



The Family Recovery Program Inc.

Restoring families.
Building futures.

September 2023

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FRP Graduations

The Family Recovery Program (FRP) is a 9–24-month program where our parents have had their children removed or are in jeopardy of removal by the Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS) due to substance use. Once referred to FRP, our parents work diligently toward the reunification process. Referrals are made to attend substance use and mental health treatment, they are required to provide numerous random urinalyses, meet with FRP case managers on a weekly basis, and attend court hearings to discuss their progress.

Every quarter, we celebrate those who have persevered and completed the program with our FRP Graduation Ceremony. It is an opportunity to honor our parents' hard work with lots of cheers,

tears, and food. We also congratulate the families and friends who helped them get to this moment.



(Graduation hostess who happened to have a college-bound big sister performing a dance routine at graduation.)

FRP Graduations



(Magistrate Peacock, Tamara Morris, FRP case manager David Martinez- June 2023.)



(Magistrate Peacock, Tamara Morris, FRP case manager David Martinez- June 2023.)



(Carley Trainer and family, September 2023 Graduate and Soldier of Sobriety-all negative UAs while in FRP.)



(Tyrica Diggs, a September 2023 Graduate)

Reunification Heroes

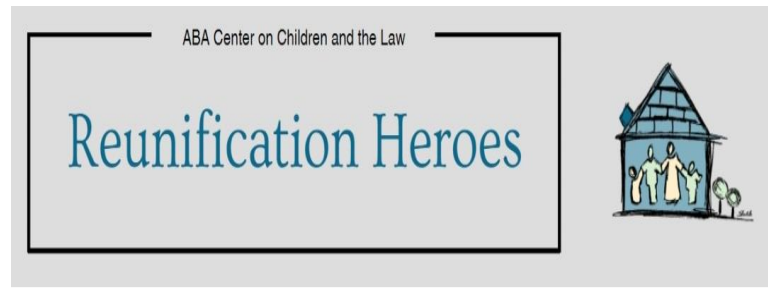
The American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law ensures those who work on children's law matters throughout the country have the resources and the support they need to do their jobs at the highest level.



It started in 1978 as a legal resource center for attorneys handling child protection cases. It has grown to a full-service technical assistance, training, and systems reform organization.

In June, in honor of National Reunification Month, Adrienne Elliott, legal intern and student at the Georgetown University Law Center, interviewed the Family Recovery Program's President and CEO, Dr. Jocelyn Gainers. She was selected as a reunification hero. Topics ranged from FRP's history to her professional and personal background and history in child welfare.

Dr. Gainers recalls situations from 2006 where FRP was able to assist a young father and his son and found herself at that young boy's high school graduation years later. She also identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the child welfare system in our area and what she sees as possible solutions to the issues we are up against.



Dr. Jocelyn Gainers

"We believe in connection - intentional connection - and see that as the main way to invoke change. We believe in doing whatever it takes to assist with the change process, as different outcomes occur for each person in a different way and in a different timespan."

- Dr. Jocelyn Gainers



Dr. Jocelyn Gainers is the President and CEO of The Family Recovery Program, Inc., in Baltimore, Maryland. With over 30 years of experience, her work centers around providing services to prevent family separation and to reunify families who have lost custody due to substance abuse.

Launched in 2005, the Family Recovery Program has impacted the lives of over 2000 families through offering housing, case management services, and by connecting participants with other organizations in the city that can support their needs. The nonprofit has transformed townhouses and an old school into modern apartments that house families while parents return to school, seek new jobs, and strengthen their families.

By Adrienne Elliott, Legal Intern at the ABA Center on Children and the Law, J.D. Candidate at Georgetown University Law Center

To read the entire article, click below:

https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child_law/jocelyn-gainers.pdf

BCDSS Appreciation Luncheon

The Family Recovery Program partners with several agencies in its mission to reunify families affected by substance use and the neglect that inevitably comes with it. The road begins with the Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS) in one of two ways. First, through the filing of a shelter petition with the juvenile court once a child is removed from the home. The second is a phone call or email to FRP requesting a parent enroll in our Horizon Program as a preventative measure for parents who have substance use issues that have come to the attention of BCDSS, but the issues are not quite at the level where removal of the child is warranted. Helping to prevent the removal of the child in the first place is the goal.

