



Building a Community that Supports the Success of Children



[www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC](http://www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC)

or search for us by name:

**"Roundtable of St. Lucie County"**

## THE ROUNDTABLE REVIEW

March 2015 Issue

### A Message From The Director:

*On February 27, 2015, we lost a friend, dedicated Roundtable member, and long-time champion for health in our community, Larry Lee. For over a decade, Larry led the St. Lucie County Health Department as Administrator—for almost twice that time he worked tirelessly at the Department to improve health in this County.*

*It is no exaggeration to say that most – if not all - of the accomplishments we claim at the Roundtable were due to, and in fact driven by, Larry and his team. Larry took a broad perspective on public health, understanding all of the complex risk and protective factors, environmental circumstances and policies that contribute to the health of a community. From the phenomenal reductions in HIV cases in this County, to the sharp decreases in teen pregnancy numbers, to our current efforts to fight violence through Restoring the Village, Larry has played a vital role in each of these initiatives and contributed immensely to their success.*

*Larry was thoughtful and scholarly, but also genuinely concerned and down to earth. He was that unique mixture of brilliance and kindness that is sometimes rare in successful people. A true historian of our community, he had not only an academic understanding of the issues we face, but also a genuine empathy for the plight of communities marginalized by poverty, race, lack of education, and class. My favorite memory of Larry is at the first Lincoln Park Advisory Committee (LPAC) meeting. He was listening avidly to the back and forth, eyes blinking, head tilted to the side as he peered from behind his glasses to contemplate the 20 or so people around the Health Department's conference room table. He was thoroughly engaged in the lively debate as residents and leaders of Lincoln Park who have not historically been called to the table gave vigorous input on the solutions the Roundtable proposed for their community. Larry listened intently and their input was important to him.*

*Something I loved about Larry was that he was not reluctant to tell me when I was doing a good job, or to give straight feedback when things seemed to be veering off course. One of his last comments to me was to keep my eye on the ball with our efforts in Fort Pierce, and not to get side tracked with pet projects, or the agendas of others. Larry, I want you to know that I heard you and will act accordingly.*

*Although not a large or imposing man physically, Larry Lee was undoubtedly a giant in this community. He was a champion for the least among us. He will be missed.*

Best,

**Shaniek Maynard**



In memory of our dear friend

**LARRY LEE**

June 16, 1951 – February 27, 2015

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.



## Remembering Larry Lee

June 16, 1951 – February 27, 2015



*"Larry Lee was a champion for protecting the health and safety of the people of Florida," said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "Our thoughts are with Larry's family, and we express our deep appreciation for his service and our sympathy during this difficult time."*

Larry Lee joined the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County in 1996 as the Human Resources Manager. He served as deputy administrator and was appointed administrator of DOH - St. Lucie in 2005 and served in this capacity until his passing away quietly on Friday, February 27, 2015.

Larry was a registered nurse and earned a Masters Degree from the University of Minnesota. He also held a Bachelors Degree in political science and completed graduate work in education and human resources administration. Larry had over thirty-five years of public administration experience in leadership positions.

Before moving to Florida, he worked for the City of Minneapolis directing economic development and neighborhood redevelopment programs. Prior to that, he directed urban planning and community development for various city governments.

Larry served on the board of directors of the St. Lucie Health Access Network (president for five years), and was a board member of the Roundtable of St. Lucie County. He served on Indian River State College's Nursing and Surgical Technology Advisory Council and on their Health Management Programs Advisory Committee. He also served as a health and medical co-chair for the nine-county Central Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force and represented St. Lucie County on the Shared Services Alliance of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast. He served two terms on the Board for Treasure Coast Hospice and on their Ethics Committee and Partners in Care Advisory Committee. He was a founding board member of the St. Lucie Parent Academy. Larry served as a board member for the Florida Association of County Health Officers and on the Department of Health Fiscal Management Advisory Council (FMAC). Recently, he served as interim director for the Department of Health's Division of Emergency Preparedness and Community Support.

