

Comhar Celebrates 50 Years of Service and Welcomes Historic Leadership with Trapeta Mayson as CEO



Comhar, a leading provider of behavioral health and wellness services in Philadelphia, proudly celebrates 50 years of community impact. As the organization marks this milestone, it also enters a new era by appointing its first African American Chief Executive Officer, Trapeta B. Mayson.

Founded in 1975, Comhar has remained committed to delivering culturally responsive services in mental health, intellectual disabilities, substance use, and wellness. This historic moment is not only a celebration of five decades of service but a step forward in aligning leadership with the communities it serves.

Trapeta Mayson is a licensed clinical social worker, community organizer, and former Philadelphia Poet Laureate. Her two decades of experience in nonprofit leadership, mental health, and the arts uniquely position her to lead Comhar into its next chapter. “It’s an honor to lead an organization so deeply rooted in the community,” said Mayson. “I stand on the shoulders of those who built this legacy and look forward to advancing our mission with inclusion and innovation.”

Mayson’s appointment reflects a growing movement to bring equity and representation to nonprofit leadership. As an alliance focused on reducing disparities and promoting culturally competent care, the Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) celebrates Comhar’s bold step.

As part of its mission, CCCP advocates for leadership across organizations that mirrors the diversity of communities. “Representation in executive leadership isn’t just symbolic – it’s essential to building trust and delivering effective, culturally relevant care,” said Asher Kemp, CCCP Executive Director. “We commend Comhar and

encourage all providers to continue prioritizing diversity as a pathway to equity and systemic change.”

At a time when Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts are being challenged, the Coalition reaffirms its belief that embracing individuals from all cultures and backgrounds enriches strategic vision and deepens meaningful community engagement.

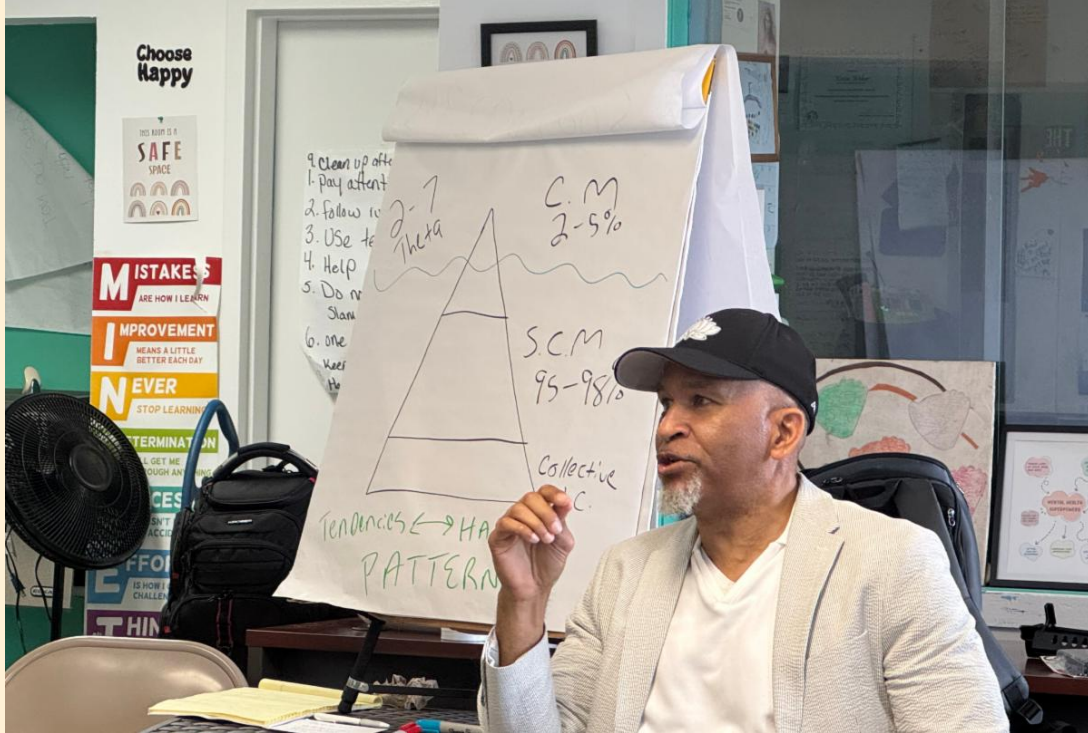
Comhar’s 50th Anniversary event brought together staff, partners, and community members to honor its legacy and welcome Mayson. The celebration featured client stories, tributes to past leaders, and a keynote address from Mayson that energized attendees with a vision for the future.

“Trapeta understands our communities—their challenges, strengths, and stories,” said board member Angela Rodriguez. “Her leadership is exactly what this moment calls for.”

