

Saving Families, Saving Lives - 412-366-1300



Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry

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Since 1966

Spring 2017 Newsletter

You Made this Possible!!! In Celebration of our 50th Anniversary: *First Hope Scholarship Awarded to a Tutoring Program Student.*

The Hope Scholarship was established this year in celebration of Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry's (ACM) 50th anniversary. It is made possible by the generous support of ACM donors like you and awarded to a tutoring student in our Youth Development Program for the pursuit of further studies after high school graduation.

For more than 15 years, the Youth Development Program has been an integral part of the services offered at Anchorpoint. During this time your support has enabled us to help over 1,000 students receive academic assistance and nurturing guidance from an exceptional group of volunteer tutors and paid teachers. Can you imagine the positive impact you have had on these children and their families?

Russell Paras, the recipient of the first ever Hope Scholarship, is one of these children.

According to Sandy Niekum, ACM's Tutoring Program Manager, *"Russell truly deserved to receive the Anchorpoint Hope Scholarship. As a student in our tutoring program since 7th grade, he has demonstrated a strong work ethic, has shown tremendous academic growth, and has turned into a self-confident young man with clear post-high school goals."*



Russell, a 12th grade student in the Shaler Area School District, will receive a \$1,000 award for the 2017-18 Academic year. He plans to enter CCAC's five year Associate of Science Apprenticeship Program to become a certified electrician.

"I can't believe I was chosen for this scholarship. If it wasn't for Sandy, the tutors, my parents, and most importantly, God, for placing me where I needed to be, I would have never been shown that anything can be accomplished with hard work," says Paras.



Nancy & Russell Paras
with Sandy Niekum

The Award Letter was presented to Russell at ACM's Golden Anchor Gala & 50th Anniversary Celebration at the LeMont (*more details about the Gala are inside*). *"My family is so grateful for the scholarship that was awarded to Russell. Thanks to Anchorpoint for this scholarship and for the affordable tutoring they provide so we can send all three of our children for tutoring lessons,"* says Nancy Paras, Russell's mother.

Best wishes, Russell. Congratulations! And, thank you to our friends of Anchorpoint for making it possible for us to serve families in need of affordable tutoring and mentoring.



Formerly North Hills Youth Ministry Counseling Center

800 McKnight Park Drive, Suite 802 • Pittsburgh, PA 15237-6504

www.anchorpointcounselingministry.org • 412-366-1300

Building hope and promoting healing and learning through faith-based counseling and support services.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. - Hebrews 6:19



Golden Anchor Gala & 50th Anniversary Celebration

Our annual Golden Anchor Gala was also a wonderful opportunity to kick off our 50th Anniversary Celebration. We had a beautiful evening of paying tribute to the many who have been so important to what has become our ministry today while honoring those who bring hope to our communities. Each of our honorees this year has had a tremendous impact on the founding and longevity of Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry.

Our 2016 Honorees:

A Friend Who Brings Hope:
Rev. Keith Brown, our founding director

A Family Who Brings Hope:
The Claus Family

A Business that Brings Hope:
Wilkins and Associates Architects

A Faith Community that Brings Hope:
Memorial Park Church, founding church

Visit our website to read the biographies of these honorees as well as learn about all of our sponsors and advertisers. Please consider supporting their businesses and organizations. Look for the Gala Program listed under the Resource tab.



East Allegheny High School String Quartet



Curt & Kim Fleming, Gala Honorary Corporate Chairs



2016 Golden Anchor Gala Honorees

Our first annual Hope Scholarship was awarded in celebration of our 50th Anniversary. With our roots in youth ministry, this award is a fitting tribute to those who worked to establish ACM (formerly the North Hills Youth Ministry). Read the front page story for more details.

Thank you to those who made our evening possible: Our sponsors, attendees, advertisers, gala committee, volunteers, staff, and our emcee for the evening, Kathy Emmons of Word FM. A special thank you to Steve Ehrlich and the East Allegheny High School String Quartet for treating us to their musical talents. Together, we raised over \$32,000. The lives that will be changed by your generosity will affect our whole community. We continue to provide counseling, tutoring, and parent education and support because of you. Thank you!!!

50th Anniversary Sponsors

Thank you to the following
Golden Anniversary Sponsors:

- **Hefren-Tillotson, Inc.**
Visionary Eagle
- **Medical Service Associates**
Visionary Eagle
- **McKinley Carter Wealth Services**
Nurturing Birdie
- **Abraham Moosa/Janney Montgomery Scott**
Golden Nugget
- **Franklin Inn Mexican Restaurant**
Golden Nugget
- **Sperling Funeral Home**
Golden Nugget

If you would like information about becoming a Golden Anniversary Sponsor, please call us at 412-366-1300.

What was most helpful?



"Talking to someone about my feelings."

- 8 year old Counseling Client

Anchorpoint Community Recommissioning Service & 50th Anniversary Celebration

We are grateful for the opportunity of serving alongside you who help us make Anchorpoint a caring, communal ministry offering help, hope, and healing.