Larry was a strong proponent of mobilizing community partners to address the county's most serious health challenges. These efforts led to significant progress in fighting the county's HIV/AIDS epidemic and increased access to healthcare. Larry was a founder of the HANDS (Health Access Network Delivery System) free clinic and a champion for dental services for low-income, uninsured individuals.

Larry's passing was sudden, but he leaves a team of dedicated health care and community minded employees who will continue his efforts by working diligently to protect, promote, and stay the course for improving the health of all people in St. Lucie County.

Larry will be remembered as a good man, humble, compassionate, a kind and gentle heart, a critical thinker, avid reader, with a goal to do the best for the people our Health Department serves. Larry was a true leader and team player; always giving his employees credit for their accomplishments and encouraging them to be the best that they can be.





*"Try to leave the world a little better than you found it."*

*-Robert Baden-Powell*

*Mission accomplished Larry Lee...*



*"As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give permission to others to do the same."*

*- Nelson Mandela*





# CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH NETWORK

The Child Adolescent Network is happy to announce that St. Lucie County has joined the Safe Kids Global Network. Safe Kids Worldwide is a global organization dedicated to preventing injuries to children. **Injuries are the number one killer of children in the United States.**



Preventable injuries to children often happen in predictable ways and can be avoided with the right education. The Safe Kids Coalition of St. Lucie County will be working to reduce unintentional injury from sports, drowning, falls, burns, motor vehicle accidents, poisoning, pedestrian safety, bike safety and more. The Safe Kids Coalition of St. Lucie County is currently gathering information on the types of unintentional injuries we are seeing here in St. Lucie County. Once the information is gathered and reviewed a strategic plan will be developed and implemented. Ronda Cerulli, a Health Department employee, has been hired as the Safe Kids Coordinator.



Over the past year the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County, Kids Connected By Design and the St. Lucie County Fire District have partnered to provide child passenger safety (car seat) education to the residents of St. Lucie County. This partnership will continue with the Safe Kids Coalition of St. Lucie County. Over the past year this program assisted in educating caregivers in approximately 300 installations or inspections of car seats. The program has been able to provide over 200 car seats to low income families at a reduced price of \$20.00.

The Safe Kids Coalition of St. Lucie County looks forward to the continued success of the child passenger safety program as well as the development of programs to address unintentional injuries to children here in St. Lucie County. Injuries to children most often happen in predictable ways and can be prevented with the right education, planning and awareness.



# **St. Lucie County Resource Hub**

## **Providing resources to citizens being released from incarceration or supervision.**

The Roundtable and its partners are excited to announce the first Reentry Center Resource Hub in St. Lucie County on Thursday, April 9, 2015. The Reentry Center Resource Hub will provide an opportunity for returning citizens who are currently on adult or juvenile supervision with DOC or DJJ to learn about and access resources to help them become productive members of our community.

The Hub will be held from 11am-2pm for adults and 2pm-5pm for juveniles at the Percy Peek Gymnasium at 29<sup>th</sup> and D in Fort Pierce. This collaboration is a joint effort by the Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections, Office of Community Corrections, U.S. Attorney's Office, South Florida Reentry Task Force and the City of Fort Pierce. We are grateful to the City of Fort Pierce for allowing us to use the Percy Peek Gym, free of charge.

**WE ARE ASKING ROUNDTABLE PARTNERS TO SEND THE PERSON IN YOUR AGENCY WHO HANDLES THE RESOURCE BELOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HUB.**

Your representative will be given a table to set up brochures and other materials, and to provide information in answer to participants' questions. Supervised individuals were surveyed and asked what were the primary resources or tools they

### **Identification**

Birth Certificate  
Social Security Cards  
Florida Driver's License or ID Card

### **Benefits**

Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI, Veteran's  
Benefits

### **Housing**

Permanent Housing  
Emergency Shelter  
Domestic Violence Shelter

### **Legal**

Child Support  
Immigration  
Seal & Expungement

### **Education & Training**

Schools  
GED  
College  
Reading/Writing Programs  
ESOL Courses

### **Technical/Vocational Training**

Employment  
Job Readiness Skills  
Job Placement

### **Health & Wellness**

Medical Care  
Dental Care  
Stress Management/Life Skills  
Behavioral Health  
Court-required services  
Support Group (AA, NA, etc.)  
Medication/Pharmacy

