

Your Quarterly News & Updates Vol.6, Issue 1/Winter 2026
From The Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals, Inc.

WACYCP BADGER BUZZ



"Meeting the needs of Wisconsin's Child and Youth Care Professionals"

CELEBRATING OUR



ANNIVERSARY



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Badger Buzz Readers, Share With Us Why You Love Being A Youth Worker. Send A Short Blurb And Fun Photo To Devina At: djcenter4youth@yahoo.com

HOW HAS THE WACYCP BADGER BUZZ HELPED YOU PROFESSIONALLY OR PERSONALLY?

Yes, YOU! And while you're at it, please forward this issue to colleagues, peers, friends and any stakeholder who has the interests of youth and child care workers at heart. You'll be doing them a real service. The CYC Advocate is FREE to all those who have the support of child and youth care workers at heart.

Would you like to write for the Badger Buzz? OF COURSE YOU CAN! Share your CYC experiences, expertise, perspectives, and opinions with your CYC peers. It's FUN, and you'll be doing them a great service.

Is there something you'd especially like to read? Call us at (608)846-2860 or email us at propman46@gmail.com and we'll get right on it!

Next Issue: Copy for the Spring issue is due APRIL 1, 2026 to: Michael Mitchell, propman46@gmail.com (608-846-2860) Madison, WI (CT)

ARE YOU USING THE ACYCP JOURNAL OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORK?

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FROM THE (Human) EDITOR'S DESK

"The most brilliant and innovative people in history have also had the most ruthless and ignorant critics." --- Anonymous

PLEASE NOTE: While we happily understand if you regard the Badger Buzz as you might a good book, you don't have to finish this entire issue in one sitting, as much as you might like to (LOL). We know there's a broad range of CYC information and resources in each issue, which reflects the scope and depth of service activities within our CYC field. After all, it took us 3 months and 400 news items to compile this issue, so we suggest you take an initial scan, read what grabs your attention, then come back for a deeper dive later.

We're all very busy. But doesn't real life-long learning, best practice, and professional and personal development deserve more than the usual three-minute attention span and 15-second sound bite? (This seems to have become the norm for most of today's social media messaging.) After all, isn't this what you would expect from your professional doctor, dentist, lawyer, professor, etc.? We believe you'll be glad you did.

REMEMBER: IF YOU ARE NOT STAYING CURRENT WITH THE BADGER BUZZ, YOUR SKILL SETS MAY BE LESS THAN YOU'D LIKE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH YOU SERVE. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW.

Michael Mitchel, MAT, Editor

IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE:

- GREETINGS FROM THE WACYCP BOARD
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- WHEN YOU KNOW BETTER...DO BETTER
- PROFESSIONAL CYC CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK IS KEY TO SUCCESS
- FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER
- AS THE TWIG IS BENT...
- YOUR AD CAN GO HERE AS A FREE MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT! *

Check out our display ad section at the end of this issue for more valuable CYC resources.

TELL US WHAT SPECIFIC TOPICS YOU'D LIKE US TO COVER

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE? FEEL FREE TO SHARE, ANNOUNCE, PRINT AND POST AS YOU SEE FIT. REPRINTS?-See terms and conditions at end of this issue. Comments, questions, or concerns? See below! BACK ISSUES OF THE BADGER BUZZ MAY BE ACCESSED AT: WWW.WACYCP.ORG

IF YOU LIKE THIS BADGER BUZZ, SIGN UP FOR THE [QUARTERLY "CYC ADVOCATE" HERE](#)

TO JOIN WACYCP OR RENEW YOUR INDIVIDUAL OR AGENCY MEMBERSHIP, GO TO: <https://www.wacycp.org>

GREETINGS FROM THE WACYCP BOARD



WELCOME TO THE FIFTH YEAR OF THE BADGER BUZZ!

Hello fellow youth workers,

Happy 2026!

We hope everyone had a great holiday season and now we are into 2026!

The WACYCP is proud to be a partner and planning for some events this first half of the year:

Our first one is promoting the ACRC- Together the Voice for a Direct Care Pre-Conference at their 70th Annual Conference to be held in March in Chicago, Illinois. The Direct Care Conference is titled: Knowing Better, Caring Better: Frontline Innovations in Transforming Residential Youth Care and Community Practice and will be held on Monday March 16th, 2026. More information on the event is at the link below. Join us if you can!

[Annual Conference | Association of Children's Residential & Community Services \(ACRC\)](#)

In May we will celebrate the annual Thank A Youth Worker Day on Thursday May 7th. It is national recognized day where we say thank you to all the youth workers out there doing amazing work with our youth and families. In May we will also host the 26th Annual WACYCP Youth Work Awards Event- date and location TBD so stay tuned. Nominations will open in March for the award categories.

In June we will be hosting an Open House Prospective Board Member Breakfast. Stay tuned for details on that as well. We welcome new and interested board members to join our board, and this Open House is a great opportunity to learn more about what we do. Enjoy this issue of the Badger Buzz,

Romero Ference
WACYCP Board President



Registration For ACRC's 70th Annual Conference In Chicago is Now OPEN!



