

Josiah White's Staff Members Attend TFA Annual Conference

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Last week, nine Josiah White's staff members from across several departments had the opportunity to attend the Teaching Family Association Annual Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Teaching Family Association is the accrediting agency of Teaching Family Model (TFM), a relational, evidenced-based, trauma-informed model of care focused on increasing life skill development in children and teens. Josiah White's became an accredited Teaching Family

Association agency in the fall of 2022. Adopting this model ensures that we are able to provide the most effective training for our ministry staff and foster parents, and the best possible outcomes for the children, teens, and families we serve.

Mike Haarer, Vice President and Executive Director of Compass Rose Academy, and Ana McCallen, Residential Director, had the honor of presenting on “How to Have Difficult Conversations About Race.” The conference also covered topics such as staff retention and development, program evaluation, and leading with a growth mindset.

“I love going to this conference because I feel like I always learn something more about the model that I can bring back to our agency and talk with our team to see if that is something we would like to try,” said Ana. “The model has a standard that we all have to stay within, so it is really cool to see how other agencies interpret that.”

Brittany Blocker, Residential Supervisor, and Caleb Snyder, Residential Teaching Specialist, were recognized and awarded as Josiah White’s Consultant of the Year and Practitioner of the Year.

“To be the first recipient for Josiah White’s TFA Distinguished Consultant award has been remarkable. I am incredibly grateful to have been recognized for the efforts of my work,” said Brittany. “However, I just love what I do and I have always pushed to ensure the ladies under my cottage, both staff and students, feel loved, seen, and heard. Becoming a consultant has pushed me in many ways, personally and professionally, and being the recipient of this award has just solidified for me that I am exactly where I am supposed to be.”

We are so grateful some of our staff had the opportunity to attend this conference and grow in their efforts to provide extraordinary care and competence to those we serve!