STRONG!

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Serving children and families in Philadelphia since 1976

Thank You!

to our amazing followers, partners, supporters, youth, parents, and community!

Your follow *builds community.*

Your share *spreads hope.*

Together, we *empower futures.*

Philadelphia's youth. *Our mission.*

1,000 followers. *One amazing community.*

And we're just getting started!

#JJCPhilly | #PhillyYouth | #YouthEmpowerment | #BuildingBrighterFutures | #StrongerTogether

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

AERC Summer Recap



Kelly Laysears
Program Director

MAKING SUMMER COUNT

Summer at AERC was all about connection, growth, and new experiences. Throughout June, July, and August, youth participated in educational, therapeutic, recreational, and workforce-focused activities designed to keep them engaged while helping them work toward their individual goals. From creating music and getting active to preparing for employment and giving back through community service, there was something for everyone.

LEARN • CREATE • GROW

MUSIC & CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Youth explored their creativity through Rock to the Future's music production programming, along with social activities and recreational time. These activities provided opportunities to express themselves, build confidence, and develop positive relationships.



WELLNESS & PERSONAL GROWTH

AERC continued to focus on the whole person through Healthy Mind & Body programming, therapeutic groups, mental health check-ins, and wellness activities. Youth worked on self-awareness, emotional regulation, decision-making, conflict resolution, and healthy habits.



WORKFORCE & LIFE SKILLS

Youth received support with employment, workforce development, driver's education, PennDOT services, life skills, and other goals related to independence and future success.



FITNESS & RECREATION

Backyard Basketball, Planet Fitness, NARD Fitness, and other recreational activities encouraged teamwork, healthy choices, positive peer interaction, and—of course—a little fun.



COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Through community service, family engagement, group activities, and community-based experiences, youth had opportunities to build responsibility, strengthen relationships, and connect with their communities.





JJC Newsletter

@jjcphilly WWW.JUVENILEJUSTICE.ORG

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AERC CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

SEMAJ

KEEPING THE MOMENTUM

Going Semaj obtained his State ID, participated in YOACAP C2L, and secured a summer employment opportunity at 22nd Street Water Ice. He began working in July while continuing to work toward his learner's permit through driver's education.

CHEYEIR

MAKING MOVES

Cheyeir made strong progress toward his goals over the summer, including obtaining his State ID and learner's permit. He continued working toward employment and recently secured an interview with ShopRite, while also exploring additional workforce development and driver education opportunities.

JEREMIAH

BUILDING TOWARD HIS GOALS

Jeremiah made progress on several of his identified goals, including obtaining his State ID and completing community service hours. He also participated in programming focused on personal growth, conflict resolution, and preparing for greater independence.

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT: DORNEY PARK!

One of the biggest highlights of the summer was AERC's first trip to Dorney Park in August! Youth and staff enjoyed a day filled with rides, laughter, and positive experiences outside of the usual program setting.

The trip gave youth an opportunity to build relationships, practice positive social skills, and create memories with their AERC peers and staff.



MORE THAN A PROGRAM

At AERC, summer is about more than keeping youth busy. It's about creating meaningful opportunities for growth, connection, and success. Whether they were in a music studio, participating in a wellness group, working toward employment, playing basketball, completing community service, or enjoying a day at Dorney Park, youth had opportunities to learn new skills, challenge themselves, build confidence, and prepare for what's next.

A SUMMER OF OPPORTUNITY. A SEASON OF GROWTH.

Aftercare Evening Reporting Center (AERC)
Supporting youth. Building skills. Creating opportunities.

AERC

















Community Partners Making a Difference

Stronger Communities. Brighter Futures. Together.

At JJC Family Services, we are grateful for the many community partners who share our commitment to supporting children, youth, and families. Their generosity, dedication, and collaboration help us expand our resources and create more opportunities for the young people and families we serve. In this issue, we are proud to highlight two of our valued partners.

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

We Love to Give

Making a Difference Through Compassion and Community

At JJC Family Services, we recognize that strong communities are built through partnerships with organizations that share our commitment to supporting individuals and families.

