

*Engaging Community Partners and
Resources – From a Group Home
Service Provider Perspective*

GEARUP & CCYA Partnering Resources



Ron Stebenne

Just a little background info



Educator



Social Entrepreneur
Youth Programs
Non-profit Dev.



Adoptive Parent
CCYA Youth Work

CCYA *Programs*

1. Co-ed youth ages 12-16
 2. Girls only ages 12-16
 3. Co-ed youth ages 16-21
 4. *Connections Beyond Care* program is now being revised to provide housing for older youth in school and working
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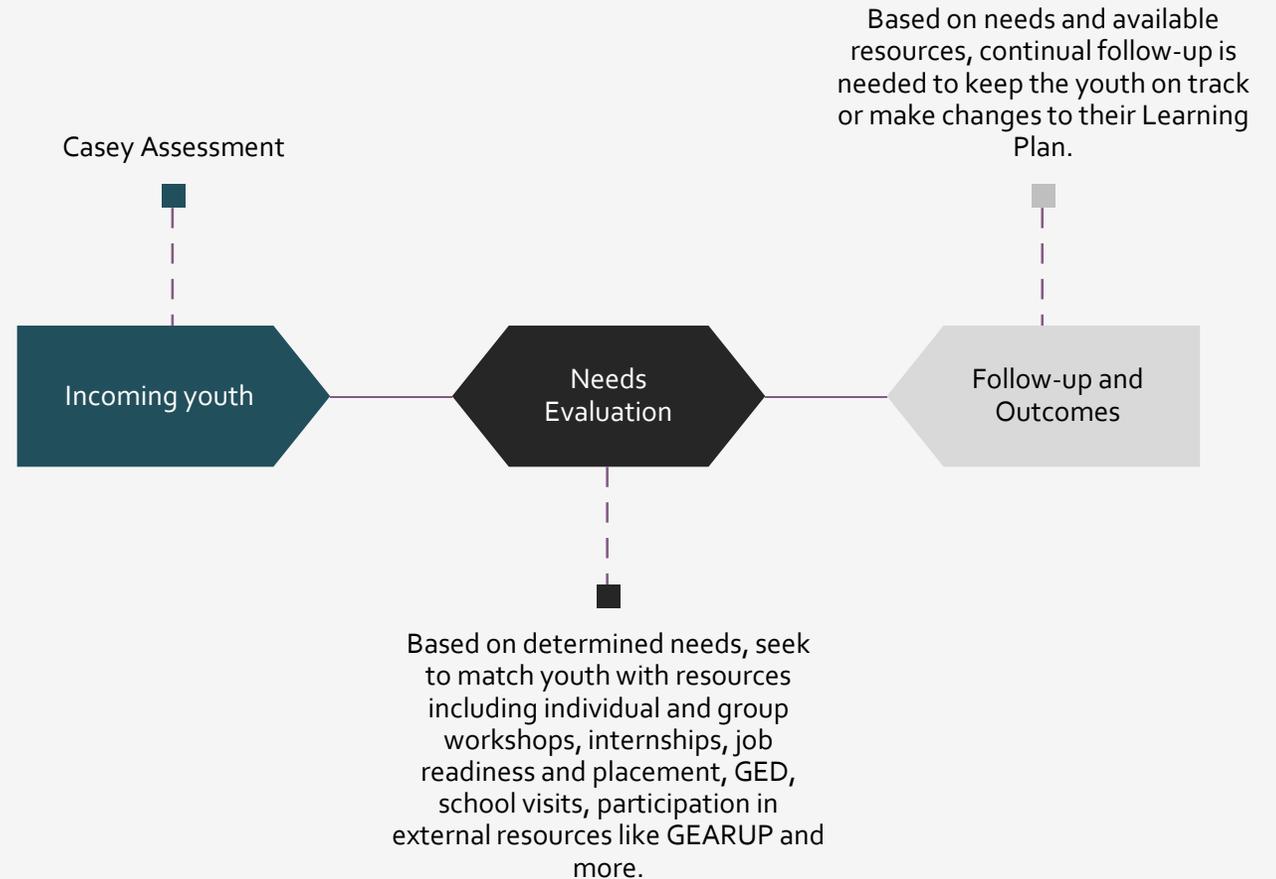


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Current Role with CCYA

Utilizing the Casey Life Skills Assessment tool and individual counselling, I determine the lagging life skills of each youth and provide any available resources available to help the youth learn and grow as young adults.



