

September Newsletter

9/21/2021

Did You Know?

-Death by Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S.

-In 2020, Death by Suicide rates dropped 5.6% from the previous year.

-Firearm Deaths by Suicide continues to have the highest mortality rate among victims.

-According to the CDC, only 1.9% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine.

-September 22 officially marks the beginning of Autumn.



NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

All month, join Wright Directions Family Services and other Mental/Behavioral Health Advocates, Survivors, Suicide Prevention Organizations, and member of the community unite to promote suicide prevention awareness! Help spread the word about actions we can take to prevent suicide.

1. **Ask.** Research shows people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks after them in a caring way. Findings suggest acknowledging and talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicidal ideation.
2. **Be There.** Individuals are more likely to feel less depressed, suicidal, overwhelmed and more hopeful after speaking to someone who listens without judgment.
3. **Keep Them Safe.** Studies have indicated that when lethal means are made less available or less deadly, suicide rates by that method decline, and frequently suicide rates overall decline.
4. **Help Them Stay Connected.** Studies indicate that helping someone at risk create a network of resources and individuals for support and safety can help them take positive action and reduce feelings of hopelessness.
5. **Follow Up.** Studies have also shown that brief, low-cost intervention, and supportive, ongoing contact may be an important part of suicide prevention, especially for individuals after they have been discharged from hospitals or care services.
6. **Learn More.** Do research, attend events, review resources, and actively seek out ways to improve your awareness.

<https://www.bethe1to.com/>

<https://www.sprc.org/states/south-carolina>

Suicide Prevention Hotline

1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

WE ARE HIRING!!!

If you or anyone you know may be interested in joining our team, please check out our updated website <https://wrightdfs.com/> and click on the Careers tab to see all the positions available, as well as the descriptions.

Quotes of the Month

“Those who love peace must learn to organize as effectively as those who love war.”

-Martin Luther King Jr.

“Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

-Desmond Tutu

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATES!!

Wright Directions Family Services makes all efforts to ensure quality, consistent care to clients in our care. In order to do so, initial and ongoing trainings are not just a requirement, but sets the high standard of knowledge and insight demanded for maximum performance. Below is a reminder of some of the necessary trainings our staff engage in.

Orientation Training:

24 Relias Training Classes totaling over 28 hours
Topics included but not limited to:

- APPROACHES TO SUICIDE PREVENTION
- MANDATED REPORTING FOR SUSPECTED ABUSE/NEGLECT
- CRISIS MANAGEMENT
- CULTURAL COMPETENCE
- HIPAA AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- DOCUMENTATION FOR TREATMENT PLANNING
- PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- MEDICARE AND MEDICAID FRAUD AND ABUSE PREVENTION
- MEDICATION MANAGEMENT FOR UNLICENSED PROFESSIONALS
- SEXUAL HARRASSMENT
- TRAUMA AND THE BRAIN
- VIRTUAL TRAINING WITH UTILIZATION REVIEW ON MEDICAID REGULATION CHANGES AND ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD DATA IMPLEMENTATION STANDARDS

Ongoing Training:

Minimum of One Hour of Training with our Clinical Director for Clinical Supervision and on a case-by-case basis. Annual Relias Training with above topics and Electronic Health Record Updates.

Tuberculosis Skin Test vs. Blood Draw

Medicaid regulations require all staff either have an annual TB Skin test or a QFT or T-Spot Blood Draw. There are pros and cons to both tests. The TB Skin test would need to be conducted at hire and annually thereafter whereas the Blood Draw is only conducted at hire. The negative side to the Blood Draw is the expense associated with it. These tests can be conducted by a Primary Care Provider, DHEC Nurse, Urgent Care, and in some areas your local health department.

COVID-19 VACCINE TRACKER

As of September 13, 2021:

South Carolina:

-58.6% of people have at least 1 vaccination dose.

-49.7% of people are fully vaccinated.

United States:

-63.2% of people have at least 1 dose.

-53.9% of people are fully vaccinated.

World:

-12.17% of people have at least 1 dose.

-30.1% of people are fully vaccinated.

