

# THE BUCKEYE RANCH

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## Bridges Start Up Programming

# TBR History with TAY Programming

- ❖ 1968: Hirsch Hall founded: Halfway House for teens who needed IL skills and housing
- ❖ 1981: Mess ham Hall on Grove City campus was created for a work experience for boys living in our residential facility to learn a trade.
- ❖ 2006: Emphasis on IL skills in all programs, separate IL workers to meet mandates and specific skills
- ❖ 2013:
  - ❖ Formation of TAY committee
  - ❖ Develop TAY Associate Director position
  - ❖ TAY Program Development into TBR Strategic Plan
  - ❖ Purchase of My Place building and programming

# Current TBR TAY Programming

- ❖ Embedded within our continuum of care at TBR
  - ❖ Residential care
  - ❖ Foster care
  - ❖ PFSN: 2 dedicated TAY Advocates working with all 14 and older youth in custodial care
  - ❖ Community-based programming
- ❖ Dedicated TAY Programming
  - ❖ My Place: transitional age young adult housing and case management programming
  - ❖ Bridges

# TBR Bridges Start Up

## What makes a great Bridges Worker?????

- ☐ Be honest and strength-based
- ☐ Really listen
- ☐ Individualize planning
- ☐ Don't fake it
- ☐ Get to know them
- ☐ Establish relationships
- ☐ Stay calm and creative

# Why does TBR choose to have separate Bridges workers?

- ♥ TAY advocate is a specialty profession... just like a foster care manager, child welfare worker or a therapist.
- ♥ TAY advocates need to know unique resources for this population as well as know the teen culture.
- ♥ We listen to our youth! We know it is extremely important workers do not have dual roles and work with them solely in an IL capacity. If workers assume dual roles we see a decrease in effectiveness, confidentiality concerns and overall confusion for the youth, families, and collaterals that is not conducive to a strong working relationship.
- ♥ IL workers need to be hands on with skills. They need the time to take the young adults to learn skills such as riding the bus, shopping, writing a resume, etc.

# Let's get started.....



- ☐ Not reinventing the wheel
- ☐ Lots of program development meetings
- ☐ Developing/writing down procedures
- ☐ Templates of forms

# Relationship with Finance Department

This aspect is very important in order for our Bridges program to be successful. We had to educate and continue to educate our Finance department about the Bridges program. We keep them in the loop on all changes with funds, etc.

We also produce “shadow billing” on a monthly basis to compare what we feel we will get paid to what we actually get paid. We do this process with our finance department monthly.



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# Routine, Routine, Routine.....

- ♥ Each week the Bridges team meets on Fridays to discuss the week, problem solve any concerns and talk over cases.
- ♥ Individual supervision with each worker occurs each week with supervision and Bridges Liaison. A SACWIS activity log is completed by the supervisor documenting the supervision.
- ♥ Monthly program development occurs to discuss growth, adding new workers, resources needed and potential community partners. Other TAY managers from TBR are invited to this meeting as well.



# Future Improvements/Ideas

- ♥ Building a network of housing options for our TAY. What does that look like? Buying a building or establishing contracts with existing local landlords ???
- ♥ Attending the Daniel Memorial National IL Conference in August to see what is out there on a National level that we can bring back to Ohio for ideas!
- ♥ Developing TBR's TAY Core Principles of Care with our Director of Clinical Development.
  - Strength-based, Trauma-Informed care, culturally competent and family-centered
- ♥ Continuing to include our TAY in our program development. We love their input and creativity!

ANY  
QUESTIONS?

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