**Please join us for a special
50th Anniversary
Worship Celebration.**

Saturday, April 22 at 6pm

**North Hills Community
Baptist Church**

Cake reception immediately
following the service.

RSVP by April 12 to
Nicole Cannon at 412-366-1300 or
nicole@anchorpointcounselingministry.org



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Fundraiser to benefit kids in tutoring at



Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry

Visit the Franklin Inn
Tuesday, May 16th
between 11am and 9pm

20% of your bill will be donated
to the Tutoring/ Mentoring Program at
Anchorpoint (AnchorpointCounselingMinistry.org).

**You must print out and present
this voucher to your server.**

(Flyer distribution on Inn property is prohibited.)

Includes Alcohol & Gift Cards.

Not valid on Happy Hour or other special discounts.



2313 Rochester Rd
Franklin Park
412-366-4140
franklininn.net

Guest Appearance by the Style Truck!

**Weather permitting the Style Truck
will be parked at the Inn from 3ish until
dusk. 10% of Style Truck purchases will
be donated to Anchorpoint.**



Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry

June 19, 2017 thru August 4, 2017

Summer Tutoring Program

This program is designed to meet the unique challenges and needs of our students. One-on-one tutoring provides the opportunity for individualized instruction geared to student strengths and weaknesses. Customized lessons, taught by certified teachers, focus on the review & re-teaching of key concepts that the students need to master in order to be successful in the upcoming school year.



Subjects: KG to 12th Grade

READING – Sight Word Development, Phonics, Comprehension, Reading Fluency

MATHEMATICS – General Math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus

ENGLISH – Grammar & Composition

Students may sign up for one or more subjects

Flexible Summer Scheduling

- Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 3:00 (*a few evening hours may also be offered*)
- Schedule tutoring for 1 – 5 days/week
- Choose 1 hour, 1½ hour, or 2 hour sessions
- Once scheduled, sessions will be the same days/times each week

Affordable Tutoring!

The cost for tutoring is determined by a sliding scale (based on a family's gross income and the number of people in the family).
Fees range from \$10.00/hour - \$25.00/hour.



For more information and to register your child, contact Sandy Niekum at 412-366-1300 x123 or tutors@anchorpointcounselingministry.org

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working with kids in all aspects of school. Helping the students to succeed is what all tutors strive for and that is what I feel like I'm doing at Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry." – Teen Tutor



Tutors Needed!

Make a difference for a child struggling with school work.

Volunteer Tutors/Mentors: to assist students in all grade levels in Reading, Math, English, and Science. Choose the subjects/grade levels that you are comfortable tutoring. The commitment is one hour/week during the school year on the same day at the same time with the same student helping with homework, study skills and remedial activities.

Volunteer Homework Buddies: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month October thru May from 7 to 8pm. Help children with homework while their mothers meet for their SPIN for Single Moms. This is a great opportunity for High School Juniors and Seniors to earn volunteer credits or for a youth group or small group to volunteer together.

Certified Teachers Needed for 2017 Summer Tutoring Program:

The following are paid positions at ACM.

- 4 Elementary Teachers;
- 2 Middle School/High School English Teachers;
- 2 Middle School/High School Math Teachers.

To learn more and apply, call Sandy Niekum at 412-366-1300 ex. 123.

"I cannot thank you enough for all of the encouragement and love that you have given me. It means a lot to have somebody to believe in you." - High School Student in Tutoring at ACM





Meet our New Community Development Director



Hi! I am Nicole Cannon and I am so excited to join the Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry team as the Director of Development. I have more than fifteen years of experience in the fundraising field and I love my job! I especially enjoy meeting donors and learning about their personal connection with the mission of Anchorpoint. I am married and have five children, ages 7 to 13, and live in the North Hills. When not chasing around my kids, I can be found chasing around our six pets or riding my bike. Call me and introduce yourself! I'd love to hear about why Anchorpoint is important to you and answer any questions you may have about the many ways you can support ACM.

"I Wish I Could Do More."

That's the comment we often hear from friends of Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry when they make gifts to assist in our programs.

What if it were possible to make a gift of "*startling significance*" that can impact youth and families for years to come? Many friends of Anchorpoint would like to make that kind of gift, if there were just some way to do it! We're talking about gifts that can make a difference for our clients for the next fifty years, gifts that increase Anchorpoint's ability to fulfill our mission - long after our own lifetimes... and a way of giving that multiplies your personal satisfaction.

Strange as it may sound, a gift of "startling significance" that leaves a lasting legacy for those served by Anchorpoint often can be made at very low cost. It's just a matter of planning what to give, how to give, and when to give.

You have the ability to create small miracles every day in the lives of the youth and families we serve long into the future. If you'd like to talk about your own gift of *startling significance* to Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, call or email Nicole Cannon (412-366-1300 or nicole@anchorpointcounselingministry.org) in our development department and she can discuss options in giving with you.

Can we visit with you & your family for dinner?

We'd like to do it this October...virtually that is! Stay tuned to ACM's Facebook page and website for details. We plan to celebrate the value of the family meal at our newest event!



