



## #BELMONTSTRONG AS STEEL!

In December, the steel-framing stage of construction for Belmont's replacement facility came to a close. To celebrate this exciting milestone, Belmont, Alpa

Construction, and JJCA Architects came together to sign the final beam in a steel-topping ceremony. We are all incredibly excited to move to the next stage as we watch our beautiful facility come to life! The new building is on track to be completed by the end of 2020.



## FUN-FEELING FOLIAGE

Sensory activities are fun and interesting to children, but their benefits also extend beyond play. They assist in supporting a child's ability to explore and investigate, and ultimately improve problem-solving abilities. Sensory activities also allow children to refine their thresholds for different sensory information, helping their brains to create stronger connections to sensory information and learn which elements are useful and which can be filtered out.

Our creative staff members have established a sensory tree that is available for youths participating in programming here at Belmont. This feature offers access to different tactile sensations – including items that are fuzzy, squishy, or soft – which can help to promote calming and self-regulation, build nerve connections, promote learning, encourage the development of motor skills, and more!



## THINK BEFORE YOU MOVE

What started with one staff member's curiosity has grown into an incredible community here at Belmont. Several years ago, Nafis, BHA, began his own

journey of learning the game of chess with one chessboard. A colleague here at Belmont beat him (to put it lightly) in a friendly game, which further fueled Nafis' desire to improve his skills. After some continued study of strategy, Nafis finally beat his coworker in a breaktime game of chess while some young patients cheered him on.

Today, Nafis offers children at Belmont the opportunity to learn the game of chess through his own curriculum. Whether they have never played chess before or are well-versed in the game, kids have the chance to enhance their skills and rise through the ranks from beginner all the way up to grandmaster. Youths engaged in Belmont's programming have become incredibly passionate about chess, even providing an official name to their club – **1-South Chess Legends, Inc.!**

Beyond Nafis' curriculum, youths can test their skills in one-on-one games and tournaments that take place regularly in the chess room, which has grown from a single board and clock to 10 boards. Tournament winners earn framed certificates to celebrate their accomplishments, and their names join a board of past winners and grandmasters.

The chess room and club have allowed kids at Belmont to feel like they are part of something bigger than themselves. Even those who have struggled to focus in other group settings have truly thrived through their involvement with 1-South Chess Legends, Inc. One young lady even took her skills far beyond her time at Belmont and placed 4th out of 5,000 kids at a national chess tournament! For Nafis, this has been an incredible opportunity to teach children strategies and lessons that are valid not only in chess, but also in life. Protecting the king in chess offers a physical metaphor that participants are responsible for looking out for their own well-being. "Think before you move" is Nafis' most prominent lesson, and he uses that to remind youths that advanced planning is crucial to determining your outcome.



# A TRADITION OF HEALING & RECOVERY

TREATING CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, & ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA

## TRAUMA-INFORMED YOGA RESOURCE BINDER

In the last few months of 2019, a pair of Belmont's occupational therapy students became inspired by the group sessions they attended and observed. Their interest was piqued by conversations about the powerful connection between our minds and our bodies. Christine and Julie turned their focus toward the benefits of mindfulness and yoga for individuals who have experienced trauma, and their findings left our staff, and ultimately those we care for, with an incredible resource.

The research done by these hardworking students guided them to the creation of a **trauma-informed yoga resource binder** for each of our programs. These resource binders include a wealth of information, including an overview of trauma-informed yoga, a quiz about the benefits of yoga, articles that discuss the scientific benefits of yoga among individuals who have experienced trauma, guided meditations, and several yoga practices that can be led by any of our staff members to facilitate the mind-body connection among our patients at Belmont. The presence of these binders will enable our staff and those they care for to access a wonderful supplement to traditional care while practicing and improving mindfulness skills!

