

2022 YEAR END ROUND UP

CHECK OUT OUR WINTER NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2023



Craig, Gordon CEO

A NOTE FROM CRAIG GORDON, CEO

Hello friends,

As we embark on a new year during this month of January, I'm reminded of one of my personal heroes in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Although Dr. King's life was tragically cut short, I always feel more inspired and hopeful when we celebrate his birthday and are reminded of his historic accomplishments surrounding social justice. I am also fond of African proverbs and the wisdom they instill such as, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go with others."

As my first newsletter as CFP's CEO, I'd like us to go far in 2023. And that means teamwork. Thankfully, teamwork abounds at CFP where I get the chance to see and hear about it virtually every day. Teamwork helps make our work and work life more meaningful and successful. We cherish the connections we build with our teammates, and we enjoy being considered a team member who can be relied upon. I look forward to all our teams making meaningful gains in the coming year.

Speaking of team, we are thrilled to share that New England Patriots' Tight End, Hunter Henry, has chosen to become an ambassador to CFP. Hunter epitomizes the term "team": hard work, commitment, supporting others, and giving back. Read more below on how Hunter has already made a significant difference in the lives of our foster youth and their families in 2022 with more impactful events in the works for 2023.

We are energized by the challenges and goals we have set for 2023 and believe that together we will go far—because we “go with others.”

WHAT'S NEW IN FOSTER CARE AND FOSTER CARE PREVENTION

The Boston Globe



I guess you could say what's new is old again. The past year has once again demonstrated the urgent need for foster care. The pandemic caused a sharp decrease in foster homes, resulting in more children in need than there are homes.

At CFP, we remain vigilant in recruiting more foster parents in 2023 as well as increasing our investment in more foster care prevention services to enable children to stay in their own home with their parents. In response to this growing crisis, CEO, Craig Gordon, was featured in The Boston Globe.

[Read the full letter here.](#)

“I know foster parents are an integral part of the solution.”

- Craig Gordon, CEO for CFP

If you, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent, we invite you to visit our [website](#).

2023 ANNUAL HOLIDAY GROUP HOME DECORATING CONTEST



Guest judges with staff and youth and group home holiday decorations from the contest

One of CFP's most beloved holiday traditions is the annual holiday decorating contest held on December 22nd which included several group homes. Youth and staff members of five group homes kicked off the holidays by getting their jingle on and decorating their living space to represent all holidays including Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Judges included administrative staff members, DCF staff, and friends of CFP. The judging was based on three categories:

Representing all holidays: Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa: 25%

Youth participation in decorating: 50%

A holiday-themed dessert creation. 25%

In the end two group homes did such an outstanding job it was a tie! The holiday decorating contest fosters a sense of holiday spirit, inclusion and healthy competition while amping up the seasonal sparkle in each home

PATRIOTS' TIGHT END HUNTER HENRY AND SHAW'S / STAR MARKET FOUNDATION HOSTED A HOLIDAY PARTY FOR CFP YOUTH AND FAMILIES

New England Patriots' Tight End Hunter Henry, in partnership with the Shaw's and Star Market Foundation, distributed over 75 gifts to the children of Communities for People's foster care program at a holiday party at the Children's Museum in Providence, Rhode Island on December 6, 2022. Approximately 75 youth in foster care, (between the ages of 0-12 years old), and their foster families attended this festive event to bring holiday cheer to kids facing extraordinary challenges. The party also served as a celebration of Hunter Henry's birthday (Dec. 7th).

Every child received a wrapped gift from their wish list and each foster family received a Shaw's gift card. Pizza and birthday cake was served as well as exclusive admission to the Providence Children's Museum during the event. The magic of Christmas came alive at the event and we are grateful for Hunter Henry and his wife, Parker Henry, for taking the time to brighten the holiday season of kids and families in our Rhode Island FCCP program.

Hunter chose to become an ambassador for Communities for People by engaging in a variety of seasonal activities with the most vulnerable youth in our community to help foster a sense of hope and an active lifestyle in children.



Hunter and Parker Henry handing out holiday gifts to CFP youth



[Check out the full news clip here](#)

CFP JEDI WORK CONTINUES



As a discipline, JEDI stands for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion or any policy or practice designed to make people of various backgrounds feel welcome and ensure they have support to perform to the fullest of their abilities in the workplace. We are excited to be partnering with consultant Aimee Duvall Phelps who is an expert at creating and maintaining a process of inclusion and team building in all facets of the organization.

Aimee has been conducting mandatory trainings for all CFP staff over the past few months. She is working closely with the Executive Leadership team to ensure that the culture is impacted from top down and we will be conducting our annual JEDI survey next month.

BLAZING THE TRAIL AHEAD

We are energized by the historic election of Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll as the first female executive team in the Commonwealth. CFP had the good fortune to have worked with Tara Healey, Governor Healey's sister, several years ago as a Group Home House Manager. In the words of Governor Healey, "It's about the assist," and Tara gave CFP the assist by extending an invitation to the inauguration event held at TD Garden on January 5, 2023.

The themes of teamwork, hard work, and determination were highlighted during the inaugural celebration and we are grateful for loyal friends and former colleagues like Tara to enable us to stay connected and to witness history in the making.



(L-R)- Cynthia Coppola, Assistant Regional Director along with Kelly McDermott, Board Member and Diane Wilcox, Program Manager attended the inauguration of Governor Maura Healey at the TD Garden in Boston.

ARE YOU LOOKING? WE ARE HIRING...

As the nation faces one of the biggest staffing shortages in decades, CFP is not alone in this dilemma. We are in need of full time direct care. All NEW FULL TIME direct care hires are eligible for a sign-on bonus. Check out all our available positions in both MA and RI.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT OUR CAREERS PAGE FOR ALL AVAILABLE POSITIONS.](#)