



**PCE**  
Building Resilience, Restoring Hope

# PCE Press

April 2022 | Issue 6

## Join Us!

PCE will be hosting our Pathway to Success Resource Fair on April 12th at the Bloomfield Library.



## Save the Date!

PCE is excited to co-sponsor the NJ Youth Transition Conference for the second year. This year, the conference will be held from October 3-7, 2022.

The NJ Youth Transition Conference was inspired by Khalia, a 23-year old young adult residing in NJ who experiences an intellectual disability. Khalia was uninformed of services available to her in the youth and adult worlds, was not aware that she was entitled to an education until age 21 and had been without any service or supports for five years before receiving help to navigate

## PCE Leads

### the DREAMS Initiative

Partnership for Children of Essex (PCE) along with the Family Support Organization (FSO) have joined forces with Essex County Schools on a DREAMS Initiative project for the 2021-2022 school year. PCE and FSO are working closely with Speedway School, NJ Regional Day School, Central Office, Marion P. Thomas Charter High School, PAC Academy, and STEAM Academy, mentoring staff on how to implement the Nurtured Heart Approach within the school community throughout the year. The Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) consists of a set of strategies that assists youth in further developing their self-regulation and has been found effective with youth of all ages. It focuses on transforming the way youth perceive themselves, their caregivers, and the world around them.

Throughout this journey together we will look to achieve goals specified by each school which may include increasing school attendance, decreasing triggers and behaviors, and building connections with students. PCE and FSO are honored to be a part of this journey in creating a better tomorrow and connecting with our community in remembering their why and identifying their greatness.

[Learn More About the Nurtured Heart Approach](#)

the transition process.

For more information, see below.

NJ Youth Transition Conference

## Connecting the Pieces Together: Our 1st Annual Autism Awareness Family Fun & Resource Day

April 2<sup>nd</sup> is National Autism Awareness Day. This year, PCE partnered with Nassan's Place, Empower U and the City of Newark to host our first annual Autism Awareness Family Fun & Resource Day, "Connecting the Pieces Together". The event took place at Mulberry Park from 11:00 am-3:00pm on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. We were excited to be joined by Mayor Ras Baraka as our guest speaker, Councilman Larry Crump and DJ Wallah. With over 400 people in attendance, we were able to bring our community together in awareness and acceptance for an amazing day!



### Community Partner Highlight: Nassan's Place

PCE had the privilege to partner with with Nassan's place for our first annual Autism Awareness Family Fun & Resource Day.

Nassan's Place is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2012 to provide access to affordable educational and recreational programs, support services and other resources for children and families affected by autism in and around under-served inner-city communities.

Nassan's Place was started by an autism mom, Nadine Wright-Arsubakrr and inspired by her son, Nassan. This year, Nassan's Place celebrates 10 years of helping to enrich and make a difference in the lives of children and families affected by autism.

For additional information visit [www.nassansplace.org](http://www.nassansplace.org)

Meet Patrick

Patrick was referred to PCE due to increased conflict in the home, where Patrick was struggling with following rules and showing more physical aggression towards others. Patrick was also having difficulty processing the recent death of his mother. Patrick's Care Manager coordinated a Child Family Team meeting, where the team was able to collaborate to develop strategies that Patrick and his family could use. The Care Manager authorized an in-home therapist who focused on working with Patrick to teach him the stages of grief. Patrick is now able to recognize what stage of grief he is in (acceptance) and better process his feelings. The Care Manager also introduced the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) to Patrick's father, and as he implemented NHA and positive reinforcement in the home, Patrick showed a significant behavioral change. Through the collaboration of the Child Family Team, Patrick now has the skills to process his emotions and he and his father are now able to communicate better.

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\*\***



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TEAM!**

We're looking for  
professionals  
dedicated to  
improving the  
lives of Essex  
County youth



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