



## WCS Connection September 2018



*From the desk of the WCS Executive Director:*

### WCS & the United Way

Your gift to the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County 2019 Campaign makes a world of difference to those we serve!

WCS has been a United Way supported agency for almost 80 years; during this time a number of our programs have been launched or expanded thanks to their generous support. In 1940, when WCS was still known as the Society for the Friendless, with the help of United Way, we were able to expand our mission while changing our name to the Wisconsin Service Association. In 1981, with the assistance of United Way, WCS launched a community based program to serve difficult to place and unemployed persons with criminal records.



Today, almost another 40 years later, United Way supports five areas of WCS programming: Center for Driver's License Recovery and Employability, Mediation and Restorative Justice Center, Employment and Training Services, services for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness, and services to support school attendance and academic achievement all of which positively impact the lives of thousands of individuals in our community annually. Like many organizations in southeast Wisconsin, WCS would not be in a position to fully actualize our mission without support from United Way.

On a personal level, my wife and I have supported United Way for over 35 years and we look forward to again pledging this year. I ask all of you to join us in supporting United Way. Through your generosity, we all win and each person in our community will have chance at success.

The picture at the top of the newsletter features a WCS employee from one of the agency's Behavioral Health

Clarence Johnson

Services programs working with a program participant.  
Several Behavioral Health Services programs receive  
funding from the United Way.



## Chad Meinholdt Joins WCS as Division Administrator

WCS has experienced significant growth during the past two years which has required the creation of the new Division of Specialized Services. The agency is happy to announce that Mr. Chad Meinholdt has been hired as the Division Administrator for this new division. Chad joins WCS after serving in high-level leadership positions with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division and La Causa, Inc. Chad is a driven professional, who is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals in our community, especially children, youth and families. He is described as an innovator and he was instrumental in accelerating the expansion of community based mental health services with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health. Chad joins the committed and passionate leaders at WCS, all of whom are focused on positively affecting outcomes in criminal justice and corrections, behavioral health, youth services and workforce development. In his new role, Chad will work with other leaders at WCS to launch the new Bakari House program which is a Residential Care Center that will serve 13 to 17 year old males who are at risk of a correctional placement and have concomitant mental health issues. Bakari House will use an Integrated Treatment Model along with Multi-Systemic Therapy to bring about positive change with youth and their families. We are delighted that Chad has joined the WCS team and look forward to the influence that he will have in how WCS carries out its mission.



## WCS Now Offers Wraparound Services: The OYEAH Program

This year WCS implemented the OYEAH (Older Youth and Emerging Adult Heroes) Program under a new contract with Wraparound Milwaukee. OYEAH is designed to support older youth and young adults ages 16 through 23 who may be experiencing emotional and behavioral challenges to successfully transition to adulthood. This is a voluntary program and Transitional Coordinators engage with the youth and young adults to help them develop their Futures Plan. The Plan represents an individual's vision of adulthood and encourages them to explore their needs and strengths and what support may be necessary for them to achieve their hopes and dreams. Several of the "Life Domains" addressed are: Mental Health; Transition to Adulthood; Educational/Vocational; Living Situation; Health and Well-being; Family; Legal/Restoration; Safety; Social/Recreational among others. The program has grown to four staff members and is located on the first floor of the WCS Administrative Office Building.



## Share Your Heart!

*Heart of Canal Street* is Potawatomi Hotel & Casino's signature community program that raises funds for children's charities – and Project Excel, a program of WCS, is in the running to be a beneficiary. This marks its 25th anniversary.

*Heart of Canal Street* has raised more than \$18

million for hundreds of area children's charities since 1994. The program honors the Potawatomi tradition of nurturing younger generations so they grow to lead healthy, productive lives.

Half of each \$3 or \$7 Canal Street Bingo game purchased goes to the *Heart of Canal Street* fund, which totaled more than \$1.1 million last year! Share your heart by playing the Canal Street Bingo game now through December 13. Visit [paysbig.com/heart](http://paysbig.com/heart) to learn more.



## Career Opportunities at WCS

WCS is currently looking for experienced individuals to fill the following positions:

### Residential Care Center (Youth) - Resident Care Worker

A Resident Care Worker will be responsible for the direct care, nurturing, and supervision of the youth at the new WCS Residential Care Center. They will provide group educational and recreational activities and serve as a mentor and role model for the youth. Applicants must be at least 21 years old and possess a high school diploma.

### LPN or RN (part time)

This position provides health assessments and basic medical care for adults who are chronically homeless and suffer from alcoholism. Applicants need to be highly skilled and knowledgeable in the treatment of human responses to actual and potential AODA and physical health conditions.

Visit our website to learn more!

## Did You Know?

From 1950 to 2018, WCS has received over **\$19 million dollars** from the United Way!



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*Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. (WCS) advocates for justice and community safety, providing innovative opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity.*

WCS is a 501(c) 3 non-profit agency that provides services in southeastern Wisconsin. WCS has been serving the community successfully for over 100 years.



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