



RE-ENVISION YOUR STORY



A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS AND SURPRISES

The school year at Pathways began with a promise to engage students in celebrating their unique stories while helping them to develop new chapters and fulfill their potential. We remain particularly able to help students “Re-Envision Your Story” because we tailor our educational and therapeutic programming to the unique needs of each of our students. We have a continuum of programs and an array of educational options, with outstanding therapeutic and transitional supports for each. In the fall we strengthened our already robust educational and therapeutic environments to further enhance learning and personal growth. We used tools like community circles to build trust and work toward positive outcomes. Our staff members were trained on the impact of trauma on students, helping teachers and paraprofessionals to better understand their students and have more thoroughly informed responses.

ANNE ARUNDEL CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Pathways-Anne Arundel is an outstanding program of community-based learning offering highly individualized education that allows students to learn beyond conventional classroom environments. Over the years students have participated in everything from automotive internships to attending classes at Anne Arundel Community College. Pathways-Anne Arundel celebrated its 20th anniversary at the annual Thanksgiving luncheon, during which many students and family members spoke. Noteworthy also is that Anne Arundel’s Principal, Cindy Sumner, has been at Pathways since the year before Anne Arundel opened and was part of the program’s beginning as a CSS, then teacher, and now principal.



MANSEF LEADERSHIP

In June Pathways Director and CEO Dr. Tania DuBeau completed her three-year term as President of the Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities (MANSEF). She served through an unprecedented time. In the MANSEF newsletter *Stepping Stones*, Dorie Flynn, Executive Director of MANSEF, wrote, “Her patience, availability and thoughtfulness have been...extraordinary. She is a trusted resource responding to the numerous questions we faced....Her calmness joined us together.”

Having laid that groundwork, we were in a strong position to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. Although we had no inkling that our theme of re-envisioning stories would need to apply to re-envisioning how we educate and support our students, Pathways quickly adapted to the moment. Guided by a comprehensive Continuity of Learning Plan, Pathways entire staff stepped up to provide instruction, learning opportunities, and therapeutic support in a remote environment. Classrooms, assemblies, internships, workshops, and even graduations went on and succeeded in a profoundly different environment. In this report, you will see evidence of the creativity and resilience of the Pathways staff and students. We know you will enjoy reading how Pathways re-envisioned learning and what it means to be a school community in this time.

EDGEWOOD CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Pathways-Edgewood is a unique Pathways site offering both school-based and community-based programming for high school students. It began in response to a range of students’ individual needs, and provides academic instruction, therapeutic support, and a strong array of transition services. Students at Edgewood can learn in a traditional classroom or in settings in the community. Edgewood marked its 30th anniversary with a festival of activities, including planting a perennial flower garden, creating a time capsule and painting a mural of handprints. The day was a highlight for three staff members who had been there for Edgewood’s opening days: Executive Director Dr. Tania DuBeau, Clinical Coordinator Trudy Portewig, and Academic Coordinator Joy Spain. They particularly recalled the excitement of Edgewood’s early days when Joy, then the first Edgewood teacher, together with Dr. Eric Levine created the vision for the Edgewood school-to-work model.

