

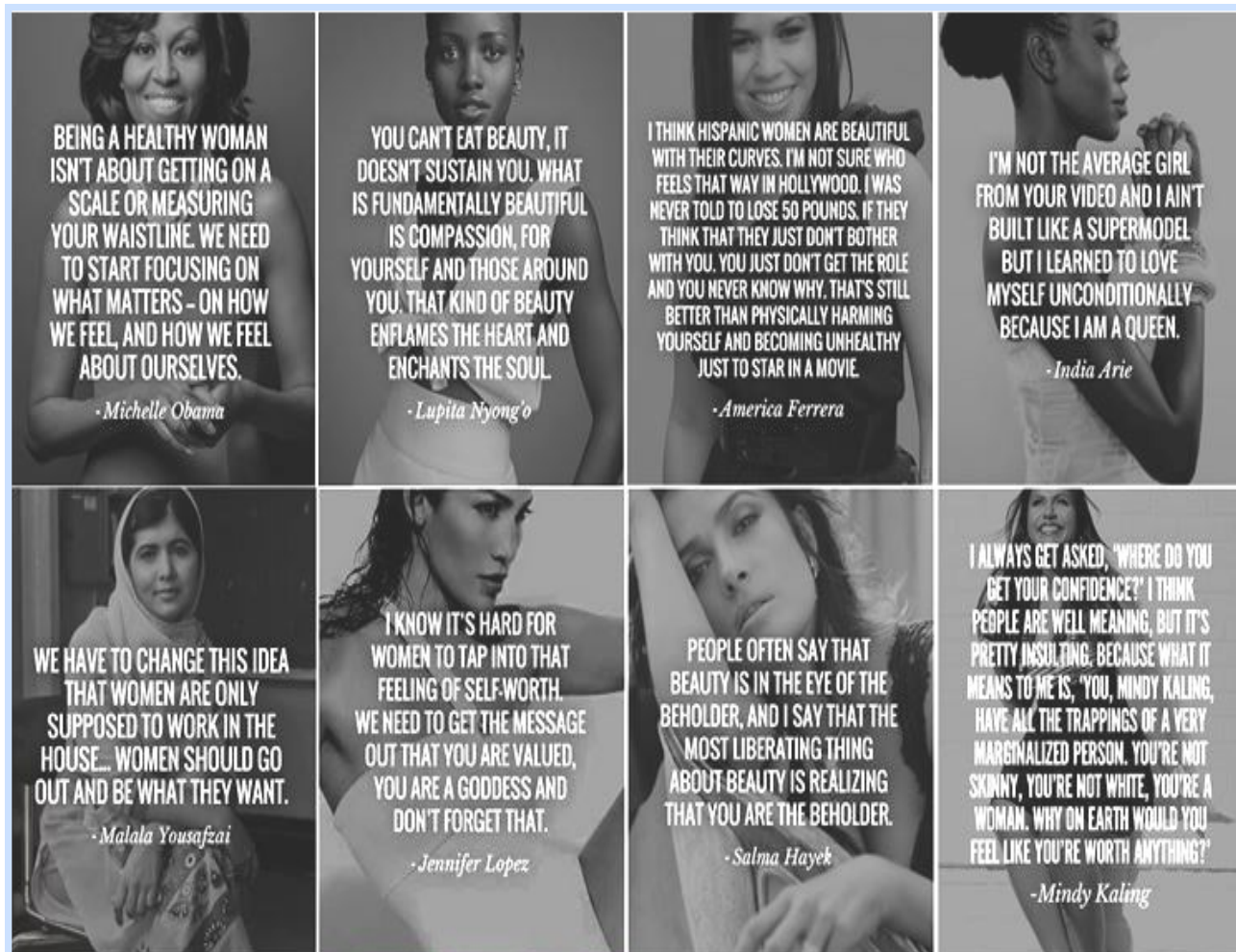
# Connecting YOUth Newsletter

## March 2018



### Women's History Month

According to readwritethink, “the stories of women's achievements are integral to the fabric our history. Learning about women's tenacity, courage, and creativity throughout the centuries is a tremendous source of strength.



