

## Winter Newsletter 2024

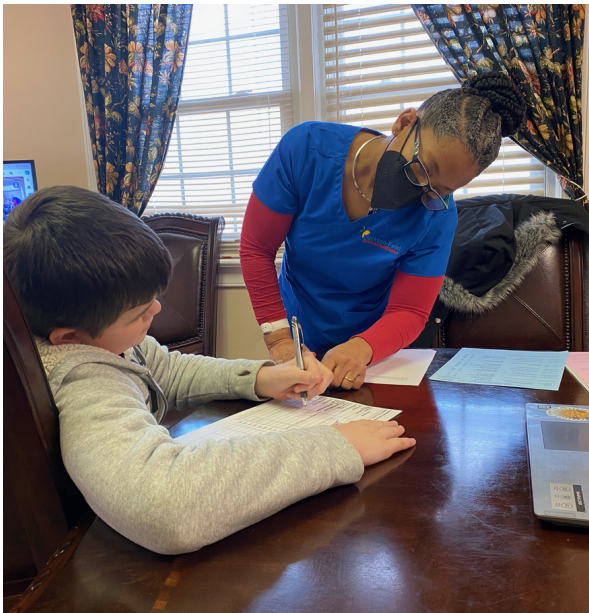
### Empowering Nurses

Jackson-Feild nurses play a key role in the treatment of our residents. Because we operate 24 hours a day 365 days a year, we have a nurse on call 24/7, and an on-duty nurse every day from 6:00 am until 9:00 pm. In 2023, our nurses provided more than 4,380 hours of care to our children and staff.

Under the leadership of Director of Nursing Virginia Goode and working closely with our consulting psychiatrist, the nursing staff provides medication management of prescription drugs in addition to the following:

- Daily "sick call"
- Schedule and coordinate medical and dental appointments
- Provide staff training on medical issues
- Liaise with our psychiatrist
- Educate residents regarding medical and dental needs
- Coordinate with food service staff to address any of the children's special dietary needs and/or allergies

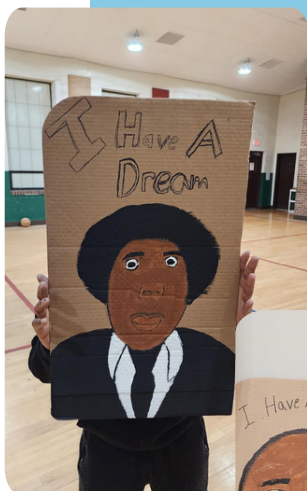
Children come to Jackson-Feild for help with mental health and/or behavioral issues, but it's important that their medical needs are monitored and addressed by such a dedicated team.



#### INSIDE

- 2 Letter from Marie Hyppolite
- 3 Resident Story
- 4 Christmas at JFBHS
- 5 Tax Strategies
- 6 What's Happening at JFBHS
- 7 Volunteer Groups
- 8 Go Golfing for the Kids

Art made by  
the children  
on Martin  
Luther King Jr.  
Day



# **INTRODUCING CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER MARIE HYPPOLITE**

Not many people have a favorite theologian, but Jackson-Feild's Marie Hyppolite does. "Tim Keller," says Hyppolite, "taught that what you do today is shaped by what you believe about tomorrow."

Believing that their future would be better in the United States, Hyppolite's family immigrated to California when she was a young child. Believing that God had a purpose for her, Hyppolite dedicated herself to Christianity. Believing not only in the power of God, but also in the strength and resiliency of people, Hyppolite earned a bachelor's degree in Social Work at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa OK.



Upon completing her undergraduate degree, Hyppolite relocated to Virginia and began her career with Jackson-Feild. While working at Jackson-Feild's now-closed Eleventh House in Richmond, Hyppolite attended Virginia Commonwealth University and earned her master's degree in Social Work in May 1998. She accepted a position as a therapist/case manager, and rose through the ranks – having been Clinical manager and then Director of Programs & Residential Services – to her current position of Chief Operating Officer (COO). "Jackson-Feild has been tremendously supportive over the years," says Hyppolite, "providing many opportunities for professional development through training and guidance."

