



ACTS Holds Annual Board Celebration

In October, ACTS held its annual Board of Directors celebration dinner at Seasons 52 in Tampa. This year, State Senator Darryl Rouson shared his personal story of addiction, and how he has remained sober for more than 20 years. “I was sick and tired of being sick and tired. I wanted my respect back. I wanted my standing back in the community, as well as my family,” said Sen. Rouson when talking about his decision to start treatment. In addition, ACTS CEO Asha Terminello and Board President Patrick Mazza presented a Distinguished Board Service Award to Bill Hirsch, as well as years of service awards to Beth Ann Sanders and Hayward Davis, who have both been at the agency for 31 years. At this meeting, copies of ACTS Annual Report were distributed. To see the report, [click here](#), and to see additional pictures from the evening, [click here](#).



ACTS Celebrates Halloween

Agency-wide, there was a spooky feeling with each location taking part in a Halloween Decorating Contest. ACTS provided each location \$25 to buy supplies and to work together as a team leading up to Halloween. The winning location - Thonotosassa Youth Residential Treatment - was chosen by ACTS Senior Leadership and received a pizza party at their location on October 31. “I was so impressed to see all of the hard work that ALL of the locations put into making their lobbies and common areas festive for Halloween,” said Asha Terminello, ACTS CEO. Employees were also encouraged to dress up or wear a Halloween shirt on October 31. To see pictures from Halloween, [click here](#).



Thonotosassa Youth Residential Treatment

Meet Richard Gibbons

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

ACTS Clinical Supervisor for Youth Addictions Receiving Richard Gibbon says that the above quote describes his feelings about the teens he sees at the Juvenile Addictions Receiving Facility (JARF) in Tampa because of the short amount of time he has to make an impact in the teen's life. The JARF, a 10-bed secure facility, offers short term acute care services for adolescents with substance use or co-occurring mental health disorders. As the lead clinician at the JARF, Richard says every day is different and busy. His duties range from performing assessments, leading counseling groups to walking the floor and getting to know the youth better. Richard also works closely with the local court systems to help get Marchman Act clients assessed and into treatment. He said his favorite thing about his job is the fact that each youth is different and is challenging engaging them and everyone connected to their case in the 3 – 5 days they are at the unit. To find out more about some of Richard's most memorable times at ACTS, [click here](#).



ACTS Polk JAC Staff Attends Domestic Violence Symposium

Staff from the Polk Juvenile Assessment Center attended the Tenth Judicial Circuit's Domestic Violence Task Force Domestic Violence Symposium in October in Lake Wales. Staff heard from experts about how to deescalate situations, as well as from a domestic violence survivor who shared her story. The Polk JAC is the only program in the state that runs a domestic violence intervention program for youth arrested for domestic violence issues in Polk, Hardee and Highlands County. To learn more about the domestic violence intervention program, call the Polk JAC at 863.519.3655.



For More Information

ACTS, Agency for Community Treatment Services, Inc., is a non-profit serving the Tampa Bay area since 1978. As a comprehensive, community-based behavioral health organization, ACTS mission is to apply the best of contemporary physical and behavioral health interventions and social support services available to assist individuals and families to engage and succeed in recovery. Call us today to find out how we can help you - 813.246.4899 or visit us online at www.actsfl.org.

