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Serving Military Families

Several years ago, CEO Tricia Delano, charted a strategic direction for JFBHS to serve military families. As a former military dependent herself, Delano knows first-hand the special demands and stresses of military life. Approximately 2 million youth are the children of military personnel. These kids experience multiple stressors due to their family members' deployment or adjustment from a parent returning from a deployment. They also experience frequent relocation disrupting their lives. They have fears of their parent being injured or never returning home from a training or deployment. The results of these stressors can be traumatizing for some military children. The stressors can lead to adverse mood and behavioral changes, anger, apathy, anxiety, depression, withdrawal, decline in school performance, and social isolation. The behaviors can be disruptive and require behavioral health treatment. Jackson-Feild recognized this need and set a course to help the children and their families. Director of Business Development Nancy Philpy spent a great deal of time creating a strategic plan and energetically dived in to implement it.

Philpy's first goal was to get JFBHS approved as a TRICARE (the uniformed services health care program) provider with the managed care organization chosen by TRICARE to oversee and approve residential treatment for military kids. Anyone who has dealt with the IRS or any other branch of government can attest to the determination and persistence required to reach the correct personnel to address issues and/or provide answers to questions. Each branch of the service and – in many cases – each military installation has different offices with different job descriptions with whom Philpy needed to speak to introduce JFBHS and offer our services. Philpy persisted, and JFBHS was approved as an In-Network Certified TRICARE Provider. The next step was to educate and inform military families about our services.

To obtain invaluable information on the proper contacts within the TRICARE system of healthcare providers, Philpy spent a great deal of time speaking with her counterparts in other behavioral health programs across the country who were already TRICARE-approved. Business Development made inroads in educating military liaisons, private practice therapists, psychologists, psychiatrists and acute psychiatric hospitals about how JFBHS can help the children of military personnel. In addition to reaching out to individual practitioners, JFBHS has contracted with an advertising firm whose focus is military families to inform them of the trauma-informed treatment we are able to provide for their children.

JFBHS is pleased, proud, and honored to provide psychiatric residential treatment services to children and youth of military families.

A Note from the CEO

Dear friends of Jackson-Feild,

I am forever reminded and heartened by the goodness and kindness of our wonderful stakeholders who are continually helping our children in a variety of ways. The many individuals, churches, organizations and businesses who ensured that our children had a Christmas they will always cherish. Groups conducted drives for clothing, books, recreational items and many more. Volunteers shopped and others wrapped every child's Christmas presents. The list goes on and on.

As we move from slumber of winter with the arrival of spring we are optimistic. It is a season of renewal with warmer days when we enjoy the outdoors and embrace the beauty of nature with all its resplendent glory.

We are restored and inspired..Restoration, or the restorative approach to healing is a core concept in the treatment provided for our children, the basic precept being that positive relationships provide the strongest motivation to change. Children who have experienced single and/or multiple event trauma need specialized services, care, guidance and understanding.

Thank you for being our partners to help our youth by your support on this healing journey.



Warmest wishes,

Tricia Delano

President & CEO

Some Recent Photos



Lake Gaston Bookers Club presenting books to Gwaltney School Library



Gerdau Long Steel America presentation of items collected by employees



US Foods Christmas in Tuscany special lunch



Petersburg Sheriff's Office/Kiwanis Club Christmas shopping for kids

Go Golfing for the Kids

Tee off with Jackson-Feild this spring! The 27th Annual Go Golfing for the Kids tournament, sponsored by Boddie-Noell Enterprises, Inc. will be held on Monday, May 2, 2022 at The Golf Club at The Highlands in Chesterfield, VA.

Jackson-Feild is a safe haven for children struggling with mental illness and/or substance use disorders. Each year, this tournament raises funds to support the needs of the residents. To date, the tournament has raised over \$550,000. This year's funds will go towards supporting the children's education.

Sponsor a team of 4 for \$700 or play as an individual for \$175. All players receive lunch, 3 beverage tickets, snacks on the course, and dinner at the awards ceremony. Range balls will be provided, and the driving range will open 90 minutes prior to tee off.

If you have any questions, or would like to register now, email vfong@jacksonfeild.org. Register online at <https://app.mobilecause.com/e/JajHSA?vid=pq4wm>.

We hope to see you on the green this May!





A LIFE-CHANGING ACT OF KINDNESS

In 1940, Mrs. Edith Gage, Headmistress of Jackson-Feild Episcopal Home for Girls, our predecessor, extended an act of kindness to Alice O. Nicholls that had a profound and indelible impact on Alice.

