



## JULIE CENTER NEWS

Summer 2020

### Community



*With you for me and me for  
you,  
We'll muddle through  
whatever we do.  
Together, wherever we go*

Today as I sit and reflect upon our lives these past several months a variety of songs play in my head. The Beatles' *Come Together*, Teddy Pendergrass's *Wake Up*, Andra Day's *Rise Up*, and Cat Steven's *Peace Train*. The last newsletter featured the song *If Only You Would Listen* from the musical *The School of Rock*, which is a wonderful anthem for today. Therefore, you may be asking yourself, why, with all the inspirational songs available, a song from the Broadway musical *Gypsy* was chosen. An older musical with simple staging and effortless lyrics and music. How do these simple and corny lyrics speak to today and our reality? Simple, it is the word

together. When the fundamental principles of liberty, equality, and justice for all are being challenged, we must gather to process the lessons learned and change the narrative. One voice cannot do it. Many voices are needed. As more voices are heard, more histories are shared, and more connections formed and strengthened. Nobel Peace Prize recipient John Hume writes, "Difference is the essence of humanity and therefore respect for difference should be normal and common, but it is the first and deepest principle of real peace." Together we envision a community and city that is different from today and then we must get to work to make it happen. The Julie Center will continue to be committed to building equitable systems that will protect children, families, and the community. At the heart of the Julie Center is a community. A community of neighbors, of donors, and partners. A community full of energy, diversity, and voices, young and seasoned. The Julie Community Center could not exist if not for the generosity of our donors and volunteers. Thank you for your support and continued commitment to social and racial justice and to positive action and change. And thank you for advocating for a world where every child faces the future with confidence.



### *Greetings from the President's Corner,*

It is an honor to serve as the Julie Center's new President of the Board. The Julie Center has been a strong and uplifting presence in Southeast Baltimore for 45 years. I was introduced to the Center by the previous President of the Board, Lori Edwards. I have enjoyed my first year as Board President, and I have gotten to know our great volunteers and dedicated community members that help make our programs possible. The board has gone through a lot of changes, and we are actively recruiting for new members. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact us. We are also looking to expand and strengthen our community voices by creating a Community Advisory Committee. To be true to our mission, we want to hear from you; listen and incorporate your ideas, suggestions, and feedback. If you are interested, please contact us or join us during our next town hall.

In February, we had our Night at the Theater fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who came out for a night full of laughter and delicious food. I loved seeing and catching up with everyone, and I am grateful for the support the Julie



Center received from sponsors, donors, friends, and family.

This Spring has been a whirlwind, and during these difficult times, we are blessed to serve a community that has come together to support each other. As a community, we have risen to the changes and challenges during the pandemic. The Julie Center has continued most of its programming, and I want to thank our new Service Outreach Coordinator, Dominique Allen, for working with our local partners to serve meals to students and families in need. I look forward to carrying on our programs and hopefully connecting in person soon. I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for walking with us on this journey and always working to serve our wonderful community.

To all of our Julie Center friends, we continue to pray for your health and safety. In these difficult times, we could not be more grateful for community solidarity and support. And we are reminded that together, we can do so much good for our city. Thank you for your continued support, which allows us to help those in need, improving the health, and overall well-being of our neighbors!



*If we wish to create a lasting peace, we must begin with the children- - Ghandi*



## Center News

**Annual Summer Peace Camp and Culinary Camp**  
Due to Covid-19, we will not be holding our annual Summer Peace Camp nor the Culinary Camp this summer. We will take the summer to make necessary repairs and give the center a spruce up!

## Virtual Town Hall Meetings

Please consider joining us for an upcoming Town Hall meeting to discuss racial, economic, and social injustices facing our neighbors and community. These meetings will provide a space for neighbors to tell their stories of facing injustices, discuss community needs, and to identify solutions. Please provide your email address on the yellow card or email your information to [juliecenterdirector@gmail.com](mailto:juliecenterdirector@gmail.com). You will receive an email invitation.

## Program News

### Child Care Training Program

When the Baltimore City Schools and our partner, St. Vincent de Paul Head Start, closed the 15 participants in the Child Care Training

Program were just beginning their internships in the Head Start classrooms. They were able to spend two weeks in classrooms with children 3-5 years old before the lock down and through virtual classes were able to complete all training by mid-June. Brava graduates!

Please welcome our new Services Outreach Coordinator, Dominique Allen. Welcome Dominique.

### Special **THANKS!**

#### ✓ for generous gifts:

- You, our supporters
- Night at The Theater participants
- Margaret & William Judy
- Gayle & Craig Adams
- Joseph & Valerie Baumgartner
- Ann Miller
- Barbara Moore
- Damiana Chavez
- David and Pat Phoebus
- Theresa Graves
- Theresa Skepton
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

#### ✓ for outstanding services:

- Night at The Theater sponsors: Water for Chocolate, Bertha's, Henninger's Tavern, Charmed Kitchen, Pratt Liquors, and Bristol Wine and Spirits

### Staff: 2019-2020:

Belinda Davis      Laura Syron  
Dominique Allen      Theodore LaPerre  
Elizabeth Spradley      Fenna Abbati

### Julie Center Board:

#### 2019-2020

President: Perri Carroll  
Vice-President: Jannell Lawrence  
Secretary: Tiffany Long  
Treasurer: Vacant  
Therese Dill, SND  
Barbara Moore  
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