

Building a Community that Supports the Success of Children

# THE ROUNDTABLE REVIEW

March 2016 Issue

# A Message From The Director:

In February, I had the pleasure of judging the St. Lucie County Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year competition. Youth of the Year is Boys and Girls Club's premiere youth recognition program celebrating the extraordinary achievements of club members. The Youth of the Year embodies the values of leadership, character and service, academic excellence, and healthy lifestyles.

This year's finalists were four outstanding young ladies who represent the best of St. Lucie County. They are smart, resilient, goal-driven leaders. Their achievements range from a 5.4 GPA to biking from Florida to Washington DC to raise awareness for donating blood. They aspire to be a doctor, veterinarian, actress and real estate mogul. Their platforms include stopping violence to supporting youth mental health needs.

I want to congratulate these young women for their extraordinary accomplishments. The winner, Aleshia A. Johnson, will go on to represent our county at the state competition. All four of them, however, represent the success our youth can achieve when supported by caring adults, high expectations, and opportunities for success. Congratulations Aleshia Johnson, Maya Brown, Kaitlyn Davidson, and Monica Smith!

Shaniek Maynard



Youth of the Year - Aleshia A. Johnson!



(L-R) Monica Smith, Kaitlyn Davidson, Shaniek Maynard, Maya Brown, and Aleshia Johnson

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.



On Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, LPAC hosted a Neighborhood Awareness Community Block Party for the residents of Parkland and Bethany Court Apartments in Fort Pierce.

This event focused on two components of LPAC's strategic plan:

- Create more collaborative community activities and events in certain pockets of the Lincoln Park community; and
- Address the unwillingness of many residents to participate and engage in the civic life of the community.

The Neighborhood Awareness Party included free food, free books, free overstock linens from Bed Bath and Beyond, finger painting, face painting, a bounce house, a deejay, fire truck tours, McGruff the Crime Dog, and a talent show.

A number of LPAC member organizations worked together to accomplish this event, including Men of the Sword (Terrance Beauford), Save Our Children (Rev. Ken Mills), Community Mobilization Team (Betty Bradwell), and Kids at Hope (Denise Sirmons). Others that were on hand to provide information and resources included Children's Services Council, Department of Juvenile Justice, Multicultural Resource Center, Parent Academy, the Fort Pierce Police Department, Police Explorers, St. Lucie County School Board Member Dr. Donna Mills, St. Lucie County Fire Department, and Restoring the Village Youth Initiative Outreach Workers.

At first, it was difficult to get residents to come outside and participate. One little girl confessed to being "scared" to get involved. LPAC members, however, refused to take "no" for an answer. They started knocking on doors and talking to parents, and soon about 50 kids from the housing community came out to explore the fun. Shortly thereafter, RTVYI Outreach Worker Randy Roundtree started an impromptu game of flag football with about 12 teenaged boys. Before we knew it, adult residents started trickling out of their homes. Before the event ended, one resident driving out of Bethany Court stopped LPAC member Terrance Beauford and said, "Thank you for what ya'll are doing today for our community."

LPAC appreciates all who participated in this event, and thanks Allegany Franciscan Ministries for their funding support. These events are a first step in mobilizing and empowering marginalized and disenfranchised neighborhoods in our community. Stay tuned for information about upcoming LPAC activities.





# Treasure Hunter Week at Ft. Piece Magnet School of the Arts

After attending the Treasure Hunter Council Meeting in January, Ms. Nesbitt and Ms. Voke, teachers from Fort Pierce Magnet School of the Arts, reached out to Kids at Hope staff for assistance on implementing a Staff Treasure Hunter Week for their school. With approval from administration, Kids at Hope Coordinator Denise Sirmons and fellow Treasure Hunter London Reeves went into each classroom for 10-15 minutes to speak to the students and encourage them to write down the great things they see in their Teachers (who were not present during this exercise).

KAH Treasure Hunters search for the talents, skills and intelligence (i.e., treasures) that exist in all children and youth. This time, however, we turned the tables by having the students search for treasures in their teachers!

Denise and London visited more than 20 classrooms to help over 400 students write messages and create artwork about the positive treasures they find in their teachers. The project was a secret and the students (Kindergarten-8th grade) did not share the details with their teachers. The notes and drawings were collected, and will be typed and compiled on a poster for each teacher. The teachers will be presented with these posters, allowing them to see the great "treasures" that their students find in them. During the remainder of the year, students will read each teacher's poster to the entire school during morning announcements.