Hyppolite has made an impact on both residents and staff throughout her time at JFBHS. In her role as COO, she urges and encourages staff to grow professionally and make connections between various departments. "Members of every department rely upon those in other departments, so it's important to 'connect' with and get to know each other," says Hyppolite.

Not only her colleagues benefit from Hyppolite's encouragement. Residents also experience being pushed out of their comfort zones to make the kind of progress that enables them to transition smoothly back into their home and community after discharge. "I try to think outside of the box while remaining detail-oriented to ensure that the needs of every child are being met and that no one is developing tunnel vision."

On a daily basis, everyone on campus witnesses the passion Hyppolite has for her work and treasures the care and compassion she offers to all. Even the campus dogs benefit from Marie's attention as she has dedicated herself to caring for the 4-legged friends the residents come to love throughout their time in treatment.

"I want to thank CEO Patricia Delano for her leadership of the agency," says Hyppolite. "She is always researching ways to provide the best possible care and services to the residents. I also want to thank our Board of Trustees for having the residents' best interest at heart so that the children receive top-notch services."

In closing, Hyppolite said, "I believe that the children who come to Jackson-Feild have the promise of a wonderful tomorrow, and that their 'tomorrow' is shaped by what we do for them – what we teach them to do for themselves – today."

# Libby

## Learning to Love Herself

Libby's journey through mental health challenges began at a young age. Due to a traumatic upbringing marked by severe abuse and a chaotic home life, she faced numerous emotional and behavioral issues by the time she was 11, including depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts.

Custody of Libby and her two sisters was granted to her maternal grandparents, who deeply loved her. However, the trauma she endured made it difficult for her to trust and bond with them. Libby's father, paternal grandparents, and her parents' struggles with alcoholism further compounded her difficulties.

As a result of her complex needs and mental health disorders, it was decided that Libby required residential psychiatric treatment. Jackson-Field stepped in to provide the necessary support.

The profound shame stemming from her experiences hindered Libby's ability to trust and love. The first step towards her healing journey was establishing trust and providing validation for the abandonment, abuse, and neglect she endured. Therapists employed various interventions, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) and eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), to help her confront her psychological trauma.

Libby's progress was gradual, but with clear rules and consequences in place, like the Positive Behavior Incentive Program (PBIP) at her school, she began responding positively to the services provided.

The most crucial factor in her recovery was the positive and supportive environment offered by her school, residential facility, and therapeutic programs. Libby's grandparents played a pivotal role in her healing process, providing unwavering support throughout her treatment. After two years at Jackson-Field, Libby underwent a remarkable transformation. She confronted and addressed her intense feelings of shame and worthlessness, which had eroded her self-esteem and sense of self-worth. Libby's journey culminated in her returning home with a newfound ability to love herself.





# CHRISTMAS AT JACKSON-FEILD



Knowing that Christmas can be difficult, the Jackson-Feild staff makes a special effort to create memories the children will cherish forever. Our annual Christmas Project raises fund for the children's Christmas presents and twelve days of special meals and activities. December was a full month of fun-filled activities and events at Jackson-Feild Behavioral Health Services. Kicking off the month, the children participated in a talent show much to the delight of their peers. A variety of clubs – book, creative arts, and drama – met multiple times as did the Step Team. Contests were held for the best-decorated bedroom door and ugliest Christmas t-shirt. A trivia contest tested their knowledge, and the student government met once. Even though the children couldn't be at home with their families, they – and the staff – enjoyed a memorable month filled with activities and opportunities.

Several organizations made special donations including Sitchers for a Cause who gave every resident a handmade quilt, and Tracy Allen – a Mary Kay consultant – who donated two Mary Kay products to every child and staff member. The Flying Aqua Babes of Lake Gaston (FABs) donated a gift to every child, as did members of the Episcopal Church Women at Grace Episcopal Church in Stanardsville. Other supporters and friends donated a total of \$7,243.46 to buy gifts to ensure that every boy and girl had a wonderful Christmas.

We also thank the Lake Gaston Flying Aqua Babes, Concord United Methodist Church Women, the PEO Sisterhood at Lake Gaston, and Ann Chaffins – the former Jackson-Feild Assistant Director of Development who, for a number of years, was the heart and soul of the entire Christmas Project – for coming to campus to wrap gifts and continue efforts to make the holiday season one our children will remember forever.