TODAY IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE!!!

Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. The 2021 Peace Day Theme is Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable World. We invite you to join the efforts of the United Nations family as we focus on recovering better for a more equitable and peaceful world. Please see the links below for more information!

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

<https://internationaldayofpeace.org/event-map/>

<https://www.usip.org/programs/peace-day-challenge>

<https://heartfulness.org/en/international-day-of-peace/>



Upcoming Events:

-The 16th Annual Little River ShrimpFest will be held on Saturday October 9 and Sunday October 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. along the Little River Waterfront. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please reach out to Kenny Dixon at KEDixon@seasidehc.com or 843-890-4100!!!

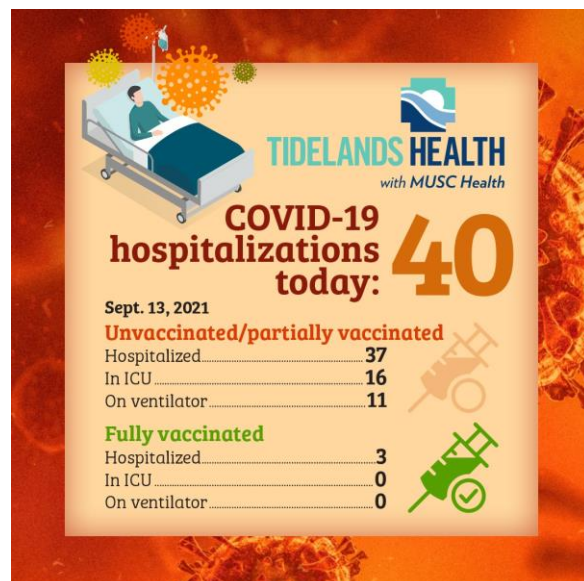
A MESSAGE FROM OUR C.E.O.

Fall Season is rapidly approaching and marks a return to the inside. Cool weather often coincides with the return of school, changing leaves, and holiday seasons. September is also designated for Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. A reminder to all about the preciousness of life and helping those who struggle with a shared journey. Suicide is a mental health condition that can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. Awareness is necessary to reduce the stigma, and general taboo surrounding the topic. Untreated mental health conditions often are a catalyst for suicide and suicidal acts. WDFS is aware of the mental health challenges our children and families face. We want to spread the word to our clients and our community. Our Clinical Team is here for all of your needs and dedicated to offering support and resources. As always, we stay true to our mission of "guiding families in the Wright Direction."

– **Jawanda McNair, CEO**

WRIGHT DIRECTIONS FAMILY SERVICES COVID UPDATE!

In an effort of ensuring the safety of all clients, families, staff, and other members of the community, WDFS has initiated stricter requirements upon entering the offices. Whether you are fully vaccinated or not, any visitor and staff must wear a fully fitted mask and socially distance when a visitor enters. We also encourage Zoom interviews for new applicants and for any important meetings with any Stakeholder.



CONTACT US!

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CONTENT!!!

September Staff of the Month!!

Dr. Ronda Stevens

Dr. Ronda Stevens has been with WDFS since April 2015. in our Ridgeland office. Since that time, she has displayed tenacity in supporting children and families, as well as a love for establishing and maintaining community collaborations. She sits on several low-country area boards (as the only "private" provider) and recently has secured two regional contracts, which continues to open the doors for other possibilities. She has proven to be dependable, dedicated, optimistic, and a team player. For all these reasons and more, we recognize her as staff of the month.

Staff Birthdays!!

- Danielle Beres 10/6
 - Katherine Kulick 10/9
 - LeAnna Gordon 10/12
 - Shanata Faulk 10/18
 - Seyward Stephens 10/26
 - Tassiana Anxo 10/6
 - Andrea Smoak 10/12
 - Asia Branham 10/16
 - Teresa Hammond 10/19
 - Rakisha Brown 10/30
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SHOUT OUTS!!!



September 2021 SHOUT OUTS ARE:

- Matt Lurey (2x)
- Jasma Savage
- Robert Castle

Please feel free to submit your nominations to
KEDixon@seasidehc.com.