BREAKING NEWS!

ACYCP HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to ACYCP's CYC Asvocate (Winter-2026).. The ACYCP grew out of te WACYCP, with the help of the help of Prof. Mark Krueger and the Youth Work Learning Center at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in _____.]

In an historic move compared to the development of CYC Certification and its 501c3 US IRS nonprofit/tax deductible incorporation, the ACYCP all-volunteer Board has hired its first-ever paid part-time Executive Director. The news was announced in an email dated December 16, 2025 from Board president Jody Rhodes:

“We are proud to formally announce the hiring of the historic first- ever Executive Director for the ACYCP and CYCBB- Andrew Young. His bio is below and we are excited to have him lead the path ahead.

He will start January 7th and he may be reaching out to some of you in his early on-boarding days to get to know you and see what ideas you have to offer for the growth of both organizations.

Deb [Getz, CYCCB Board President] and I wanted to let you know that the hiring process got finished. Thank you to all that helped with the process! “



In an accompanying statement, Andrew Young shared the following:

“With more than 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and youth development sector, I have dedicated my career to creating spaces where young people and families can thrive. I am a TBRI® Practitioner, a Certified Professional Youth Worker, and a firm believer in the power of the natural environment to foster connection, resilience, and growth.

I completed my undergraduate studies in Outdoor Recreation, Resource Management, and Parks Administration at Indiana University and earned a Master’s degree in Nonprofit Management from the IU O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Throughout my career, I have held leadership, facilitation, and professional development roles with a consistent focus on advancing equity, access, and meaningful community impact.

Most recently, I served as Executive Director of Bradford Woods through IU’s Office of Student Life and as Associate Executive Director at Foundation For Youth. In these roles, I led organizational strategy, fund development, staff development, and partnership growth—always centered on supporting young people, families, and the communities they call home.

I am passionate about aligning service leadership with strategic action, cultivating strong partnerships, and building programs that create lasting, positive change.” ♦

Illustration: Andrew Young

SAVE THE DATE!
[GO HERE!](#)

NATIONAL THANK A YOUTH WORKER DAY

MAY 7 2026

Thank a Youth Worker Day is a joint effort of community partners, youth work organizations, youth and child care workers, and individuals who have signed on to declare an international day of celebrating youth workers.

