



THE WINGSPAN PROJECT

Spring 2019 Newsletter

What's New at the Wingspan Project

Now Fly! 2019 Friendraiser a Huge Success!

On April 8, we held our first event, a “friendraiser,” at [Revolution Brewing](#) in Chicago. With close to 130 attendees, another 40 supporters who were not able to attend the event, and our corporate sponsor, [Live Oak](#), we raised over \$10,000 to support our new initiatives and programs.





The event included a short program where we highlighted three initiatives: [Access for All](#), [VALOR](#), and [Franklin's Fund](#). We also had a live auction that included five auction packages, with donations from [Lifeline Theater](#), Chicago authors Shauna Seliy and Eula Biss, [Salon Buzz Hair Salon](#), Susan Melsky, [Knit 1](#), [Urban Pooch](#), [Family Pet Animal Hospital](#), and [POOCH Neighborhood Dog Hotels](#). And thanks to Ken Michaels, our raffle winner, who donated his raffle winnings back to us! We're grateful for all who contributed to the success of our event, and the many new friends we raised!

VALOR Initiative Continues Collaboration with Two Community Partners

We are continuing our work with [UCAN](#) and [Rush Adolescent Family/School Based Health Centers](#) through our VALOR initiative (Violence and Loss Organizational Response).

- With [UCAN's Violence Intervention and Prevention Services](#), we are providing support to staff through monthly individual coaching sessions, self-care workshops, and other consultation.
- With [Rush Adolescent Family/School Based Health Centers](#), we are providing a series of four self-care workshops for their interdisciplinary clinics at four locations.

Our VALOR initiative focuses on supporting staff who work in underserved and underrepresented communities. Through creative and collaborative programming, we hope to foster responsive and sustainable work environments.



mental health programs of study for mentoring and consultation.

We are currently looking for 10 clinically licensed mental health professionals with at least five years of experience post-clinical license to pilot our YPN initiative. Our mentors must be willing to commit to monthly, one-hour, face-to-face mentoring with their young professional partners (defined as a mental health professional with less than two years post-graduate experience). Ideal mentors are those with demonstrated service and commitment to underserved/underrepresented communities. Mentors will have access to free and/or reduced fee continuing education as well as other professional development opportunities through The Wingspan Project.

Interested mentors should send a cover letter and resume to Jeff Levy at thewingspanproject@gmail.com.

What Makes Us Unique?

We're often asked what makes us unique and stand out from other mental health related not-for-profit organizations. ***We have an answer: we don't provide direct client services!***

We believe there are many wonderful individuals and organizations who do an excellent job with this.

Our mission is to support and enhance the capacity of individual and organizational mental health and mental health related providers through our innovate and creative array of initiatives. In our next newsletter, we'll talk more about Franklin's Fund; our initiative that focuses on the value of the human-animal connection on fostering mental health.

Questions for us or want to get involved? Please contact Jeff Levy at thewingspanproject@gmail.com