Working with Our Residents

The following is a partial list of what I provide our youth.



- Life skills assessments
- Counseling
- Financial literacy training including IDA workshops
- Weekly workshops on daily living, communication, career awareness, self-care, study skills, and more.
- Help with resumes and interview techniques
- Help with GED projects
- Attending events with youth
- Accessing community resources like GEARUP
- Finding jobs and intern opportunities
- And more

CCYA & GEARUP

I act as the link between GEARUP and our direct care personnel, attending meetings and connecting our youth directly and indirectly to the services provided by GEARUP and other community resources.

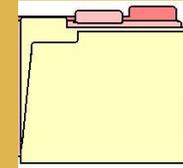
GEARUP provides the following resources to youth in care >>>



Financial Resource
Information & Access



Virtual Support
Through Social Media



Case Management



PSAT & ACT Pre-tests
and Tutoring



College Readiness
Programs



College Tours

GEARUP & the 'Village'

We are all part of the 'village' and have various community partners/resources to provide support for our youth. These are some of the partners with GEARUP.

Technical
Colleges of
Georgia

Kennesaw
State
University

University
System of
Georgia

CCYA

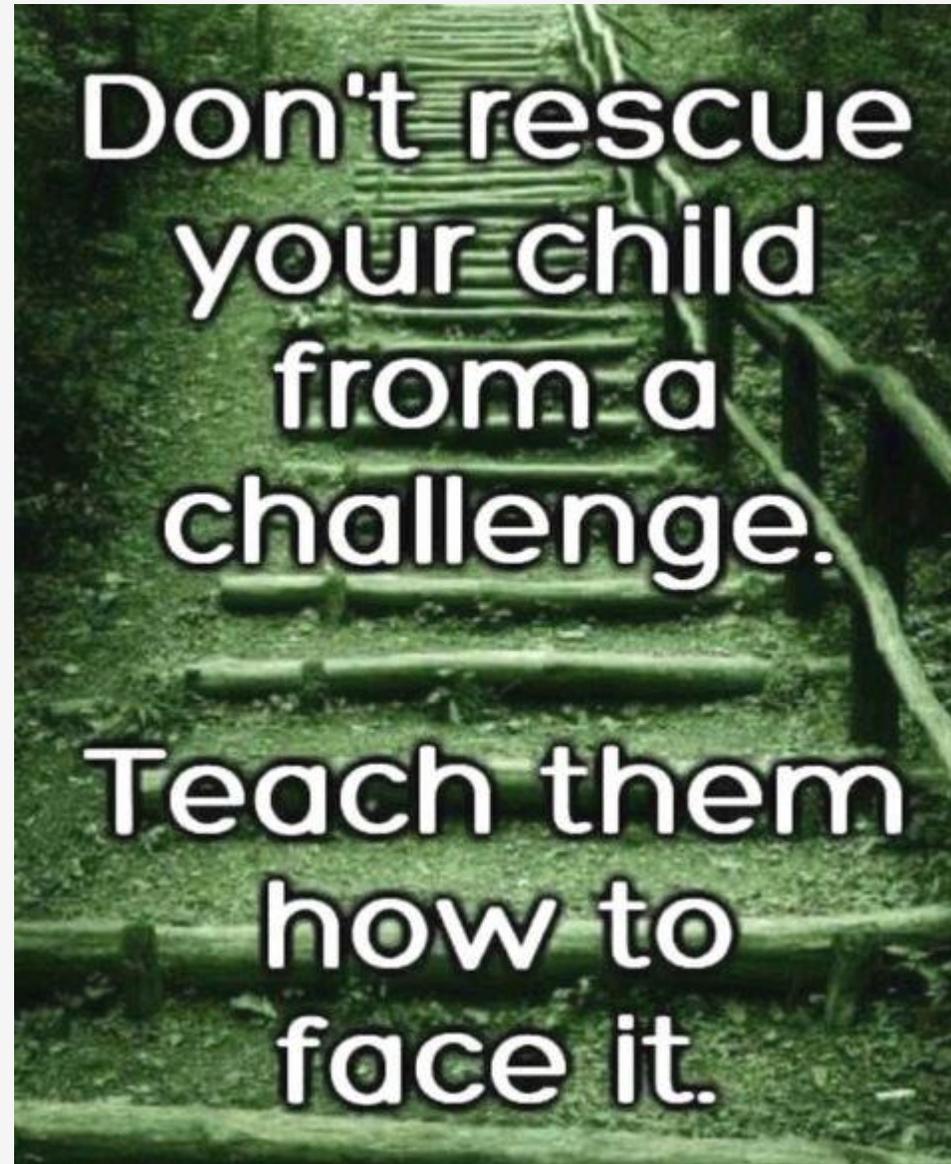
Must
Ministries

CARE Services

Open Discussion

- Open for questions
- Open for suggested new resources you wish to share
- Open for comments

Thank you!



ABOUT US



The Center for Children & Young Adults (CCYA)

Established in 1981 in Marietta GA, the mission of The Center for Children & Young Adults (CCYA) is to provide a safe and nurturing environment with comprehensive services for homeless youth and young adults who have been abused, abandoned, neglected, or are at risk. As a part of the state foster care system, we house, feed, clothe and develop homeless and maltreated youth in the Atlanta Metro Area.