acycp
ASSOCIATION FOR CHILD AND YOUTH CARE PRACTICE

www.acycp.org



THE YEAR AHEAD IN NONPROFIT LAW

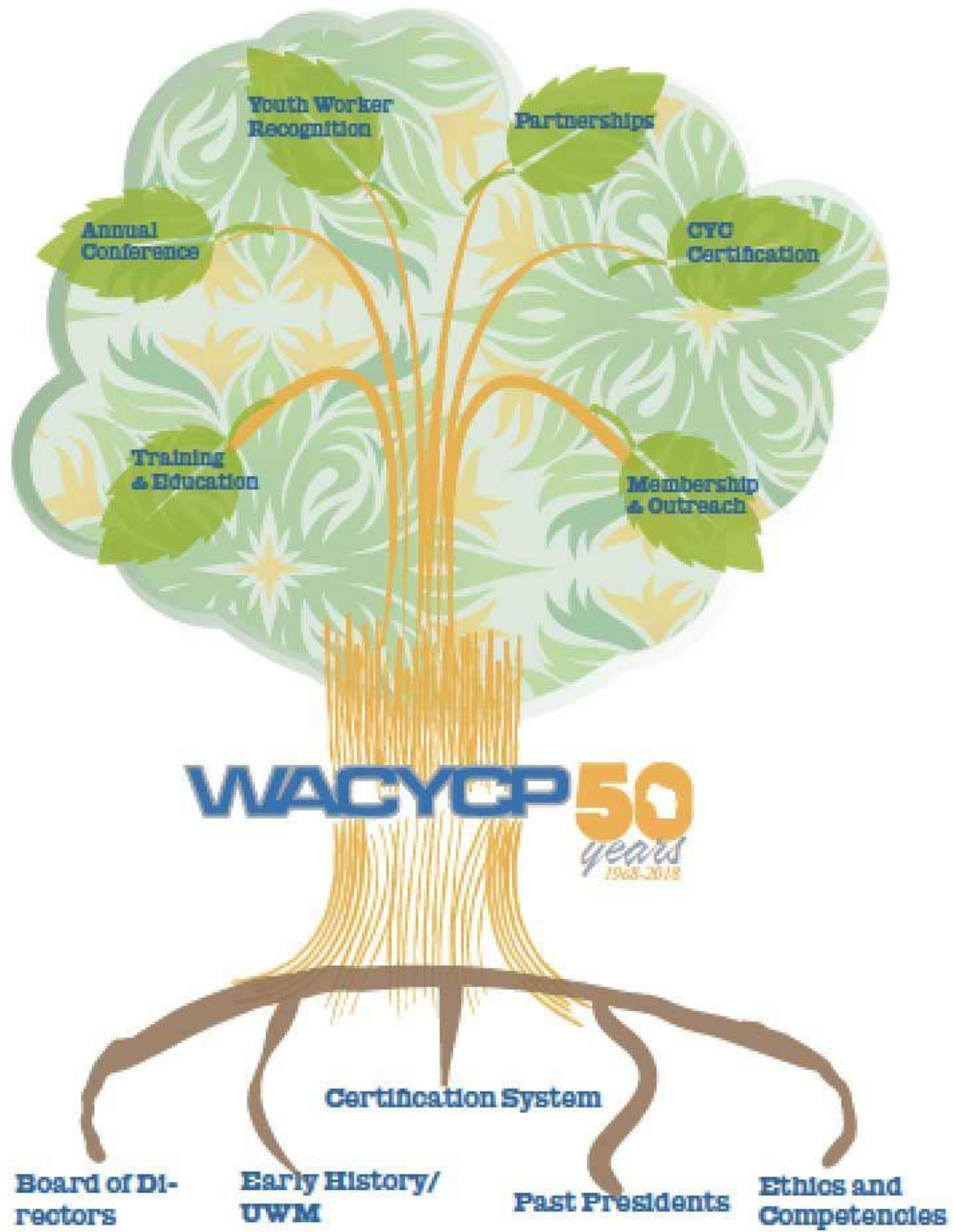
By Melissa Scholz

To our clients, friends and community,

I write this on the heels of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, as we usher in the second year of the current administration amid more headlines, cruelty, and chaos than most of us can fully digest. As we face 2026, a sense of trepidation feels unavoidable. I keep hearing the word "uncertainty" from our clients, across the nonprofit sector, and frankly, in conversations about the world at large.

I don't dispute this uncertainty, but I also look around (at many of you, in fact) and see communities that continue to work for a better tomorrow. Often this work is quiet and difficult, and you may feel it barely moves the needle. But it does – our neighbors in Minnesota have come together as a community to support their neighbors and push back on violence. We know of a recently constructed childcare center that doubled care spots for working families in a small community. We know housing is getting built and loans are being made to help small businesses owners. Lawsuits are underway to protect Constitutional rights. Mental health support and medical care are being delivered. And much work continues to advance justice and equality – despite significant challenges and efforts to shut them down.

[READ MORE](#)



WISCONSIN IN THE CYC SPOTLIGHT



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and the Wisconsin Examiner and was posted December 15, 2025.].

FEDS CALL OUT WISCONSIN, 38 OTHER STATES FOR DIVERTING BENEFITS OWED TO FOSTER KIDS

By Erik Gunn

Federal officials are urging 39 states, including Wisconsin, to quit hoarding federal benefits that are supposed to go to children in foster care, but that agencies instead take to help pay for their foster care expenses.

The practice has been going on in various states for two decades or more, according to advocates who have been calling to ban it for nearly as long.

Wisconsin is among the states that received letters last week from the federal Administration for Children and Families, calling on them to stop diverting Social Security survivor's benefits that are supposed to go to foster children.

"Every earned benefit dollar belongs to these foster youth, not the government agencies or bureaucrats," said Alex J. Adams, the ACF assistant secretary, in a press release from ACF and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"ACF has notified all 39 governors who allow this practice and aims to work with states to end it," the press release stated. "The goal is to ensure these earned benefits are no longer taken from foster youth and are instead preserved to support them as they transition out of state care."

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[Former Foster Child Becomes Vice President Of The Wisconsin Youth Advisory Council](#)

[Federal Action on Foster Youth Benefits Reflects Growing Attention to State Practices](#)

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[Human Trafficking Awareness Month](#)

[Bill To Examine The Disappearance And Murders Of Black Women And Girls Receives Public Hearing](#)

[Doing What's Best for Kids During 2025 the Year of the Kid and Investing in Public Education at Every Level](#)

[Lawsuit Challenging Federal Attempt to Limit Access to Gender-Affirming Care](#)

[Big Brothers Big Sisters Of Dane County Celebrates 60th Anniversary](#)

[Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Newsletter](#)

[Rule Change Aims To Boost Kin Placements For Wisconsin Foster Children](#)

[City of Milwaukee Health Department Releases its Community Health Assessment](#)

[DHS Launches Program to Offer Free, At-Home HIV/STI Testing Kits](#)

[Impact of Wisconsin's 21st Century Community Learning Centers](#)

[City Selling Former Youth Facility, Park For Development](#)

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70th Annual Conference
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Hilton Chicago Hotel



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9th Annual
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May 28, 2026 | 8:00 am-3:00 PM

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MAY

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IT'S A GUY THING



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and The Good Men Project and was posted December 21, 2025.]

WE TOOK IN TWENTY HOMELESS KIDS. NONE OF IT WENT TO PLAN

By Dan Foster

Inside the unlikely boys' home started by two young men who just wanted to help.