As we celebrate **Women's Month this March, 2018**, take some time to reflect on the different roles the **women (mom, auntie, grandma, teacher, mentor, friends, etc)** in your life play and how important they are to your overall development.

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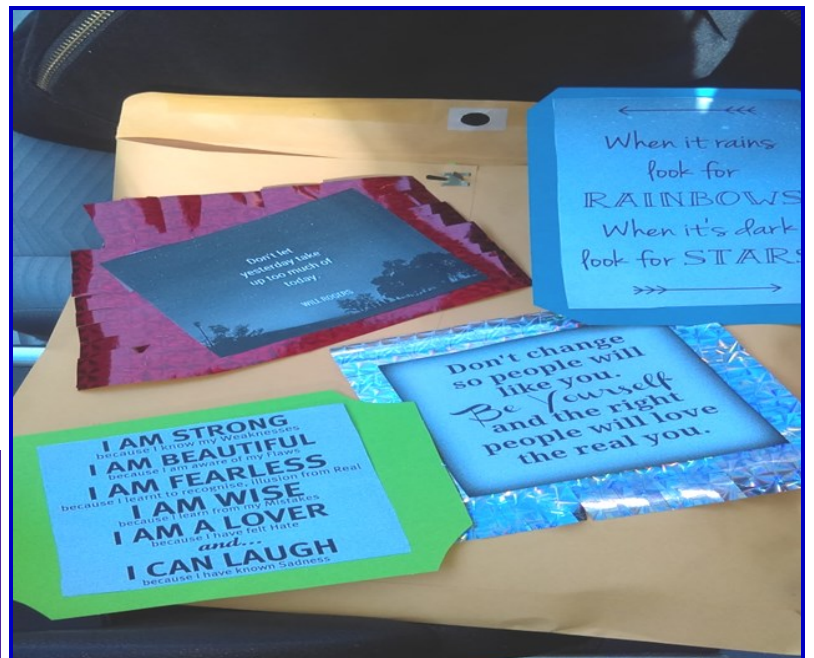
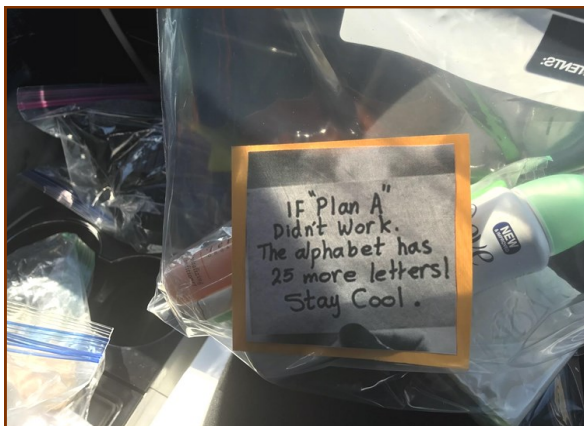


## Connect to Home Corner

Have you weatherized your home? There are options to assist you with managing your monthly energy bill. The county has energy assistance programs such as LIHEAP, Home Energy Assistance and Universal Service Fund. In addition there a number of other services we can assist you with such as educational funding employment services and other community resources. If you'd like additional information and/or need assistance applying please contact Rosario at 609-218-5630.



Our youth were out in the community participating in the Random Acts of Kindness day. We gave out bags to those in need which included hygiene products, hats, gloves and other items along with inspirational notes of encouragement. A special thanks to Mercer House youth who collaborated with us and helped in making the notes extra creative!



## Meaning of Leadership

Anchor House's Youth Advisory Council members have been recognized as leaders within the agency as well as in the community. They have participated in leadership and public speaking workshops and are always looking for ways to display these skills and abilities by showcase the wonderful work that Anchor House does for the youth and young adults. Several members are working collaboratively as part of the Safe Rest Youth Engagement Committee initiative to end youth homelessness by 2020. The Youth Advisory Council members participate in community service activities each month and are always looking to network with other agencies and young adults to make a difference and improve the community.