### **Family Supportive Services**

Faith-based support  
Youth programs  
Marriage/Family counseling  
Parenting information  
Financial planning

### **Civil Rights**

Voter Registration  
Restoration of Civil Rights

All are invited to be a part of this incredible initiative by delivering your services to returning citizens and their families who are eager to succeed in their transition from incarceration to productive family and community life. Provider tables will be available free and a staging area for mobile units. Employers are encouraged to participate as well.

**Please RSVP to John Thompson ([thompson.johnw@mail.dc.state.fl.us](mailto:thompson.johnw@mail.dc.state.fl.us)) by March 20th so that we can reserve a table for you.**

The costs associated with arrest, prosecution, incarceration, community supervision, re-arrest and so on are not sustainable; therefore, the Reentry Center Hubs not only makes sense but will save South Florida taxpayers enormously. We hope that you will join us for this transformative event.



## **SOUTH FLORIDA REENTRY TASK FORCE**

**A Violence Reduction Partnership Initiative**

**South Florida Reentry Center Hub**

### **HOSTED BY**

**The Roundtable of St. Lucie County**

**The City of Fort Pierce**

**Florida Department of Juvenile Justice &**

**Florida Department of Corrections, Office of Community Corrections**

**Percy Peek Gymnasium - 2902 Ave D Fort Pierce**

**Thursday, April 9, 2015**

**11:00am – 2:00pm (Adults)**

**2:00pm- 5:00pm (Juveniles)**

- Legal Assistance
- Vocational Training
- College Enrollment
- Medical/ Dental Services
- Counseling Services
- Substance Abuse
- Family Supportive Services
- GED
- Drivers License/Florida ID
- Birth Certificates
- Medicaid
- Housing
- Faith Based Support
- Stress Management
- Youth Programs
- Seal and Expungement
- Restoration of Civil Rights
- Transportation

# SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS NETWORK

## **The City of Fort Pierce and the Roundtable are pleased to announce the selection of Ms. Monica Jakobsen for the position of Project Director for the Restoring the Village Youth Initiative.**

For the past fifteen years, Ms. Jakobsen has researched and practiced in the areas of Conflict Analysis and Resolution both internationally and in the United States. Her areas of specialty include preventing violent conflict, racial, ethnic and minority issues, human rights, transformative peace building and theories and practice of dialogue processes. Formerly the Director for the Dialogue and Difference Project at George Mason University, some of the projects she's worked on include:



- Co-facilitating a series of roundtable meetings with youth leaders, teachers, community workers, police, local government officials and social service agencies around youth and gang violence in the Washington DC metropolitan area as part of a George Mason University (GMU) sponsored Project.
- Working with GMU campus police, university administration, student groups and faculty to build an early warning system for addressing tension and conflict between student groups on campus.
- Facilitating a series of community dialogues dealing with increasing tension around immigration issues in Northern Virginia, working closing with University departments, students, faith groups, law enforcement, advocacy groups, as well as business, community, and local government agencies.
- Training, facilitating, and designing dialogue processes in the highly contested and segregated municipality of Mitrovica in Kosovo.
- Building dialogue between ethnic groups in the aftermath of violent conflict in other countries.

We are thrilled to welcome Ms. Jakobsen!



**The Roundtable is also excited to report that the City of Fort Pierce will donate office space to the Restoring the Village Initiative.** The Project Director and Outreach workers will be housed on the second floor of City Hall in downtown Fort Pierce. A special thank you to Fort Pierce City Manager Robert Bradshaw and Deputy City Manager Nick Mimms for their commitment to partnering with this Initiative.

The Safe Neighborhoods Network and the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee (LPAC) are pressing on with the assessment portion of the Restoring the Village Youth Initiative (RTVYI). Surveys and focus group information have been forwarded to Keiser University, where Professor Sharon Hayes and her students are assisting us with the evaluation process. Surveys are ongoing with the community residents.

