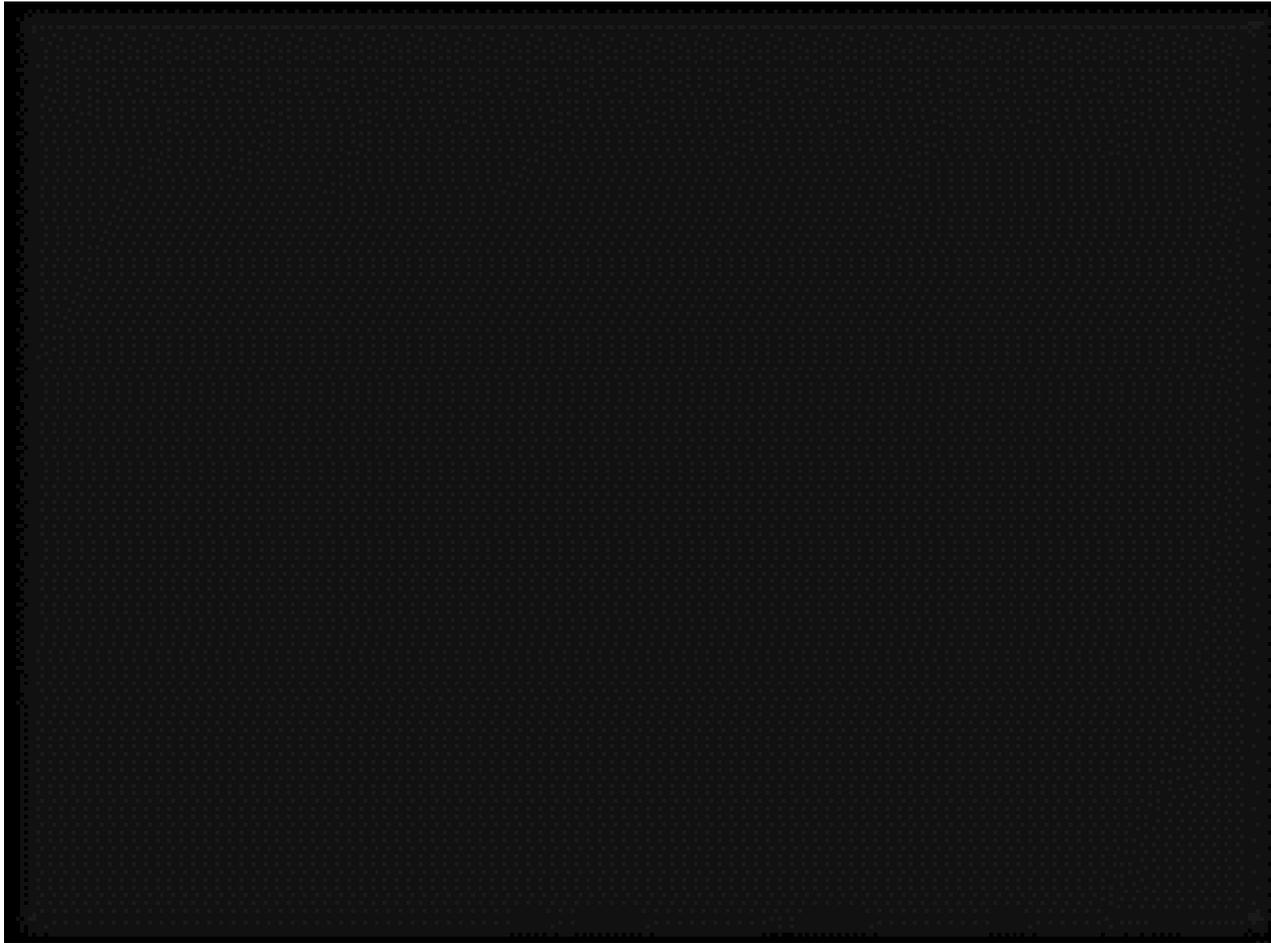




American Association of  
**Caregiving**  
**Youth**

# National Media Attention



# Agenda

- ♥ **WHAT is AACY**
- ♥ **WHO are the Caregiving Youth**
- ♥ **IMPACT to the Individual and Education**
- ♥ **SOLUTION – the Caregiving Youth Project**
- ♥ **IMPLICATIONS for Schools**
- ♥ **YOU and Caregiving Youth!**

# What is AACY?

## American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY)

- Florida based non-profit corporation established in 1998
- The only organization in the US dedicated solely to addressing caregiving youth issues
- Created affiliate model as non-profit franchise
- Established the Caregiving Youth Institute in 2014