When I was twenty, my friends were out discovering life. They were saving for overseas trips, taking photos in front of the Eiffel Tower, working in pubs in London, trying to decide between hostels in Berlin and beach bars in Greece. They were doing what normal young adults do when the world is wide open and responsibility still feels optional.

I was doing something else entirely.

I bought a house.

Not a sensible little first home. Not an investment property. Certainly not anything approved by my parents or by common sense. I bought a sagging old weatherboard I found in the classifieds section of the newspaper, the kind of tiny listing squeezed between second-hand lawnmowers and someone selling a cockatiel.

It was cheap. Suspiciously cheap. The floors sloped, the wallpaper peeled, and the whole place smelled like damp carpet and forgotten intentions. I did not know it had termites yet. That came later.

At twenty, I had a very clear idea of what my life was supposed to be. I was going to save the world. Not in a metaphorical way. I genuinely believed that faith meant doing something dramatic and sacrificial and a little bit cinematic. While other people were comparing travel insurance, I was convinced that Jesus wanted me to start a movement. So I bought a crumbling house as step one.

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[Loving Men Means Never Shaming Them for Having Emotions](#)

[Why Love and Emotional Support Are Essential for Men's Mental Health in Today's World](#)

[The Hidden Curriculum That Silences Fathers — And How We Fix It](#)

[7 Ways to Stop the 'Blame Game' and Lower Conflict With Your Partner](#)

[Healthy Masculinity for Gay Men: 8 Shifts That Change Everything](#)

[The Rise of the Dad Club](#)

[5 Ways for Men to Break the 'Fixer' Habit](#)

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AROUND WISCONSIN



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service (NNS) and was posted December 22, 2025.]

HERE'S HOW MILWAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CAN LEARN TO DRIVE NEXT SEMESTER

By Alex Klaus

Milwaukee Recreation recently gave out its 10,000th probationary license to a Milwaukee Public Schools student through its MPS Drive program.

Now, registration for the winter semester is here. Students can choose between taking classes in person, online or a mix of both formats in addition to getting their driving hours behind the wheel with an instructor.

Milwaukee Recreation started the MPS Drive program 10 years ago to remove barriers to driver's education.

"We noticed that more of the suburb kids were getting their permits over our inner-city kids," said Jodie Donabar, driver's education supervisor at Milwaukee Recreation. "We wanted to develop something that would take away all the barriers, and money is the biggest barrier."

Here's what you need to know about the upcoming driver's education classes and how you can join.

[READ MORE](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[Wisconsin Substance Use Summit](#)

[Kids Locked In Storage Room](#)

[Wisconsin After-School Programs Host Food Pantry Sites](#)

[Bikes for Kids Wisconsin Announces 2026 Cohort of 38 Bike Recipient Organizations Throughout Wisconsin](#)

[Public Allies Will Offer A Set Of Programs](#)

[Wisconsin State Patrol Officers Take Action Against Human Trafficking](#)

[150 Laptops Gifted To Dane County Teens](#)

[How Repairers Of The Breach's Clothing Bank Supports Milwaukee's Most Vulnerable](#)

[Attorney: Teen 'Brutally Assaulted' At Racine County Detention Center](#)

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THE LEARNING CENTER



*A virtual marketplace of professional development for
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**Child & Youth Care
Ethics: 'Doing Ethics'
in Daily Practice**



**What I Would Tell my
Younger Manager Self**

Frank Eckles, BA, CYC-P

Archived Available 24/7

This training is useful to both people entering the field and more advanced practitioners who may not have completed ethics training based on this code. The workshop begins with discussion of foundational ideas about what an ethics code is. It then uses a case development approach to help participants apply the code to realistic practice scenarios to explore the process of 'doing' ethics to arrive at approaches that reflect thoughtful ethical practices.

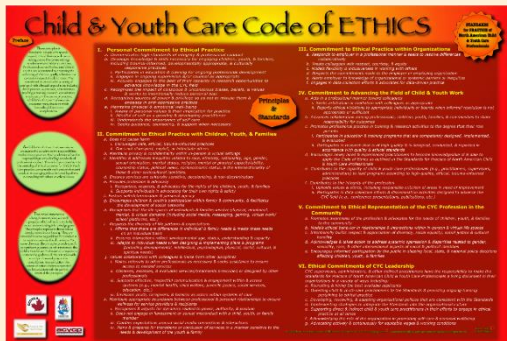
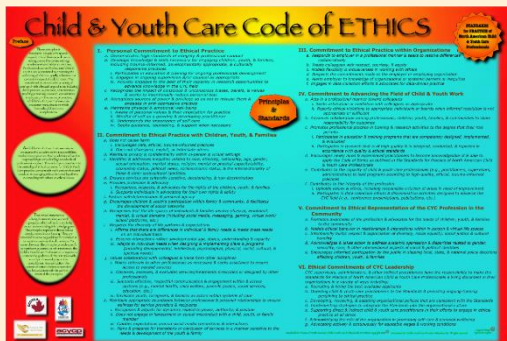
[More Information & Registration](#)

**Jerriann Chandler-Ochoa, PhD,
LMFT, CYC-P**

Archived Available 24/7

Participants will travel with me in my own management journey and hear about the lessons learned over a 25-plus years career. We will then explore authentic leadership and how the philosophy behind this type of leadership may help guide participants toward a management style that both feels genuine and gains the trust and confidence of their employees.