Our first youth home, **Open Gate**, was created as a temporary emergency shelter for abused/neglected children in Cobb County and opened its doors in 1984. In 1995, CCYA became a longer-term facility (excess of 90 days) and opened **Another Chance**, an all teen home on the current campus. In 1998 we expanded beds at **Another Chance** and relocated **Open Gate** to the current campus. We built **Life Works** in 2001, a Transitional Living Housing Program to house young adults aging out of care at 18. In 2009, CCYA reorganized to meet growing state needs for housing teens and began serving only youth ages 12-20 *while expanding services to more than 13 counties*. In 2010, CCYA shifted from a “shelter” model to a “youth development” model employing a *Trauma Informed Care Approach*. We are the only children’s residential center in Georgia to adopt the national certification training curriculum in the field for youth care professionals which is the Residential Child & Youth Care Professional (RCYCP) Training out of the University of Oklahoma National Resource Center on Youth Services.

Our newest program, **Connections Beyond Care**, offers transitional young adults a host of services and support in the community. New to Connections is a residential support program that is being revised to better meet the needs of the residents at the Center.

Over the years, our fundamental goals have remained the same: (1) To provide shelter, food and clothing for homeless youth and young adults in need; and (2) To provide for the safety, education, health, and well-being of these young people while helping them to achieve a permanent home placement OR, where no placement is available, transition them successfully to independence. However, our approach has been changing over time and always seeks to refine and improve as new ideas and programs are discovered to have benefit for our youth.

CCYA is redefining residential care for at risk youth in our community – we are no longer just housing, feeding and clothing youth - we are developing them. Through innovative therapies (music, art, & animals); strong community partnerships; a therapeutic culture of care; and a daily milieu that involves youth in their own care and planning; CCYA is helping youth to overcome their childhood maltreatment, expose them to new opportunities, learn and practice life skills, and achieve goals they once never dreamed possible.