

Created by:

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

CASEWORKERS

Caseworkers from the DHS Office of Children, Youth and Families (CYF) created quilt squares to represent the stress and resiliency that so often affects their work. Pieced together by MC Henderson, a CYF caseworker, it is highlighted by blue ribbon to signify child abuse awareness.

CYF is the County's public office mandated by law to protect children from abuse and neglect. The office was created in 1963 to comply with federal and state laws requiring that child abuse be investigated. It is the second largest child welfare agency in Pennsylvania.

CYF is responsible for the welfare of the children of Allegheny County by protecting them from abuse and neglect, preserving families whenever possible and providing permanent, safe homes for children either by assuring safety within the child's own family, or by finding an adoptive home or another permanent setting for those who cannot be reunified with their family.



Created by:

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

YOUTH SUPPORT PARTNERS

The fabric squares on this quilt were created by DHS Youth Support Partners, most of whom experienced childhood traumas and now serve as mentors to young people currently receiving services through DHS who are working through their life's traumas.

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services Youth Support Partner (YSP) Unit is staffed by young adults who have had personal experience in some channel of the human services system. They share the insights they have gained with youth currently in the system, advocating for them and serving as mentors. Started in 2008, the YSP Unit is the only program of its kind in the country, assisting youth with a variety of needs.



Created by:

CHILDREN SEEN BY A CHILD'S PLACE

Children currently living with trauma were asked to color a fabric square representing a happy moment and the individual squares were then sewn into one quilt.

A Child's Place (ACP) is The Allegheny County Child Advocacy Center, a fully accredited Child Advocacy Center of the National Children's Alliance. ACP is a private, non-profit organization working together with a multidisciplinary investigative team in each county. Their primary function is to provide forensic interviews and medical exams of children when there are concerns of abuse. ACP provides other services as well, including foster care placement examinations, developmental evaluations and community training and education.