The SNN has also started work on the implementation phase of the RTVYI. Among many tasks, we are finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding, developing the multi-disciplinary intervention team, and working toward finalizing the referral process. Our plan is to begin work with the youth and young adults this summer.

*The more well-adjusted children are, the more likely they are to make good choices in life – to stay in school, not to use alcohol or drugs, to delay sexual activity, and to reject a life of crime. Our goal is to keep children on the right path to becoming successful adults. The Safe Neighborhoods Network seeks to help children make good choices in life, such as stay in school and not committing crimes. Our goal is to support the development of well-adjusted children who, in turn, become well-adjusted adults.*



## KIDS AT HOPE

Alive and well in  
St. Lucie Public Schools!

### TREASURE HUNTER PLEDGE

*As an adult and Treasure Hunter, I am committed to search for all the talents, skills and intelligence that exist in all children and youth. I believe all children are capable of success. NO EXCEPTIONS!*

Port St. Lucie High School is welcomed aboard as the newest Kids at Hope school, with faculty and staff receiving Module I training in January. Upcoming training is planned for bus drivers, NAU Charter School, PACE Center for Girls, and new staff at current KAH schools. The Kids at Hope beliefs and practices are being implemented in a number of ways including the Aces Tracking System, tunnels of hope, “prep” rallies to prepare and encourage students for upcoming testing season; as well as parent nights and destination activities.

**Congratulations to Allapattah Flats K8, Samuel Gaines Academy, Oak Hammock K8, Bayshore Elementary, and Village Green Environmental Studies School for earning the National Honor Award for the Kids at Hope Day Contest!!**

These schools celebrated National Kids at Hope Day in November by incorporating the theme, “We Connect: The Power of Aces” into events and activities with parents, students, faculty, and staff.

**“Kids at Hope Day” is celebrated on the second Wednesday in November.**

While this is the designated day, we encourage you to celebrate anytime during the month of November or all month long if you wish! In that spirit, the theme for the 2014 Kids at Hope Day was **“We Connect, The Power of Aces”.**

## Economic Sufficiency Network



**Promotion for the May 6<sup>th</sup> Poverty Forum is underway. Roundtable members, local elected officials, community leaders, and residents are encouraged to participate.**

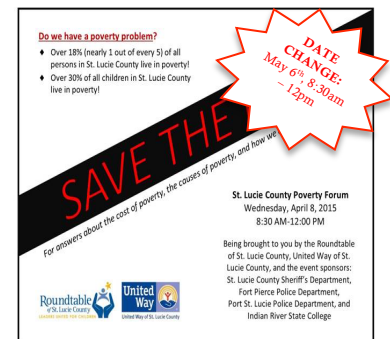
The Network is also facilitating a half-day Bridges training for Roundtable members and community leaders on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Kim Thomas to sign up. The Network has been planning a breakout session that will conclude the Poverty Forum. The goal is to come out with actionable items to address poverty in St. Lucie County with volunteers to advance them.

To date, 276 people have received Bridges Out of Poverty training. An additional 140 people are projected to be trained; with sessions scheduled through June. This total closely approaches the United Way grant goal of 420.

The number of Getting Ahead (in a Just Getting’ by World) participants is also nearing the United Way grant goal of 36. There are two Getting Ahead sessions currently underway. Grace Way Village has 15 enrolled and First United Methodist Church has 8 enrolled. Eight people previously graduated from a class hosted by the Parent Academy.

Because of the success of a recent Getting Ahead Graduate, CareerSource is contemplating the use of Getting Ahead with their clients. CareerSource is looking at the possibility of running up to four additional Getting Ahead Classes before the end of June. In addition to CareerSource, Hazel Hoylman of In The Image of Christ is becoming a Getting Ahead facilitator with plans of hosting this program in the future.

The Early Learning Coalition has offered to help GA Investigators and Graduates with resources they need to escape poverty by assisting them in obtaining child care services. Kudos to ELC for helping to make a difference in the lives of these graduates!



