



Building a Community that Supports the Success of Children

THE ROUNDTABLE REVIEW

December 2017 Issue

A Message From The Director:

This is my favorite time of year! Family and friends are busy with holiday season preparations, beautiful decorations are everywhere, office parties are in full effect with all of the goodies and New Year Celebrations on the horizon. In the midst of the buzz, the Salvation Army bells ringing in the air and the red pales for donations are a constant reminder of the need for hope in the lives of people. We have many opportunities to give others hope in our community, through our volunteer time, words of encouragement, or simply our presence.

This past month, I had an opportunity to attend two "Getting Ahead" Graduations. I was touched in a profound way as I heard the stories of graduates, known as "investigators", share their vision boards and their dreams for the future. Many of them, against all odds, persevered to complete classes with the hope of new doors opening for them. Their pride was evident in the sparkle of their eyes and the glean in their smiles as they were awarded their certificates. I attended to show support and to give them hope, but the truth of the matter is they gave ME hope. I encourage you to come to a Getting Ahead graduation to meet, celebrate and encourage the graduates as they reach this important milestone in their lives. It is truly a rewarding experience. Thank you to all of the Roundtable members who took time out of their busy schedule to attend these great events. Upcoming graduation dates will be shared soon.

I received another dose of hope as our Kids at Hope staff and I had the opportunity to travel to Phoenix to attend training at Hope University. While there, we visited many sites and observed how various aspects of the Kids at Hope initiative was implemented in the schools and in the community. It just so happened, the teens at the high school created and shared their vision boards and their hope for the future with us as they "time traveled", a critical component of Kids at Hope. Like the graduates from "Getting Ahead", they also shared with excitement their hope for their future. Photos from our visit are featured on page two. We have gathered many ideas and plans to take Kids at Hope to the next level in St. Lucie County. Stay tuned.

Let's continue to spread hope in our community as we support "Getting Ahead" and "Kids at Hope" initiatives. All children AND all adults are capable of success, no exceptions!

Teresa Bishop





Our Kids at Hope Team, Kevin Singletary & Kim Reid, along with Roundtable Executive Director, Teresa Bishop visited KAH Headquarters in Phoenix,



The Roundtable of St. Lucie County is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of agencies working together with partners and stakeholders throughout the community to address the issues our children face at the root level. Its members are leaders of all aspects of society who come together to build a community of opportunity where every child succeeds.

The Roundtable operates through networks, each of which focuses on key aspects that affect the lives of our children.



Kids at Hope Training in Phoenix, AZ

The Kids at Hope Team recently returned from Train the Trainer Training held in Phoenix, AZ. The training was provided by Rick Miller, the founder of Kids at Hope and his lead trainer, Kenna Hough. The time spent in the desert was invaluable to the success of KAH in St Lucie County. The team was provided with small, intimate training sessions followed by a tour of one of the local school systems that have implemented the KAH philosophy.

The team visited Sunny Slope K-8 School in Phoenix where the principal is a strong advocate of the KAH framework. From the moment you enter the campus, KAH is evident. The staff is well-versed in the framework and utilizes the concepts in their instruction and interaction with the students and parents.

Our second stop was to a Title I High School where KAH practices are relevant. We had the opportunity to see a teacher with not only passion for her students, but a passion for KAH. Several of her students demonstrated time travel by discussing their vision boards with us and sharing their hopes and dreams for the future.

The district office visit was another indication of how a KAH School District infuses the families by lining the walls with photos of the four Destinations of Time Travel: Home & Family, Education & Career, Community & Service, and Hobbies & Recreation. Learning about KAH was exciting but seeing it put into practice was amazing.

The final stop on our tour was to a community center that hosts an annual youth summit. The driving force of the summit stems from the center's use of KAH. We witnessed KAH in the elementary and middle school setting, saw it being taught as a class at the high school level, and observed the administration buy-in at the district level. We return home encouraged because St. Lucie County can and will be, a Kids at Hope Community on all fronts.