We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop. - Mother Teresa

You are vital to this ministry!

Your prayers, your donations, your time, your participation in our events, your words of encouragement, the phones you answer for us, the envelopes you stuff, the referrals you give, the meals you cook for our SPIN Moms and on and on and on. Each drop you contribute to this ministry helps to pour hope and healing into the lives of men, women, teens, children and families. Thank you!

Pass this on to a friend in need: We're currently accepting clients for...

Professional Counseling

Individual, Couples & Families Welcome. We are here to help you face and resolve significant issues such as:

- Anger & Forgiveness
- Depression & Anxiety
- Emotional, Physical & Sexual Abuse
- Marriage & Family Problems
- Peer Pressure & Bullying
- Conflict Management
- Drug & Alcohol Abuse
- Faith & Meaning
- Loss & Grief
- School Difficulties
- Self-esteem
- Separation & Divorce
- Parent Coaching

If a life transition or unexpected crisis feels overwhelming or challenging, we can help. Call us at 412-366-1300 to begin the healing process.

Private Parent Coaching

Moms or dads of children preschool through high school can benefit from personal parent coaching. Call Joan Schenker at 412-366-1300 ex. 118 to make an appointment.

Tutoring/Mentoring Program

See the flyer inside this newsletter for more details. Space is limited. For more information and to register your child, call Sandy Niekum at 412-366-1300 ex. 123

Workshops...Invite Us to Your Location

ACM Staff will facilitate the topics of your choice at your site, school, church, or library. Visit our website for more information on sponsoring and hosting a workshop: AnchorpointCounselingMinistry.org (Click on the Education & Support Tab)

- **Parenting & Family:** Equip parents, grandparents and youth leaders with the tools to help navigate youth successfully through childhood and adolescence.
- **Marriage & Relationship:** Topics available for married couples and singles.

Save the Date & Join us!

ACM 50th Anniversary Worship & Recommissioning Celebration Service: Saturday, April 22 at North Hills Community Baptist Church. Invitation with details inside this newsletter.

Tacos for Tutoring: Tuesday, May 16. Every bite makes a difference. Join us at the Franklin Inn Mexican Restaurant. Voucher with details inside this newsletter.

Pittsburgh Gives Day: Tuesday, May 23. Visit PittsburghGives.org on this date and donate to ACM online.

Golf Classic and Silent Auction: Friday, September 15 at Olde Stonewall Golf Club. Details to come. Golfers, Sponsors and Silent Auction items needed.

Support & Educational Groups

Call 412-366-1300 to register for the next session and for more information regarding costs and topics covered. Do not let a lack of financial resources keep you from registering. Scholarships & Sliding Scale payments are available.

Grief Support Group for Widows & Widowers Over Fifty: Hosted by St. Sebastian's in Haber Hall. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1:00 to 2:30 pm.

Self-Care for Women: Eight week support and educational group for women struggling with stress or depression and its effects in their lives. Tuesdays: 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Self-Care In Action: A group of women working together to live more confident, energized, self-aware, and joy-filled lives. Expect to embrace hope, battle insecurity, and confront difficult life problems in a safe and laughter-filled setting. Mondays: 6:30-8:30 pm.

Sanctuary—Empowering Teen Girls: Ten week support group for girls grappling with sadness, loneliness, fitting in, assertiveness, body image and more. Tuesdays: 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Life After Divorce: Twelve week educational group for people trying to make sense of life after divorce and learning to cope with the experience. Major insurance accepted. Tuesdays: 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Siblings Group: Eight week support and education group for children who have a sibling with a disability. Saturdays: 9:30 to 11:00 am.

SPIN For Single Moms—Prepare to be empowered physically, mentally and spiritually. For less than two hours of your time, you'll be treated to a free meal, great conversation, and homework help for the kids. No need to cook on SPIN nights. Families are welcome to eat a delicious meal prepared by local restaurants and churches. Afterwards, while moms attend the SPIN meeting, we will provide a supervised study area for children K-8th grade to do homework or play games.

Two Wednesdays a month October to May:

- 1st & 3rd Wednesday at Anchorpoint's Offices or
- 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Heritage Church
- 6:30 - 7:00 pm: Dinner
- 7:00 - 8:00 pm: Mom's Group Meeting
- Children's Homework/Game Time

"There are so many reasons why I appreciate the single moms group, it's very difficult to choose. I think that the support of all individuals involved is uplifting, mainly because it allows you to support others and help them through a difficult period in their life as well as your own. Thank you for allowing this to happen."

- Mom in SPIN Group



Your generosity ensures support groups are accessible to those in need of help and healing regardless of finances. You are making a difference for individuals and families in need!

Stay In Touch & Keep Up to Date

with ACM! Follow us on Facebook or Twitter. Join our email list: A sign up link is available on our Facebook page and website: AnchorpointCounselingMinistry.org.

Thank you for remembering us during your company's United Way Campaign.

United
Way



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Support Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry by designating United Way Giving #354. Thank you.

