



3rd Quarter Newsletter

Q&A With Executive Director: Sharon McNeil

Congratulations to Sharon McNeil who was recently appointed Executive Director at Family Support Organization. Many of you already know Sharon, as she was a Family Support Partner for the past 5 years. We asked her a few questions on her new role:

Call the FSO Warmline

Hunterdon • Somerset • Warren
(908) 223-1191



We listen and offer advice, information, and referrals to family members and care-givers in need of support.

Call Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm

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Family Support Organization
Hunterdon, Somerset, and Warren Counties

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@FSOofHSW



Search: Family Support
Organization

For starters, how does it feel become Executive Director? It's exciting, but there is a small degree of scariness, as there are many things that I need to learn, and there is terrific responsibility put on me. I'm lucky to have a very supportive staff, with diverse skills who are able to assist me.

You began working at FSO as a Partner 5 years ago. What interested you in wanting to work at FSO? I had a daughter that started to receive services from the CMO. I didn't understand much of what was going on with her, let alone, how the whole system of care worked. Initially, I had declined FSO services, but thankfully, I had a very persistent care manager who kept asking me if I'd like to have a peer support partner. Honestly, I finally agreed, just to get her to stop asking me! It really was the best thing I could have done. My support partner understood what I was going through, and it was her that eventually encouraged me to apply. The rest is history!

What is your greatest strength that you can provide as Executive Director? I think as the ED, my greatest strength is that I've been out in the field and have a very good understanding of the climate within our community in which we work with. I am compassionate to not only the family's needs, but also to the partners that are out there doing this very rewarding work!

What do you think FSO needs to improve on? I think what the FSO needs to improve upon is trying to educate the public that we exist, I know when I first came into the system of care, I felt like it was the best kept secret in the state. Our Outreach dept is terrific at being in the community and engaging with the youth and not just the adults, but I feel it takes all of us to speak up and spread the word.

If FSO had a donation of \$50,000 what would you do with it? Where would you allocate the \$\$\$? There are so many places that that kind of money could go! I think I would like to see some go towards staff education, and of course, some also going back into the community by means of additional workshops with speakers to address some of the concerns of the community. We do have many workshops that speak to some of the issues that caregivers and families face, but many speakers charge for their time, so it would be nice to be able to tap into a broader scope of speakers.

2018 will soon be ending. As Executive Director, what do you envision for 2019? For 2019, I'm hoping to add two full time bilingual partners to our staff, make our office a much more supportive environment, and to continue to strengthen our relationships with our sister agencies as to continue to provide the best services we can so our families can have successful outcomes.



Purpose: Family Support Partners provide support, education and advocacy for primary caregivers parenting children and youth with emotional, developmental, mental, behavioral and substance abuse needs.

Duties:

Support

- Support the growth of families involved with the CMO by ensuring fidelity to FSO model (Support, Education and Advocacy) including implementation of Family Assessment of Needs and Strengths and documentation in Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) and completion of Family Support Certification
- Support the development of the Child-Family Team through engagement of informal and natural supports
- Demonstrate empathy and compassion through active listening of families' needs
- Participate in Child-Family Teams and other meetings as needed to ensure family has support through process
- Support Supervisor as needed

Education

- Provide information on System of Care and parenting a child with needs
- Engage CMO families in educational workshops and training opportunities for families in partnership with Outreach Specialist
- Educate CMO and other partners on the needs of families and strategies to increase family leadership and family-driven care
- Engage CMO, families and youth in learning about FSO services and supports including Youth Partnership

Advocacy

- Challenge stigma by partnering with the CMO to ensure Care Management process is based on the Wraparound Model emphasizing family-driven and culturally competent care
- Model advocacy skills for families within the Child-Family Team and other meetings
- Promote family leadership within Child-Family Teams and other team meetings through partnership with Care Managers and other direct service workers
- Develop advocacy skills of families by providing resources and preparation for meetings

Skills

- Personal experience as a parent/caregiver of a child or youth with behavioral health needs
- Demonstrated success navigating New Jersey's child-serving systems
- Must have excellent interpersonal skills
- Must have valid New Jersey driver's license with excellent driving record and reliable transportation
- Must be able to speak fluent spanish

Hours: Must be flexible to work evenings and weekends

Status: Full Time

Please email cover letter and resume to: info@fso-hsw.org

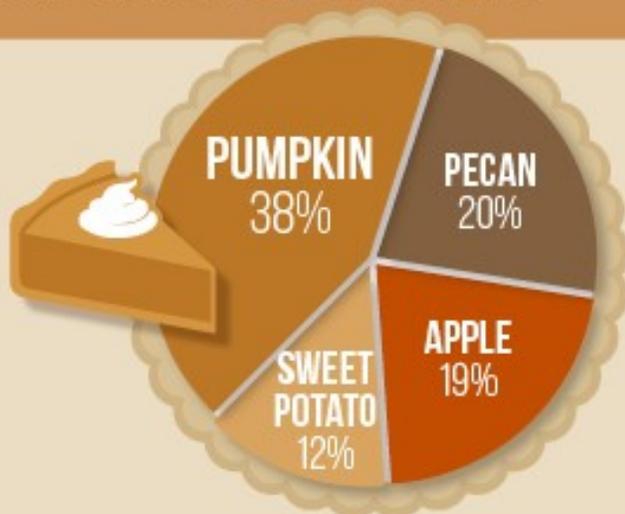
THE BEST HOLIDAY MEAL OF THE YEAR IS



LET'S TALK TURKEY

- **98%** of Americans celebrate Thanksgiving
- **46 MILLION** turkeys will be eaten on Thanksgiving
- The average American will consume **4,500** calories on Thanksgiving day – **3,000** from the main meal & **1,500** on snacks & desserts

With 90% of people eating pie on Thanksgiving, what is **AMERICA'S FAVORITE PIE?**



AND OUR FAVORITE STATISTIC OF ALL!