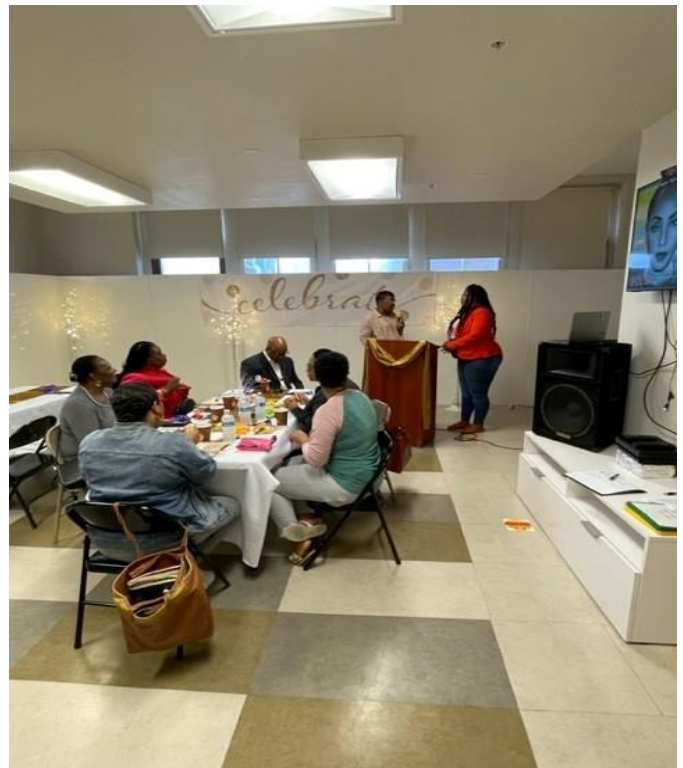


(FRP Staff at Sage Housing Center)

We wanted to show our appreciation for and the BCDSS social workers and supervisors who make the referrals, assist with the child visits, and work with FRP to reunify families and eventually get the courts to close cases.



FRP staff used this opportunity to share what we are doing at FRP, specifically at Sage Housing Center and get feedback on how to improve our program and strengthen our partnership with BCDSS in our work with our families.



(Some of the BCDSS staff having lunch while listening to a presentation by Sage Housing Director, Tosha Stubbs.)

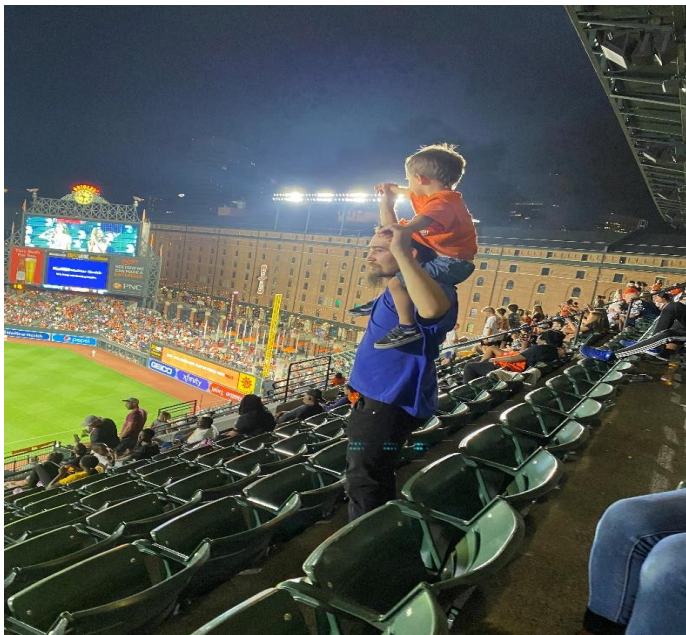
Of course, this was all done over a meal with lots of desserts. A tour of the facility was offered to all who have never been to Sage. All in all, it was a fun time and most importantly, it was a productive way to spend a Friday afternoon. We all had a chance to finally meet the people behind the voices and emails that we've communicated with by phone and computer over the past few years due to COVID restrictions.

Tickets For Kids Orioles Game

Tickets For Kids Charities provide free access for low income and high-risk kids to attend the arts, cultural, educational, and athletic venues of their communities.



(A great night for baseball for our families.)



(Father and son taking it all in. Another Orioles win!)



Through access to these events, the experiences have the possibility of sparking an interest or igniting a passion in a child in an area they may not have otherwise been exposed to. FRP's Sybil Imani was able to secure 14 tickets for our families who signed up and all 14 attended the Orioles vs Blue Jays game at Camden Yards!



