



Building a Community that Supports the Success of Children



THE ROUNDTABLE REVIEW

September 2015 Issue

A Message From The Director:

As the summer comes to a close and our children return to school, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of the members who joined us over the summer – FPPD Chief Diane Hobley-Burney, Superintendent E. Wayne Gent, Martin Memorial Health Chief Operating Officer Robert Lord, and St. Lucie County Fire Chief George Emerson. Thank you for your commitment to our youth. Please know that your involvement in the Roundtable is key to our community's collective success. We stand ready to assist you in any way we can as we continue to build a community that supports the success of all children, no exceptions!

And speaking of new additions - this summer I welcomed my new little one, Brandon Joshua Maynard, into the world. Born on June 3, 2015, Brandon came in at 8 lbs, 3 oz! As you can see from the pictures on the right, he's already smiling and laughing. He brings great joy to my days and less sleep to my nights. Aaahhh.... sweet motherhood!

In these pages, you will read about our summer Kids at Hope activities, next steps for the Comprehensive Plan, hiring of street outreach workers for the gang strategy and upcoming classes for Bridges Out of Poverty and Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of your agencies. Thank you for all you do for the youth of St. Lucie County.

At our August meeting, it was suggested that we hold one of our Roundtable meetings in Fort Pierce, especially since so much of our efforts are centered there. Roundtable Member Pastor Eldrew Baldwin volunteered his church for the location. As a result, the October Roundtable meeting will be held at First Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 1018 Avenue D, Fort Pierce, Florida. The date is Friday, October 2, 2015 at 8:30 am. See you there!

Best regards,

Shaniek Maynard



Introducing!
Brandon Joshua Maynard
Born June 3, 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.



At the May 2015 Retreat, the Roundtable reviewed countywide data on risk factors leading to delinquency, school dropout, substance abuse, teen pregnancy and violence. The Roundtable also reviewed the results of the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey and the recommendations of our Academic Success, Delinquency, Poverty, Substance Abuse, and Violence Workgroups on how to prioritize the risk factors in the next Comprehensive Plan. Hundreds of people across the county were involved in this process, and we thank everyone for their participation. Special thanks goes to Tonya Andreacchio, Steering Committee Chair, for all of her hard work on this initiative!

Based on all of the data and recommendations, the Roundtable selected the following risk factors to focus on in the next ten year plan:

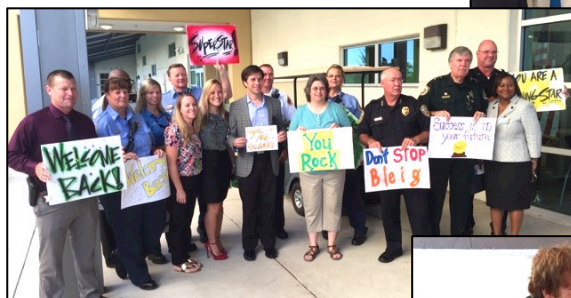
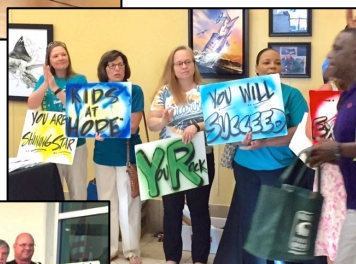
- Community Laws and Norms Favorable to Problem Behaviors
- Community Disorganization
- Poor Family Management
- Family Conflict
- Early Initiation of the Problem Behavior

As the next step, the Roundtable asks the Networks to gather qualitative data around these priorities by conducting surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews relating to the problem behaviors. The Health Network is already doing this through the Healthy St. Lucie Survey, which was distributed and will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. Networks are also asked to conduct a resource assessment outlining the availability of resources, and any gaps and barriers. After the information is collected, each Network will be asked to consider nationwide practices around their issue, and suggest a comprehensive data driven strategy (combining programs and policies) to address the risk factors for St. Lucie County. These recommendations will be considered by the Steering Committee and the Roundtable for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan. The goal is to develop specific targeted environmental strategies that will lead to long-term success for our youth.

