

# RISKING CONNECTIONS



## Jackson-Feild's Trauma-Informed Approach

In 2019, Jackson-Feild partnered with the Klingberg Trauma Stress Institute to implement a trauma-informed, trauma-focused treatment model. As a national leader in psychological trauma treatment, Klingberg has helped us enhance clinical expertise, improve children's outcomes, and build a well-trained, stable workforce.

At the heart of this initiative is the Risking Connections curriculum, a restorative approach designed to treat severe trauma and mental illness. Through ongoing professional development and specialized training, staff members gain the tools needed to provide the highest level of trauma-informed care.

Jackson-Feild is one of only two residential treatment programs in Virginia using this model, which—alongside other evidence-based interventions—has been a game changer for both our children and staff.



# Vickie's Journey: From Trauma to Triumph



Vickie is a young woman who has overcome incredible hardships including trauma, multiple caretaker disruptions, sexual abuse, drug addiction, and mental health struggles.

Vickie's journey began in the Congo and rapidly became a seemingly never-ending and tragic game of ping pong. As a child, Vickie's parents placed her in the care of her aunt and uncle in the U.S. For three years, the uncle subjected Vickie to unspeakable and repeated abuse. Taken in by a family friend, Vickie was unceremoniously returned to her parents in Africa. When her parents sent her to the U.S. a second time, Vickie was once again returned to Africa. It is unclear how the U.S. State Department became aware of Vickie's situation, but the agency determined that Vickie was not safe in the Congo and brought her back to the U.S. permanently.

Placed in foster care, Vickie struggled to adjust, leading to multiple moves. The constant upheaval and psychological trauma left her with deep-seated anxiety and distress. She needed stability and intensive mental health support—something she found at Jackson-Feild.

At Jackson-Feild, Vickie forged a life-changing bond with her therapist, Summer Jones, who helped her see life through a new lens. Ms. Jones guided her in understanding her mental health and learning how to manage it. She also found unwavering support in her cottage staff—Ms. Coleman, Ms. Green, and Ms. Person—who stood by her side, offering guidance and encouragement. For their support, Vickie is eternally grateful.

After completing her treatment, Vickie transitioned to a supervised independent living program in Northern Virginia. There, she graduated from high school and earned her Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA) certification. She is now a student at Northern Virginia Community College pursuing her goal of becoming a medical sonographer while working full-time as a CNA.

Vickie takes immense pride in being drug-free, completing her CNA certification, and earning her high school diploma—achievements that once seemed impossible. She credits Jackson-Feild and its dedicated staff for helping her heal and shape a future she is proud of. Today, she feels hopeful, confident, and excited about the path ahead.



## In memory of Dr. William Delano Bowling

The staff at Jackson-Feild were deeply saddened over the passing of Dr. William D. Bowling. Bowling served with distinction as Director of our on-campus Gwaltney School. He served in this role for 24 years before retiring from a 57-year career which began in 1961 as a teacher. Along the way, Bowling served in a variety of capacities holding a variety of titles. He spent most of his career as a principal in a number of school divisions.

Bowling also worked at the school board level as Secondary School Supervisor, General Supervisor and Director of Instruction. He brought this wealth of knowledge and experience to Jackson-Feild building the Gwaltney School into a first-rate private school. Bill had a passion for helping students - especially those with special needs - embrace learning and maximize their educational potential. We were blessed to have his leadership in creating a culture for learning. His legacy is alive and well and is being continued by Dr. Shaneka Rose our Director of Education. Countless students owe Bowling a debt of gratitude. Countless students owe Bowling a debt of gratitude, and our heartfelt condolences are will his wife and family.

*"Dr. Bowling was deeply committed to educating children with special needs and often had to create innovative educational plans to accommodate the many mental health challenges encountered at a treatment facility. He brought great success to individuals and to Gwaltney school over the years. He was a dear colleague and is greatly missed."*

*Patricia H. Delane*

## Celebrating History and Love: Jackson-Feild's Door Decorating Contest

Jackson-Feild's annual Door Decorating Contest continued with creativity and passion as teachers and children designed their doors for Black History Month and Valentine's Day.

Each classroom brought history and love to life through vibrant displays, honoring influential Black figures and celebrating the spirit of February.

The contest fostered teamwork and artistic expression, turning the hallways into a showcase of culture, learning, and heartfelt appreciation.





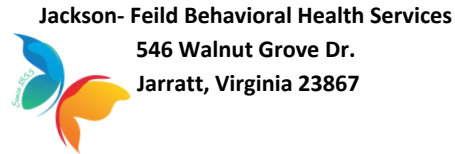
Committed to accountability and ethical practices,  
Jackson-Feild Behavioral Health Services is accredited and certified by these organizations.



Platinum  
Transparency  
2023

**Candid.**

For our financial information, please visit  
[www.jacksonfeild.org](http://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.

Join our 30th Annual Go Golfing for the Kids.

Scan the QR code to sign up or reach out to [vmcgraw@jacksonfeild.org](mailto:vmcgraw@jacksonfeild.org) for more details.

Go Golfing  
for the *Kids*



 Magnolia Green Golf Club  
7001 Awesome Drive Moseley, VA  
23120  
 Tuesday, May 06 at 12:00 PM