The 2017-2018 Youth Leadership St Lucie is off to a roaring start. After many weeks of advertising and soliciting assistance from community partners the first two meetings were held in Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce.

The Port St. Lucie meeting was held on November 21st at the Botanical Gardens. 22 youth attended the meeting and many of those in attendance were accompanied by their parents. The vision for YLSL was explained to the youth and the Executive Director of the Roundtable, Teresa Bishop, shared with the participants about how change is invoked by the young. She encouraged them to use their voices to advocate for change and to take advantage of the forum of YLSL.

Chief of Police for the city of Port St. Lucie, John Bolduc, also spoke with the group. Chief Bolduc told the audience their ideas would be taken into consideration by the decision makers in the city. He encouraged the youth to own youth leadership because it belongs to them. Several parents expressed their support for youth leadership and they are willing to help when called upon.

YLSL's first Fort Pierce meeting was held on November 28th at the Riverwalk Center. City Commissioner Jeremiah Cooper addressed the group about being a Fort Pierce native and how he returned to his hometown to make a difference. Mr. Cooper urged the youth to attend IRSC to get their undergrad degree. The Commissioner walked the group though the process of proposing an idea for the city, engaging our residents of the city, to formulating a plan for approval, to finally having the proposal heard before the entire commission.

City Manager, Nick Mimms spoke to the group about the importance of their voice being heard in the city. Mr. Mimms told the group, the youth have a place in Fort Pierce and they have his full support and that within the group are problem solvers and decision makers. He wants to see all of them succeed and become productive citizens of the Sunrise City.

Nine youth and four parents attended the first Fort Pierce meeting. The parents shared their thoughts about the most pressing issues facing teens today. The youth collected their thoughts on the same topic, and devised a list that they will prioritize at the next meeting. They will also elect officers to govern their youth leadership team. The youth embraced the YLSL motto: "Enter to Learn, Leave to Lead" and are excited to begin their journey.







Eight Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World participants (called investigators) graduated from the 48-hour course on November 28, 2017, at the First United Methodist Church Fort Pierce. These eight graduates join the twelve investigators who graduated on November 8, 2017 at United Against Poverty Fort Pierce (UP) and the many others successfully completing the course over past years.

Getting Ahead investigators develop a measurable plan to reach goals that will form the foundation for a new and better future. Resources such as perseverance, social capital, relationships, and education are explored and assessed. Investigators also provide community leaders with insight and on issues related to poverty. In 2017, the investigators have provided data and recommendations related to the employment and restoration of rights for those returning to the community following incarceration; educational attainment; integrated health and mental health care; and the need to restore full funding to HANDS of St. Lucie County.

Getting Ahead is funded by United Way of St. Lucie County through a grant awarded to United Against Poverty Fort Pierce (UP). The Roundtable's Economic Sufficiency Network, Bridges to Prosperity, St. Lucie, supports UP and the implementation of Getting Ahead as part of its strategic plan for reducing the percent of children living in poverty. This implementation would not be possible without the generosity of many partners and host sites such as First United Methodist Church Fort Pierce, Mustard Seed Ministries and United Against Poverty.

Already in 2017, *Getting Ahead* graduates have obtained employment, registered for educational classes, including those offered at UP, that begin in January, and are diligently working towards health goals. Each graduate is working on their plan.

Bridges to Prosperity, St. Lucie meets at UP at noon on the third Wednesday of each month. Those interested in being part of this work are encouraged to attend.



November 2017 Graduation



Show the love at the 24th Annual
Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County Luncheon
Friday, December 8th 2017
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
\$40 per person

Santa Lucia Club at Ballantrae

3325 Ballantrae Blvd Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Please contact Debra Martin at (772) 467-2016 or email at kcbdslc@kcbd.org if you have any questions regarding registration.



NETWORK MEETINGS

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

First Wednesday of every month at 3:00pm at Children's Services Council.

CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH (Healthy St. Lucie)

Healthiest Weight: Meetings are bi-monthly. Infant Mortality: Meets quarterly. Teen Pregnancy: Meeting date TBD

CHILD WELFARE

First Tuesday quarterly at 10:00am at Children's Services Council. Next meeting is January 2^{nd} .