To build out the Comprehensive Plan, we need the dedicated help of all of you. If you are interested in participating on either the Steering Committee or one of the Networks, please contact Kim Thomas.



KIDS AT HOPE



This summer Kids at Hope staff organized a variety of KAH activities and events. Over 300 children at various summer programs in our community were encouraged to “time travel” to their futures by participating in KAH Destination Days. Staff also coordinated a Kids at Hope Friday Night Done Right Limo Scavenger Hunt in which 100 teens traveled around the county in limousines to meet and connect with various community leaders from law enforcement, the City of Ft. Pierce, the St. Lucie School District, St. Lucie County Commission, St. Lucie Fire District, and the Children’s Services Council. We thank all the community leaders who participated.

Over the summer we welcomed our newest Kids at Hope Community Coordinator, Ms. Dana Stonelake. Ms Stonelake coordinated and attended various Tunnels of Hope for new and returning teachers, as well as tunnels to welcome students back to the new school year. Ms. Stonelake and Denise Sirmons are in the process of scheduling trainings for new KAH schools. We are excited to share that NAU Charter School, Floresta Elementary, West Gate K-8, St. Lucie Elementary, and Centennial High School will be joining our KAH community this school year.

Our KAH table at the Children’s Museum/211 Event was a great success. We were able to share the KAH philosophy with hundreds of parents and children!

This Saturday, September 5th, we will be at the Children’s Services Council “Sundaes in the Park” event at Tradition Field from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. Please stop by to say hello!

Want to have your new staff or organization trained in Kids at Hope?

Open Training Schedule:

September 8
November 3
January 12

October 6
December 8

Location:

River Walk Center, 600 N. Indian River Dr. Ft. Pierce

Time:

10:00am-12:00pm

SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS NETWORK

The Restoring the Village Youth Initiative is thrilled to announce the hiring of 4 individuals to work as Street Outreach Workers to reach out to gang involved youth starting in September. These positions were made possible thanks to grants from the County Commission, Allegany Franciscan Ministries, and the Hunt Foundation. We thank these organizations for their partnerships in this endeavor.

This month the National Gang Center will return to St. Lucie County to train the Street Outreach Workers. In October, the Gang Center will return to conduct a law enforcement training, and in November they will train local agencies to serve as part of an Intervention Team to case manage resources provided to youth in the Initiative. We now have more than 40 individuals on the Safe Neighborhood Network, and these individuals represent 33 different agencies and organizations working together to help gang involved youth. These organizations share a common goal -- to improve the lives of St. Lucie county youth and their families, so that crime and violence will no longer be a factor in their overall well being.

It is time to start referring youth to the project. The target group for the Restoring the Village Youth Initiative is young males between 16 and 24 who are currently involved in gang-related activities in the Lincoln Park area. Due to the intense resources that will be expended, the outreach component will be very specific to youth who are already involved in high-risk behavior. **If your agency would like to refer someone to the program, please complete the Referral Form, which can be found on the Roundtable website home page at: www.RoundtableSLC.com**

Y.E.S.S.

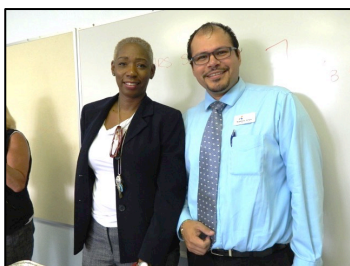
This summer, The Roundtable, CareerSource Research Center, the 19th Judicial Circuit Court-Department of Juvenile Justice and the Wells Fargo Foundation successfully implemented the first of hopefully many collaborations on youth employment by engaging teens involved in the court system in Youth Employment Success Solutions, otherwise known as the Y.E.S.S. Program.



