



Rooted in Your Community

Branching Out

DECEMBER 2024

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Reflecting on a Year of Impact and Change

As 2024 comes to a close, my heart is filled with gratitude as I reflect on the many lives we've touched and the remarkable resilience of the communities we serve. From providing stability to those facing mental health challenges, to offering hope for individuals battling substance use disorders, I'm incredibly proud of our team's achievements throughout the year.

Each accomplishment represents a step forward in fulfilling our mission, and I'd like to take a moment to highlight some of the ways we've made a meaningful impact.

Heroes in Action

Our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) are the heart of our organization, providing not just services, but compassionate care to children and adults living with a developmental disability in our group homes. As front-line workers, they are changing lives every day. Scan the QR code to see their inspiring work in action!



Raising Awareness for Overdose Prevention

With thousands of lives lost each year to opioid overdoses in New Jersey, our outreach has never been more important. We participated in overdose awareness events and vigils across Burlington, Camden and Mercer Counties to help eliminate stigma, remember those lost to the disease and provide support to their loved ones.

Growth in Peer Support

Our Peer Support Specialists play a vital role in mental health and addiction recovery by offering understanding and encouragement through their own lived experiences. Their unique perspective fosters trust and connection, helping individuals feel less isolated and more empowered in their recovery journey.

Community Impact in Camden

This year's Touch A Truck event in the city of Camden brought joy to families in the community, while providing outreach and housing connections to those experiencing homelessness. We also distributed over 600 backpacks to help kids head back to school ready for success!

None of this would be possible without you—our generous donors, partners and volunteers! Thank you for standing by us and making this year of impact and change possible.

With Gratitude,

Derry Holland, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer



CCHBC: Leading the Charge in Behavioral Health Care

The Oaks Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) is transforming behavioral health care by providing a one-stop-shop for individuals seeking comprehensive support. Funded by SAMHSA and located in Burlington, Camden, Cumberland and Mercer Counties, our CCBHC is more than just a treatment center—it's a lifeline for those facing behavioral health and substance use challenges.

By offering an integrated approach to care, we ensure that clients have access to a wide range of services, from medical care and therapy, to supportive housing, emergency food access, job training and legal or financial aid. This holistic model addresses the interconnectedness of mental, physical and emotional well-being, creating a person-centered continuum of care tailored to each individual's journey.

Our dedicated team, which includes doctors, therapists, case managers, peer specialists and family members, breaks down traditional silos in behavioral health. Together, we're not only helping individuals on the path to recovery, but also empowering them to achieve long-term wellness and stability. As one of New Jersey's leading human service providers, we are proud to bring meaningful change to our communities—and to the national stage.



To learn more, scan the QR code to watch a video featuring our Director Michelle Joo and Vice President Mike D'Amico.



Food Pantries Expand Impact Through Partnerships & Grants

Imagine having to choose between putting food on the table or paying for basic needs like medication, rent or utilities.

The Oaks Food Pantries in Mount Holly and Berlin work to ensure that the most vulnerable in our community don't face that impossible decision. Over the last year, the pantries distributed more than **786,000 pounds of food to 10,205 people.**

We keep the pantry shelves stocked year-round with the support of generous partners, including the Food Bank of South Jersey, Farmers Against Hunger and Sunbasket. In 2024, we also partnered with the Friends of the Burlington County Animal Shelter to provide pet food, ensuring families don't have to worry about their furry friends going hungry.

Along with partnerships, grants allow us to continue making a meaningful difference. A \$19,000 equipment grant from the Food Bank of South Jersey enabled us to purchase essential appliances for food storage. In addition, a \$75,000 grant from Burlington County further supported our mission to fight food insecurity.

Together, we are creating a future where no one has to choose between feeding their loved ones and meeting their basic needs.

Visit www.oaksintcare.org to learn how you can give back to the Oaks Food Pantries.





Over 160 team members and health vendors took part in our Employee Wellness Fair and 5K Walk Run.



Team Oaks participated in the Annual Addiction Awareness Night at the Trenton Thunder baseball game!



Thank you One America for volunteering your time to sort and stuff donations for Operation Fill-A-Backpack!

Community Scrapbook

Thank you to our compassionate employees, donors and volunteers for your dedication and commitment to our mission throughout the year.



Thank you to our generous donors for joining us at the Moorestown Community House for the 2024 Donor Impact Dinner!



Assemblywoman Sharma Haider toured our COPE Center in Essex County, NJ.



Board Chair Marianne Aleardi and Oaks CEO Derry Holland with our amazing 2024 Rooted in Community Awards honorees.



Celebrating Camden & Community Connections

On August 24, 2024, the Camden community came together for a fun-filled day at our **annual Touch A Truck event!**

Families explored a variety of vehicles from fire trucks to police cruisers, and even an armored SWAT vehicle! Local agencies, including the Camden County Police, Fire Department, Sheriff and Public Works, showcased their vehicles and connected with attendees.

The event was filled with music, food, games and activities for everyone! A highlight of the day was our team distributing over 600 backpacks filled with school supplies to Camden students, helping them start the school year prepared and confident.

A big thank you to our sponsors and partners—TRIAD1828 Centre, Christine's Hope For Kids, JKJ and the Food Bank of South Jersey—for making **Touch A Truck** a big **HONKING** success!



Thank You Sponsors!



MAKING *Holiday* MEMORIES POSSIBLE

Thanks to You!

The holiday season can be tough for many families in our programs, especially those facing financial stress and mental health challenges. Basic needs often take priority, making it difficult to celebrate with gifts, festive meals or traditions that bring joy during this time of year.

Thanks to our amazing donors and volunteers, we made holiday memories possible this year by distributing over 2,000 Thanksgiving meals and sponsoring more than 100 families and group homes!

There's Still Time to Make an Impact

As we wrap up 2024, please consider making a year-end, tax-deductible donation to our Annual Fund. Your support sustains vital mental health and substance use programs for children, adults and families in need. Every gift, big or small, makes a difference.

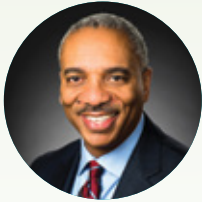
Make a donation online at www.oaksintcare.org or use the enclosed envelope. Thank you for brightening the holidays for so many!





Rooted in Community AWARDS

Celebrating Outstanding Local Heroes



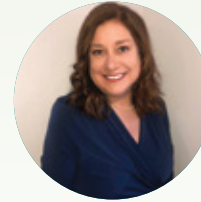
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THERE'S STILL TIME TO MAKE

Holiday

MEMORIES POSSIBLE



LOOK INSIDE!

to see how you can support critical programs for those most vulnerable – every gift, no matter the size, makes an impact.



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