

# MARCH 2024

Welcome to your

Julie Community Center  
Newsletter

2023 was a year of growth, change, and adaptation. Welcome back, community!

Whether you're a long-time member or a new face, we welcome you with open arms this winter as we all welcome the new year.

Big things are happening for our neighborhood!

Continue reading to learn more about the latest & greatest in our community!

**Follow us to stay up to date!**



[The Julie Community Center](#)



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# DIRECTOR'S CORNER



*Consider yourself our mate  
We don't want to have no fuss  
For, after some consideration, we can state  
Consider yourself one of us*



The musical Oliver! brings to life Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist. The tale of a young orphaned boy searching for a home, a family, and love. He meets a boy on the streets of London named the Artful Dodger who is the leader of a colorful group of youthful pickpockets and with some consideration he is welcomed into their family. Deliberation & careful thought, probably weighing the pros and cons, went into the decision. I believe, more importantly, that the decision was made out of concern for Oliver and not only how it would benefit the group. If you look in the dictionary you will find multiple definitions and uses for the term consideration. One definition is of great import, "the thoughtful concern for others." This needs to go on a T-shirt or billboard! We take into consideration the feelings of others and how others will be impacted by our actions. The Julie Community Center's programs are designed, implemented, and evaluated with careful consideration to ensure we are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors and community. It is our mission. We ask ourselves, "What are the programs achieving and are we changing lives?" Please read the **Accomplishments** section for information on program achievements. We are continually blessed by the thoughtful consideration of others. These wonderful individuals are highlighted in the **Awards & Thank You** sections. To quote Eeyore, "A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes all the difference."

Peace, love, & hot chocolate,

*Laura Syron*

Julie Community Center Director

Laura Syron - JCC Director  
Rosa Piñeda - Services  
Outreach Coordinator  
Belinda Davis - Accountant  
Vacant - Health Coordinator



## New Team Members

Welcome **Joshua Carr** from  
Notre Dame Mission  
Volunteers/ AmeriCorps &  
**Emily Claire** from UMB  
School of Social Work



# MEET THE TEAM

# PRESIDENTS CORNER

The Julie Community Center has been in the Southeast Baltimore community for 48 years. We have dedicated our resources to any individuals or families in need. At the heart of the center are our committed staff, board, and volunteers who have worked very hard this year to continue our programming and create new opportunities that serve our neighbors in need.

## Big Events Last Year!

The Julie Community Center has welcomed new board members this year, each bringing a wealth of diverse expertise and a shared passion for the organization's mission. Thank you, **Aimee Lyons** and **Meghan Hansen** for joining the board. The board looks forward to advancing the organization's goals and making a lasting positive impact in the community. Additionally, the community center underwent a transformative renovation, breathing new life into its aging structure. You can also find a colorful mural that now brightens up the center's brick exterior. This mural was designed and painted by a group of students from Commodore Johns Rogers, along with our very own Southeast Baltimore artist, **Jaz Erenberg**.

## Our Ask

The Julie Community Center is actively seeking additional board members and volunteers to amplify our impact on the community. By joining our board, individuals have the opportunity to contribute their skills and perspectives, shaping the direction of our organization and expanding our reach. If you are interested in joining the board or learning more, please reach out by going to our volunteer page:

**<https://www.thejuliecommunitycenter.org/donate/volunteer/>**

Thanks for everything you do to support your Southeast Baltimore neighbors. We are sincerely thankful, we couldn't do this work without you. Please consider donating to us this Spring season. To all of our family & friends, thank you for your continued support! Have a beautiful Spring!