- **46.9 MILLION** Americans will travel more than **50 MILES** for Thanksgiving.
- Of this total, **42 MILLION** will travel by car between Wed., Nov. 23rd & Sun. Nov. 27th.



More cars traveling = greater exposure for our Adopt-A-Highway sponsors.

Find out how to sponsor today
adoptahighway.net

HAPPY TURKEY DAY!

FAMILY SUPPORT ORGANIZATION PRESENTS:

NURTURED HEART WORKSHOP



Presented By: Christine Yanoso & Selena Stiles | Trainers in NHA



The Nurtured Heart Approach is a relationship-focused methodology - founded strategically on the "The 3 Stands" - for helping children, and adults, build their Inner Wealth and use their intensity in successful ways.



The approach has a proven impact on every child, including those who are challenged behaviorally, social and academically.



The Nurtured Heart Approach has been shown to create transformative changes in children diagnosed with ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Reactive Attachment Disorder and other behavioral, emotional and anxiety related symptoms.

This workshop will help parents and professionals create success and positivity while upholding limits and consequences.



**November 16, 2018
6pm-8pm**

**The CEA School
11 Minneakoning Road
Flemington, NJ**

For More Information: 908.223.1191 x 12 or sron@fso-hsw.org

Family Support Organization & Autism New Jersey Presents:

Understanding & Improving Challenging Behavior

Facilitated By:

Stephanie Flamini, BCaBA of Autism New Jersey
Kelly Milazzo of the Greenwich Autism Alliance

Understanding why a challenging behavior is occurring is crucial to developing a plan to address it.

Participants will learn about identifying common functions of challenging behaviors, implement strategies for preventing and changing behaviors, and monitoring progress. Learn a 7-step plan involving proactive steps that can be taken to teach more appropriate behaviors and significantly improve quality of life.

Tuesday November 20th

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Phillipsburg Free Library

200 Broubalow Way

Phillipsburg, NJ 08865



Questions: 908.223.1191 | To RSVP: aruiz@fso-hsw.org



Youth Partnership

Our mission at Family Support Organization is to provide social, recreational, empowerment, leadership and community service opportunities in a diverse and supportive environment for all our youth. FSO's Youth Partnership is for youth 13-21 years of age with emotional behavioral or mental health challenges. Transportation is provided on an as needed basis. Please call: 908.223.1191 Ext. 12 for transportation and initial enrollment.

Festival at the Borough = Success!

On Saturday September 23rd, Penelope Griffin and Roy Kurre along with our youth from our Youth Partnership Program attended the "Festival in the Borough" in Washington, NJ. Penelope and Roy along with junior volunteers, Mya, Trevor and Mason Kurre, set up the table around 9AM, where they received a hearty amount of email list participants and inquires. In addition, they were able to make many connections for outreach in different capacities. From there went over to the Vault Youth Center to set up with Director Brian Schubert for the all day music open mic and workshop, where we had approximately 40 youth stop by throughout the day.

Somerset County YP

Every 1st Friday of
Each Month

6pm to 8pm

Where

Pioneer Family
Success Center
50 Division Street
Suite 303
Somerville, NJ

Warren County YP

Every 2nd Thursday of
Each Month

6pm to 8pm

Where

FSO
315 W. Washington
Ave.
Washington, NJ

Hunterdon County YP

Every 3rd Friday of
Each Month

6pm to 8pm

Where

The CEA School
11 Minneakoning Rd.
Flemington, NJ

Warren County YP

Every 4th Friday of
Each Month

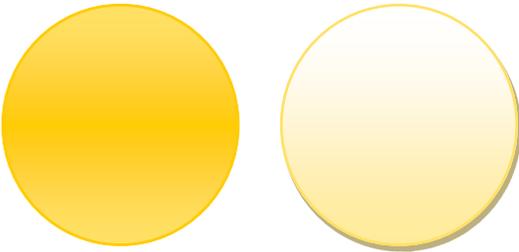
6pm to 8pm

Where

FSO
315 W. Washington
Ave.
Washington, NJ

It is recommended to call and confirm dates and times as they are subject to change.

FAMILY SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
OF HUNTERDON,
SOMERSET, & WARREN COUNTIES
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FSO of HSW Staff

Executive Director

Sharon McNeil

Office Manager

Myra Bush

Interim Family Support Coordinator

Sherri Latzko

Family Support Partners

Latisha Council, Deborah Brack, Leonie Dumont, Karen Pieretti, Sulma Selena Stiles, and Christine Yanoso

Community Outreach Specialist

Penelope Griffin, Sonia Ron, and Aimee Ruiz

Youth Coach

Roy Kurre