***Bridges Out of Poverty*** is an approach that helps employers, community organizations, social service agencies, and individuals address poverty in a comprehensive way. Participants learn ideas, structures, and concrete tools a community needs to prevent, alleviate, and reduce poverty. The goal of the program is to help employers and directors to improve job retention rates, build resources, improve outcomes, and support those who are moving out of poverty.



**Are you aware that according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2013:**

- ♦ Over 30% of all children in St. Lucie County lived in poverty
- ♦ The Poverty Rate for children in Fort Pierce was 54.6%
- ♦ Port St. Lucie's Poverty Rate for children was 24.7%
- ♦ Nearly 1 out of every 5 persons (19.3%) lived in poverty in St. Lucie County
- ♦ 32.4% of Fort Pierce and 16.8% of Port St. Lucie residents lived in poverty
- ♦ The poverty rates were higher than those for 2012

The 2015 Poverty Forum was made possible through the support of the following agencies:



## 2015 POVERTY FORUM

8:30 AM-12:00 PM

**Wednesday, May 6, 2015**

Indian River State College

Kight Center, V-110, Fort Pierce Campus

The Roundtable of St. Lucie County and its partnering sponsors invite you to the 2015 Poverty Forum during which you will:

- ♦ Learn about the causes of poverty
- ♦ Learn about a program designed to help persons escape the binds of poverty
- ♦ Identify potential solutions specific to St. Lucie County
- ♦ Interact with National Bridges Consultant and Author Jodi Pfarr, who will be the Forum's featured presenter
- ♦ Enjoy a continental breakfast

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ♦ Policymakers
- ♦ Elected Officials
- ♦ Business Leaders
- ♦ Social Service Agency Staff
- ♦ **EVERYONE WHO SEEKS AN END TO POVERTY IN ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

♦ ***You!***

Please register your attendance by Wednesday, April 15th at <https://www.facebook.com/RoundtableSLC>, by calling the Roundtable Office at 772-871-5880, or by email at [kthomas@roundtableslc.org](mailto:kthomas@roundtableslc.org)



# SPRING FLING PARTY!

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1:00pm – 5:00pm  
Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) Center  
903 S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Fort Pierce, FL 34950



## “KNOW THE LAW”

1:00 – 3:00pm

Youth will have the opportunity to connect with law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges to ask questions, understand their rights, and learn appropriate behavior when stopped by police. Police officers will be on hand to answer questions from kids.

*Sponsored by Lincoln Park Council of Ministers*



## “FRIDAY NIGHT DONE RIGHT...NO ALCOHOL. NO DOPE.”

**Kids at Hope Spring Fling Party!**

**3:00 – 5:00pm**

Kick off your spring break with your friends! Enjoy music provided by a DJ, games, prizes, raffles, and MORE! Transportation is available to youth who need it.

Youth who attend the “Know the Law” forum from 1-3pm will receive an armband for free food.

*Sponsored by Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Police Athletic League of Fort Pierce, and the Lincoln Park Council of Ministers.*

For more information please call the Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Kim Thomas (772) 871-5880.





### Contact us at:

**Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc.**

546 NW University Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

Phone: (772) 871-5880

Fax: (772) 408-1111

Visit Our Website:

**[www.RoundtableSLC.com](http://www.RoundtableSLC.com)**

Follow us on Facebook:

**[www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC](http://www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC)**

Email:

**Shaniek Maynard, Executive Director**

[SMaynard@roundtableslc.org](mailto:SMaynard@roundtableslc.org)

**Kim Thomas, Project Coordinator**

[KThomas@roundtableslc.org](mailto:KThomas@roundtableslc.org)

**Esperanza Morales, Accounting**

[Esperanza.Morales@UnitedWaySLC.org](mailto:Esperanza.Morales@UnitedWaySLC.org)