[More Information & Registration](#)



ETHICS POSTERS

- Gifts to those special CYCs in your life
- Awards and gifts to pass out at conferences and training events
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The posters can be ordered in two colors: red or blue. They are available in 18"x24" format. They can also be printed in 24"x36" format. Please indicate how many of each color and size you need when ordering.

Postage and shipping is included in the poster pricing. To ship to Canada, an additional \$10 per order is needed to cover shipping costs. Please allow up to 4 weeks for Canadian delivery. Prices below are in USD.

To order, contact Laura Klemm at cycoffice@youthworkacademy.org

Poster 18x24

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- 10 Poster \$270 (\$27 each)

Poster 24x36

WE ARE FAMILY



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and The Here and Now program of the Public Broadcasting System (PBS-Wisconsin), and was posted January 9, 2026.]

DR. RYAN WESTERGAARD ON HEPATITIS B VACCINATION FOR NEWBORNS

By Frederica Freyberg

Wisconsin Department of Health Services state epidemiologist Dr. Ryan Westergaard describes continuing guidance to vaccinate newborns for hepatitis B after a federal panel changed its recommendations.

[READ MORE & WATCH HERE](#)

[RELATED: Wisconsin Rejects CDC Vaccine Changes](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[The Psychology Of A Child Who Grew Up Too Fast](#)

[Botulism Outbreak Sickens More Than 50 Babies](#)

[A 4-Year-Old Died Of Flu Complications. Her Mother Has A Message For Other Parents](#)

[The Top Baby-Name Trends](#)

[Women Getting Bad Advice on Cannabis Use in Pregnancy, Study Finds](#)

[Hepatitis B: What Parents Should Know About The Virus And The Vaccine](#)


[“A Day in the Life of My Defiant Child”](#)

[Monthly Resource Information To Support Youth And Families During Transition To Adult Life \[Handicapped\]](#)

[Most Hispanic Children in Families With Low Incomes Receive Medical Care](#)

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[Strong Fathers, Stronger Futures \[City of Milwaukee\]](#)



You have the potential to open doors that had once seemed impossible.

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Adoption Month



Summer Camp at SOAR: Approaching 50 years, SOAR's adventure and education programs have provided ADHD/LD youth with critical life skills and self-sufficiency; preparing them for life success by focusing on strengths and eliminating barriers.
 | soarnc.org/adhd-camp

Illustration: Alicia Dyson on Pixabay.com

BE AWARE WITH SELF CARE



[Editor's Note: The following is a partial reprint of a commercial ad and product, which is not sanctioned nor endorsed by the Badger Buzz or the WACYCP.]

OVERCOME FEAR OF FLYING

By Captain Tom Bunn

What is fear of flying? More than physical safety, it is also emotional safety. Fear, panic, and claustrophobia can develop when not in control. SOAR stops these feelings automatically.

As both a licensed therapist and airline captain, I've specialized in the treatment of fear of flying for thirty years, and developed methods that are far more effective in treating fear of flying than those found anywhere else. It has been years since I've worked with an anxious or even terrified flier I could not help. I'm sure I can help you overcome your fear of flying, too.

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BONUS FEATURES

[Why Is Flu Season So Bad This Year?](#)

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[Flu Cases Are Surging And Rates Will Likely Get Worse](#)

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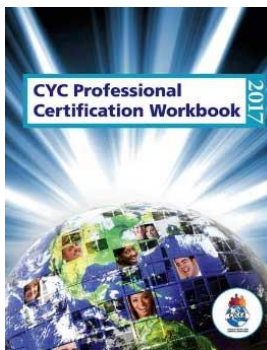
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[REGISTER FOR ONLINE TESTING](#) When you are ready to proceed with virtual testing.

FROM THE BUSINESS SIDE OF CYC



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the Nonprofit Leadership Center and was posted December 16, 2025.]

GET A JUMPSTART ON YOUR 2026 GOALS

Because nonprofit professionals give so much to their communities and consistently do more with less, research shows they're among the most likely to experience burnout. In this interactive workshop, you will learn research-backed strategies to create more space for what brings you joy, beat burnout and build resilience. Drawing on Shabnam Mogharabi's keynote from the 2024 Nonprofit Leadership Conference, participants will explore gratitude, the power of connection, and the principles of positive psychology that contribute to overall well-being.

