



Building a Community that Supports the Success of Children

THE ROUNDTABLE REVIEW

January 2016 Issue

A Message From The Director:

Happy New Year! As we start 2016, I want to take the time to reflect on last year and look forward to what is to come.

The year 2015 was an exciting one for the Roundtable. In addition to welcoming several new members, we hosted a Kids at Hope Leaders Forum and Train the Trainer (welcoming 29 new KAH Trainers), hired a project coordinator and outreach workers for RTVYI, hosted a Poverty Forum attended by 100+ community partners, facilitated three successful Getting Ahead classes, trained hundreds in Bridges Out of Poverty, launched three Substance Abuse Prevention campaigns, and represented the collaborative work of the Roundtable in Scotland!

I would like to thank the Roundtable team for all their hard work in making this happen. Kim, Essie, Monica, Dana, Denise, and Cherrie - your leadership and passion help us continue to make a real impact in St. Lucie County. I also want to thank the newly hired outreach workers- Darcy, Randy, Deebo and Thernell- your commitment to the community, your clients, and your work is appreciated and your accomplishments in just three months are outstanding. To our member agencies, partners, and funders, thank you for your attendance, commitment and support for children and youth in St. Lucie County. And finally, to the more than 200 volunteers who worked with the Roundtable in 2015 on networks, sub-committees, and working groups... Thank You. Together, we will keep making St. Lucie a place where all children are capable of success, NO EXCEPTIONS!

God bless you in the New Year.

Shaniek Maynard





Mayor Linda Hudson and Sheila Santiago, the Viola G. Smith Foundation.



Delicious cake for all the kids!

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 Toy Giveaway



Sheila Santiago, the Viola G. Smith Foundation and Denise Sirmons, KAH Coordinator with volunteers at the Kids at Hope Toy Giveaway.

On December 19th, 2015, the Viola G. Smith Foundation hosted their annual Kids at Hope Toy Giveaway at the Percy Peek Gym in Fort Pierce, FL. During the event each child received cake, juice, a toy, and a raffle ticket for the opportunity to win a bicycle. Parents participated in fun activities such as hot potato, musical chairs and other games to win gift cards to Wal-Mart, the Movie Theater, and Outback Restaurant. Over 100 parents and children attended this year's event. A special thank you to the City of Fort Pierce for the use of the Percy Peek Gymnasium, St. Lucie County Sherriff's Department for donating bicycles, and all the volunteers who helped to make this event successful.



Denise Sirmons, KAH Coordinator and Myrna Rodriguez, ALPI



Girls' Bicycles!



Boys' bicycles!



Mayor Linda Hudson delivers a gift!



Plenty of gifts for every child!

More About the Viola G. Smith Foundation for <u>Underprivileged Kids</u>

The Viola G. Smith Foundation for Underprivileged Kids was founded in 1997 by Ms. Shelia Santiago in remembrance of her mother, Viola G. Smith. Ms. Smith had a passion for helping others so it was only befitting that her daughter create a foundation in her name. The Foundation has been in existence for 18 years, and during the past decade has provided toys each Christmas for children in Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie, Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Vero Beach, Bahamas, and Haiti. The Foundation has provided an estimate of 20,000 toys and more than 1,000 bicycles and other gifts for children since it was created.

The Roundtable enjoyed partnering with Ms. Santiago to bring the Toy Give Away to the Lincoln Park area this year. We look forward to working with the Foundation in the future! Thank you Ms. Sheila!!



Dancing fun for the kids!



Moms having a dancing contest!



Moms and kids play a "How well do you know your mom?" game!



Dana Stonelake, KAH Coordinator and Kim Thomas, RT Project Coordinator hand out wristbands to the kids.

Substance Abuse Prevention Network



Our Substance Abuse Prevention Campaign Coordinator, Cherrie Johnson, was very busy this holiday season. Mrs. Johnson set up tables at several community events to educate community residents about the Substance Abuse Prevention Network's social marketing campaigns: *Parents Who Host Lose the Most; Friday Night Done Right- No Alcohol, No Dope*; and *Know the Law.* On December 2nd, she attended the Parents You Matter Title I Seminar

for St. Lucie County parents and social workers. On Dec. 3rd, she participated in the Virginia College World Aids Day Celebration and Culinary Challenge, talking to more than 100 people about the dangers of hosting alcohol parties for teens and the importance of youth engagement in fun, safe activities without abusing illegal substances. On Dec. 5th, she participated in the Chill Event at the Lincoln Park Recreational Center, providing useful information and promotional materials to more than 200 youth and adults. On Dec. 19th, she passed out Parents Who Host and FNDR materials to parents and youth at the Kids at Hope Toy Giveaway and Christmas on Avenue D Youth Event.