## MEET OUR NURSING TEAM!

### *A note from our chief nursing officer:*

*"I am excited to be leading an amazing and talented division, focusing on one goal: excellent patient care. As a nurse leader, I feel strongly that nursing care must not only be effective, but it must be extraordinary."*

*The nursing division at Belmont Hospital is dedicated to excellent, compassionate care for our patients. Understanding that our patients are often experiencing the most difficult period in their lives, the division is focused on delivering culturally competent patient care that is reflective of the scope and standards of psychiatric-mental health nursing as defined by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. The care delivered is reflective of evidence-based practices and a belief that all individuals have a right to outstanding care. Utilizing the nursing process, the nursing division delivers customized, individualized care for patients in need of psychiatric, mental health, or behavioral healthcare by focusing on the therapeutic use of self and the sciences of nursing, psychology, medicine, and biology. The nursing division is responsible for ensuring excellent patient care, advocating for their patients, and for ensuring their clinical success. In short, the nursing division is dedicated to extraordinary nursing care for every patient, every time!"*

**- Christopher Wilson, MSN, RN, CNML, CENP, NEA-BC**

Christopher's expertise and philosophy are a welcome addition to Belmont's clinical staffing. Coinciding with his arrival have been several changes to the Belmont nursing department's leadership. These shifts truly highlight the skills and passion that each individual brings to their work every day, and we are proud to recognize and celebrate these recent changes as they strengthen our clinical offerings here at Belmont Behavioral Hospital!



**Pictured L to R:** Christopher Wilson, chief nursing officer; Tammie O'Niell, nurse educator; Megan Mossman, nurse manager of 3E & 3C; Donna Luongo, nurse manager of children's services; Dawn Bausman, assistant director of nursing & 3S; Jennifer Affinito, ECT coordinator and infection preventionist; Lee Bransky, nurse manager of float pool and PRN; David Stockton, nurse manager of adolescent services

**Not Pictured:** Karen Woertz, assistant director of PCCRC; Tamina Scott-Johnson, assistant nurse manager of adolescent services; Darlene Miskinis, manager of nursing projects



## ANNIVERSARIES

July–December 2019

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Pamela Robinson	Human Resources Assistant	38
Frausteen Weeks	RN	35
Deborah Waters	Risk Coordinator	34
Henry Morales	BHA	33
Sheila Martin	BHA	33
Sheila Moore-Bouie	BHA	33
Glen Davis	Controller	29
Linda Waters	Dietary Aide	28
David Goodwin	Psychologist	28
Greg Schweiker	RN	28
Irma Ortiz	Administrative Clerk	26
Jeanne Thomas	Administrative Clerk	24
Anthony Gorrell	BHA	24
Colleen McNeill	Director-Outpatient Reg	24
Greg Randolph	BHA	23
Keith Smith	Maintenance Assistant	22
Cathy Weitz	Therapist	21
Daniel Monahan	Therapist	21
Vanessa Bernstein	Case Manager	20
Timothy Thompson	Cook	19
Denise Pinder	Registered Nurse PRN F	19
Paula Johnson	BHA	18
Kenroy Porter	Cook	18
Melanie Flynn	Manager-Admin Svcs	18
Simeon Lawrence	Admissions Counselor	17
Scott Macdonald	Manager-Program Mgmt	17
Donald Toole	Therapist	17
Carolyn Barnett	BHA PRN	16
Wallea Hudson	CNA	16
Danielle Wright	Registered Nurse PRN F	16
Janice Jackson-Riggs	BHA	14
Kia Watson	BHA	14
Carlene Lawson	Psychologist	14
David Keenan	Therapist	14
Latanya Anderson	Admissions Counselor	12
Greg King	BHA	12
Lesbia Santana	Housekeeper	12
Antonina Ranieri	Therapist	12
Marcella Eaddy	BHA PRN	11
Patrick Poynton	Case Manager	11
Alia Williams	BHA PRN	10
Ian Carn	BHA	10
Rochelle Humphrey-Burton	Case Manager	10
Robert Curcio	Manager-Utilization	10
Brent Martin	BHA PRN	9
Miranda Greenie	BHA	9
Jenna Pacini	Chief Operating Officer	9
Susan Ferguson	BHA PRN	8

