

The Family Recovery Program Inc. Restoring

families.
Building
futures.

December 2024

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### FRP Graduation

\_On December 6, the Family Recovery Program (FRP) held its quarterly graduation ceremony at Sage Housing Center.



(Magistrate K. Peacock, Kennia Elliott and her sons, with FRP Case Manager David Martinez)

Our graduates celebrated 9-24 months of hard work, including successfully completing treatment,

weekly testing by FRP, meetings with FRP and Sage case managers, and numerous court hearings. This graduation had four graduates, and all are either reunified with their children or receiving unsupervised visits. We wish them well!



(Magistrate Peacock, Ana Alfaro Molina and son, with FRP Case Manager Domonique Smith)

### FRP Graduation-continued

Unfortunately, two of our graduates were unable to attend the ceremony but were both recognized. Shannon Harris was hospitalized, but Shonnell Rhue did get to view the graduation via the Zoom link and had the opportunity to hear the kind words from her case manager, Mr. Martinez. Our keynote speaker for the morning was Special Secretary of Opioid Response for the State of Maryland, Emily Keller.



(Special Secretary of Opioid Response for the State of Maryland, Emily Keller)

Special Secretary Keller spoke about her background in government and how she previously served as Mayor of Hagerstown in 2020 ad councilwoman on the Hagerstown City Council before being called to serve in Governor Wes Moore's administration. She, like many of us, has lost friends and family to opioid abuse and it motivates her to push for programs like The Family Recovery Program, Inc. to join in the battle to save families across Maryland.



(Ana Alfaro Molina and Domonique Smith)



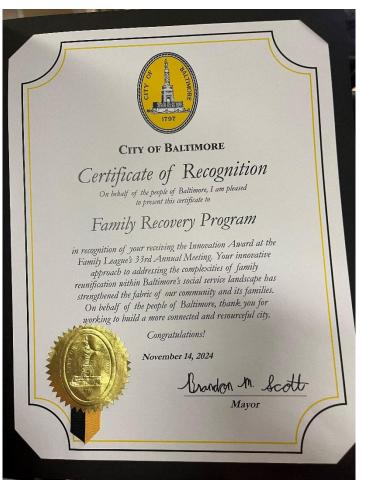
(Kennia Elliott, her energetic son, and David Martinez)

### An Award for Dr. Jocelyn Gainers

On November 14, 2024, The Family League of Baltimore hosted their 33rd Annual Meeting by providing a spotlight on "Doing what matters: Lifting up the work that is leading Baltimore's transformation one community at a time."



Dr. Jocelyn Gainers, President and CEO was honored for exemplifying one of Family League's core values—Stewardship, Performance, Respect, Innovation, Trust, and Equity.



(The Innovation Award at the Family League's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting)

# **OPSC Symposium**

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts (OPSC) held its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium in Towson, Maryland November 20-21. The symposium provided us with opportunities for learning in a variety of breakout sessions of our choosing. The event offered a variety of presentations, including the latest trends and best practices for adult drug courts, DUI courts, family recovery courts, mental health courts, truancy courts, and veteran treatment courts. FRP alum and current Reengagement Specialist had an opportunity to share her story and views on family drug courts participating on an alumni panel. She says she was nervous, but she did great and represented FRP well in front of approximately 1000 attendees.



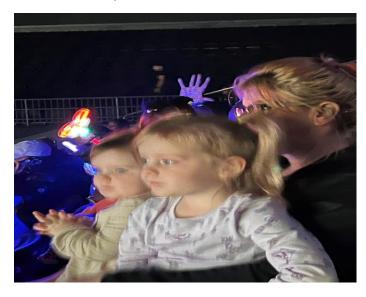
(Monique Knight speaking on her experience in FRP)

# **Tickets for Kids-Disney On Ice**

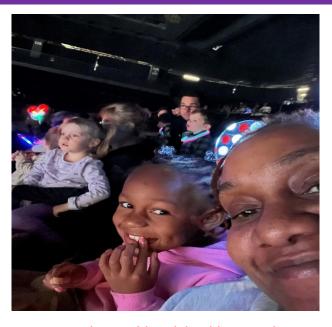
Tickets For Kids provides free access for lowincome and high-risk kids to attend the arts, cultural events, and athletic events in their community that they may normally never get to attend. By providing these experiences, the hope is that it inspires hope and dreams in our children. Sybil Imani was able to secure tickets to Disney on Ice at CFG Bank Arena in downtown Baltimore City.