Mrs. Gage provided Alice a home for a summer that became an annual occasion until she graduated from high school.

Alice's suffered from a horrific home life. Her father was an abusive alcoholic who could not hold a job. The family was evicted fourteen times. Alice on a number of occasions returned home from school to find all the family's belongings on the street.

Alice's cherished wonderful memories of her summers at Jackson-Feild. They sustained her during the school year and throughout her life. She formed life-long friendships. She received the love and guidance that she did not experience at home.

Alice was very bright. She spent most of her time in the library away from her father and home. She excelled in school. She received a scholarship to Longwood University. She excelled in mathematics and upon graduation the FBI and CIA approached her to work on a top secret project at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) the predecessor of NASA at Langley Laboratory. At the time, computers were not the machines we know today, but were instead a team of brilliant women who performed complex mathematical computations. Alice was a proud member of this team.

Alice met her husband, Anthony Proterra, a mechanical engineer who also worked at Langley. After WWII they married and move to Aruba where they lived for 21 years. Antony worked in the oil business at a refinery producing Venezuelan oil. Alice worked as a librarian in public school. The family moved back to the US. Anthony worked in Philadelphia at the ARCO refinery and Alice went back to college earning her Master's Degree in Library Science and worked as a librarian.

Throughout her life Alice would reflect on her summers at Jackson-Feild and the love and kindness that she treasured. She spoke lovingly of Jackson-Feild as a safe haven from a tormented childhood.

Alice has since passed away, but the simple act of kindness she received at Jackson-Feild was never far from her thoughts and heart. In an uncertain world it is so incredibly important to give random acts of kindness. Like in the case of Alice, these kind acts can have an everlasting influence.

A Change for the Better



Chris had a hard time in school. Kids were mean. They called him names like “class clown” and “dummy”. He laughed it off, but it was painful for him. After a while, he started to believe the bullies. He wanted so badly to do well in school, but no matter how hard he tried, he still struggled. Why was school so hard? Why were the kids so terrible? It made him so mad, and Chris didn’t know what to do. His family was so loving and supportive, but Chris couldn’t muster up the courage to tell them that he was struggling both socially and academically. He didn’t want them to worry about him, but his teachers and family couldn’t help but worry. They did the best they could to provide Chris with mental health as well as academic supports. Unfortunately, despite all the help, Chris found that he was just becoming angry all the time.

As Chris grew older, so did his anger. He couldn’t control it. He started fights all the time. He made threats to peers. Ultimately, his physical and verbal aggression brought him before the court when he was merely thirteen years old. Chris was placed on probation and was ordered to attend an alternative school with smaller classroom sizes and more individual instruction. His new school helped, but new obstacles arose.

Unequipped with the resources to manage his mental illness, Chris began abusing drugs to cope. He found that they numbed his pain and constant anger, but he soon realized that he couldn’t stop. He needed the drugs just to feel any sense of normal. Everything came to a head when he was hospitalized for a drug overdose. Chris was forced to admit to himself that he suffered from severe mental illness and addiction. At the recommendation of his doctors, Chris found himself at Jackson-Feild for residential psychiatric treatment services.

At Jackson-Feild, he was provided a structured and supporting setting where he worked with a skilled therapist who was able to help Chris learn to manage his mental illness and substance abuse. The residential program staff helped him set boundaries and hold himself accountable for his behaviors. The school on campus, with its small classroom size and experienced teachers, was able to help him both academically and behaviorally. Family therapy and the support of loving parents helped Chris to return home.

Chris returned home a changed young man after the completion of his treatment at Jackson-Feild. Since leaving, Chris has been successful in the completion of a follow up substance abuse counseling program. He returned to public school and recently graduated from high school. Currently, he is working two jobs, one of which is in construction. He plans to attend community college and obtain certification as a carpenter or equipment operator. Chris has come a long way from the child he once was. Thanks to Jackson-Feild and his family, Chris now has the tools and resources to manage his mental illness and to ultimately lead a meaningful and successful life.

Committed to accountability and ethical practices, Jackson-Feild Behavioral Health Services is accredited and endorsed by these organizations.



For our financial information, please visit www.jacksonfeild.org



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The mission of Jackson-Feild Behavioral Health Services is to provide high quality evidence-based psychiatric, residential, educational and recovery treatment services for children who suffer from severe emotional trauma, mental illness and/or addiction. Our goal is to restore wellness and provide support for successful reintegration into homes, families and communities.

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