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Adria Filmore	Chief Operating Officer	8
Symphorien Kamanou	RN	8
Cassie Wolfe	Therapist	8
Bridget Maxwell	Case Manager	7
Darlene Miskinis	Manager-Nurse RN	7
Nancy Evans	Registered Nurse PRN F	7
Kristin Johnson	Registered Nurse PRN F	7
Angela Balter	Registered Nurse PRN F	7
Brandon Williams	Admissions Counselor	6
Joy Herder	Registered Nurse PRN F	6
Tiffany Leslie	Registered Nurse PRN F	6
Hakima Ponce	RN	6
Sandra Levine	Therapist	6
Tashana Burnett	BHA	5
Karen Woertz	Manager-Program Mgmt	5
Leslie Gibson	Teacher	5
Matthew Bloom	Therapist	5
Marc Damario	Therapist	5
Allegra Willard-Clarke	Admissions Counselor	4
Falone Gantt	Admissions Counselor	4
Sonja McPhaul	Admissions Counselor	4
William Adebo	BHA PRN	4
Darrell Brothers	BHA	4
John Jamison	BHA	4
Jurry Dixon	BHA	4
Tracy Ford	BHA	4
Joan Wade	BHA	4
Maryiam Jennings	Billing Specialist	4
Brittany Bivens	Cook	4
Cherrell Woods	Dietary Aide	4
Denise Spencer	Director-Admissions	4
Francesca Bauder	Director-Risk Management	4
Dennis Missouri	Housekeeper	4
Lanchi Mac	Manager-Admin Svcs	4
Dawn Bausman	Manager-Nurse RN	4
Tiffany Coles	Patient Account Represent	4
Norma Cruz Luna	Psychiatrist	4
Freddy Ali	Psychiatrist	4
Asekia Barmont	Registered Nurse PRN F	4
KaShawn DeShields	Registered Nurse PRN F	4
Michelle Piscitello	RN	4
Angelique Johnson	RN	4
Joshua Jones	RN	4
Tracey Gallagher	RN	4
Rodney Hicks	Supervisor-House RN	4
David Tanier	Supervisor-House RN	4
Lauren Stephens	Accounting Clerk	3
Jermaine Johnson	Admissions Counselor	3



# A TRADITION OF HEALING & RECOVERY

TREATING CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, & ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA

## ANNIVERSARIES

July–December 2019

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Justin Presley	Admissions Counselor	3
Sharae King	BHA PRN	3
Shakera Nelson	BHA PRN	3
Ameerrah Boggs	BHA PRN	3
Tecola Parks	BHA PRN	3
Iliah Johns	BHA	3
Derell West	BHA	3
Aja Hogan	BHA	3
Brian Gantt	BHA	3
Felicia Orrell	BHA	3
Pordea Saydee	BHA	3
Odessa Walker	BHA	3
Kathleen Gilbert	Business Office Coordinator	3
Leslie Murphy	Business Office Coordinator	3
Charlene Hayes	Business Office Coordinator	3
Deneen Aklin-Gregory	Business Office Coordinator	3
Frederika Harrell	Business Office Coordinator	3
Adam Hofbauer	Case Manager	3
Michael Mills	Case Manager	3
Alison Jacobs	Case Manager	3
Julia Vahlsing	Director-Clinical Service	3
Tamika Laws-Jackson	Manager-Business Office	3
Megan Mossman	Manager-Nurse RN	3
Courtney Comly	Manager-Program Mgmt	3
Douglas Cosgrove	Psychiatrist	3
Vasco Daubon	Psychiatrist	3
Chioma Iheagwara	Psychiatrist	3
Richard Jaffe	Psychiatrist	3
Justin Lazaroff	Psychiatrist	3
Thomas Richardson	Psychiatrist	3
Laurie Wilson	Registered Nurse PRN F	3
Amanda Cureton Bell	Staffing Coordinator	3
Deborah Woolf	Therapist	3
Khatuna Ozbetelashvili	Therapist	3
Gina Cardillo	Therapist	3
Timothy Gaddy	Administrative Clerk	2
Nakia Staley	Admissions Coordinator	2
Evelis Perez	Admissions Counselor	2
Keema Marshall	Admissions Counselor	2
Synquala Mosley	Admissions Counselor	2
Marneisha Vereen	Admissions Counselor	2
Edgar Onyango	BHA PRN	2
Shantell Griffin	BHA PRN	2
Delacey Oliver	BHA PRN	2
Tiffany Toomer	BHA PRN	2
Audrey Capps	BHA	2
Tracey Mayson	BHA	2
Takerah Precia	BHA	2

