



Dear Child Advocate,

It is with great excitement that we announce Palm Beach County is one of ten winners chosen out of 200 for the national, prestigious Culture of Health Prize for the years 2020 and 2021. The prize, awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, honors communities for their work in advancing health, opportunity and equity.

Palm Health Foundation, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County and Palm Beach County Youth Services Department collaborated on the application through three phases of competition over the course of a year. The team worked with the community to share all of the fantastic work happening across the county. The honor comes with a \$25,000 prize, which local funders will match. The county will engage residents in deciding how best to allocate the funds to further community health priorities.

More specifically, Palm Beach County was recognized for pursuing innovative ideas and bringing partners together to rally around a shared vision of health. Our award-winning efforts recognized for building a culture of health included:

- Expanding equitable access to behavioral health;
- Focusing on youth and being accountable for their success; and
- Elevating resident leadership.

Our Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures alliance, as well as the other collective impact initiatives within the county, were recognized as being a critical asset to our community and one of the reasons why we won. It is a great honor, and we thank you all for your contributions to making Palm Beach County a wonderful place to live.

Learn more at [RWJF.org/prize](https://www.rwjf.org/prize).

Click [here](#) to watch Palm Beach County's Culture of Health story.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor  
CEO, Children's Services Council

Tammy K. Fields  
Director, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department



# Birth to 22 United for Brighter Futures NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 | Issue 1 | December 2021

## PBC Named National Winner of Culture of Health Prize

RWJF's 2020-2021 Culture of Health Prize winners have been announced and Palm Beach County is a winner!

### Alliance Spotlights

Since its inception, Birth to 22 and its community alliances, have been working towards providing youth and young adults resources to reach their fullest potential.

### Upcoming Events

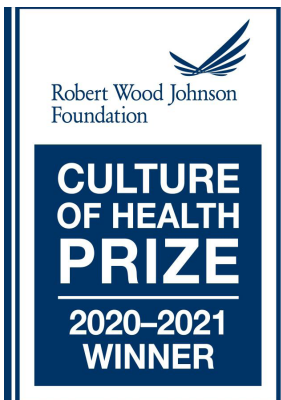
Check out the Birth to 22 community alliance upcoming events.

## Share Feedback & Stories!

Do you have feedback or have an inspiring story to share? We'd love to hear from you!

Contact us at, [pbc-birthto22@pbcgov.org](mailto:pbc-birthto22@pbcgov.org)

# PBC Named Winner of National Culture of Health Prize



Palm Beach County is one of 10 winners of the 2020-2021 RWJF Culture of Health Prize awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The Prize honors and elevates communities for working at the forefront of advancing health, opportunity, and equity.

Palm Beach County was nationally recognized for pursuing innovative ideas and bringing partners together to rally around a shared

vision of health. Palm Beach County's award-winning efforts recognized for building a culture of health include:

Expanding equitable access to behavioral health. Greater reach and equity is being attained through countywide initiatives like BeWellPBC bringing together residents, providers and systems around solutions, and hyper-local efforts such as residents of "The Set," Delray Beach's historic Black community, creating partnerships with the faith community to overcome mental health stigma while respecting culture in the Haitian community.

Focusing on youth and being accountable for their success. Through Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures, Palm Beach County is promoting trauma informed care, honoring youth resident voices in its collaborative work, and encouraging a new generation of advocates to shape an even brighter future for the community.

Elevating resident leadership. Maximizing the power of residents to make a direct impact on their own communities is creating change through grassroots organizations like the EJS Project in Delray Beach, which is dedicated to empowering youth. Another example is Lake Worth Beach's Wall of Unity, a resident-led transformation of a wall that once represented segregation to a new symbol of people of all races and cultures coming together to break down barriers of hate and injustice.

Palm Health Foundation, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County and Palm Beach County Youth Services Department collaborated on the application process for the prize that shared the county's collective commitment to the social determinants of health, including Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures, an alliance of over 300 organizations supporting the healthy growth, development and education for children prenatally through young adulthood.

"We are honored to receive this nationally recognized award," said Patrick McNamara, president and CEO of Palm Health Foundation. "We know that one of Palm Beach County's greatest strengths is how our health organizations,

fundors, nonprofits, and community residents collaborate and support one another in advancing health, opportunity, and equity for all."

Palm Beach County will receive a \$25,000 prize, join a network of Prize-winning communities, and have its inspiring accomplishments shared throughout the nation. The other nine winning communities are: Addison, Ill.; Alamosa County, Colo.; Chickaloon Native Village; Drew, Miss.; Howard County, Md.; National City, Calif.; Rocky Mount, N.C.; Thunder Valley Community—Oglala Lakota Nation (Oceti Sakowin Territory), and Worcester, Mass.

"The 2020-2021 RWJF Culture of Health Prize winners are striving to make good health and well-being achievable for all their residents," said Richard Besser, MD, president and CEO of RWJF. "They understand the clear connection between the opportunity for health and education, jobs, and housing. They are leaning into community-led solutions that break down barriers caused by structural racism and other forms of discrimination."

To become an RWJF Culture of Health Prize winner, Palm Beach County had to demonstrate how it excelled in the following six criteria:

- Defining health in the broadest possible terms.
- Committing to sustainable systems changes and policy-oriented long-term solutions.
- Creating conditions that give everyone a fair and just opportunity to reach their best possible health.
- Maximizing the collective power of leaders, partners, and community members.
- Securing and making the most of available resources.
- Measuring and sharing progress and results.

"We credit this honor to our community's commitment to co-creating health solutions with residents," said Lisa Williams-Taylor, CEO of Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. "We're working together to remove barriers and build a culture of health for all who call Palm Beach County home."