The Substance Abuse Prevention Network also wants to congratulate two participants in the Fall Festival Video Competition, in which six youth organizations submitted public service announcements about the dangers of illegal substances. These submissions were posted on the Roundtable's YouTube Channel as well as our Facebook page, and two of the participants were "discovered" and cast in an upcoming stage play that is currently in production. Congratulations to Mrs. Vera Gaskin from New Life Fellowship Ministries and Fashone' Woodward of Boys and Girls Club, Garden Terrace Unit. Best of Luck!

SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS NETWORK

RESTORING THE VILLAGE YOUTH INITIATIVE

RTVYI Outreach Workers Visit Detained Youth on Christmas Day

On December 25, 2015, RTVYI Outreach Workers surprised youth incarcerated over Christmas at the St. Lucie County Juvenile Detention Center with a McDonald's luncheon. Thernell Mills, Randy Roundtree, Darcy McFolley and Travon Simmons arrived in their RTVYI t-shirts with 50 cheeseburgers, fries, cokes and apple pies for kids and staff. They used the opportunity to connect with the teens (several of whom have been referred to the Initiative), tell them about the program and encourage them to make the right decisions when they are released. Afterwards, one youth actually called an outreach worker and expressed interest in participating in Restoring the Village when he gets out.

According to Major Didalia Finlayson, Superintendent of the St. Lucie County Juvenile Detention Center, the event was a big success. She stated, "The outreach workers were awesome, the kids were receptive, and a couple of them said that between the gift they received on Christmas Eve from community partners (organized by the Public Defender's Office) and the luncheon on Christmas Day, it was the best Christmas they'd had." The Roundtable sends a big thank you to the Outreach Workers for giving of their time on Christmas Day. We also thank Major Finlayson for allowing us to come, the Public Defender's Office (Michelle McMurtry) for inviting us to participate, and BOCC, Hunt Foundation, and Allegany Franciscan Ministries for their financial support of RTVYI.



Kids at Hope - Treasure Hunter Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 13th, 5:30p.m.–6:30p.m. 546 NW University Blvd. *(Children's Services Council Conference Room)* The Treasure Hunter Council will give Kids at Hope schools and organizations the opportunity to meet quarterly to discuss best practices, ask questions, and share ideas and strategies.

Healthy St. Lucie

Thursday, January 14th, 3:00p.m. Florida Dept. of Health 5150 NW Milner Dr. PSL, 34983

Safe Neighborhood Network Meeting

Tuesday, January 19th, 9:00a.m. Location: St. Lucie County School Board Office

Bridges To Prosperity Meeting

Wednesday, January 20th, 12:00p.m. Location: Parent Academy

Academic Success & Violence/Delinquency Resource Assessment Meeting

Resource Assessment Meeting

Thursday, January 21st, 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. (Children's Services Council Conference Room)

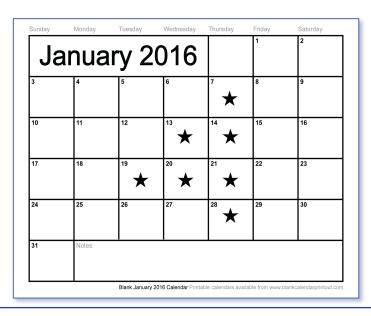
SafeKids Coalition Meeting

1st Thursday of every month, 9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. Location: Parent Academy 2940 S. US Hwy 1, Ste. C-12 Ft. Pierce

Lincoln Park Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 28th, 6:00p.m.

Location: TBD



got *alent* Benefiting the Drug Abuse Treatment Association, Inc.

Treasure C

January 9, 2016 at 5 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Fort Pierce Central High School 4101 S. 25th Street | Fort Pierce, FL

COME SEE WHO IS CROWNED ST. LUCIE'S TOP TALENT

First place winner will proceed to the Grand Finale and wins an audition with a talent agency in Orlando, FL and a backstage tour of Disney World and Universal Studios.