Perri Carroll, MPH  
Board President

## 2023-2024 Board

**Perri Carroll, President**  
**Janelle Lawrence, Vice President**  
**Brian Judy, Treasurer**  
**Thérèse Dill, SND**  
**Aimee Lyons**  
**Megan Cornely**

*"Being a board member of the Julie Community Center has been a rewarding experience where I'm able to combine my **professional experience & passion for youth causes**. It has also been a great way to develop a stronger **connection** to the people in the community & **give back**."*  
- Janelle Lawrence, **Board Vice President**

*"Being on the Board of the Julie Community Center has been such a great way to **connect** with my neighborhood & the Baltimore community. It is rewarding to contribute to something outside of my professional life that is **making a difference in the city**."* - Aimee Lyons, **Board Member**

## Join Our Board!

Uncover ways to impact your community by delving into our Board member's heartfelt reflections. Gain insight into their dedication to serving on the board & fostering positive change within the Southeast Baltimore Community. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!

**[juliecenterdirector@gmail.com](mailto:juliecenterdirector@gmail.com)**  
**[perri.carroll@gmail.com](mailto:perri.carroll@gmail.com)**

# THE BOARD

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Year Summary

### Reflections on 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023

- **389** individuals & families served
- September 2022: **Rosa Piñeda** was hired as Services Outreach Coordinator
- 2022-2023: **LaTia Glasgow** joined JCC as the UMB Social Work Intern
- April 2023: Renovations finally completed from flooding damage in the JCC building
- May 2023: JCC's **Lombard Street Mural** was completed
- August 2023: **Emily Claire** joined as 2023-2024 UMB Social Work Intern

## Community Outreach

Rosa's arrival at JCC has focused our services for **new immigrant families**. She works closely with **Community School Coordinators** at Wolfe Street Academy, City Springs, Commodore John Rogers, & Tench Tilghman schools. She supports families needing assistance with housing, food, clothing & more.

LaTia was instrumental in implementing Friday **food distributions** at Wolfe Street Academy in 2023. In Fall/Winter 2022, JCC collaborated on Thanksgiving & Christmas food distributions.

Thank you Maryvale, SaveMart, Carolyn Geraghty & school partners!

## Adult Education

**16** students **graduated** from the Child Care Training Program (CCTP), now in its 12th year. 12 students completed the coursework in Spanish and 4 in English. All successfully completed the 150 hours of courses for certification through MSDE. The teachers from the **Instituto de Educación Infantil** & the **Community College of Baltimore County** provided engaging didactic instruction.

Thank you to **St. Vincent de Paul Head Start** & **Patterson Park Public Charter School** for supporting internship hours for our students.

In partnership with **Wolfe Street Academy**, **12** parents participated in **beginner level English classes** from April through the end of the school year.

## Health Outreach

Health Coordinator, **Lizzy Spradley**, focused her attention on providing ongoing case management and support to individuals needing assistance accessing health care & community support.

**Educational workshops** & trainings were provided throughout the year including monthly training for childcare providers on the safe administration of medication, community harm reduction & wound care, & classroom seizure management. **147** individuals participated in health education workshops & trainings or received health consultation/assistance during this program year.

**Thank you Lizzie** for being an exceptional trainer & community nurse.

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Youth

The center is always a buzz with youthful energy & creativity. The Youth Leadership Committee is engaged in community service & worked with Jaz Erenberg, our neighborhood muralist, to design a mural for the exterior of the building. The mural was completed in May 2023, please stop by to see for yourself!

2023 Summer Peace Camp was a success & made possible by donors, who fund exciting activities for campers. Thank you!

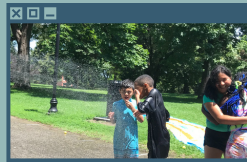
## Summer Peace Camp

Whether determining water quality of the Patterson Park pond, building habitats for solitary Mason bees, or creating ways to upcycle “trash” nature investigations and STEM activities have always been a crucial part of JCC’s Summer Peace Camp. Camp is four weeks of high-octane fun.

Our 2023 camp focus was **“Respect for the Environment”!**

This summer, campers went to the **National Aquarium, Maryland Center for History & Culture, & the Rawlings Conservatory** and focused on learning about environments.