As Comhar looks ahead, it does so with renewed purpose. With Mayson at the helm, the organization plans to expand access to culturally competent care, invest in its workforce, and deepen partnerships across Philadelphia. Its golden anniversary is not just a reflection of the past, but a launchpad for a more inclusive and empowered future.



Exploring Healthy Masculinity: Northern Children Hosts Transformative Workshop Led by Human Solidarity Project



Northern Children’s Services recently hosted a powerful Masculinity Workshop led by Dustin Washington and Martin Friedman of the Human Solidarity Project. The event gathered students, educators, and community members for an honest conversation about how masculinity is shaped—and reshaped—in today’s world.

The workshop, part of Northern Children’s ongoing focus on equity and social-emotional development, offered a safe, reflective space for a diverse group of participants to explore identity, emotional expression, peer influence, and the societal expectations placed on young men. Through storytelling, interactive exercises, and guided dialogue, attendees were encouraged to challenge harmful gender norms and embrace empathy, vulnerability, and connection as strengths.

“Too often, young men are taught to suppress emotion and equate strength with dominance,” said Washington. “This workshop is about helping them redefine strength as the courage to be kind, to listen, and to be self-aware.”

Participants reflected on both affirming and harmful aspects of masculinity in their lives and left with tools to support themselves and one another in building healthier identities. Friedman added, “We’re helping to create a culture where young people can be their full selves without fear or shame.”

Events like this are critical to fostering mental wellness and community healing—especially for youth navigating systems that often lack support. The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) supports these initiatives, recognizing their role in disrupting harmful cycles and promoting emotional well-being.

Northern Children’s Services remains committed to expanding programming that empowers youth and uplifts equity. Future workshops and partnerships will continue to support young people in becoming confident, compassionate leaders in their communities.

**PECO and CCCP Partner
for NEC Refresher Training**

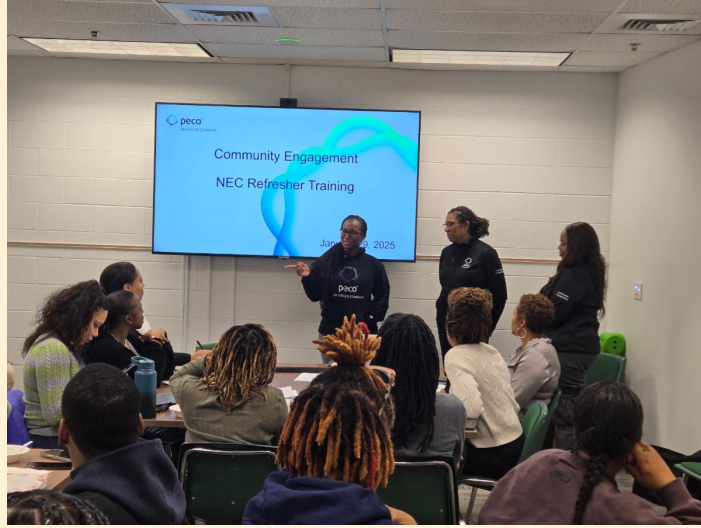


The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP), in partnership with PECO, recently delivered a vital CAP and LIHEAP Refresher Training to its member organizations, equipping frontline social service professionals with the knowledge needed to support households facing utility hardship. This collaboration underscores the importance of cross-sector partnerships in closing equity gaps and strengthening community resilience.

The initial round of refresher sessions was hosted by Dunbar Community Services and CORA Services, where participants received expert guidance from Patricia King. A respected leader in the field, King offered valuable insights on recent program updates, eligibility requirements, and practical strategies to help providers deliver effective support to individuals and families in need. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) offers grants to help Pennsylvanians manage their heating bills, while PECO's Customer Assistance Program (CAP) enables eligible customers to pay a reduced monthly bill based on a percentage of their household income. These essential programs can be lifelines for families, especially during times of economic instability.

This training reflects CCCP's ongoing commitment to investing in professional development and ensuring that community-based providers are equipped with the tools to deliver accurate, timely, and compassionate assistance. By partnering with PECO, CCCP continues to bridge critical information gaps and build capacity among those serving vulnerable populations. Collaborations like this ensure our communities not only have access to resources—but also to trusted professionals who are trained to connect them.

For more information on future trainings and to stay updated on CCCP and PECO initiatives, visit [PECO's official website](#).



REGISTER TO ATTEND - CCCP's 2nd Annual Gala at The Franklin Institute of Philadelphia



The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) is excited to announce its **2nd Annual Gala**, taking place on **Thursday, May 29, 2025, at 6:00 PM** at **The Franklin Institute** in Philadelphia.

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we bring together community leaders, advocates, and supporters to celebrate CCCP's mission of advancing culturally competent practices in behavioral health and human services for communities of color. This special event will highlight the progress we've made, honor those leading the way, and recommit to building equitable systems of care.