We Love to Give is a Philadelphia-based organization founded by Shanna and Omar Simmons. Driven by a passion for service, they work to uplift individuals and families by providing essential resources, including food, clothing, personal care items, education, and encouragement. Their mission is rooted in compassion, dignity, and the belief that everyone deserves a helping hand.

We were delighted to have We Love to Give participate in our 10th Annual Community Day celebration on October 3, 2026. Their presence and support helped make the day a success and reflected the spirit of collaboration and community connection that makes events like these so meaningful.

We thank Shanna, Omar, and the entire We Love to Give team for their commitment to serving others and for being an important part of the JJC Family Services community.



LEARN MORE:
www.welovetogive.org

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Cradles to Crayons PHILADELPHIA

Providing Essentials. Inspiring Hope.



At JJC Family Services, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive. Through meaningful community partnerships, we're able to extend our support beyond our programs and help meet the everyday needs of the children and families we serve.

Cradles to Crayons Philadelphia is dedicated to ending children's clothing insecurity by providing essential items that support their health, comfort, and well-being. Their mission is to provide children from birth through age 12 with the essentials they need to thrive — at home, at school, and at play.

Through our partnership, Cradles to Crayons provides JJC Family Services with clothing and other essential supplies that we can distribute to children and families in need. These contributions help alleviate financial burdens while ensuring that young people have access to necessities that promote confidence, dignity, and a sense of belonging.

We are grateful to Cradles to Crayons for their generosity, compassion, and continued commitment to making a difference in the lives of Philadelphia's children.

Clothing | Shoes | Backpacks | Coats | Other Essentials

LEARN MORE:
www.cradlestocrayons.org/philadelphia/

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Recipe Corner

Good Food. Good Company.

Simple Ingredients. Big Flavor.

Pineapple Stuffing

From the kitchen of
Christy Baker, Truancy Supervisor
A sweet and comforting classic!



A little sweetness goes a long way!

Ingredients



1 cup sugar



1 stick of butter



4 eggs



5 slices white bread



1 can (1 lb. 4 oz) crushed pineapples, drained

Simple ingredients. Delicious results!

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F and grease 1/2 quart casserole dish.
2. In a bowl, cream together butter and sugar.
3. Beat in the eggs one at a time.
4. Then stir in the pineapple.
5. Cube slices of bread and add to pineapple mixture.
6. Spray casserole dish with non-stick spray & transfer mixture to the dish.
7. Sprinkle top with cinnamon sugar.
8. Bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Enjoy!

Recipes That Bring Us Together

FOOD • FAMILY • COMMUNITY

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JOIN OUR TEAM!

Make a Difference!



Employee Referral Program

Employees can earn cash through the Employee Referral Program!

$300 for every employee referral that completes 6 months of employment.

Complete the Employee Referral Form and submit with the candidate's resume to Human Resources at JJCHR@juvenilejustice.org.

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It's Time to FALL BACK!

Same Time. A Brighter Tomorrow. ♡

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 1
2026

Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour!

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 AM on **Sunday, November 1, 2026.** Clocks "fall back" to 1:00 AM.



A Few Friendly Reminders:

- Set your clocks back **1 hour.**
- Check and change the batteries in your **smoke detectors.**
- Update your **car clocks** (if needed).
- Don't forget other devices like microwaves, ovens, and alarm systems.
- Enjoy the **extra hour of rest!**

More Time for What Matters ♡

STRONGER FAMILIES | BRIGHTER FUTURES | STRONGER COMMUNITIES

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JJC PLAYLIST

WHAT WE'RE LISTENING TO

Music connects us, motivates us, and sometimes gets us through the day!

For this edition of the JJC Newsletter, we're turning up the volume and sharing some of the songs our staff have been enjoying. From old-school favorites to songs that inspire, energize, or simply put us in a good mood, the JJC Playlist celebrates the music that keeps us moving.

NOW PLAYING...