(FRP's Ms. Sybil Imani and family. Thank you for organizing this entertaining evening at Camden Yards.)



(They can always say they attended an O's game in this unforgettable season.)

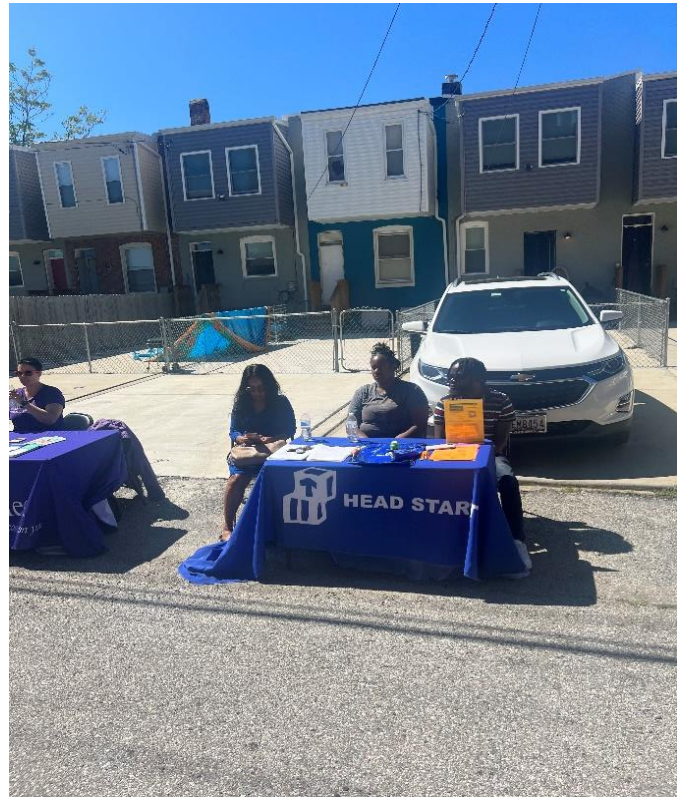
Community Cookout/Health Fair

Most are aware of the safety concerns of Baltimore residents. From the well documented opioid issues, the gun violence, the food deserts, homelessness, and the trauma that comes along those issues. We must be proactive and protect ourselves as best we can by seeing physicians regularly and by addressing our mental health needs. Unfortunately, many do not tend to those needs as they should, so the Family Recovery Program holds an annual Community Cookout and Health Fair to bring the help to the local residents. This year, the staff at Sage Center brought in a host of health resources with handouts and advocates onsite to begin the process of diagnosing our community's residents and possibly getting them the necessary attention to address those concerns. The vendors who participated in this year's health fair:

- *American Cancer Society
- *Tobacco Free Baltimore
- * Total Health Care, Inc.
- *Community Risk Reproduction Services
- *Access Telcom
- *Charm City Connection
- *Baltimorecorps.org/Americorps
- *Deborah's Place Behavioral Health
- *Dayspring Program
- *Dee's Place Wellness and Recovery Center



Community Cookout/Health Fair



The Family Recovery Program Supports Higher Education

The Family Recovery Program came out to support Ms. Tiesha Robinson and her daughter, Aniyja Jackson, with a Trunk Party to support her in her first year of college. Aniyja has worked very hard throughout her years in school and was awarded a four-year scholarship to Winston-Salem State University (WSSU). WSSU is a historically black public university (HBCU) in Winston-Salem North Carolina.