With dedicated time for reflection, you'll learn simple steps to develop new habits, design a customized self-care plan that fits seamlessly into your daily routine, and leave with tools you can use immediately to find more happiness at work and home. Start 2025 ready to begin every Monday with excitement and enthusiasm that aligns with your true purpose.

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TAX-EXEMPT BONDS SEMINAR

This mini workshop will bridge to the return of the full workshop in the Spring of 2027

Monday, March 9, 2026

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Complimentary Lunch. Doors open at 8:00 a.m.

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**CAN YOUR SEE ME NOW?
DEI IS HERE TO STAY!**



Diversity, Inclusion, and Equality Comprise the Heart Of Democracy

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and the Neighborhood New Service and was posted January 5, 2025.]

POWWOW DRUM CIRCLE INSPIRES INDIGENOUS YOUTHS IN MILWAUKEE

By Jonathan Aguilar

In a small church off East Oklahoma Avenue, impassioned singing, steady drum beats and the smell of incense emanate from its front doors.

Brothers Isiah and Avery Nahwahquaw co-founded RedNationBoyz, a powwow drum circle, in 2024. They host their practices at Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit, 3127 S. Howell Ave., during the Milwaukee Intertribal Circle's crafting Wednesdays. All funding for the RedNationBoyz comes directly out of the Nahwahquaw brothers' own pockets.

The Nahwahquaw brothers formed the group to connect Indigenous boys, ranging in age from 10 to 20, in Milwaukee to their roots.

[READ MORE](#)

BONUS FEATURES

[Rainbow Panic Is Getting Absurd \[Humor\]](#)

[Honoring Human Rights and Celebrating Deaf Identity \[Video\]](#)

[New Nonprofit Wants To Connect Black And Brown People To Nature](#)

[What Is Kwanzaa and How Is It Celebrated?](#)

[New Director Of Milwaukee's Office Of African American Affairs Talks Plans To Support The Community](#)

["When Did Woke Become A Four-Letter Word?"](#)

[We Need To Talk About The Pretendians In Our Midst](#)

[Celebrate Wisconsin's Native American Heritage Year-Round](#)

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[The Stories That Started to Define Cultivating Culture in 2025 \[Native Americans\]](#)

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[Legacy of Slavery Is Why U.S. Remains Bound by Insane Gun Policy](#)

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

[City of Milwaukee Office of African American Affairs](#)

[Equal Rights Commission \[City of Milwaukee\]](#)

[Milwaukee County Office of Equity](#)

MLK Day 2026

IN THE END, WE
WILL REMEMBER
NOT THE WORDS
OF OUR ENEMIES,
BUT THE SILENCE
OF OUR FRIENDS.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thanks to Urban Triage



Child Welfare
Capacity Building
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Illustration: Roses Street on Pixabay.com

YOUTH IN CHARGE



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the Greater Good Science Center and was posted January 15,, 2026.]

HOW TO LISTEN TO TEENS WITH COMPASSION

One of the most meaningful expressions of compassion we can show another person is to listen deeply to them—and that's just as true for parents and teens. As our teens move toward becoming more independent from us, sometimes they tend to be less inclined to share personal hardships. When they do share, it can be a valuable opportunity to

show them our love and desire to understand them.

When your teens make a bid to talk to you about their challenges, respond by letting them know you're available for them. Show that you're really listening—with warmth and non-judgment.

In this video, Lee and his teen, Noah, take a first step practicing five ways to listen to truly hear.

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BONUS FEATURES

[Twin Brothers Drop Children's "Money Magic" Book](#)

[Indigenous Students Premiere New Documentary Following National Award](#)

[Use of Generative AI for Mental Health Advice Among US Adolescents and Young Adults](#)

[Meet Milwaukee Youth Poet Laureate Angela Wang](#)

[About 4 In 10 Teens Support Cellphone Bans In Classrooms](#)

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— John Lewis, Carry On: Reflections for a New Generation

[Editor’s Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to Youth Today and was accessed from their website on December 30, 2025 To subscribe go to:

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MEET YOUTH TODAY’S NEW PUBLISHER

For more than 35 years, Youth Today has published in-depth reporting on issues affecting youth, including foster care and child welfare, juvenile justice, youth with disabilities, education, out-of-school time, positive youth development and more.

In 2012, Youth Today was acquired by the Center for Sustainable Journalism at Kennesaw State University (KSU). During its time at KSU, Youth Today has continued to serve as the go-to publication for the youth development field, transitioning from a print to online publication and strengthening its commitment to high-quality journalistic integrity.

After 12 years with KSU, it is time for Youth Today to enter its next era, housed within an organization that has deep knowledge of and connections to the allied youth fields. We are pleased to announce that Youth Today is now published by Knowledge to Power Catalysts (KP Catalysts).

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If I Could Supervise My Supervisor:
The Art of Positively “Managing Upward”



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FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER



[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the author and The Hechinger Report and was first posted November 13, 2024.]