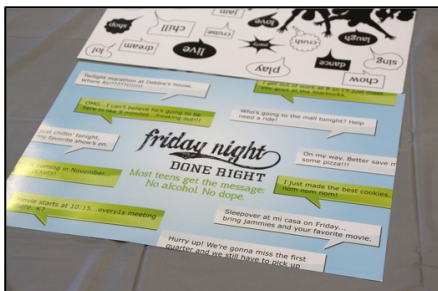
This program takes students through an intensive two-week employability skills curriculum, developed by CareerSource Research Center. The goal of the program is to encourage youth to set goals, choose positive behaviors and learn the basic skills employers look for when making hiring decisions.

As part of the curriculum, the teens learned practical employability skills and those who successfully completed the training earned \$250 provided by Wells Fargo. We are pleased to report that seventeen kids successfully completed the training! Congratulations graduates! We wish you much success.

We want to thank all of those who made this possible, especially the Juvenile Probation Officers and CareerSource Instructors who went out of their way to make sure the students succeeded. We also want to thank Wells Fargo for seeing the benefit of supporting our teens, especially those teens who have made mistakes. Together, you demonstrated our belief that ALL kids are capable of success, NO EXCEPTIONS! We look forward to working with these partners in the future.



Substance Abuse Network



We are excited to announce that the Community Coalition Alliance has awarded the Roundtable a \$45,000 grant this year to continue implementing the Friday Night Done Right and Parents Who Host Lose the Most social norming campaigns and teenage substance abuse.

On August 14, 2015 the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice hosted a "Back to School Bash" at the Police Athletic League Center, and the Roundtable helped to sponsor this event to promote the Friday Night Done Right campaign. Over 200 youth and their parents attended the event and enjoyed fun games, great food, and tours of emergency and fire rescue vehicles. New backpacks filled with school supplies were given to each youth, as well as additional giveaways throughout the day. More than 10 vendors were in attendance to provide helpful information and resources for parents and children.

As parents and young people approached the Roundtable's booth to check out the cool gifts on our table, 16 year old Syleste Davis and 5 year old Christina Smith asked them, "So, how do you spend your Friday nights?" This question caught many people off guard as they looked up into the sky in full "thinking" mode. Responses ranged from eating out, sleepovers, family movie night, hanging with friends and parties. Some responses were a little embarrassing for some, however they were honest and revealed they participated in activities that involved controlled substances at times.

"So...How do you spend your Friday nights?" was the perfect conversation starter and gave us an opportunity to collect contact information from youth, parents, social workers and probation officers. Fort Pierce Police Chief Diane Hopley-Burney visited our table and encouraged all of the young people to strive for their dreams. She said to work especially hard for dreams that seemed out of reach or things that people may tell them are unattainable. The youth were inspired by our new police chief. Event participants signed over 115 "Friday Night Done Right" cards.





Youth Leadership Council

"Thank you Ms. Thomas for allowing me the opportunity to take this class, and I am sure I will enjoy it. I wanted to personally let you know how much of an impact these leadership courses have on the youth of St. Lucie County. For example, my brother, Nicolas Suarez has always volunteered, but after taking the two leadership courses, he pushed himself to get more involved in the community. As a result, he is now a member of the Youth Advocacy Board of Students Working Against Tobacco, where he represents St. Lucie and twelve other counties at a statewide level. I have also been impacted by the leadership courses you and the Roundtable offer. Thanks to the course I took during the fall semester, I have realized that I have more potential, and as a result, I am now a member of the Leadership Council of Students Working Against Tobacco, and am also the President of the St. Lucie SWAT chapter held by the Health Department. That being said, I would like to thank you once again for opening me and the youth up to these opportunities to exhibit our full potential.

Sincerely, Sebastian Suarez"



YLC volunteer at the Treasure Coast Food Bank.

(Email sent to Kim Thomas, Roundtable Project Coordinator. Reprinted with the permission of Mr. Suarez)

The Youth Leadership Council is a chance for area teens to have a voice in St. Lucie County. The program, held at IRSC, is designed to give students an opportunity to earn college credits while learning about various aspects of our community. It includes career options, leadership roles, governmental and law enforcement operations, environmental issues, and how to be heard by elected officials when dealing with important issues. They make decisions with community leaders that impact change and improvement in the community. Many individuals and agencies have come before the Council requesting their input.

CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH NETWORK

**SAFE
KIDS**
ST. LUCIE COUNTY



In June, Safe Kids provided educational demonstrations to the 2nd grade group at Weatherbee Elementary on fire, bike, pedestrian, and water safety. "Bike to School Day" was also a great success as over 21 bike helmets and 100 reflective zipper tags were handed out at Northport K-8.



Economic Sufficiency Network



The Bridges to Prosperity Economic Sufficiency Network thanks United Way for its continued sponsorship of Bridges Out of Poverty and Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World in St. Lucie County. Because of the United Way grant, this year the Network will be able to provide two Getting Ahead classes for twenty individuals, and train 400 St. Lucie County residents in Bridges Out of Poverty.

The First Getting Ahead class started at Graceway Village on August 23rd. Executive Director Cathie Mouring, and Facilitators Kevin Singletary and Sonia Dupree are leading 10 investigators (students) in designing a plan to build resources for a more prosperous life for themselves, their families and their community. We wish these students the best and look forward to their success! A second Getting Ahead class is planned for later in the year at First United Methodist Church.

The United Way grant also continues to sponsor St. Lucie County residents who wish to be trained in Bridges Out of Poverty. This full day workshop at Indian River State College teaches employers, community organizations, social service agencies, and individuals a family of concepts to address and reduce poverty in a comprehensive way. Classes are held monthly. Contact Kim Thomas at the Roundtable to sign up for this class.

Want to Become a Bridges Trainer? The Network is looking for individuals who want to become Bridges Out of Poverty Trainers for St. Lucie County. The next certification date is November 9, 2015 in Indianapolis. This training will prepare you to present the Bridges Out Of Poverty training to individuals, organizations and agencies throughout St. Lucie County. **Contact Al Rivett at al@alrivett.com to sign up!**

Important Roundtable Dates:

Roundtable Steering Committee Meeting

September 8 at 9:00 am
Children's Services Council

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Network Meeting

September 9 at 3pm
Children's Services Council

Lincoln Park Advisory Committee Visioning Retreat

September 28 at 5:30pm
Location: TBD

National Gang Center Street Outreach Worker Training

September 15-16
Restoring the Village Youth Initiative
City Hall

Kids at Hope Trainers Meeting

September 16 at 5:30pm
Children's Services Council

National Gang Center Basic Training for Street Gang Investigators

October 6-9, 2015
Treasure Coast Public Safety Complex

National Gang Center Intervention Team Training

November 4-5 2015
Location: TBD

October Roundtable Meeting

October 2, 2015
First Bethel Missionary Baptist Church



Basic Training for Street Gang Investigators

October 6–9, 2015 • Fort Pierce, Florida

This is a specialized curriculum for law enforcement officers who encounter gangs on the street.

Who Should Attend

This 3½-day training is offered to sworn officers from St. Lucie County and the Treasure Coast area. This training will provide basic, entry-level training to officers:

- Newly assigned to work with street gangs.
- With limited experience, but little formal training in street gang investigations.
- From small agencies, for whom street gang investigation is an assigned, but additional, duty.

Registration

There is no registration fee. This training is made possible through funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Class size is limited, and it is recommended that you register early. We reserve the right to limit the number of attendees from each agency to ensure that the maximum number of agencies is represented. Register online at <http://s.iir.com/FPFL10-15>.

Once your registration is received and accepted, a staff member from the National Gang Center (NGC) will e-mail or fax a confirmation memo. For security reasons, only those individuals having a confirmed advance registration will be admitted to the training, and no registrations will be accepted on-site without prior notification. Law enforcement credentials will be required at check-in. Training check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. on October 6. The training schedule is 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on October 6–8 and 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on October 9.

Training Location/Facility Host

Treasure Coast Public Safety Complex
Bailey Auditorium
4600 Kirby Loop Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Overnight accommodations are available at the rate of \$74, plus tax, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites at 7151 Okeechobee Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34945 (772) 464-5000. Reference ILFPPD to obtain this special rate. **Travel, lodging, and per diem expenses are the responsibility of the attendee.**

Questions?