### Executive Committee

**Chair: Sean Boyle**, Children's Services Council

**Vice Chair: Chief John Bolduc**, PSL Police Dept.

**Immediate Past Chair: Chief Ron Parrish**, SLC Fire Dept.

**Secretary: Karen Knapp**, United Way SLC

**Treasurer: Tony Loupe**, Early Learning Coalition SLC

**At-Large Member: Larry Lee**, SLC Dept. of Health

**Steering Committee Chair: Clint Sperber**, SLC Dept. of Health

### Newsletter Submission Deadlines:

| Submission<br>Deadline | Monthly<br>Meeting |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 12/19/2015             | 1/9/2015           |
| 1/23/2015              | 2/6/2015           |
| 2/20/2015              | 3/6/2015           |
| 3/25/2015              | 4/3/2015           |
| 4/17/2015              | 5/1/2015           |
| 5/22/2014              | 6/5/2015           |

*The Roundtable Review is published monthly. Please feel free to submit articles, photos, news, or other information. We hope to include information covering a variety of topics related to all of our Networks. We are open to and appreciate all feedback!*

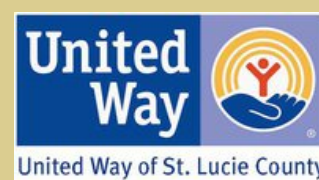
Send your submissions or feedback to:

Dana Stonelake -

[StonelakeDM@gmail.com](mailto:StonelakeDM@gmail.com)

See deadline chart for submission dates.

### OUR SPONSORS:





## Our Members

- ❖ **St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce**, *Terissa Aronson*
- ❖ **Fort Pierce Police Department**, *Sean Baldwin*
- ❖ **Lincoln Park Council of Ministers**, *Eldrew Baldwin*
- ❖ **City of Port St. Lucie**, *Linda Bartz*
- ❖ **Port St. Lucie Police Department**, *John Bolduc*
- ❖ **Children's Services Council**, *Sean Boyle*
- ❖ **19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Florida**, *Bruce Colton*
- ❖ **Devereux CBC**, *Carol Deloach*
- ❖ **Board of County Commissioners**, *Chris Dzadovsky*
- ❖ **City of Fort Pierce**, *Linda Hudson*
- ❖ **Roy A. Hunt Foundation**, *Andrew Hunt*
- ❖ **United Way of St. Lucie County**, *Karen Knapp*
- ❖ **Housing Authority of Fort Pierce**, *Andrea Kochanowski*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Department of Health**, *Larry Lee*
- ❖ **State Representative**, *Larry Lee, Jr.*
- ❖ **Indian River State College**, *Mary Locke*
- ❖ **Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County**, *Tony Loupe*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office**, *Ken Mascara*
- ❖ **Department of Children & Families**, *Robert McPartlan*
- ❖ **Guardian ad Litem**, *Vern Melvin*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Fire District**, *Ron Parrish*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Department of Health**, *Clint Sperber*
- ❖ **Career Source Research Coast**, *Richard Stetson*
- ❖ **Economic Development Council**, *Peter Tesch*
- ❖ **Kids Connected by Design**, *Lisa von Seelen*
- ❖ **Department of Juvenile Justice**, *Wydee'a Wilson*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County School District**, *Genelle Yost*

## Our Networks & Sub-Committees

### **ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Chair – Position Currently Open

### **ECONOMIC SUFFICIENCY**

*"Bridges to Prosperity"*

Wydee'a Wilson, Chair

Wydee'a.Wilson@djj.state.fl.us

### **CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH**

Donna Harris, Chair

Donna.Harris@FLHealth.gov

*"5210 Let's Go!"*

Tricia Goulet, Chair

Tricia.Goulet@FLHealth.gov

*"Injury Prevention/Safe Kids Coalition"*

Ronda Cerulli, Chair

Ronda.Cerulli@FLHealth.gov

### **KIDS AT HOPE - School Coordinator**

Melissa Hamblin

Melissa.Hamblin@StLucieSchools.org

### **KIDS AT HOPE - Community Coordinator**

Denise Sirmons

DeniseTreasureHunter@gmail.com

### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION**

John Poli, Chair

JPoli@nhtcinc.org

### **SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS**

Daniela Dreizehnter, Chair

DDreizehnter@fppd.org

*"Lincoln Park Advisory Committee"*

Marjorie Harrell, Chair

Gharr89247@yahoo.com