



Happy National Foster Care Month

This year's theme is **"Strengthening Minds. Uplifting Families."** It emphasizes that supporting the mental health needs of children in foster care, as well as their caregivers, is equally important as their physical health and safety.

To learn more about the campaign, [click here.](#)



Announcements



We are thrilled to announce that Creative Community Services has been awarded a \$50,000 grant by CareSource, a nationally recognized non-profit dedicated to transforming health care.

The grant is for preparing youth to transition out of foster care with the skills needed to successfully become as independent as possible. This includes job coaching, support groups, skill-based workshops, and cultural and recreational opportunities for our youth.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

11,000



Did you know?

That's how many kids are in Georgia's foster care system. **CCS averages around 40 therapeutic foster homes a year.** We need your help in providing more safe homes to children in need.

If you know someone who is interested in becoming a therapeutic foster parent, **let us know.**

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES!

We are so happy to have you here at CCS.



Lisa and Maurice
Newman
**Therapeutic Foster
Parents**



Sandra McCornell
**Therapeutic Foster
Parent**



Victor Rodriguez
**Therapeutic Foster
Parent**

THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE



Success Story

Congratulations to our foster youth Richard who recently landed his first job at Chick-fil-a! His first day went extremely well and we wish him all the best.

Flashback to April: Spring Break 2023



This year, our youth had a fantastic spring break filled with an interactive puppet show, a family-friendly medieval tournament, and thrilling rollercoaster rides.

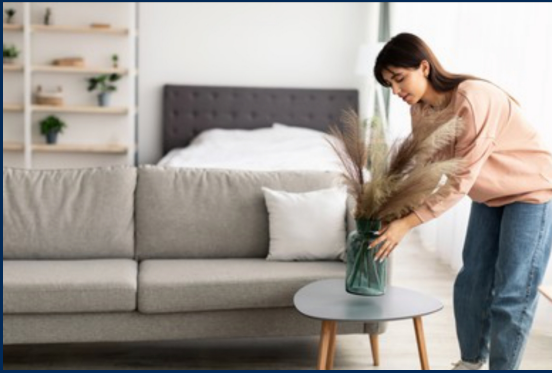
A big thank you goes out to our education and events manager, Lauren Taylor, and the entire team for creating these unforgettable memories with our foster youth.

Autism Awareness Month



April was Autism Awareness Month. To show support, our staff proudly wore autism awareness and tie-dye shirts to celebrate the beauty found in the diverse minds of our community.

TEEN PARENT CONNECTION



Home Decor Needed!

We are accepting new or gently used home decor for our young parents who have achieved getting a place on their own or who have entered an Independent Living Program.

Decor helps to make their space feel more like home! Please contact rgrice@ccsgeorgia.org to donate.

REFERRALS

Know an expecting or parenting individual ages 13-21 in DFCS care? We want to help! [Click here for a referral form.](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

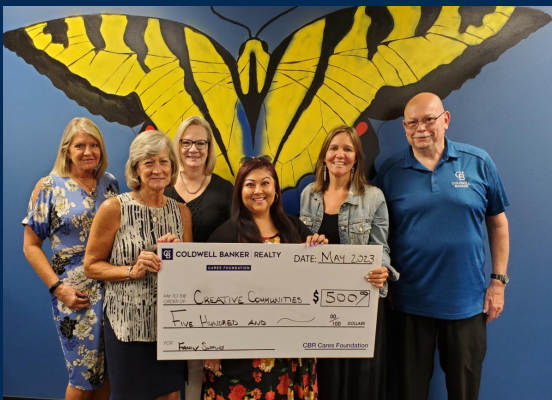
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

Our Director of DEI, Kalie Giovanni, attended Gwinnett County Chamber's Third Annual Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit with 220 other business professionals and community leaders to learn best practices and current trends for creating an inclusive work environment.

She connected with local leaders about the importance of therapeutic foster care and ongoing therapeutic care throughout an individual's lifetime. You can [learn more about the summit here.](#)



THANK YOU, COLDWELL BANKER



Thank you to Coldwell Banker for the donation of \$500.00!

During the holiday season, this incredible group also assists us in wrapping presents for our individuals in care. Their generosity means everything to us and to the community we serve.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

foster youth and adults



May

Kayvin C.
Jonaiel R.
Matthew W.
Tarshauna G.
Connie G.

June

Sarah A.
Tayshaun S.
Barbara M.
Evan G.
Marquess G.
Jonathan S.
Mary L.
Endre C.
Jamaria P.
Joel B.

**Donate Towards A
Birthday Gift**

Let's stay connected!



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