SOME COLLEGES HAVE AN ANSWER FOR STUDENTS QUESTIONING THE VALUE OF HIGHER ED: WORK-BASED LEARNING

By Olivia Sanchez

Co-op programs that give students workplace experience while they earn a degree are getting more attention

Every weekday morning for six months, instead of taking college classes, 25-year-old Tamari Natelauri made the 45-minute drive from Philadelphia to Voorhees Township, New Jersey, to go to work at a large accounting firm.

Website for Working Nation: This story also appeared in Working Nation It's her dream job – and she hasn't even graduated from college yet.

By the time she walks across the stage at Drexel University's commencement ceremony in 2027, Natelauri will have spent 11 years of her life – and a lot of money – on higher education, including seven years at the Community College of Philadelphia, working part-time toward an associate degree in business. She believes it will be worth it, because along with her bachelor's degree, she will have a year and a half of accounting experience, a professional network, references and a clear idea of the career she wants to build for herself.

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Enjoy!

AS THE TWIG IS BENT



“As The Twig Is Bent, So Grows The Tree”---Confucius

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks to the Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service and was posted June 3, 2025.]

HUMAN BRAIN ACTS LIKE SUPER COMPUTER: ADVANCED CALCULATIONS IN HUMAN

PERCEPTION

Summary: Researchers have unearthed how human brains inherently perform calculations akin to high-powered computers through Bayesian inference, enabling precise, swift environmental interpretation. This statistical method melds prior knowledge and new evidence, permitting us to quickly and accurately discern our surroundings.

This study showcases how our brain's visual system structure is innately designed to execute Bayesian inference on the sensory data it gathers. Such revelations promise breakthroughs in areas spanning from AI's machine learning to novel therapeutic strategies in clinical neurology.

Key Facts:

Human brains utilize Bayesian inference, a statistical method, to effectively combine prior knowledge with new data, interpreting the environment efficiently.

The research indicates our brain's visual system inherently possesses the structure and connections for performing Bayesian computations.

This discovery is pivotal in fields ranging from artificial intelligence, where emulating these brain functions can transform machine learning, to innovative therapeutic avenues in neurology.

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Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the United States *

The United States is the only country in the world that has yet to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Several of the provisions of the CRC came at the recommendation of President Reagan's Administration and President Bill Clinton signed the CRC in 1995. However, the Convention has not been ratified by the U.S. Senate. The failure to ratify this treaty has left U.S. children vulnerable to human rights abuses at the state and federal level. It is critical that every nation, including the U.S., sign and ratify the CRC to protect the human rights of children.

*This is an appeal from Human Rights for Kids Inc.

[Human Rights For Kids, Inc.](#)

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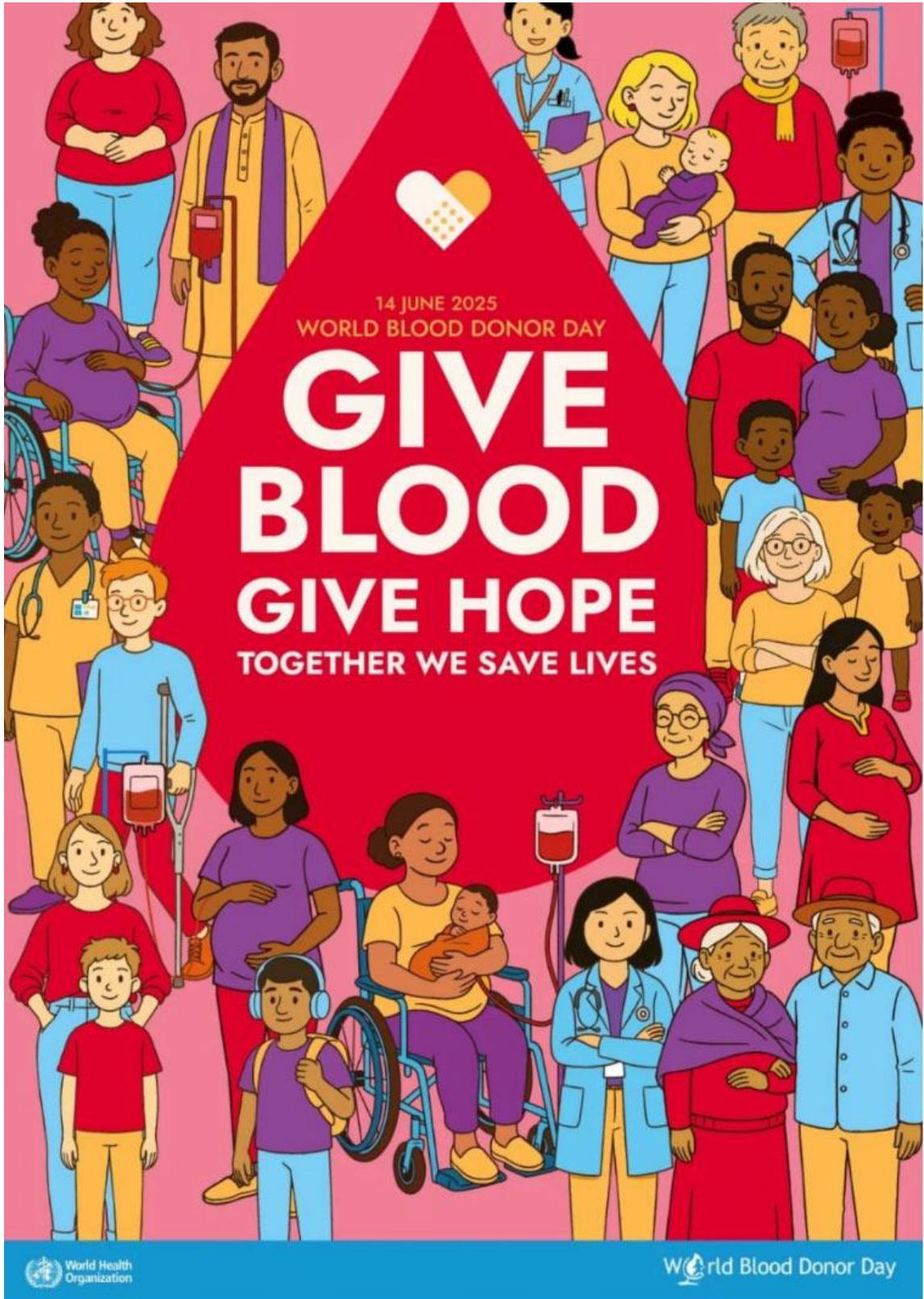
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A graphic with a dark blue background. On the left, there is a stylized silhouette of a pregnant woman in a light purple tank top. To the right of the silhouette, the text "Black Maternal Health Week" is written in a light blue, cursive font. Below this, the text "How are you partnering with purpose to reduce maternal health disparities?" is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) with the text "HRSA Maternal & Child Health".