ECONOMIC SUFFICIENCY (Bridges to Prosperity)

Third Wednesday of every month at 12:00pm at the UP Center on Orange Avenue.

LINCOLN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourth Thursday of every other month at 12:00pm at the Department of Health 714 Avenue C, Fort Pierce.

SAFE KIDS COALITION (Unintentional Injury)

First Thursday of every month at 9:00am at Garber Buick GMC on US1. (Does not meet in July or November)

VIOLENCE & DELINQUENCY WORKGROUP

Quarterly on third Tuesday at 2:00pm. Location – State Attorney's Office on 2nd Street.

SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

Third Tuesday of every month at 2:00pm at the State Attorney's Office on 2nd Street.

SCHOOL DELINQUENCY NETWORK

Meets monthly. Date, time, and location TBD.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Third Thursday of every month at 9:00am at Children's Services Council.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Drug Free St. Lucie)

Second Tuesday of every month at 11:00am at Children's Services Council.





Executive Committee

Chair: Chief John Bolduc, Port St. Lucie Police Department

Vice Chair: Mayor Linda Hudson, City of Fort Pierce

Secretary: Wydee'a Wilson, Department of Juvenile Justice

Treasurer: Clint Sperber, Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County

Past Chair: Sean Boyle, Children's Services Council

At-Large Member: Tony Loupe, Early Learning Coalition

Steering Committee Chair: Angela Roberson, Florida Department of Health

Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc.

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"Roundtable of St. Lucie County"

Please email newsletter submissions to Dana Stonelake: DStonelake@RoundtableSLC.org

OUR SPONSORS:









Our Members

- ❖ 19th Circuit Public Defender's Office, Diamond R. Litty
- ❖ 19th Judicial Circuit State Attorney, Bruce Colton
- 19th Judicial Circuit Judge, Tony Schwab
- **❖** Board of County Commissioners, *Linda Bartz*
- Career Source Research Coast, Brian Bauer
- Children's Services Council, Sean Boyle
- City of Fort Pierce, Linda Hudson
- City of Port St. Lucie, Stephanie Morgan
- **❖ Department of Children & Families,** Robert McPartlan
- ❖ Department of Juvenile Justice, Wydee'a Wilson
- ❖ Devereux CBC, Carol Deloach
- **Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County**, *Tony Loupe*
- **Economic Development Council**, Peter Tesch
- **❖** Florida Department of Corrections Circuit 19, Michael Davis
- ❖ Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County, Clint Sperber
- ❖ Fort Pierce Police Department, Diane Hobley-Burney

- ❖ Guardian ad Litem, Paul Nigro
- **❖** Housing Authority of Fort Pierce, Andrea Kochanowski
- ❖ Indian River State College, Andrew Treadwell
- Kids Connected by Design, Lisa von Seelen
- Lincoln Park Council of Ministers, Pastor Ken Mills
- ❖ Port St. Lucie Police Department, John Bolduc
- **❖ St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce**, *Terissa Aronson*
- **St. Lucie County Department of Health,** Clint Sperber
- **St. Lucie County Fire District,** *TBD*
- **St. Lucie County School District,** E. Wayne Gent
- **St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office,** Garry Wilson
- **Southeast FL Behavioral Health Network,** Ann Berner
- **❖ State Representative**, *Larry Lee*, *Jr*.
- ❖ Steering Committee, Angela Roberson
- United Way of St. Lucie County, Karen Knapp

Our Networks & Sub-Committees

Steering Committee

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Academic Success

Deborah Hawley, Chair Deborah.Hawley@StLucieSchools.org

Economic Sufficiency

"Bridges to Prosperity"

Al Rivett, Chair Al@alrivett.com

Child & Adolescent Health

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Safe Neighborhoods

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Lincoln Park Advisory Committee

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Restoring the Village Youth Initiative

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Substance Abuse Prevention (Drug Free St. Lucie)

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Kim Thomas-Pate, Coordinator KThomas@RoundtableSLC.org