Congratulations - Youth Leadership Committee, **Jaz Erenberg**, camp staff (**Eric Walker, Sr. Tracy Dill, Rosa, & Lizzie**), + volunteers (**Lynn Wynn & Phyllis Savoy**).



Special thanks to **Marti Judy** for donating camp T-shirts & **Friends of Patterson Park**.

Through exploring terrariums & learning together the campers truly personified the US Forest Service’s motto, **“Lend a Hand! Care for the Land!”**

**Thank you Sr. Tracy Dill for being our extraordinary science teacher.**

## Mid-year School Supplies

In 2018, graduates of the Child Care Training Program formed an advocacy group with the aim to support one another, as well as other children & families.

The members found that children often lacked resources to stock adequate school supplies for not just the beginning of the year - but ALL school year! They will be holding a **“Helping Children to Succeed in School”** School Supplies Giveaway on **March 23, 2024, 2-5pm**. Members will be collecting donations & promoting on socials.

Please email us at **juliecenterdirector@gmail.com** if you’d like to donate supplies or get involved.

## Advocacy & Feedback

In 2024, JCC will continue to host community meetings, health fairs, and summer camp. JCC hopes to expand engagement in **advocacy projects** and other programming in 2024 as well. We welcome your feedback on expansion opportunities, so please use the link/QR code below to **submit your feedback!**

Additionally, a **special thank you** to the following people for your support and advocacy for children and families;

*Candice Mack, Sandra Vaughn, Shannia Scott, Eric Walker, Ella Smothers, Tierra Scream, Dee Brown, Shequetta Levine, & Dreama Rondon.*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

# THANK YOU

**JCC'S WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR DEDICATED DONORS & PARTNERS.  
THANK YOU!**

Bender's Tavern  
Butcher's Hill Association  
Community College of Baltimore  
County  
Constellation  
Instituto de Educación Infantil  
Johns Hopkins Health System  
Maryvale Preparatory School  
Notre Dame Mission Volunteers  
Our Lady of Angels Church  
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur:  
- Congregational Mission Office  
- East-West Province  
St. Vincent de Paul Head Start of  
Baltimore  
The Mayor & City Council of  
Baltimore  
T. Rowe Price Foundation  
UMB School of Social Work

Ministry of Brewing  
Upper Fells Point  
Improvement Association  
Patterson Park Academy of  
Music  
Barbara Moore  
Blaise & Renee D'Ambrosio  
Brian Judy  
Carm Dorsey  
Carolyn Geraghty & Team  
David Grimm  
Erin Morris  
Janet Mooney & Kurt  
Schiller  
Jaz Erenberg  
Kimberly Cates  
Mark & Nancy Supik  
Mary Sullivan  
Megan Cornely

Natalie Schwartz  
Pat & Dave Phoebus  
Patricia Savage  
Sharon Yandian  
Sr. Thérèse Dill, SND  
Theresa Skepton  
Timmi Wolff  
& Others Not Listed

Special Thanks to Our  
Monthly Donors

Marti & Bill Judy  
Ann Wilson  
Joseph & Valerie  
Baumgartner

## AWARDS

### Julie Center's Best Award

To someone that has  
contributed greatly  
towards the mission of  
the Julie Center.

**Marti Judy**

### Lillian Skepton Memorial Award

To a partner who  
promotes health,  
education & wellbeing  
of the community.

**Friends of Patterson  
Park**

### Gayle Faulkner Memorial Award

To a youth who has  
shown outstanding  
progress over the year.

**Keily Rivera Barreto**

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of  
our journey.

If you would like to learn more about how to get  
more involved, please consider volunteering with  
us on our **Community Health Days**.

Please donate at the link below or QR Code to  
support our upcoming efforts, such as **school  
supply drives, food distributions, & new  
neighbor support!**

Please email [juliecenterdirector@gmail.com](mailto:juliecenterdirector@gmail.com)  
with any inquiries

## GET INVOLVED



**DONATE HERE**