Black Maternal Health Week

How are you partnering with purpose to reduce maternal health disparities?

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Remember, The Trevor Project is available 24/7, day and night, to support LGBTQ+ young people who may find themselves overwhelmed and impacted by this news. Your identity is valid, your feelings matter, and you are so loved. If you need to talk, you can text START to 678678, call us at 1-866-488-7386, or chat with us online.

Following our premiere episode with Daniel Radcliffe, the second episode of our roundtable series "Sharing Space" features transgender, intersex, queer, and nonbinary young people who join Nova Bright-Williams, Head of Internal Training, Learning, and Development at Trevor, to talk about their experiences with gender euphoria, stigma, and acceptance.

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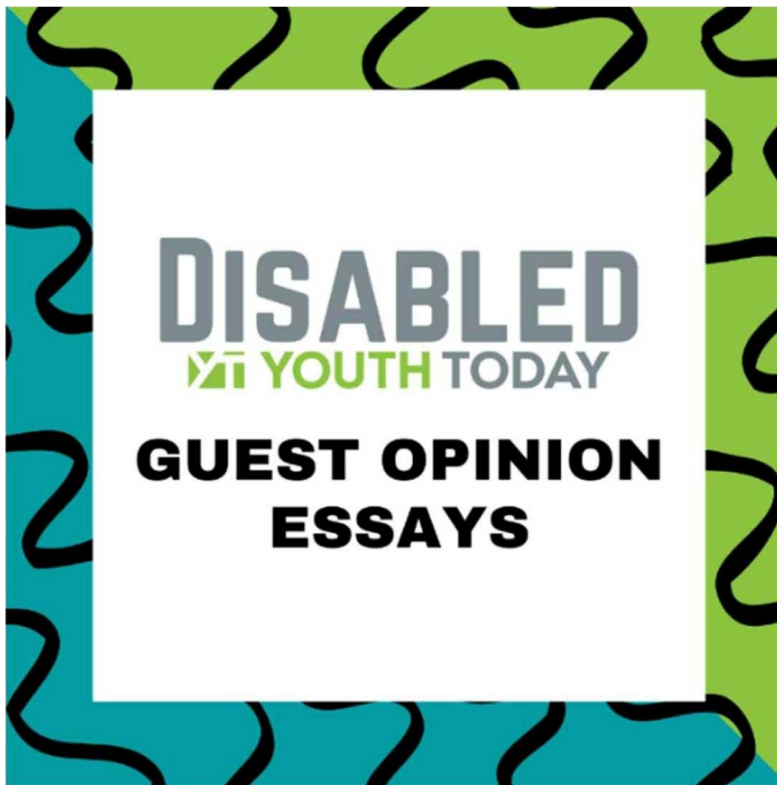
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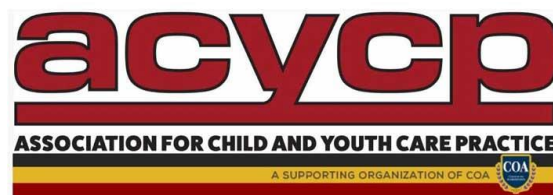
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