SONG	ARTIST	SUBMITTED BY
Native New Yorker	Odyssey	Migdalia Hernandez
Girl from the Gutter	Kina	Sydney Nicholson
Like It Was	Brent Faiyaz	Canaan Sims
Chosin' Texas	Ella Langley	Trish Menszak
Opalite	Taylor Swift	Trish Menszak
Coleccionado Acustica	Fer Vazquez y Jaz	Yaitza Figueroa
Weltita	Bad Bunny y Chuwi	Yaitza Figueroa
Still Glowing	Miami Horror	Dyana Jean

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CERC CENTRAL

Celebrating Our Grand Opening!



JJC Family Services recently celebrated the grand opening of our new **North Central Community Evening Resource Center (CERC)!** The event brought together youth, families, community partners, law enforcement, and local leaders to celebrate this exciting expansion of services.

Our new CERC provides **youth ages 10–17** with a safe and welcoming space to enjoy structured activities, a home-cooked meal, community outings, and positive connections with caring adults.

We're excited to strengthen our presence in North Philadelphia and continue supporting youth and families in the community.



Building Confidence



Commitment to Community



Engagement in Action


PPD






Checkers
Checkers


I CAN
do hard things
I AM



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CERC Presents...

Youth Voices Matter!



Youth Voices Matter!

JJC Family Services' Community Evening Resource Center (CERC) is partnering with Philadelphia's 22nd Police District for a Youth Town Hall on **Tuesday, October 27.**

The event will provide young people ages **10–17** with an opportunity to speak openly, share their perspectives, ask questions, and discuss issues that matter to them and their community.

The Youth Town Hall is designed to encourage positive communication and strengthen connections between young people and local law enforcement.
All youth ages 10–17 are welcome, and refreshments and snacks will be provided.

CERC
COMMUNITY EVENING RESOURCE CENTER

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POLICE AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NIGHT

FREESTYLE BOARD GAME NIGHT

Join us for a night of games, fun, and community!

Youth, families, and local police officers are invited to come together for an evening of board games, good conversation, and positive connections.

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 22ND

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

NW CERC
100 W. Coulter Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144
215-849-2112



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10th Annual COMMUNITY DAY 2026



Celebrating Our 10th Annual Community Day!

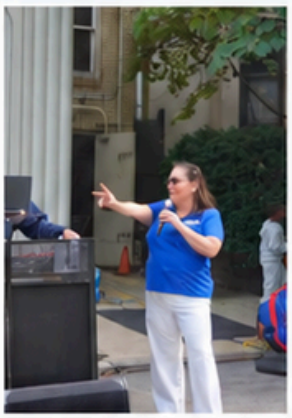
JJC Family Services was proud to celebrate our 10th Annual Community Day on Saturday, October 3! The event brought together families, neighbors, community partners, local law enforcement, staff, and friends for a wonderful afternoon of connection, resources, food, music, giveaways, and fun.

Community Day is one of our favorite opportunities to connect with the people and organizations who help make our community stronger. We are incredibly grateful to our community partners and vendors who joined us, our staff and volunteers who helped make the day possible, and our neighbors for their continued support and cooperation.

Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make our 10th Annual Community Day a success. We look forward to continuing to build stronger connections in the community throughout the year!













To view the video recap
scan the QR code.



















JJC

Serving children and families in Philadelphia since 1976

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SUPPORT

Make a Difference Today

At JJC Family Services, every contribution fuels our mission to uplift youth and families across Philadelphia. From after-school programs and mentorship to community events and essential resources, your support helps us provide a safe space, build brighter futures, and create lasting change.

Your donation isn't just a gift — it's an investment in hope, resilience, and opportunity.

Join us in strengthening our community, one child and one family at a time.

WAYS TO DONATE

Support JJC — Your Way

- **Online Donations:** Give securely through our website with just a few clicks.
- **By Mail:** Send a check payable to JJC of Philadelphia directly to our office.
- **In-Kind Contributions:** Donate new coats, sneakers, school supplies, or other essential items for our drives.
- **Sponsorships & Partnerships:** Collaborate with us to support programs, events, and community outreach.
- **Workplace Giving & Matching Gifts:** Double your impact by checking if your employer matches charitable contributions.

No matter how you give, every contribution directly supports our mission to empower young people and strengthen families.