

From: [Nia Tavoularis](#)
To: niat@teenliving.org
Subject: TLP Celebration & Send-off: White House Appoints David Myers
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Teen Living Programs



May 2009

TLP e-newsletter

In This Issue

[Youth Move into New Belfort!](#)

[Youth Graduations](#)

[TLP on Tap](#)

[Recent Gifts](#)

Get Involved

[TLP Community Meeting](#)

Join us as we say goodbye to David Myers at his last Community Meeting next Thursday, May 21, 5:30 p.m.

Please contact [Nia Tavoularis](#) if you can join us.

[TLP Auxiliary Board Meeting](#)

Looking for a way to get involved with TLP? Look no further. Attend our youth board's monthly meeting Monday, June 1 at 5:30 p.m. Contact [Emily Krisciunas](#) for more info.

[TLP on Tap!](#)
Plan to attend this

Dear Nia,

This month at TLP, it's all about new beginnings. Join us as we: wish David Myers good luck as he departs for a position in the Obama administration; welcome the TLP community into its new home at a brand-new Belfort House; and congratulate LaTasha, Cherice and Jatara on their graduations!

Executive Director's Update

By David L. Myers

I am writing today to share some important news. After more than nine years as TLP's executive director, I will soon be leaving to take a position in the Obama administration. Because you are a friend and supporter of Teen Living Programs, I wanted to personally inform you of this transition, and share with you TLP's plans to continue delivering services to Chicago's youth who are homeless.



I have been appointed Director of the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Department of Homeland Security. As is the case with political appointments, I will be leaving on fairly short notice. My last day is Thursday, May 21, 2009, and I will be moving to Washington, D.C., soon thereafter. This date coincides with our next Community Meeting, which I believe is the best send-off anyone could ever hope for from TLP. The meeting will be held between 5 and 7 p.m. at Belfort House. I would be honored to have the opportunity to say goodbye in person and hope you can join us. Please let us know if you can join us by e-mailing [Nia Tavoularis](#).

TLP Board Chair Gerald Pauling, II, is chairing a transition team consisting of senior board members and agency directors. The team has engaged a transition consultant to assist and is recruiting a part-time interim executive director as a long-term executive director search takes place. Should you have any questions about the transition process, please do not hesitate to e-mail Board Chair [Gerald L. Pauling, II](#).

casual and fun-filled event hosted by TLP's Auxiliary Board Thursday, June 11, 7 to 10 p.m. at Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub. Contact [Emily Krisciunas](#) for more info and to buy tickets.

TLP Golf Outing

This don't-miss fundraiser takes place Friday, September 11, at Ruffled Feathers in Lemont. Mark your calendar and hit the driving range now! For more info, contact [Emily Krisciunas](#).



As I prepare to leave, I have many mixed emotions. Teen Living Programs has been more than a job to me. It has become a primary community, with colleagues who are also friends; and it has created for me, as it has for so many youth, hope and opportunity.

Above all other privileges afforded me during my time as TLP's executive director is hope: I experience it through our youth's courage, staff's passion, and board's commitment. And I experience it because people like you believe that, in this little corner of Chicago, something special and true and worthy is happening.

Together, we have accomplished much. I am most deeply satisfied by the way we have built a community whose work has transformed not only the lives and prospects of our youth, but also our staff, board, and volunteers. I leave TLP in the full knowledge and confidence that the board, senior staff, and I have prepared a transition plan that attends not only to the many ongoing day-to-day management tasks, but also to the hope and opportunity so uniquely created by the TLP community.

Warmly,

David L. Myers



David L. Myers
Executive Director

Capital Campaign Update

New Belfort Now Open! Youth Move in April 15!

"Everything is so new!"

This exclamation was echoed again and again by youth as they excitedly prepared for the move next door to the brand new Belfort House.



The new building was designed *pro bono* by [Hartshorne Plunkard](#)


[Architecture](#), and will be able to support 20 percent more youth in our stable housing program as they transition to new and independent lives.

Check your mailbox in the next few weeks for the Spring 2009 edition of the TLP newsletter, featuring details of our new building and photos!

Our sincere gratitude to our community, business leaders, and elected officials who have made this dream home a reality!

Youth News

Graduation news for LaTasha, Cherice and Jatara!

With two graduations into [CaSSA](#) *LaTasha* yesterday and one from CaSSA to independence, there has been much to celebrate at Teen Living Programs! 

LaTasha (*pictured at right*), who juggles working at UPS with studying for her GED, graduated from [Belfort House](#) into [CaSSA](#), TLP's independent living program. ***Congratulations, LaTasha!***

Cherice, one of the five youth who attended President Obama's Inauguration (*and pictured below*), moved from TLP's [Shoulder-to-Shoulder program](#) into [CaSSA](#). ***Congratulations, Cherice!***

Cherice



Jatara, featured in last month's e-newsletter for sharing her story at our *Dream a Bigger Dream* Gala, graduated from [CaSSA](#) into independence.


Congratulations, Jatara!

Congratulations and best wishes to all of our graduates!

Auxiliary Board's *TLP on Tap!*

The FUN(d)-raising event formerly known as "A Toast to TLP" takes place June 11!

Kick back and enjoy an evening [Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub](#) with friends, all while supporting Teen Living Programs!

What: A festive evening at *TLP on Tap!* Three hours of food, wine, domestic beer and other drink specials, hosted by [TLP's Auxiliary Board](#). 

When: Thursday, June 11, 7 to 10 p.m.

Where: Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub, located on the River at 400 N. McClurg Court (*\$6 validated parking or Grand Red Line*)

How Much: \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door. *Your ticket*

also automatically enters you into a raffle to win an array of fabulous prizes!

How: Just e-mail [Emily Krisciunas](#) or call her at 312-568-5700, ext. 225. Or visit our website and [buy your tickets online!](#)

Recent Gifts

Thank you, [Polk Bros. Foundation](#) and [Chicago White Sox Charities](#), for your generous support of Teen Living Programs.

The **Polk Bros. Foundation** awarded \$60,000 to expand supportive services and skills training in our stable housing program, including [Shoulder-to-Shoulder](#), our aftercare program.

The **Chicago White Sox Charities** presented Teen Living Programs with an honorary check on the field during their April 29th game. They awarded \$25,000 in support of TLP's stable housing program, including our [transitional](#) and [independent living](#) programs, [supportive services](#), and more.



Thank you both for your continued support of TLP!

Executive Director David L. Myers holds the honorary check from the Chicago White Sox Charities while White Sox Manager Ozzie Guillen autographs it.

[Donate Now](#)

Donations to Teen Living Programs are tax-deductible as charitable contributions and can be made with a check, by a transfer of stock, or online with a credit card.

Note: Online donations ARE eligible for Matching Gift Programs. Just mail TLP the paperwork and we'll take it from there.

Checks should be made payable to **Teen Living Programs** and can be mailed to:

Teen Living Programs
162 W. Hubbard
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60654

or visit our [Website](#) to make a secure online donation.

Questions? Call [Nia Tavoularis](#), director of development, at 312-

568-5700, ext. 228.

Thank you for your support!

www.teenliving.org

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