# Examples of just some of the Treasures students found in their teachers:

Ms. Plummer, is one of the nicest, coolest and best teachers in this world. She makes work easy for me and she puts a smile on my face and makes my day. She is the best teacher in my school and I think she is the best teacher in the world. -Daniel

Mr. Thoma, is smart, good looking, talented, a good math teacher and fun.

Ms. Voke is the best teacher ever! She loves us like we are family. -Amir

Ms. Church is very smart and does fun learning activities. She is really understanding and gives us food.

-Tameka



This was a fun way to help students intentionally identify the positive qualities in their ACES, and to show teachers how good it feels when someone finds treasure in and believes in them. For information about doing a similar project at your Kids at Hope agency or school, please contact Denise Sirmons or Dana Stonelake at the Roundtable office.







# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reentry Center Resource Hub in St. Lucie County on Friday, March 25, 2016. 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 10am-12pm for adults and 12:30pm-2:30pm for juveniles/general public at the Percy Peek Gymnasium at 29th Street and Avenue D in Fort Pierce. This collaboration is a joint effort by the Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections, Fort Pierce Police Department, 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 needed to succeed.

# They identified the following:

# 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 by March 11<sup>th</sup> to reserve your table: John Thompson - thompson.johnw@mail.dc.state.fl.us

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



# RESOURCE ASSESSMENT MEETING:

# **Infant Mortality & Teen Pregnancy**

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 9:30am – 12:30pm

# Location:

Florida Department of Health 5150 NW Milner Dr., Port St. Lucie

Join us for a robust discussion around infant mortality and teen pregnancy. 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.



Please RSVP to: Kim Thomas at KThomas@RoundtableSLC.org

# KIDS AT HOPE SPRING BREAK 2016



# 9am-4pm (All Teens)

Leadership Activities

"Violence Interrupters" -Movie Screening:

-Group Discussion & Presentation

-Team Sport Games





# 9am-11:30am (Select Teens)

**Bridging The Gap Forum** 

# 12PM-4PM (All Teens)

Leadership Activities

-Law Enforcement & Youth

**Prevention Workshop** -Substance Abuse



# 9am-2pm (All Teens)

"Get On The Bus"

transportation system provided Scavenger Hunt: Teaching teens how to use the free by St. Lucie County

3pm-6:30pm

(Retreat Participants -Retreat Wrap Up

"Pool Party"



For More Information: (772) 332-0944 or LReeves8713@gmail.com Location: River Walk Center, 600 N. Indian River Dr., Fort Pierce













# SOUTH FLORIDA REENTRY TASK FORCE

A Violence Reduction Partnership Initiative

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual South Florida Reentry Center Hub

Hosted by

The Roundtable of St. Lucie County

The City of Fort Pierce

Fort Pierce Police Department

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Florida Department of Corrections, Office of Community Corrections &

U.S. Attorney's Office

Percy Peek Gymnasium 2902 Ave D Fort Pierce

Friday, March 25, 2016

10:00am to Noon (adults on supervision)

12:30pm to 2:30pm (juveniles/general public)

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



# You're Invited!

# "Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World"

You're invited to apply for participation in an upcoming "Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World" workgroup. You can apply by calling (772) 925-3074 by March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. A phone interview will be scheduled or conducted when you call.

- Participate in problem-solving discussions and investigations.
- Help your community investigate poverty, receiving a stipend for your work\*.
- Explore the "hidden rules" and resources that bring success.
- Build a plan for your new future story.



WHEN: 6:00pm - 9:00pm; Every Monday & Wednesday - March 28th, 30th; April 4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th, 27th; May 2nd, 4th, 9th, 11th, 16th, and 18th. You must agree to attend ALL sessions.