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Mohamed Mansaray	BHA	2
Jerrold Hennigan	BHA	2
Shante Kennedy	BHA	2
Tianna Lackey	BHA	2
Salimah Barkley	BHA	2
Brandon Connelly	BHA	2
James Fowler Jr.	BHA	2
Lechelle Garnett	BHA	2
Carmen Gray	BHA	2
Shakara Hickman	BHA	2
Lynnise Nixon	BHA	2
Monique Carter	Business Office Coordinator	2
Payal Mehta	Case Manager	2
Meghan Gilbert	Case Manager	2
Jennifer Polen	Director-Clinical Service	2
Lisa Wright	Manager-Admin Svcs	2
David Stockton	Manager-Nurse RN	2
Jocelyn Lluberes	Medical Director	2
Umair Akhtar	Psychiatrist	2
Bryan Gastelle	Psychologist	2
Chelsey Chmielewski	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Linda Lespinasse	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Diannete Jean-Pierre	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Stephanie Kochersperger	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Anna Simoes	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Kimberlee Gilbert	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Donna Pastore	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Michelle Haines	Registered Nurse PRN F	2
Sharon Golden	RN	2
Benjamin Mayer	RN	2
Adriana Miletto	RN	2
Latoya Mohammed	RN	2
Cheryl Pacan	RN	2
Roseanne Powers	RN	2
Brittany Smoot-Nutter	RN	2
Angela Wade	RN	2
Mahasin Edwards	Security Guard	2
Brenda Mercer	Security Guard	2
Jasmine Nelson	Security Guard	2
Alyssa Hansen	Social Worker	2
Babatunde Adedokun	Social Worker	2
Alexander Dowd	Social Worker	2
Chelsea Pratt	Social Worker	2
Max Torrente	Social Worker	2
Lauren Wheeler	Social Worker	2
Joy Anderson	Supervisor-House RN	2
Richard Wexler	Teacher	2
Donna Alonso	Therapist	2

## ANNIVERSARIES

July–December 2019

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Marsha Gayl	Therapist	2
Osheen Jacob	Therapist	2
Angela Owens	Therapist	2
Ai Ikunaga	Therapist	2
Cara Long	Therapist	2
Nicole Glenn	Unit Clerk	2
Keith Ross	Administrative Assistant	1
Samantha Penot	Administrative Clerk	1
Talib Bryant Sr.	Admissions Counselor	1
Maurice Polite	Admissions Counselor	1
Donald Cramer	Adv RN Practitioner	1
Jazmine Wallace	BHA PRN	1
Brittany Mapp	BHA PRN	1
Lierrah DiLeo	BHA PRN	1
Kalia Tillery	BHA PRN	1
Lynette Harrison	BHA PRN	1
Lawrence Brown Sr.	BHA PRN	1
Kendra Brown	BHA	1
Shaneerah Anderson	BHA	1
Latoya Lamb	BHA	1
Christopher Edwards	BHA	1
Collin Haughton I	BHA	1
Craig Govan	BHA	1
Michael Lewis Jr.	BHA	1
Kiana Watson	BHA	1
Roodline Florian	BHA	1
Eboney Covington	BHA	1
Cabriyah Marc	BHA	1
Nina Nunez	BHA	1
Nydirra Williams	BHA	1
Jessica Diaz	BHA	1
Derek Ennis Jr.	BHA	1
Tyreik Harrison	BHA	1
Adrienne Magwood	BHA	1
Ragina Kelley	BHA	1
Donyei Butler	BHA	1
Niamh McKee	Case Manager	1
Allison Keogh	Case Manager	1
Abigail Jones	Case Manager	1
Erin Oram	Case Manager	1
Deaira Williams	Phlebotomist	1
Onyekachi Oyiriaru	Psychiatrist	1
Margaret Yesalavage	Psychiatrist	1
Merinda Joseph-Akowe	Registered Nurse PRN F	1
Jessica Banji-Ajala	Registered Nurse PRN F	1
Ryann Smith	Registered Nurse PRN F	1
Candace Hall-Holland	Registered Nurse PRN F	1
Jennifer Williams	RN	1

Employee Name	Title	Years of Service
Michael Gallagher	RN	1
Roey Wieser	RN	1
Ervin-John Bautista	RN	1
Christina Coen	RN	1
Colin Kenny	RN	1
Katherine Spielman	RN	1
William Robinson III	Security Guard	1
Amanda Smith	Supervisor-House RN	1
Calvin Wells Jr.	Teacher	1
Jennifer Engelhardt	Therapist	1
Erika Pranzo	Therapist	1
Michael Koehler	Therapist	1
Julie Berger	Therapist	1
Edith Hutchins-Stieglitz	Therapist	1
Kelly Palace	Therapist	1

