

KEEPING UP WITH CSC!

**SEPTEMBER
2024
COMEBACK
EDITION**

A Message From Our Executive Director



PENELOPE GRIFFITH, LICSW

“WE’RE BACK!”

Welcome back to our newsletter! We've been quiet for a while, but we're excited to reconnect with you. This season, we have many new initiatives and updates to share. From exciting programs and events to fresh opportunities for engagement, we're committed to bringing you the latest and greatest from our community. Stay tuned for all the wonderful things we have in store!

NEWS INSIDE



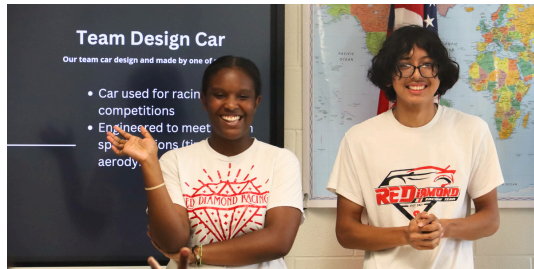
- WELCOME BACK
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- BITE - SIZED METRICS
- OUR WORK
- WE'RE HIRING!

SUMMER OF FUN >>>



SAFE PASSAGE, SAFE BLOCKS - SUMMER CAMP BONANZA

Collaborative Solutions for Communities (CSC) is dedicated to ensuring at-risk youth under 21 have safe passage to and from schools in Wards 1, 3, 4, 5, and 8. Our efforts prioritize violence de-escalation, fostering strong community relationships, and enhancing the overall safety and well-being of young people.



TRAILBLAZING TALENTS

This summer, we welcomed a group of outstanding interns whose enthusiasm, fresh perspectives, and valuable contributions greatly enhanced our organization. Their hard work and innovative ideas helped us achieve our goals, improve our processes, and make a lasting impact on our projects.

WONDERFUL BEGINNINGS

We are thrilled to expand our executive team with the addition of **Mrs. Antoinette S. Murphy**, as Chief Operating Officer and **Mr. Carlton Sauls**, as Director of Community Services.

Antoinette brings more than 15 years of business expertise, leading teams in the areas of information technology, financial management, human resources, facilities, corporate communication, and project management. She's a purpose-driven collaborative leader who coaches staff to greatness. She's committed to improving workplaces and has a keen eye for aligning strategic goals with diverse talent and modernized systems, that yields a high-performance work culture and drives engagement which positively impacts the bottom line.

Carlton brings more than 30 years of experience developing and leading results-oriented teams. His professional career has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for those that he has served and supported in diverse roles within the federal and state government, non-profit, higher education, and private sector. This work has included working with typical and at-risk youth, college students, and individuals with special needs as a direct provider as well as program manager.



bite - sized metrics

- Helped 700+ children avoid entering foster care.
- Provided services to 200+ clients to prevent homelessness.
- 100+ Workforce Development clients in retained employment for 90+ days.
- Deescalated 150+ incidents through Safe Passage, Safe Blocks.
- Engaged 3000+ community members in violence prevention campaigns.
- Assisted 9000+ students in safely commuting to and from school.

1300

clients served in FY24!

OUR WORK >>>

FRSP - TAMAR PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

This summer saw the start of the Family Rehousing Stabilization Program's (FRSP), Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health and Recovery (TAMAR) peer support groups, focused on the TAMAR curriculum. These all-women groups offered a safe space to share experiences, connect, and bond. Through the group process, participants found collaboration, enhanced creative expression and empowerment for better life skills.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - LIFE SKILLS GROUP

Our Workforce Life Skills Group focused on developing essential life skills to tackle everyday problems and engaged participants in guided exercises to highlight their strengths. Additionally, the group emphasized employability, providing valuable skills and knowledge to enhance job readiness.

SUMMER SOCCER CLINICS

This summer, our soccer clinic trained students in soccer skills while teaching valuable lessons in teambuilding and sportsmanship. After months of dedication and hard work, the students' efforts paid off when they won the UDC 4-H Summer Soccer championship, showcasing their growth both on and off the field.




BE PART OF THE CHANGE. JOIN OUR TEAM!

Visit www.wearecsc.org/careers to view our open positions.

GOOD LUCK SCHOLARS! >>>



BACK TO SCHOOL



As the new school year begins, we here at Collaborative Solutions for Communities (CSC) hope you all had a wonderful summer filled with joy and relaxation. Wishing all the kids a fantastic year ahead full of learning, growth, and new adventures!

TESTIMONIALS



Over the summer, Safe Passage, Safe Blocks were thrilled to host a variety of summer camps for youth. These included the challenging but engaging chess club, the high-stakes E-Sports club, the educating entrepreneurship club, among many others! Here is what our youth had to say:

"I liked the activities that we did, I would like to see more activities in the future. It was cool, I learned so much. **Yes, I would definitely love to see this camp in the future and I would bring my friends.** I learned that building character is how you act and that's how you want to be like all the time."

-Michael, 16, Ballou High School

"I liked the activities and when we went to places. I enjoyed the part where we spoke about healthy relationships. **I would come back next year with my friends.**"

-Trinity, 15, McKinley Tech High School

"I like how the Entrepreneur camp taught me how to manage my money, and how the E-Sports camp taught me to get less mad about losing. The **best** part about the Entrepreneur camp was **making my product** and the best part about the Esports camp were **the games.** I **learned that having a team is better than being alone.**"

-Alvin Abbott





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FOR
COMMUNITIES
CHANGING LIVES, TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

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