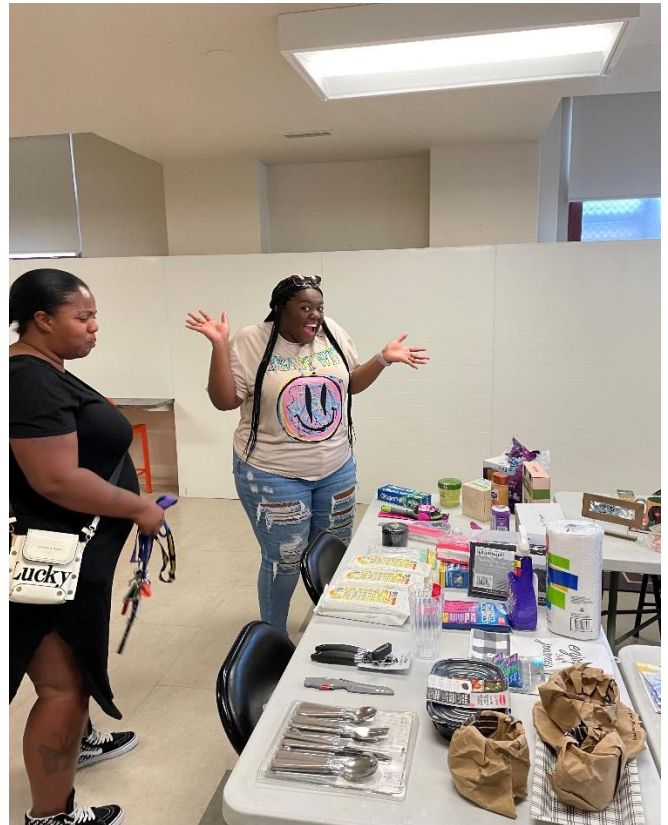


(Mother, Tiesha Robinson, Sage Housing Program Director, Tasha Stubbs with WSSU-bound Aniyja Jackson.)

Tiesha Robinson is a June 2022 FRP graduate. She has been at Sage Housing with her youngest daughter while searching for independent housing. She has found it and will be moving out of Sage in October!



"Aniyja and I are so grateful for help from FRP. It made the transition for Aniyja so much easier. I just want to thank all the staff and supporters who donated. My family and I appreciate the love and support we have received since the first day I moved into Sage Center." -Tiesha Robinson



(Aniyja and her mother being presented with college necessities before moving 6 hours away to North Carolina.)

Color Theme Paint Party

Immediately following our June 2023 FRP graduation, our staff flipped the community room at Sage Housing into the venue for our first Color Theme Paint Party. This paint party was much different from our previous paint parties where we painted and decorated office walls.

This time, we created our own artwork. Staff members were divided into three teams according to color, which determined the color of the outfit you wore, the snacks you brought, and the table you were assigned to.



We had a good time and were also given the great news that the Family Recovery Program, Inc. had just purchased a new building at 401 N. Gay Street, right down the street from our present location at 301 N. Gay Street.



2nd Annual FRP Fundraiser

On September 22, 2023, the Family Recovery Program, Inc. held its second annual fundraising event, "A Night At The Casino-Mardi Gras Edition." The event was held at the Haven Street Ballroom. There was food with a Louisiana flavor, an outdoor cigar bar, plenty of casino games including poker, roulette, blackjack and craps, and lots of music. The MC for the night was Megan Rivers of Channel 11 News.



(The MC for the night was Emmy Award-winning anchor/reporter Megan Rivers of WBAL-TV.)

Since 2005, FRP has been the only program that works directly with the Baltimore City Juvenile Court to provide parents who have lost temporary custody of their children due to substance use, the support, including case management, drug and mental health treatment, and stable transitional



(Family Recovery Program Board Members in attendance.)



(Ladies were dressed with Mardi Gras themed masks.)

housing when necessary that may help them reunify at a faster rate than normal.

2nd Annual FRP Fundraiser

Our goals for this year's fundraiser are to raise additional funds that will enable FRP to expand our transitional housing program (Sage Housing), to build an 8,000 square foot main office with outpatient services, to expand our Horizon



(Dr. Gainers with architect, Mr. Randy Sovich and his wife)

Program which helps prevent removal of children from their parents, and to provide more supplemental funds for clients in areas such as dental work.



(Sybil Imani, Rennett Bennett of FLBC, Tasha Stubbs)

Upcoming Events

Circle of Security Parenting Program

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Contact Ann Vachon at 410-605-0492 ext. 125

(E) Avachon@frp-inc.org

Cooking Classes with Chef Eula McDowell

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Beginning October 10, 2023 at 10a

Seeking Safety Group Sessions at FRP

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Contact Tiajuana Jones at

(P)-410-605-0492 ext.302

(F)-410-605-0496

(C)-401-907-5142

(E) tjones@frp-inc.org

Halloween Party at Sage- 1209 N. Rose Street

October 31, 2023

Support Group meetings

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Fridays 11:30a-12:30p

Parenting Time Room

Held at 301 N. Gay Street

To schedule, contact Tiajuana Jones at

(P)-410-605-0492 ext.302

(F)-410-605-0496

(C)-401-907-5142

(E) tjones@frp-inc.org

Veteran's Day - FRP offices closed on November 10th

Thanksgiving Holiday - FRP offices closed November 23-24th

FRP Graduation - December 8th

Christmas Holiday - FRP offices closed December 25th