For questions regarding registration, call (800) 446-0912, extension 287. Accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Contact NGC for further information.

Cohosted by

- Fort Pierce Police Department
- Regional Organized Crime Information Center®
- United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Florida

Instructors

Experts, many with national recognition in the subject area, will provide instruction. A regional overview of gangs will be provided by local gang authorities.

Prerequisite Training

The Street Gang Intelligence module of this basic training has been moved online. This is an 80-minute, self-paced course, which you are expected to complete prior to October 6, 2015. Material from the online course will be referenced but NOT covered during the in-class portion of the Basic Training for Street Gang Investigators. To register for and complete the online Street Gang Intelligence training, go to <https://www.nationalgangcenter.gov/User/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fOnline-Training>.

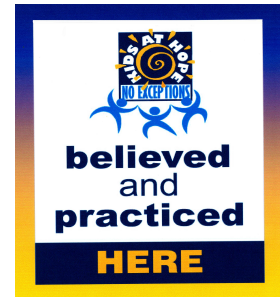
Course Topics

- **National Gang Overview**—basic information necessary to understand street gangs
- **Developing Traditional & Nontraditional Sources of Information**—use sources of information to solve gang-motivated crimes
- **Regional Gang Overview**—specific information about active regional and local gangs
- **Prevention/Intervention and the Role of Law Enforcement**—ways to engage in a comprehensive community approach to reduce the risks of gang violence
- **Gang Investigations**—unique nature of gang investigations and gang crime scenes
- **Gang Intelligence**—the role of gang investigators in the intelligence process
- **Interviewing Gang Members**—intelligence gathering through everyday contact with gang members on the street
- **Gang Suppression**—strategies and tactics that have been effective in suppressing gang activity
- **Social Media Technology**—trends use of the Internet as a tool for gathering intelligence on local gangs
- **Federal Resources and Tools**—capabilities and help offered through federal agencies and programs



No Registration Fee





Executive Committee

Chair: Sean Boyle, Children's Services Council

Vice Chair: Chief John Bolduc, Port St. Lucie Police Dept.

Secretary: Karen Knapp, United Way St. Lucie County

Treasurer: Tony Loupe, Early Learning Coalition St. Lucie County

At-Large Member: Clint Sperber, St. Lucie County Department of Health

Steering Committee Chair: Tonya Andreacchio, Children's Services Council

Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc.

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Visit us at:

www.RoundtableSLC.com



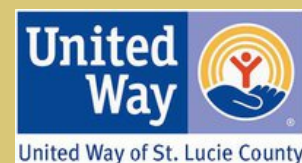
www.Facebook.com/RoundtableSLC

"Roundtable of St. Lucie County"

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

OUR SPONSORS:





Our Members

- ❖ **St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce**, *Terissa Aronson*
- ❖ **Fort Pierce Police Department**, *Diane Hobley-Burney*
- ❖ **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*
- ❖ **19th Judicial Circuit of Florida**, *Bruce Colton*
- ❖ **Devereux CBC**, *Carol Deloach*
- ❖ **Board of County Commissioners**, *Chris Dzadovsky*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Fire District**, *George Emerson*
- ❖ **St. Lucie County School District**, *E. Wayne Gent*
- ❖ **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*
- ❖ **State Representative**, *Larry Lee, Jr.*
- ❖ **Indian River State College**, *Mary Locke*
- ❖ **Martin Memorial Health System**, *Rob Lord*
- ❖ **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 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*

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

Safe Kids Coalition

Ronda Cerulli

Ronda.Cerulli@FLHealth.gov

Kids At Hope Coordinators

Denise Sirmons

DeniseTreasureHunter@gmail.com

Dana Stonelake

DanaTreasureHunter@gmail.com

Substance Abuse Prevention

John Poli, Chair

JPoli@nhtcinc.org

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