Following the success of our inaugural gala at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, this year's event promises to be even more impactful, with powerful storytelling, networking, and inspiration in one of the city's most iconic cultural spaces. The

upcoming event at The Franklin Institute, renowned as "Philly's Cultural Powerhouse," promises to build upon the event's success.

Registration is now open [EVENTBRITE](#)—secure your seat early and be part of this important celebration!

We also invite organizations to show their support by becoming event sponsors. Sponsorship is a meaningful way to demonstrate your commitment to equity and representation while gaining visibility among regional leaders and changemakers.

For more information and continued updates, visit cccproviders.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Inaugural Gala Photo Album

CCCP Attends Chamber of Commerce Mayoral Luncheon: Mayor Cherelle L. Parker Shares Her Vision of 'One Philly'



The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) was proud to be in attendance as Mayor Cherelle L. Parker delivered her address at the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia's Annual Mayoral Luncheon—an event that brought together more than 2,000 business leaders, elected officials, civic organizations, and community stakeholders.

Mayor Parker laid out her bold agenda for Philadelphia: a **Safer, Cleaner, Greener City, with Access to Economic Opportunity for All**. Her message resonated deeply with CCCP and its member organizations, which serve as frontline behavioral health providers committed to improving outcomes for some of the city's most vulnerable communities.

The Mayor's emphasis on neighborhood-level change, economic mobility, and public health presents an important opportunity to align citywide priorities with the on-the-ground work already being led by CCCP members.

As CCCP looks ahead, it remains committed to working alongside the Parker

CCCP Celebrates Women Leaders at Legends Reception Hosted by Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore Richardson

Philadelphia City Council Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore Richardson hosted her annual Legends Reception. Kathy honored 5 extraordinary young women, in recognition of their outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication to the City of Philadelphia.

Honorees included: Jennifer Santiago, Esq., Erin Dwyer Harvard, Representative Regina Young, Shani Newton, and Salima Pace— all of whom have made exceptional contributions to the community, as they continue to champion progress and inspire positive change in Philadelphia and beyond.

The Majority Leader was joined by many of her colleagues and local elected officials, along with her constituents and members of her family, to celebrate the end of March, Women's History Month. This has become Kathy's signature event year over year, and for good reason: to celebrate and uplift young women for their service to the city, and inspire upcoming generations to do the same.

Katherine Gilmore Richardson serves the City of Philadelphia as a Councilmember At-Large, and in 2024 she made history: becoming the youngest person ever and the first at-large member of Council to become Majority Leader.



Fitler Club's Impact Speaker Series



As part of its *Impact Speaker Series*, the Fitter Club presented “Leaders for Today Vision for Tomorrow,” a compelling discussion led by Dr. Kimberly McGlenn featuring Philadelphia School District Superintendent Dr. Tony B. Watlington Sr., who shared his journey navigating education systems. His reflections set the tone for an evening centered on equity, representation, and the power of education to shape Black futures.

The Fitter Club also presented “Designing Black Futures: Black Children and STEM.” This event featured Dr. Darryl N. Williams, Senior Vice President of Science, Education, and Human Resources at The Franklin Institute, and Atiyah Harmon, founder of Black Girls Love Math. Together, they explored the importance of culturally responsive STEM education and the systemic changes needed to support Black children in these fields.

The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) was proud to attend both events in the series for these important dialogues, which reflect the coalition’s commitment to advancing equity through education, representation, and culturally competent practices. Events like this support the broader mission of creating sustainable, affirming spaces where people of all cultures are empowered to reach their full potential.

The *Impact Speaker Series* continues to serve as a platform for transformative conversations across sectors. To learn

Mother's In Charge Hosts First Sunday Breakfast with Police Commissioner Kevin Bethel



Mothers In Charge held its monthly First Saturday Breakfast and Community Meeting on March 1, bringing together survivors, advocates, and community members for a morning of healing, dialogue, and connection. This gathering featured Philadelphia Police Commissioner Kevin Bethel as the guest speaker, who shared his vision for community-centered policing, violence prevention, and building stronger relationships between law enforcement and local neighborhoods.

The Coalition of Culturally Competent Providers (CCCP) was grateful for the opportunity to share valuable information about behavioral health services and supports available to families coping with grief and loss. CCCP Executive Director Asher Kemp and Dr. Reginald Banks, CCCP Chair and CEO of Dunbar Community Counseling Services, provided real-time insights to help families better understand how to access care and navigate available resources. CCCP remains committed to supporting community-led spaces that encourage open dialogue, promote healing, and advance collaborative efforts to build a safer, more compassionate Philadelphia.

April	May
National Minority Health Month	NatCon25
	CCCP's 2nd Annual Gala
	Mental Health Awareness Month

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