



**PCE**  
Building Resilience, Restoring Hope

# PCE Press

July 2022 | Issue 7

## NJEA Conference is Back in Full Action!

Partnership for Children of Essex joins forces with Bergen's Promise CMO, Circle of Care for Families and Children of Passaic CMO, and Capitol County Children's Collaborative of Mercer County CMO in participating in the upcoming NJEA conference in Atlantic City, NJ in November 2022. As a team, PCE and our partners will be providing resources to educators and administrators from across the state on how the Care Management Organization is able to support the needs of families and youth of New Jersey.

Thank you to our Community Partners who work hard every day for our families and youth. A special thank you to United Community Corporation and Nassan's Place for their continued partnership with PCE. Together we were able to have our families and youth become united, supported, provided with resources and filled with sense of community.

## DREAMS

That's a wrap on the DREAMS 2021-2022 Initiative! Partnership for Children of Essex, along with the Family Support Organization of Essex, completed a year-long project with



New Jersey Regional Day School and Marion P. Thomas of Newark Public Schools to implement the Nurtured Heart Approach within classrooms. Both schools embraced the Nurtured Heart Approach, which included school staff members becoming certified trainers in the Nurtured Heart Approach as well as hosting caregiver workshops to remind caregivers of their greatness while learning about how the approach can be effective at home. These schools received sensory tools, polaroid cameras, workbooks, and so much more! Some schools extended their commitment to becoming a Nurtured Heart Approach school onto their social media!



Our journey does not stop here as PCE will continue to work with New Jersey Regional Day School in creating a "Greatness Room" for all school staff members.



## Getting to Know Our Community Partners: Empower U



### **How long has your agency been around & what populations does your agency specialize working with?**

*Empower U. has provided services within the Children's System of Care since 2015 with one mission in mind – to create a strong workforce of clinically licensed clinicians who gained skill through the System of Care for the future, all while providing a high level of service to all children and families today.*

### **Does your agency/staff have specific areas of expertise that aid in their work with youth and families?**

*Empower U. prides itself of hosting a widely diverse staff with a wide variety of specialties as well as a support structure that allows clinicians to explore their interests and develop specialties within our eco-system. Positioned as a learning organization for those who aspire to reach clinical licensure within their respective disciplines, Empower U. strives to continuously support children, families, and communities through providing innovative and sustainable empowerment and therapeutic programming.*

### **Are there currently any special programs your agency offers to the community?**

*Empower U. services include, but are not limited to, ABA therapy, therapeutic respite care, after school programs for youths on the Autism Spectrum, Behavioral Assistance and Intensive In-Community services, and most recently outpatient child and adult therapeutic services.*

### **Does your agency have any exciting upcoming programs or events that you would like for us to mention?**

*Empower U. Is extremely proud to have teamed up with PCE and the City of Newark to host the 1st Annual World Autism Day event in the City of Newark. Empower U. plans to continue expanding its therapeutic after school programs through strategic partnerships as well as continuing to expand outpatient programming to allow more families to stay connected with clinicians they may have previously worked with as IIC's, should they need the support.*

**Youth Highlight:  
Meet Rita**

When she was referred for PCE Wraparound Services, depression, self-injurious and suicidal behaviors were taking their toll on Rita's\* academic performance. She was often very unhappy, severely unmotivated, and was not attending school or completing assignments. She had fallen far behind in her schoolwork, putting her academic standing in jeopardy.

As she began to trust her Care Manager, Rita eventually revealed that she had been sexually abused as a child. The emotional impact of that experience was significantly impacting her moods and ability to function throughout the day. Participating in PCE referrals for Intensive In-Community services and a partial hospitalization program for youth, Rita worked hard and learned how to manage the impact of her traumatic experience.

When she was ready to return to school, Rita's Child Family Team successfully advocated for her to transfer from her previous high school to one that offered a credit recovery program. Rita began attending school regularly, completed seven credit recovery classes in addition to her required curriculum, and graduated this June! Rita has been transitioned from PCE care management to outpatient services, has obtained a job working with children, and is doing well. She is looking to the future and aspires to attend college and start a career working with animals.

\*names have been changed for privacy reasons

HAS YOUR CHILD BEEN STRUGGLING AT HOME, IN SCHOOL, OR IN THE COMMUNITY IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS
- DEVELOPMENTAL/INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES
  - SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE
  - HIGH RISK BEHAVIORS

**PCE PROVIDES CARE COORDINATION AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF YOUR CHILD BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4-21.**

**To learn more visit us at [www.pcenj.org](http://www.pcenj.org) or call 973-323-3000  
Press option 5 to speak to a PCE representative**

**\*\*For immediate crisis assistance, contact PerformCare at 1-877-652-7624\*\***



## What Does Working for PCE Mean to You?



Kashima, Wraparound Coach

*"Being a part of the PCE family means being a part of a resilient team striving to make a positive change in our community and in the lives of our youth and families."*

Pamela, Senior Care Manager

*"Being a part of the PCE family means being part of a team that contributes to helping and advocating for the families we work with."*



**WE'RE HIRING!**

Make a difference in the lives of youth and families

Check out our job openings on [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com)

Learn more about us at [www.pcenj.org](http://www.pcenj.org)

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## Career Fairs

PCE continues to grow to meet the need of the youth and families we serve. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming career fairs!

September 15, 2022 from 2pm–5pm  
at Seton Hall University – Bethany Hall

September 16, 2022 from 11am–4pm  
at Rutgers Jersey Mike's Arena,  
25 Hospital Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854

Partnership for Children of Essex | [www.pcenj.org](http://www.pcenj.org)

*Working in partnership with youth, families, and the community, Partnership for Children of Essex (PCE) creates a pathway for hope and improves the quality of life for youth and their families in Essex County.*

