

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, June 8, 2023 7:30 to 9:30 AM Woodwinds in Branford

With Keynote Speaker **Steve Pemberton** Chief Human **Resources Officer of** Workhuman & Best Selling Author

Since 2020, we have been developing Connecticut Integrated Care for Kids (CT InCK), a free HUSKY Health CT program led by Clifford Beers aimed at improving access to care and services for youth and their families living in New Haven.

Families that qualify will receive an Intensive Care Coordinator (ICC) to help them identify their physical and mental health care needs, coordinate appointments, and assist them with navigating health systems to receive more efficient care. We are excited to announce this innovative program will be launching this year!

Here's what our CT InCK team has been up to:

- Establishing relationships with providers throughout greater New Haven who will be providing ICCs to families
- Developing training modules and planning engagement events for providers
- · Creating marketing materials and a Welcome Packet for families so they understand how CT Inck works.

We are very excited to begin CT InCK services on March 1, 2023. Shoutout to our amazing team for all of their hard work! To learn more visit our website at www.cliffordbeers.org/ct-inck.







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www.cliffordbeersccc.org



Health Partners.

A Note From Melanie

Dear Friends,

I am happy to share some of the great work that has been happening since we last communicated with you.

First, our Mobile Crisis team seamlessly managed the transition to providing crisis services 24/7. This change became effective on January 2, 2023. The Mobile Crisis leadership has done an amazing job preparing for this Federal mandate. There has been an extensive on-call staffing plan devised and we are continuing to recruit clinicians and mobile partners. The transition to 24/7 crisis services was an enormous undertaking and we are pleased that we are now able to support the community in this way.

Second, our Trauma informed Schools (TIS) program in New Haven is fully staffed, both the clinical and Care Coordination programs. The increased collaboration has benefitted the families greatly. All Clinical and Care Coordination positions have been filled at both Hamden High and Hamden Middle School. This contract is new for us this year, but the CB staff has been welcomed with open arms and Hamden school staff are excited to have these additional support for their families.

Third, groups and requests for in-person services continue to grow in our Outpatient department. At the end of November the Healthy Choices group ended with a fun session paired with ASD Fitness. In January we saw the addition of two new art groups for youth. There will also be a weekly music group and an ASD LGBTQ+ group. Conversations with Development and outside organizations are being had to try to increase our ability to reach new clients in need of group and/or other ASD services.

Finally, as you may have seen in the news, there has been an increased level of violence in the communities we serve. We have been offering extra support to our communities by increasing neighborhood canvasses, increasing support staff in schools following events and providing support services at funerals and vigils. The neighborhood canvasses have included partners from a number of Hamden and New Haven departments and other community based organizations. Follow-up services have included referrals for counseling services, providing families with ring doorbell alarms, assisting families with moving costs, and CBCCC Care Coordination referrals. Our Community Healing Support Team (CHST), Mobile Crisis Team, School Team and CT INCK Team have all worked together to provide coverage for these increased community needs.

As you can see, much great work is being done and I am incredibly thankful to YOU, our donors and friends, as well as the amazing staff at CBCCC for all that they do. I am looking forward to keeping you updated about all our great work as it progresses.

All my best,





A New Path for Neveah

Neveah, who is 7, was referred to CBCCC due to aggression and disruptive behaviors. She had a pre-existing diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). When Neveah was assigned to me, we started with therapeutic play. As therapy progressed, I began questioning her ASD diagnosis. As I noticed her actions in our sessions, I felt her behaviors could be better explained by ADHD and a speech disorder. I collaborated with our evaluator to ensure proper therapeutic treatment and that she received appropriate support at school. By shifting our sessions both with Neveah and her caregivers to an ADHD approach, overtime we started to see Neveah exhibiting less impulsivity, more self-control, and enhanced regulation abilities in therapy, at school, and at home. Her caregivers and teachers report she is more calm and much happier. Neveah is now noticeably more confident, and her bubbly personality as a typical 7 year-old is really shining through. I'm so glad our journey arrived at a proper diagnosis to give Neveah the care that worked best for her.

- Clifford Beers Clinical Psychologist

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: LUZ RAMOS-ORTEGA

When we think of Luz, the first word we think of is "community". Luz came to us as a Parent Navigator, then a Community Support Worker. Today, she serves CBCCC as an essential member of our CT InCK team as a Community Health Organizer helping to respond to community needs and connect people to our services. Learn more about what inspires her work.

How did you first come to work for CBCCC?

I was working with children in the mental health field when I came across a "Wraparound" training from CBCCC, about incorporating a network of support systems, with the family at the center of their care. This really resonated with me as someone who always tried to include the whole family in my care. I had worked with Care Coordinators with my own family, so I knew how effective wraparound care was on a personal level. I wanted to work with entire families, so when a position opened, I knew it was perfect for me.

What does the concept of "wraparound" care mean to you?

Giving a voice to families. Families need to be in the center of their care. We are listening to what families have to say; and I listen to them both as a fellow parent and as a professional. CBCCC is a place where a family has the space to voice their concerns and we listen. Families deserve to feel in charge of what happens to them with their care, especially when they are struggling with so much.



As a long time New Haven resident, what do you feel like New Haven families need most?

I've lived in the Hill neighborhood for 12 years and in Fair Haven before that. I've seen that access to care is so important. It's not just about things like transportation, but connecting families to services in a seamless manner and not making them jump through hoops. You never know what a person/family is going through to be late to an appointment, for example. Organizations have turned families away for these reasons, and we need to break down those barriers to care. There are so many resources available to families in New Haven, but it can be confusing for families because they don't know who to turn to for what. That is why I love my work, because I help families navigate all of this so they don't have to do it alone.

What values do you bring to work with you every day?

Compassion. Every person and family needs someone to be there for them in a compassionate way. Also, this prayer from St. Francis Assisi, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace..." I was put on this earth to spread peace. A little kindness goes such a long way.

Thank you Luz, for ten years of service and for spreading love and laughter in the CBCCC community!

OUR MOBILE CRISIS TEAM IS NOW 24/7! Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MCIS)
seamlessly transitioned to offering services
24/7 to our community effective January 2,
2023. Our MCIS team has done an amazing
job preparing for this Federal mandate. As of
February 6 we are only two clinicians short of being
fully staffed. This is exciting given the current
national staffing shortages in the nonprofit sector.
Shoutout to MCIS for all of your hard work and
everything you do for families!