



DHS News

Newsletter of the Allegheeny County
Department of Human Services



February 2020

CYF choir brings joy, creates unity

More than 20 Office of Children, Youth and Families (CYF) staff members have signed up to use their voices to connect with each other – and the department at large – as part of a newly established CYF choir.

The seeds for the choir were first planted when Jacki Hoover, CYF deputy director, learned about a child welfare staff choir in New York. After she spoke with a few members of CYF staff to determine interest, the decision was made to try the idea in Allegheeny County.

Lovie Foster, racial equity program manager, was selected to coordinate the group, and with the help of Ednah Holt, a retired performer and music teacher, the choir prepared for its first performance: a selection of songs and spoken word recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy. On January 17, the performance was livestreamed on Surface Hubs at various DHS offices.

The choir's next performance will be held February 28 at Central Regional Office's (CRO) Black History Month luncheon. The group aspires to perform monthly, featuring songs based on each month's observances.

"Our goal is to unite our light to brighten the day of those who see and hear us," said Lovie. "We want to inspire joy, unity and good vibes."

To learn more about joining the choir, or featuring them at an upcoming event, contact Lovie at lovie.foster@allegheenycounty.us.