WHERE: Grace Way Village, 1780 Hartman Rd., Ft. Pierce, FL 34947 - 772-925-3074

\*Stipend: \$15 Walmart gift card per session

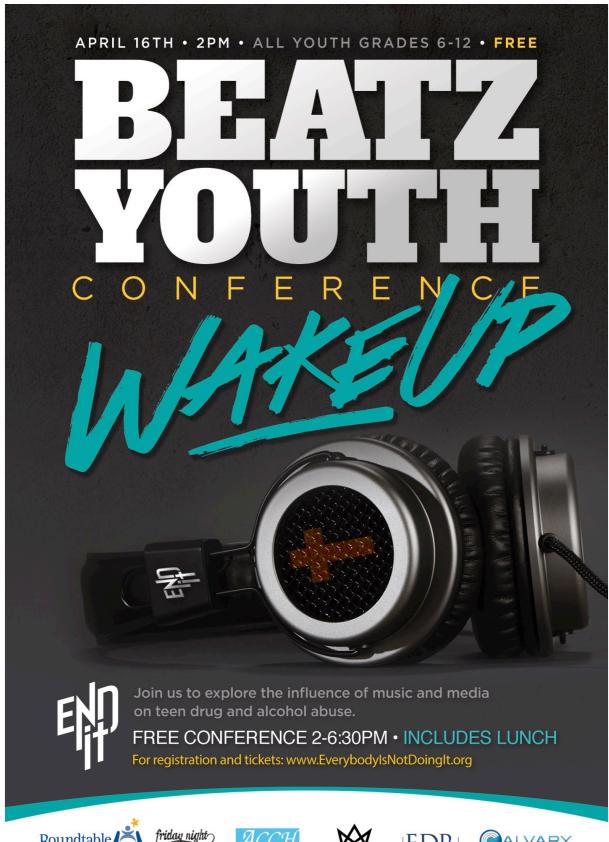
























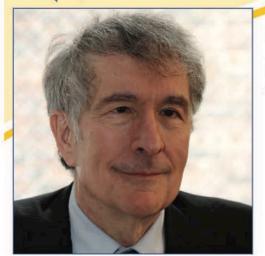


# 2016 Youth Development Master's Institute

~ Where Research Meets HOPE

Co-Sponsored by





# is honored to announce

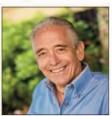
# HOWARD GARDNER, Institute's Featured Research Presenter

John H. and Elisabeth A. Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education & Father of the revolutionary theory of Multiple Intelligence

# \*Previous Distinguished Master's Speakers



\*Sandra Day O'Connor US Supreme Court Justice



\*Dr. Robert Maurer Associate Professor of Psychology, UCLA Medical Center



\*Gerda Weissmann Klein Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient, Author/Humanitarian



\*Dr. Ann Masten
Distinguished McKnight University
Professor, Child Development,
University of Minnesota



\*Dr. Shane Lopez Senior Scientist in Residence, Gallup, Inc.



\*Dr. Nel Noddings Educational Philosopher/Author Lee L. Jacks Professor of Education, Emerita, Stanford University



\*Dr. Keith Hall Director, Noel Academy for Strengths Based Leadership & Education



\*Dr. Don Covey

Maricopa County Superintendent



\*Nancy Utley
President, Fox Searchlight Pictures



\*Antwone Fisher Author, Screenwriter, Poet



\*Kenneth Ginsburg, MD Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine



\*Joanne Jaffe Chief Community Affairs Bureau New York Police Department

For more information visit www.kidsathope.org (602) 674-0026

Each Spring, Kids at Hope sponsors the *Youth Development Master's Institute* co-sponsored by Arizona State University, School of Community Resources & Development.

This week long institute brings together the top educational, youth and child development theorists, researchers and practitioners in order to better understand how all children and youth can succeed,

No Exceptions!

See you at the Master's! May 1 – 6, 2016 Phoenix, AZ





# **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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Kim Thomas, Project Coordinator KThomas@RoundtableSLC.org

Esperanza Morales, Accounting EMorales35@comcast.net

# Visit us at:

# www.RoundtableSLC.com



# www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC

"Roundtable of St. Lucie County"

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 – Renee Deschenes Renee.Deschenes@pd19.org

# **Child & Adolescent Health**

Tricia Goulet, Chair Tricia.Goulet@FLHealth.gov

"5210 Let's Go!"

# Safe Kids Coalition

Ronda Cerulli Ronda.Cerulli@FLHealth.gov

# **Kids At Hope Coordinators**

Denise Sirmons
DeniseTreasureHunter@gmail.com

Dana Stonelake
DanaTreasureHunter@gmail.com

# Safe Neighborhoods

Daniela Dreizehnter, Chair DDreizehnter@fppd.org

# **Lincoln Park Advisory Committee**

Denise Sirmons, Chair DeniseTreasureHunter@gmail.com

# Restoring the Village Youth Initiative

Monica Jakobsen, Coordinator MJakobsen@RoundtableSLC.org

# **Substance Abuse Prevention**

John Poli, Chair JPoli@nhtcinc.org