

Fairfield Voice

FAIRFIELD COUNTY
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
NEEDS BOARD

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As we begin the journey into 2026, our agency has hit the ground running with exciting and impactful activities. Despite rare winter spells hitting the Carolinas, that did not slow our programs down. Our individuals have partaken in various community events, from dressing in their finest attires for one of the year's most anticipated world-wide events, to attending a congregation of state-wide support in advocating for others with disabilities and special needs, the upbeat energy radiating throughout our agency keeps rolling on with no rest-stops in sight. This newsletter will be highlighting all these events and offering a glimpse of our dive into the new year.

KICKING OFF THE NEW YEAR

Tim Tebow Foundation: *Night to Shine*

The Tim Tebow Foundation exists to bring Faith, Hope and Love to those needing a brighter day in their darkest hour of need. TTF strives to fight for the Most Vulnerable People in the world—the MVP—through their work in four main foci, including Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation, Orphan Care and Prevention, Profound Medical Needs, and Special Needs Ministry. Every year, TTF hosts a world-wide event, *Night to Shine*, to bring together those with disabilities and special needs to support them under the spotlight they deserve, providing an opportunity for participants to dress in their black-tie attire and connect with others in their community. This year, one of our own, Mr. Ravin Jackson, was crowned King.



Valentine's Soiree

In celebration of Valentine's Day, our Residential Program hosted a Valentine's Soiree for our individuals and their loved ones. A room filled with good food, good music, and good company was the perfect potion to make hearts throb. Those in attendance were outfitted with on-theme colors and suave styles befitting of a night of romance and companionship, and not even Cupid could have crafted an arrow to match the essence this soiree emitted.



Community Engagement & SCHSP Conference

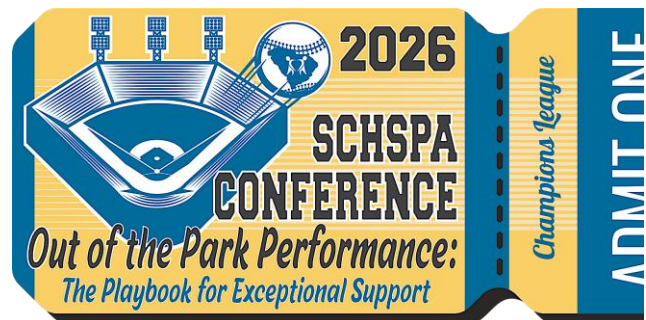
Community Agency Award

Sponsored by the St. Matthew #2 Baptist Church, the third annual *Unity in the Community Award* was held through community votes, presenting a variety of agencies within Fairfield County with different awards to represent their respective impact on the community. Our agency was awarded the *Community Agency Award*, which recognizes an outstanding community agency that has demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation, and impact in serving the needs of its community. The recipient of this award consistently goes above and beyond to foster collaboration, provide essential services, and empower individuals and families to thrive. Through their commitment to excellence, they inspire positive change and set a benchmark for community focused initiatives.



SCHSP Conference

The South Carolina Human Service Providers yearly conference went underway the first week of March, where a handful of our agency's staff and two members of our Board were in attendance. This year's conference focused on topics such as Improving Choice & Independence through Enabling Technology, Quality of Life and Person-Centered Planning, Setting Up Remote Supports, Team Building for Better Success, and more. Additionally, there was a pre-conference seminar that focused on active shooter preparedness, ProActive Response Group: Recognize, Respond, Survive. This conference was held in Myrtle Beach over the course of three days with this year's theme of *Out of the Park Performance: The Playbook for Exceptional Support*.



Fairfield County Sheriff's Office

In January and February, South Carolina experienced unprecedented winter weather that brought challenges to our community. During these harsh conditions, the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office collaborated with our agency to provide transportation for our staff and individuals who we serve, ensuring our excellence of care was undisrupted. We showed our appreciation with a lunch to the sheriff's office, and our Executive Director, Laura Collins, issued a statement to the sheriff's office, thanking everyone who assisted us during this time on their deep commitment to community service and public well-being.