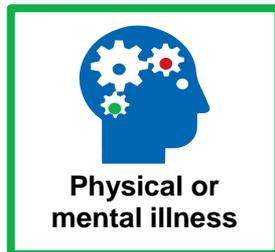


## Caregiving Youth Project (CYP)

- Established in 2006 by AACY
- Addresses the needs of pre-teens, teens, families, and professionals through education, awareness, research and direct services
- Brings together healthcare, education, and the community
- Works in partnership with school districts

# Who are the Caregiving Youth?

- ♥ Children & adolescents <18 years of age who provide significant assistance to relatives or household members who need help due to:



- ♥ At least 1.3-1.4 million caregiving youth, ages 8 to 18, exist nationwide as of 2005



# Caregiving Youth at Home



# The Impact on Caregiving Youth

**Caregiving Youth**  
spend an average  
of 20 hours a  
week caring for  
loved ones



**They sacrifice**  
their education,  
physical and  
emotional well-  
being



**They become**  
**isolated** from  
friends & lack  
socialization



**They miss**  
**experiencing**  
their own  
childhood



# Comprehensive CYP Services

- ♥ **In School - skills-building classes, support groups, lunch and learn sessions**
- ♥ **At Home - linking families with resources, providing computers, tutoring, respite and solutions for special needs**
- ♥ **Out of School - overnight camp, fishing, dining, educational and fun activities**

# Camp Treasure XXI – 53% of Kids Called 911



# Questions at Camp Treasure XX – 11/5/2016

Questions <sup>hamya</sup> 11-5-16  
If you help someone with  
medicine and you give them  
more than what you need  
will it harm them?

How to remember that a person  
has problems but looks like a normal  
person.

How can I get someone out of  
bed if they don't have anything to help them  
with

When you lost your love ones,  
will it effect your life?

What happens when  
they need help but you  
can't help them?  
(What can you do?)

**If you help someone with medicine  
and you give them more than what you  
need will it harm them?**

**How to remember that a person has  
problems but looks like a normal person.**

**How can I get someone out of bed if they  
don't have anything to help them with**

**When you lost your loved ones, will it  
effect your life?**

**What happens when they need help but  
you can't help them? (What can you  
do?)**

# CYP: Focused on Making a Difference & Increasing Graduation Rates

*As a result of CYP,  
>85% of youth  
participants reported:*

*>65% of youth  
participants reported:*

Report Card	A++	
Helped them in school		✓
Increased caregiving knowledge		✓
Improved self esteem & confidence		✓
Decreased stress & frustration		✓
Increased socialization		✓

# Caregiving Youth Institute (CYI)

- ♥ The Caregiving Youth Institute was established in **April 2014** under the auspices of **AACY**
- ♥ The CYI provides the venue & opportunity to create the formal structure for what AACY has been informally providing for several years

The CYI's goal is to **raise the level of awareness** & multi-system needs of caregiving youth along with **solutions** or their **support** through the multiple aspects of

**C.A.R.E.**

**C** onnection

**A** dvocacy

**R** esearch

**E** ducation

# Caregiving Youth Research Collaborative

- ♥ Members include Dr. Carol Goodheart, past President American Psychological Association & professionals from:



UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
MILLER SCHOOL  
of MEDICINE



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



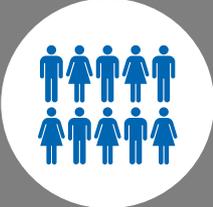
# Implications for Schools

- ♥ Increase awareness of hidden kids
- ♥ Identify point of contact person
- ♥ Help families understand the impact of health conditions on children
- ♥ Advocate for legislation changes
- ♥ Become an affiliate!

# What AACY is Working Towards

**Raising Awareness**  
about caregiving youth among:

**The Public**



**Professionals**



Healthcare  
Education  
Community

**Additional Funds Needed for:**



- ♥ **National prevalence research update**
- ♥ **Expansion of the CYP**
- ♥ **Development of the Caregiving Youth Institute**



## ***Morally & Economically***

Supporting Caregiving Youth  
for Today & Tomorrow is the  
***Right Thing to Do...***



***On behalf of these Hidden Heroes,  
for the benefit of our Children & Grandchildren,  
our greater Community & our Country***



# Thank You!

**Ann Faraone-Brocco, EdD**  
**Director of Education Services**  
[ann@acy.org](mailto:ann@acy.org)

**Michelle Dolan, MSW**  
**Director of Caregiving Youth Project**  
[michelle@acy.org](mailto:michelle@acy.org)



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