When the members were asked about what leadership means to them and why it is so significant they were excited to share their thoughts on this subject:

Cornelia stated that leadership means believing in something and following through with whatever task it is that you took on. It means taking responsibilities for your actions, standing up for something you truly believe in and respecting others even though they may have differing opinions and at times even when they don't respect you.

Timothy voiced that leadership is being able to take charge when others won't. Anyone can say that they are a leader but it is your actions that prove it. Also, a leader is one who makes good decisions for themselves and those of their "team" and peers.

Nigeria expressed that leadership means not going with the crowd, making your own decisions and standing up for what you believe in regardless of what others say or think.

The YAC members are looking for other interested youth/young adults in the agency to join the Council and expand on what they can offer to the agency and community.

### MARCH IS NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH:

Many young people have worked with Social Workers in their lives. Today, we want to celebrate the work that Social Workers do on behalf of their clients. **Social work** is a unique profession rich with meaning, action, and the power to make a difference. **Social workers** pull communities together, help individuals and families find solutions, advance changes in **social** policy, promote **social** justice, and foster human and global well-being. A **social worker helps** people cope with challenges in every stage of their lives. They **help** with a wide range of situations, such as adopting a child or being diagnosed with a terminal illness. **Social workers work** with many populations, including children, people with disabilities, and people with addictions.



**SOCIAL WORKERS**  
leaders. advocates. champions.

### WHY BE A SOCIAL WORKER:

By Monique Smith

"Why be a social worker?" people often ask of me.  
"The pay isn't high, and the paperwork is beyond belief.  
The stress you must have, dealing with people's problems all day."

So, I look at them, and I try, my best, to explain.

"The pay won't make me rich, you are right about that.  
The paperwork's insane, and we always need more staff.

Yes, people come to me with a lot to explain.

From broken homes, trauma, and unimaginable pain."

But you asked, "Why be a social worker?" so let me share with you.

Why I continue, to do what I do.

It's the light in people's eyes, when they first find that hope.

When they empower themselves, and finally learn to cope.  
It's watching them find a new life, one they actually want to live.

It's the joy of the families, as they reunite and forgive.

It's that one day you wonder, "Am I really making a difference in what I do?"

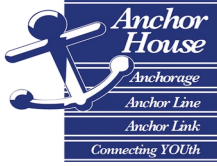
Then your email reads, "I am happy and well, and I want to thank you."

"That's when you know..." I say with a tear...

"There could not be a more rewarding career."



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## Group Calendar March 2018



**Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday**

				1 Safe Rest Committee Mtg. 5pm @ Life Ties	2  Read Across America	3
		4	5	6	7 1st Leadership Workshop 5-6 pm @ Greenwood	8 Women's Black History Month Program 6-8 pm @Trenton Library
11	12	13	14 2nd Leadership Workshop 5-6 pm @ Greenwood	15 Open Mic/ Poetry @ Trenton Library 5-7 pm Beautiful Me Group @ Shelter 4:30-5:30 pm	16 Mask We Live In TBA	17
18	19	20 TASK Volunteering 3:15 pm	21 3rd Leadership Workshop 5-6 pm @ Greenwood	22 Beautiful Me Group @ Shelter 4:30-5:30 pm	23	24
25	26	27 YMCA gym activity 6:30 pm	28 Final Leadership Workshop 5-6 pm @Greenwood	29 Beautiful Me Group @ Shelter 4:30-5:30 pm	30	31

**Getting Connected:**

Shelter: 609-396-8329

Anchorage: 609-989-1625

Connecting Youth: 609-439-4215

Outreach: 609-218-5630

School Outreach: 609-396-8329

NJ Abuse Hotline: 877-652-2873