## NEW HIRES

July–December 2019

Employee Name	Title
Jonathan Kersun	Psychiatrist
Jacqueline Burke	Therapist Intern
Tangier Barnett	BHA
Brittany Jordan	BHA
Bunmi Olaore	BHA
Shaquanna Trice	BHA
Victoria Williams	BHA
Shanita Leath	Therapist
Marlynn Ray	Therapist
Robert Junious	Maintenance Assistant
Daniel Loughlin	Director-Facility Ops
Cache Catlett	BHA
Denzel Jackson Sr.	BHA
Chenae Lepera	BHA
Shayna Lewis	BHA
Maryann Lyons	BHA
Derrick Starkes	BHA
Devon Sizemore	Case Manager
Kristian Germer	RN
Shakina Small	Therapist
Shannon Elam	BHA
Gabriella Torres	Dietary Aide
Grace Unsal	Psychiatrist



## NEW HIRES

July–December 2019

Employee Name	Title
Kia Timmons	Admissions Counselor
Tylicia Bell	BHA
Shahid Blevins	BHA
Latoya Brown	BHA
Mercedes Dowe	BHA
Shacora Goodson	BHA
Latisha Hill	BHA
Jasmine James	BHA
Rayya Ranelli	BHA
Kianna Roberts	BHA
Larry Turner	BHA
Tenelle Walden	BHA
Obinna St. John	Social Worker
Janade Lee	Therapist
Nicole Frederick	Therapist
Gabriel Smith	Social Worker
Courtney Davey	Admissions Coordinator
Aaron Holt	BHA
Ernest Shelton Jr.	BHA
Samantha Kralle	Case Manager
Dominique Guenther	RN
Gabriella Wrazen	RN
Breyon Furniss	Social Worker
Terry-An Alouidor	Therapist
Erin Wade	Therapist
Mikal Hicks-Black	Psychiatrist
Mecca Golden	Administrative Clerk
Brianna Jeffries	Administrative Clerk
Erica Coleman	Admissions Counselor
Dakota Griffith	BHA
Teree Johnson	BHA
Nissa Lewis	BHA
Shadiyah Wood	BHA
Antoine Hall	Case Manager
Jusufu Gottor	RN
Gurbet Kumas	RN
Bethanne Watson	RN
Toyin Fajinmi, Ph.D.	Supervisor-House RN
Margaret Meshok	Case Manager
Brittany Campbell	BHA
Jeffrey Exantus	BHA
Rhonda Cornitcher	Registered Nurse PRN F
Mark Casey Jr.	RN
Kaday Marah	RN
Sherie Reed	RN
Chalsea Small	RN
Abdul Tejan Cole	RN
Sirikit Adaza	Supervisor-House RN

Employee Name	Title
Christopher Wilson	Chief Nursing Officer
Kenneth Dorsey Jr.	Dietary Aide
Lee Bransky	Manager-Nurse RN
Vivian Uzonwune	Adv RN Practitioner
Rahiem Johnson	BHA
Leslie Anderson	Business Office Coordinator
Tierra McGhee	Business Office Coordinator
Marguerite Williams	Manager-Housekeeping
Tammie O'Neill	Nurse Educator
Kathy White-Wheeler	RN
Colleen Andrews	Therapist
Angela Harvey	BHA
Shyheeb Gladney	Security Guard
Minyette Brown	Human Resource Generalist
Tamina Scott-Johnson	Manager-Nurse RN
Yaasmeen Ahmad	Administrative Clerk
Genna Buck	RN
Tiffany Chandler	RN
Olga Khreptak	RN
Brianna Robinson	RN
Ashley Williams	RN
Shanise Poller-Charity	Staffing Coordinator
Jessye Cohen-Dan	Therapist
Carly Johnson	Administrative Clerk
Jelani Abdu	BHA
Yvette Andrews-Yant	BHA
Yosan Ghebreiesus	BHA
Melvin Roberts	BHA
Donna Luongo	Manager-Nurse RN
Dashona Hightower	RN
Heather Seeton	RN
Shante Sims	RN
Bhawanjot Singh	RN
Jordan DiPietropolo	Therapist
Vivian Tyler	Therapist
Catherine Blasi	BHA
Shontaye Brown	BHA
Terrick Carson	BHA
Deanna Jackson	BHA
Fatmata Daramy	RN
Erica Henning	RN
David Or	RN
Michelle Thomas	Teacher