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### Erie County Youth Board:

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- **Brian Rochford**
- **Kenny Simmons**
- **Dr. Cord Stone**

***And...you? We're always seeking dedicated & motivated members—including YOUTH, to join our Youth***

## Letter From the Planning Coordinator—Talisa King

I am extremely pleased to continue in my role as ECYB Planning Coordinator and I am ecstatic to also welcome back my partner John Kordrupel as fellow Planning Coordinator. I would also like to thank Ben Hilligas, Director for ensuring these funding opportunities are available to so many agencies. It's great to have an extremely talented and dedicated team involved to make this process successful. Moving forward the YDP program will be primarily handled by John. I will primarily handle Summer Primetime, but we are both still available to assist each other in all programming. As we move forward and look to begin Summer Primetime programming this year, we continue to work hard to maximize the number of collaborations and technical assistance we can provide to your agencies. **You can find our Resource Guide [here](#).** Please let us know if you are hosting any showcase events that you would like for us to attend. One of the highlights of this summer is our Summer Primetime Picnic which will be held at the JCC in Getzville on August 1st from 10am to 3pm. This event allows 300-350 youth from those various programs the opportunity to engage in a day of fun, games, and food and to celebrate summer learning. It is our cultural highlight of the year. At the ECYB we have a dedicated team of citizen advisors and volunteers, who coordinate this event annually. It is wonderful to feel the support of the community as we strive to maintain our commitment of excellence. —Talisa King



*"As you grow you discover you have two hands, one for helping yourself and one for helping others."—Author Unknown*

## A Brief History of the ECYB

The Erie County Youth Bureau has been in existence for a quarter century, so it seems appropriate to take a look back at where we've been and where we're going. A brief history of the ECYB...

While the role of the Youth Bureau has remain unchanged, the physical headquarters has shifted twice: from the mid-1990's-2000 at 134 W. Eagle Street in downtown Buffalo; from 2000-2003, across the street from the current Wende Correctional Facility in Alden; and from 2003-present, at the Erie County Secure Detention Facility on East Ferry Street in Buffalo. The ECYB was under the purview of Probation until it became a part of Social Services, which remains true today.

In terms of the historical staffing of the Youth Bureau, the list reads like a "Who's Who" of local and national not-for-profit leadership. Past YB Directors include Darcell Hunter (who passed away tragically and unexpectedly on 9/21/08 and whom a past scholarship has been named in memorial of), David Rust (currently Executive Director @ Say Yes to Education Buffalo), Nadia (Moore) DelValle (currently @ Say Yes National in Guilford, NC), and Racheal Tarapacki (currently ED @ Groundwork Buffalo; also on staff at CAO), all prior to current Senior Director Ben Hilligas.

Summer 2019

The Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) program is designed to help individuals who work with youth to identify the signs and symptoms of mental illness and to raise awareness about mental health and help to reduce stigma. The training covers such topics as typical adolescent development, risk and protective factors, and prevalence of mental disorders in youth.

Youth MHFA incorporates didactic presentation with group exercises, role playing and videos.

It is an 8-hour training and participants who successfully complete the training will receive a certificate of completion.

For more information, visit [www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org](http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org).

Both Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid courses, hosted by Compeer and open to the community, are available for registration on a first-come, first-served basis as follows:

- Tuesday, July 9th—YOUTH MHFA, 8:30am-4:30pm—<https://ymhfa7-09.eventbrite.com>
- Thursday, July 25th—ADULT MHFA, 8:30am-4:30pm—<https://mhfa7-25.eventbrite.com>
- Friday, August 9th—YOUTH MHFA, 8:30am-4:30pm—<https://ymhfa08-09.eventbrite.com>
- Thursday, August 29th—ADULT MHFA, 8:30am-4:30pm—<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mental-health-first-aid-open-community-tickets-62846992045>

*Questions and/or concerns can be forwarded to John Kordrupel, Youth Services Planning Coordinator, at 716-923-4008 or [john.kordrupel@erie.gov](mailto:john.kordrupel@erie.gov).*

## Caring Cards Challenge

ERIE COUNTY, New York — June is “Elder Abuse Awareness Month” in Erie County, to bring attention to scams against seniors and other kinds of elder abuse cases.

State, county and city leaders gathered with advocates with the Center for Elder Law and Justice to discuss how to stop elder abuse on Friday.

“Elder abuse can come in many different forms. It can be physical abuse, it can be mental-emotional abuse and it can also be financial abuse,” said Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz. “And unfortunately, as we’ve seen in the past, some of the perpetrators of this abuse are often family members, or guardians, and people that the senior members trust.”

Advocacy groups are helping the effort with the third-annual caring cards challenge.

Local school kids and senior groups have made helpful cards for the elderly, which will be given out with Meals on Wheels. *Source: WGRZ.com*

**Thank**  
you!

The Erie County Youth Bureau collected almost 1,000 “Caring Cards” from about a dozen agencies with whom it has a working relationship. The total amount of cards was just under 4,000. Cards will be distributed to Meals on Wheels recipients and at congregating dining

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[www2.erie.gov/  
socialservices](http://www2.erie.gov/socialservices) or Google  
“Erie County Youth Bureau”

**ECYB Mission:** “To serve youth and families through support of positive youth development programs and juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention programs that strengthen families and communities.”



## UPCOMING DEADLINES/COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- **Monday, June 24th**—Summer Primetime programming commences
- **Friday, July 19th**, 9am-2pm—Summer Learning Day @ Beaver Island State Park [www.bit.ly/nsld](http://www.bit.ly/nsld)
- **Thursday, July 25th, Friday, July 26th, & Saturday, July 27th**. 7pm each day—“A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Shakespeare Comes to (716) hosted by *Peace of the City* youth @ Ujima Theater, 370 Normal Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14213 (admission is “Pay What You Can” and first-come, first-seated)
- **Thursday, August 1st**, 10am-3pm—5th Annual Summer Primetime Picnic hosted by Erie County Youth Bureau @ Camp Centerland, Jewish Community Center, 2640 N. Forest Road, Getzville, NY 14068.  
Registration link: <https://bit.ly/2RAZdpF> (Admission will be limited and at the discretion of the ECYB).
- **Saturday, August 24th**, TBA—Grand Opening of new Seneca Babcock Community Center @ 82 Harrison Street, Buffalo, NY 14210. <https://senecababcock.com/>



**Council on  
Elder Abuse**

**CERTIFICATE OF  
PARTICIPATION IN  
THE CARING CARDS  
CHALLENGE**

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE ON  
WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY!

JUNE 15, 2018