Disabilities Awareness Month & Talent Show

South Carolina Disability Advocacy

Every year, the month of March is dedicated to bringing awareness to those with disabilities in encouragement for our communities to come together in the ongoing effort in advocating for the rights and independence of those with disabilities. We were proud to be represented by our agency's own individuals and members of staff at the South Carolina State House in observation of Disability Advocacy Day as designated by Senate Resolution S. 926. Our individuals advocate for not only themselves, but others with disabilities and special needs as well, and we will continue our unwavering support for them and others we serve.



Talent Show: *Through the Decades*

Our yearly talent show was a success for another year—our individuals represented a showcase reflecting all the hippest, most bee's-knees trends of the last 100 years. Starting in the 1920's with dancing to *The Charleston* and grooving all the way to our entire cast showing their moves off to Bruno Mars and Alicia Keys, it was a grand expedition through time that put the meaning to the-cat's-pajamas. This showcase was hosted at the Fairfield Central High School auditorium and with the tremendous help from our staff to ensure another successful community-driven performance, we can say we are looking forward to our future displays of talent.



FCDSNB DSP OF THE YEAR

Every year, our agency nominates and names one of our members of staff as Direct Support Professional of the Year. For 2025, Ms. Sifornia “Angel” Williams has been awarded this title. Ms. Williams was recognized for her exceptional commitment, compassion, and dedication to the individuals she supports and to the mission of the organization. She consistently goes above and beyond her job responsibilities to ensure individuals are treated with dignity, respect, and encouragement while supporting personal care, independent living skills, and community involvement. Ms. Williams demonstrates strong teamwork by sharing knowledge, modeling best practices, and advocating for cross-training within Community Training Homes to better support residential staff.



Families, case managers, and hospice staff have consistently praised the quality of care she provides, noting that her level of dedication exceeds industry norms. She routinely flexes her schedule, works evenings and weekends, and responds during inclement weather to ensure continuity of care. Her willingness to address challenges creatively, including personally assisting with home improvements when needed, reflects a level of responsibility and compassion that has positively impacted the independence, confidence, and community integration of the individuals she supports. Based on her work ethic, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to service, Ms. Williams was recognized as a highly deserving candidate and a true embodiment of the values of the direct support profession.

FCDSNB Employees of the Month

Staff

Daniel Morris – *January 2026*

“The nomination noted Daniel’s willingness to address technical issues promptly and to explain solutions in a way that enables others to resolve similar issues independently in the future. His efforts were described as demonstrating a high level of teamwork and contributing meaningfully to organizational success”



Chip Branham – *February 2026*

“I would like to nominate Chip Branham for employee of the month. He’s been doing a good job and he’s always willing to help out, and since he got his own credit card, he’s been very appreciative—it’s helped his job be easier.”



Jah’Mauriah Caldwell – *March 2026*

“I would like to recommend Jah’Mauriah Cladwell for Employee of the Month. Although she is a new staff member, she has already shown outstanding consistency and professionalism. She arrives on time, completes her medication administration accurately, and performs all assigned duties with care and responsibility. She has a great relationship with the guys at Pine Street. She follows directions well, maintains a positive attitude, and is quickly proving herself to be a dependable and dedicated team member. Her work ethic and commitment make her an asset to Pine Stret and to the Board of Disabilities and Special Needs.”



Consumers

Pam Riley – *January 2026*

“I would like to nominate Pam Riley for employee of the month. She has been assisting with shredding for the administrative personnel and is always on top of her duties. With her upbeat, positive disposition, she’s been a pleasure to have in the office and has helped us out tremendously.”



Devora Reedy – *February 2026*

“I would like to nominate Devora Reedy. She is sweet to others, cares about her housemates and has the biggest smile. She doesn’t mind speaking her mind but is quick to show compassion for others. She has a big hear and is a joy to be around.”



Jerry Moon – *March 2026*

“Jerry brings joy, excitement, and boundless energy everywhere he goes. Jerry never meets a stranger and brings a smile to peoples’ face everywhere he goes, whether it’s at the doctor’s office, lout at a restaurant, or just out in the community with his peers.”