GRAND FINALE

One lucky winner will score an all-expenses paid trip to Nashville, TN to audition with a talent agency and a backstage tour of The Music City and the Grand Ole Opry.

www.FB.com/TCGotTalent

Got questions? 772.321.3761



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Symposium Sponsored by

Soroptimist International—Saint Lucie /Florida Department of Health Co-Chairs Brenda Montoya/Helga Snure



HUMAN TRAFFICKING **MODERN-DAY SLAVERY**

Saturday January 9, 2016 9:30 am-12:15 pm Florida Department Of Health 5150 NW Milner Drive

Program

9:30-10:00 Registration/Networking 10:00-11:00 Mindi Fetterman Inner Truth Project Human Trafficking 11:00-11:30 Linda Geld NCJW Anti Sex Trafficking Bureau 11:30-11:50 Panel Discussion **Panelists** Mindi Fetterman **Inner Truth Project** Linda Geld

Anti Sex Human Trafficking

Soroptimist-Saint Lucie

Danni Dreizehnter

Ruth Davis





Partner Organizations Against Sex Trafficking POAST Palm Beach County

Fort Pierce Police Department



Resource Assessment Meeting

Academic Success & Violence/Delinquency Prevention

Thursday, January 21st 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

546 NW University Blvd. (Children's Services Council)

Join us for a robust discussion about programs and resources available to prevent School Drop-Out, Violence and Delinquency. We need YOUR help identifying gaps and barriers, as well as recommending improvements in these areas for the Roundtable's Comprehensive Plan for St. Lucie County.

We extend an invitation to principals, teachers, guidance counselors, after-school providers, early learning providers, law enforcement, social workers, probation officers, and those whose expertise would be useful in discussing available resources for preventing school dropout, violence and delinquency in our community.





Executive Committee

Chair: Sean Boyle, Children's Services Council
Vice Chair: Chief John Bolduc, Port St. Lucie Police Dept.
Secretary: Tony Loupe, Early Learning Coalition St. Lucie County
Treasurer: Clint Sperber, St. Lucie County Department of Health
At-Large Member: Karen Knapp, United Way
At-Large Member: Wydee'a Wilson, Department of Juvenile Justice
Steering Committee Chair: Tonya Andreacchio, Children's Services Council

Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc.

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Esperanza Morales, Accounting EMorales35@comcast.net

Visit us at:

www.RoundtableSLC.com



www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC

"Roundtable of St. Lucie County"

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Please email newsletter submissions to Dana Stonelake: StonelakeDM@gmail.com

OUR SPONSORS:











Our Members

- * 19th Judicial Circuit State Attorney, Bruce Colton
- * 19th Judicial Circuit Judge, Tony Schwab
- * Board of County Commissioners, Chris Dzadovsky
- * Career Source Research Coast, Richard Stetson
- Children's Services Council, Sean Boyle
- **City of Fort Pierce,** *Linda Hudson*
- * City of Port St. Lucie, Linda Bartz
- * 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, John Thompson
- ***** Fort Pierce Police Department, Diane Hobley-Burney
- * Guardian ad Litem, Vern Melvin
- * Housing Authority of Fort Pierce, Andrea Kochanowski

- Indian River State College, Mary Locke
- * Kids Connected by Design, Lisa von Seelen
- * Lincoln Park Council of Ministers, Eldrew Baldwin
- * Martin Memorial Health System, Rob Lord
- * Port St. Lucie Police Department, John Bolduc
- * Roy A. Hunt Foundation, Andrew Hunt
- St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, Terissa Aronson
- * St. Lucie County Department of Health, Clint Sperber
- St. Lucie County Fire District, George Emerson
- St. Lucie County School District, E. Wayne Gent
- St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, Ken Mascara
- Southeast FL Behavioral Health Network, Ann Berner
- **State Representative**, *Larry Lee, Jr.*
- * Steering Committee, Tonya Andreacchio
- United Way of St. Lucie County, Karen Knapp

Our Networks & Sub-Committees

Steering Committee

Tonya Andreacchio, Chair TAndreacchio@cscslc.org

Academic Success

Dr. David Washington, Chair David.Washington@StLucieSchools.org

Economic Sufficiency

"Bridges to Prosperity" Chair – Position Open

Child & Adolescent Health

Donna Harris, Chair Donna.Harris@FLHealth.gov

"5210 Let's Go!"

Tricia Goulet, Chair Tricia.Goulet@FLHealth.gov

Safe Kids Coalition

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Safe Neighborhoods

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Lincoln Park Advisory Committee

Denise Sirmons, Chair DeniseTreasureHunter@gmail.com

Restoring the Village Youth Initiative

Monica Jakobsen, Coordinator MJakobsen@RoundtableSLC.org