FRP Family Matters case manager Domonique Smith chaperoned the event in October. Five girls under age 10 attended and got to see the Disney characters they have seen in books and video.



(Shannon Harris with two of her daughters)



(Domonique Smith and the girls are ready)



(Marie Hill and Shannon Harris with their daughters)



# Halloween at Sage

The holiday season kicks off with the change in weather and the decorations and costumes that come with Halloween. At The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Building at Sage Center there are 23 two and three bedroom apartments. Once Halloween arrives, there are spooky door contests which demonstrate our residents' creativity.





The kids get a chance to dress up as some of their favorite characters from tv shows, movies and books. Their parents even got in on the fun.



(Inshirah and Stephan Brown with their daughter as the Flintstones)



(Tierra Johnson and son with a small dinosaur in the background)

# **Thanksgiving at FRP**

As November and Thanksgiving arrive, we give thanks to those who have been a blessing and also try to be a blessing to others. Each year during the week before the actual Thanksgiving holiday, the Family Recovery Program has its own Thanksgiving for FRP staff and the families we serve. FRP Thanksgiving dinner is a week before the actual holiday. The following week is when our parents have the chance to prepare their own meals for their families.



(Kennia Elliott and her sons at Sage Housing)

We give a special thank you to Pin High Skins Golf Club who donated complete Thanksgiving dinners to all the FRP families. The Family Recovery Program continues to hold bi-weekly cooking classes at Sage Housing. Chef Eula McDowell of the Big Bean Theory facilitates cooking groups where our parents learn to shop and cook their own healthy meals for their families.

Those at Sage I and Sage II have their own kitchens and this a perfect opportunity to put those culinary skills to good use. Happy cooking!



(Grace Martin and her newborn daughter)



(Francine Clubb and family)

## FRP Family Matters-Urban Air

In January 2024, FRP Family Matters: Family Drug Treatment Court Initiative began providing substance use disorder treatment and family reunification services to our families with more supports to the entire family. This is made possible through SAMHSA, agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the country. Their goal is to make substance use and mental health disorder information, service, and research more accessible.



(Preparing for a day of adventure at Urban Air)

Family Matters Case Manager, Domonique Smith plans family outings for FRP families where they have an opportunity to have family time, bond.

In November, they all took a trip to Urban Air, an indoor adventure park where kids can run, jump, climb, and challenge their bodies and mind.



(Shannan McDonald helping her son navigate the bubble pit)



(Kids enjoying the gym)



(Big brother and little sister taking a break)

### **Happy Holidays at FRP**

December is the time of year where families get together to eat and exchange gifts. It was no different for our FRP families thanks to donations from partners to assist us in purchasing clothes and toys. On December 18, FRP held its Santa's Workshop at 301 N.Gay Street.



FRP's Annette Tillman and Markita Pryor assisted parents in selecting and wrapping gifts and they were also given an entire uncooked turkey dinner for their families. Over 50 parents participated and left with their arms full.



On December 19, families came together at Sage to have fun. There was food, arts and crafts, and a surprise visit from Santa Claus and his bag full of gifts!



(Arts and crafts while waiting for Santa)



(Cheryl Ross recruiting two helpers)



(Delta Sigma Theta Sorority volunteered to help things run smoothly)

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **Circle of Security Parenting Program**

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Contact your FRP Case Manager or Monique Knight

410-605-0492

#### **Expanded Parenting Time Room**

Held at 301 N. Gay Street (The Chance Bldg)

Contact your FRP Case Manager or Monique Knight at

410-605-0492

#### **Support Group meetings**

Held at Sage Center at 1209 N.Rose Street

Fridays 11:30a-12:30p

#### **Life Skills Support Group**

Wednesdays at Sage 1209 N. Rose St and 301 N. Gay St

Contact your FRP Case Manager or 410-605-0492

Christmas Holiday - FRP offices closed on December 25, 2024

New Year's Day -FRP offices closed on January 1, 2025

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - FRP offices closed on January 20, 2025

President's Day-FRP offices closed February 17, 2025

#### **FRP Donations Link**

When you make a donation to Family Recovery Program, you are directly supporting the reunification of children with their families in Baltimore. As the holidays approach, please consider making a donation to FRP as we continue to try to provide meals, clothing, gifts, and housing for families in need during the holiday season. Thank you!

https://frpinc.charityproud.org/Donat