HEATH I. BLOCH

Heath’s career in behavioral health began with his own experience of childhood trauma—his father died from heart disease when he was just twelve years old, and his only sibling, a younger brother, was just ten. That experience has informed his life choices ever since, giving him insights into treatment, and a heartfelt commitment to helping others heal. While he initially thought his career would be studying the science of the heart, he realized he was far more interested in the science, and the art, of the mind. He wanted to understand and explore how, as a child, he was able to find a path forward from potentially debilitating, all-consuming grief. Sharing that path forward became his life’s ambition. And leading an organization like ANDRUS, that helps children who have experienced trauma, means that he can channel his considerable energy and entrepreneurial spirit to its best and highest use—reaching as many children and families as possible.

HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTERS
ANDRUS' MHD & COMMUNITY DIVISIONS CO-LOCATE

As children and families return to in-person programming, we have completed our plans to revitalize our mental health service and community-based programs to form the ANDRUS Health and Wellness Centers in Yonkers (President), and White Plains (Executive Director). Adult, children, and family services now receive an integrated, comprehensive continuum of mental health and substance use services that is accessible, responsive, and equitable to help individuals and families thrive.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

This conference was attended by Congressman Jamaal Bowman, United States Deputy Secretary of Treasury Wally Adeyemo, US Senators Majority Leader Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and various members of the New York State Delegation. The ANDRUS' MHD & Community Division thanks the sponsors for their continued support of the critical Child Therapist Education and Development (CTED) program to address the need for additional therapists to provide quality services for children and adolescents in underserved areas.

CAMP WEEK

This year’s Camp Week featured over 30 activities across five days, including new activities such as the dye tag egg drop STEM challenge, tight rope walking, and a pin eating contest. The week also included annual events such as the Ropes Course, Swimming, Bicycle Rallies, and 24-hour sideshow basketball. We wrapped the week up by transforming the campus into a full carnival, complete with obstacle courses, carnival games, a magic show, cotton candy, pirate post Oakley activities, and finally, a BBQ block party.

SANCTUARY

This Sanctuary includes two new social therapy dog programs. The first is a new program where children can learn about their experiences and share their stories in a safe and supportive environment. The second is a new program where families can learn about and benefit from the therapeutic effects of therapy dogs in a variety of settings.

PAWS PROGRAM - Pets at Work for Sanctuary

Our PAWS Therapy Dog Program is growing! We have welcomed our first group of families and therapists to the program. We are excited to offer this program to our clients and partners, and we are looking forward to expanding our program in the future.

MEET PAISAN!
5 YEAR OLD MOKY SHEPARD MIX

MEET CHLOE!
2 YEAR OLD MALTESER Poodle Mix

www.ANDRUS1928.org | Connect With Us On Social @andruschildren