We can't thank you all enough for your support of this project.



## Quotes from Residents:

**THIS IS MY FIRST REAL CHRISTMAS. JFBHS HELPED ME DEAL WITH PAST CHRISTMAS MEMORIES.**

**I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR JFBHS CHRISTMAS. IT FILLED ME WITH JOY**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT JFBHS

## BREAST CANCER WALK

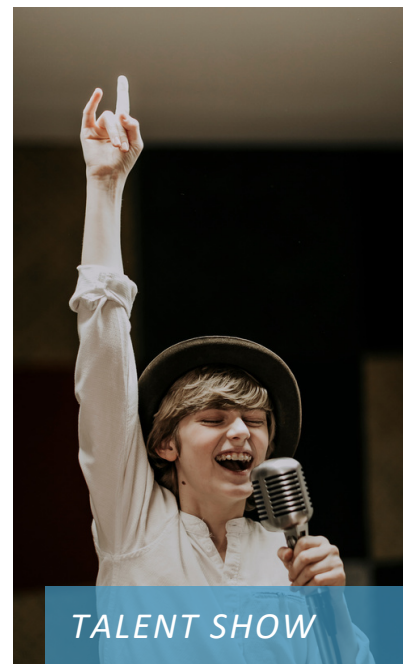
October is National Breast Cancer Awareness month. Twelve years ago, when a Jackson-Feild staff member was diagnosed with breast cancer, colleagues – in a show of support – organized an on-campus Breast Cancer Walk. Each year, Jackson-Feild continues this walk to bring awareness and support to others who are fighting or have fought this battle.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY DANCE

The School Holiday Dance was a festive event that brought residents and staff together to celebrate the holiday season. The gymnasium was transformed into a dazzling dance floor adorned with colorful decorations and twinkling lights. Students enjoyed dancing to their favorite songs, creating lasting memories of a joyous holiday season.

## TALENT SHOW

The talent show was a highly anticipated event at our school, showcasing the incredible skills and talents of our students.





# TAX STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING YOUR INCOME TAXES

Tax season is upon us and it is no secret that the federal income tax regulations are exceedingly complex. As a result, many taxpayers do not take advantage of deductions that can reduce their tax burden.

- Because of the increase in the standard deduction, almost 88% of tax filers do not take advantage of two beneficial strategies. Read on to learn about how you can reduce your income taxes even if you take the standard deduction.
- If you are 70-1/2 or older have to take a required minimum distribution from your IRA, you can avoid taxes by making a charitable contribution to Jackson-Feild using the charitable distribution option. The tax savings depend upon your tax bracket, so we strongly urge you to speak with your financial advisor or accountant for details on how you can benefit through this option. Something important to note is that such gifts must come directly from your IRA custodian to qualify. Again, please speak with your IRA custodian for details on how you can make such a gift.
- A strategy to reduce your Virginia state income tax is to take advantage of the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EISTCP) that provides significant tax credits for donations of at least \$500 and up to \$120,000 annually. EISTCP-qualifying gifts result in a tax credit of 65% of the gift value.

For more information about this program, speak to your tax preparer or contact Carolyn Sweeney at [csweeney@jacksonfeild.org](mailto:csweeney@jacksonfeild.org) to request the paperwork to begin the process.

Jackson-Feild greatly appreciates your support. Both of the above opportunities are simple to accomplish, and we urge you to contact your tax preparer to find out just how much they can lighten your tax burden.

# VOLUNTEERS



## GERDAU LONG STEEL PETERSBURG

Thank you to the folks from Gerdau Long Steel for staining our deck. This deck is located at Gwaltney School, and every year it is re-treated and stained for the safety of our children.



## GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN IN STANARDSVILLE

The women at ECW in Stanardsville generously brought and wrapped fill-in gifts for our Christmas Project. Thank you so much to those women.

## P.E.O SISTERHOOD

Thank you to P.E.O Sisterhood and other amazing friends for helping our staff wrap the presents for our children. The children had an amazing Christmas day.





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](http://www.jacksonfeild.org)

# Save The Date

Monday, May 6, 2024

Magnolia Green Golf Club

7001 Awesome Drive

Moseley, VA 23120

Go Golfing  
for the *Kids*