

FAMILY TO FAMILY: FACES OF HOPE

Quarterly Newsletter for Family
Centered Services of CT

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ADOPT A FAMILY

WELCOME, NEW STAFF!

SAVE THE DATE

JENNIFER'S STORY



Hello, 2019!

We can't believe another year has come and gone! Instead of talking about making resolutions, we want to talk about making a difference. Here at Family CT, we strive to make a difference in the lives of the children and families that we serve. How will you make a difference in 2019?

This holiday season was certainly bright at our office. Every day, generous donors were dropping off gifts, often times having to come back to drop off more because their cars were packed full! We are so grateful for all of our Adopt-a-Family donors, who not only deliver gifts, but deliver joy and hope to our clients year after year.

"We really appreciate all the beautiful and wonderful gifts you purchased for my family + I for Christmas! Words can't describe how thankful we are. We are forever grateful and appreciative for everything."

"I wish I could thank you in person for your generous gifts. I was feeling so sad that I couldn't get gifts for my kids, but you guys brought Christmas to my home. This is a miracle. We are so thankful."

"Thank you! I would like to take the time out to really say thanks so much for all the gifts. I really wanted to cry when she arrived with all of this stuff. I can't wait to see the looks upon their faces on Christmas day."

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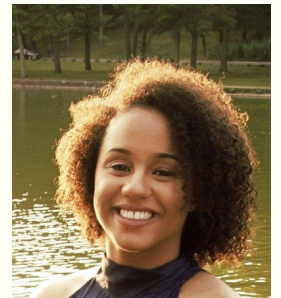
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Welcome, New Staff!



Sandy Gonzalez, MSW
Clinician, Caregiver
Support Team

Sandy received her Master's Degree in Social Work from SCSU in May of 2018. She says that she always wanted to work for an agency that makes her feel happy and proud when she goes to work every morning. Sandy says that Family CT makes her feel this way because the staff really care about making a difference in the lives of families, and empowering them. When she is not at work, she enjoys spending time with her family & friends, and going to Zumba classes.



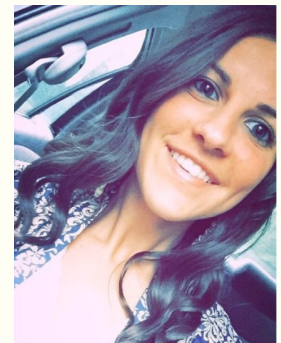
Alivia Roseboro, MS
Victim Advocate,
Neighborhood Victim
Advocacy Program

Alivia received her MS from College of St. Elizabeth in Justice Administration and Public Policy, and will be working as a Victim Advocate in the Neighborhood Victim Advocacy Program.



Christina Stratidis-
Macrini, MSW
Clinician, Caregiver
Support Team

Christina graduated from SCSU with her MSW on her 50th birthday (she says it was the best gift ever!) and became a part of Family CT's CST team in November. When she is not at work, she enjoys spending time with her family & friends - especially her husband and their 3 rescue cats (Enzo, Bella, and Mia) and their rescue dog (Ouzo). Christina enjoys cooking and baking with her family, playing cards and board games, and enjoys the outdoors.



Melissa Masayda, MS
Victim Advocate,
Neighborhood Victim
Advocacy Program

Melissa received her MS from the University of New Haven in Victimology, and is excited to begin her work in the Neighborhood Victim Advocacy Program as a Victim Advocate.

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Welcome, New Staff!



**Evelyn Padilla,
Family Support
Provider
Nurturing Families
Network**

Evelyn has her Associate's Degree in Human Services and Certificate in Early Childhood Education, and believes one of her callings in life has been to work with children and families, and has done so for the last 20 years. She describes herself as a woman of faith, wife, and mother to four amazing children, and dog mom to her Shih Tzu mix, Princess. When Evelyn is not working, her number one favorite thing to do is spend quality time with her husband and children. She also loves to write and enjoys reading.



**Yoselin Coyotl, BS
Victim Advocate,
Neighborhood Victim
Advocacy Program**

Yoselin received her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Quinnipiac University. When she is not at work, Yoselin loves to go to the park. Some days she like to relax and sit near the water and other days she loves to run. At home, Yoselin loves to paint, and whenever possible you'll find her baking cupcakes or other baked treats. She loves being outside exploring and spending time with her family.

Save the Date to Dine Out for a Cause

Join us on Wednesday April 10 from 4-9pm for a night out at **Sea House** in Madison. Sea House **will donate 10% of the total evening's sales** to **Family CT**. Make sure to bring your friends and stop by on April 10 for a bite to eat or a drink, and know that you are supporting a great cause while enjoying a delicious meal. We hope to see you there!

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Jennifer's Story

Jennifer* joined the Nurturing Families Network (NFN) when her baby Andi was a newborn. NFN works to help first time parents by offering primary prevention home-based services including developmental screening, parenting education, and promotion of positive parent-child interactions and social activities. When Jennifer joined, she had just graduated high school and her goal was to become a nurse. Through encouragement and her own tenacity, Jennifer started schooling to become a nurse when Andi was six months old. She completed the intensive two-year program with dedication to achieving her goal.

Soon, Jennifer and her partner Todd were able to move into their own apartment, supporting themselves and baby Andi. Jennifer is now working full time as a nurse in a cardiologist's office, and Andi is now three, and registered for preschool. Jennifer is incredibly grateful for the opportunities NFN provided her. She wrote, "Thank you so much...You've honestly made an impact on our lives and helped us out so much!"

*Names have been changed

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