



AHR/TRS Newsletter

May 2015

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Our role is to support the persons we serve with excellence.

For feedback and any comments- please use the following:

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Or call 1-855-415-3277



2015 Biennial TRS Audit Successfully Completed

Lisa Iezzi, Program Director, along with the Audit Team successfully completed the 2015 Biennial Audit conducted by the Black Mountain Office of NC DHHS (May 12th & 13th). Heather West, Licensing Consultant, announced Touchstone Residential Services will receive a two year license certification in May.

The 2015 Audit Team for TRS included: Jeff Jenkins, Lisa Iezzi, Connie Farrior, Miranda Wilson, Tabitha Bannerman, Katrina Midgette, Jennifer Wells, Danielle Gardner, Charles Basnight, Crystal Fussell, Susan Culley.

Congratulations on a job well done!



Successful TRS – Cardinal MCO Audit – May 1, 2015

The Cardinal MCO monitoring team visited our Raven Ridge Location on May 1st. They did a review of our records and service standards. We are pleased to announce there was no Plan of Correction required. Our review score was 100%. We are so pleased with our Cardinal MCO association and appreciate their guidance.

Our Touchstone Residential Services Team included: Jannie Scott, Program Coordinator IDD/Residential Services; Nichol Lewis, Lead QP, Jackie Long, Administrative Assistant, Tosha McLean, Administrative Assistant & Carolyn Yerha, Business Office. Congratulations to our team!

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Please contact Rebecca Albright, Editor, to report errors/corrections/suggestions:
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May is National Foster Care Month! **Connie Farrior, BAQP**

It is the month set aside to acknowledge foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, child welfare professionals and other members in the community who help children find permanent homes/connections. All over the nation there are meetings that include: how to become a foster parent; how to support the local foster community, and how to adopt from foster care.

Touchstone Residential Services provides a 'Celebration Picnic' every year in the month of May, in every branch: Clinton, New Bern, Raven Ridge, & Wilmington for our foster parents and includes food, door prizes, games and loads of fun. We have lots of participation from families, staff and the community.

According to statistics and most trainings we attend as an agency, we hear the astounding number of children who are currently in foster care, which unfortunately is over 400,000. Some of these children aren't even eligible for adoption. When youth age out of the system, unfortunately, this means that the youth over the age of eighteen have no familial support, resources, or even job or life skills to support themselves as adults. These are some of the facts that continue to contribute to the motivation behind National Foster Care Month.



Left photo: TRS Wilmington had great participation for celebration of Foster Care Month! Approximately 70 people enjoyed this fun, picnic event.

Photo below: Games were provided during the TRS Wilmington Foster Care Picnic. This bouncy house was a donation from the community. Thank you TRS Wilmington for having this great event!





Safety Week 2015 – Great Participation!!

Touchstone Residential Services conducted an important week of emphasis May 11th through May 15th. Safety Week is an annual event to promote safe practices as we interact with the persons we serve, as well as to safeguard the well-being of our staff.

Our Safety Coordinators were very creative with promotion of these important concepts. Recognition goes to Susan Kingsley (TRS Wilmington), Jackie Long (TRS Raleigh), Tosha McLean (TRS Lumberton), LaTrise Morris (TRS New Bern) & Lisa Sutton (TRS Clinton) for developing contests, prizes, luncheons and informative speakers during Safety Week! Thank you for making it fun to go to work safely!



Photos:
Courtesy of
Susan Kingsley,
TRS
Wilmington
Office – great
visuals and fun
ideas!

The major points of emphasis included: How to Avoid Slips & Falls; Safe Lifting; Safe Driving & Inclement Weather. In addition as a part of Safety Week, (1) Disaster Drill was conducted each day: *Natural Disaster Day*; *Medical Emergency Drill*; *Violent Situation/Threatening Drill*; *Bomb Threat Drill*; & *Utility Failure Drill*.



Tosha McLean was recognized for excellence on April 22nd during Administrative Professionals Day.

Administrative Professionals Day highlights the important role of administrative professionals in all sectors of the modern economy worldwide. Tosha is the Administrative Assistant/Staffing Coordinator for the TRS Lumberton Office. Thank you Tosha!