Tammy Fields, Director of the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, added, "recognizing that health starts in families with our young people, and creates the foundation of health for a lifetime, is so important to the work we do as a community."

The Foundation honored this year's winners, November 9-10, during a virtual RWJF Culture of Health Prize Celebration and Learning Event. During the event, Tammy Fields accepted the award on behalf of Palm Beach County.



# African American Oral History Project

The Palm Beach County African American Oral History Project launched in July 2020, involving youth researchers and Palm Beach Atlantic interns interviewing elders about life growing up in Palm Beach County. High school students learned about local history in Palm Beach County and participated in several activities in research methods, anthropology, issues surrounding race, identified local and national events by decade, and interview training. While this project was supposed to take place in-person, the global pandemic hit and everyone adapted with both the youth and elders learning a lot about technology and becoming proficient in virtual communication skills. Youth focused on interviewing elders from their own neighborhoods, which included West Palm Beach, Delray Beach, Pahokee, and Belle Glade.

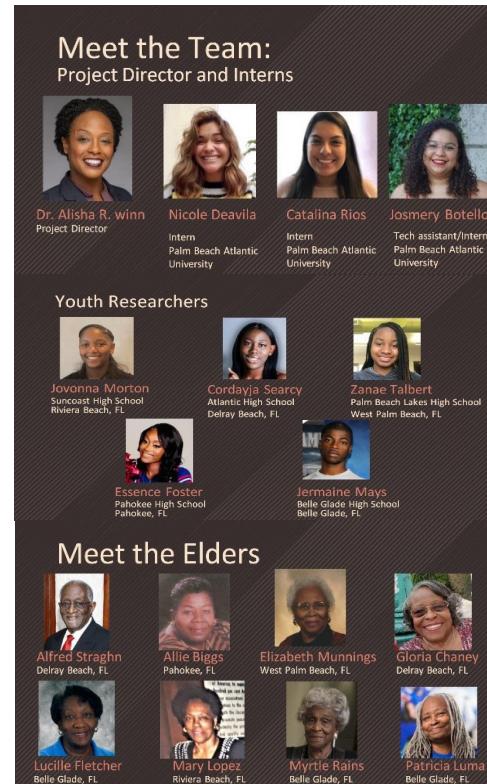
The project was sponsored and supported by the Children's Services Council (CSC) of Palm Beach County. Dr. Alisha Winn, Applied Cultural Anthropologist and Adjunct Professor at Palm Beach Atlantic University, served as the project director.

The culmination of months of hard work can be seen in the final products created in partnership with Stella Marketing and Business Solutions. Examples include, a project webpage, an Instagram story page, and a documentary on social media:

Project webpage: Click [here](#).

Instagram: Click [here](#).

YouTube Documentary: Click [here](#).



## Collaborate With Girls Coordinating Council



In June 2020, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, Palm Beach County Victim Services and Pace Center for Girls Palm Beach came together to form the Girls Coordinating Council (GCC) of Palm Beach County. The first step of this new community collaborative was to meet with the Birth to 22 Steering Committee, who welcomed the GCC as their newest action team and agreed to provide the backbone support and technical assistance needed for strengthening the Council. For the past 16 months, the GCC has worked to identify and strengthen the network of support services for girls in Palm Beach County. As a data-driven initiative, they launched a Network Analysis Survey in August 2021. With funding support from the 4Girls Foundation, their project coordinator developed a survey for community-based providers in Palm Beach County to identify which agencies they collaborate with when providing services to girls. They are specifically focusing on agencies that serve girls in the mental health and juvenile

justice areas.

Since its inception, the GCC has committed to letting the Girls Voice lead the work. In May 2021, the Girls Voice Taskforce, a subcommittee of GCC, began hosting a virtual space for girls ages 12-19. These meetings are open to any girl in Palm Beach County. Here is what a member of Girls Voice Taskforce had to say, "I have loved my experience with the Girl's Voice Task Force so much, and I am extremely excited to continue working with them in the future. They are dedicated to making sure our voices are heard and helping us to express how we feel. Not only do they empower us every time we meet, but they push us to become the best leaders in our community that we can be." – Girl's Voice Taskforce Member Bella, age 13.

Check [here](#) to view recent videos to learn more about the work of Girls Voice Taskforce and their commitment to end violence against girls in PBC!

# Advance the Mission for Racial Equity

Palm Beach County continues to Advance the Mission for Racial Equity in our community. On Wednesday, October 27, 2021, the Birth to 22 Racial Equity Core Team hosted session two of its inaugural Advancing the Mission (ATM) Learning Cohort. The first session was held on July 27. Session one focused on setting and building community norms for the cohort, reviewing session curricula and learning tracks, and discussing how organizations can take a baseline assessment of the journey towards racial equity.

The purpose of the Learning Cohort is to:

1. Build the capacity of leaders to effectively and sustainably work to drive institutional change in their organizations/institutions to ensure racial equity.
2. Learn the skills necessary to dismantle institutional and structural racism in their organization/institutions.
3. Develop a sustainable network of equity "Gatekeepers" with an analysis to advance racial equity for systems change in Palm Beach County by creating and operationalizing a shared value system.

The Learning Cohort targets government, nonprofits or foundations that serve residents of Palm Beach County who are responsible for implementing racial equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts within their organizations. Learning cohort participants are expected to: commit to having team members present at each session; understand their organization's operations, systems, programs, and leadership structure, and have a level of influence/authority to introduce new ideas, programs, and embrace reflection and be open to being challenged/inspired by new/different ideas on practicing racial equity work. Participants seek a space to connect with others for support, to build relationships, and to problem-solve on racial equity challenges. They are willing to share their journey, learning, expertise, and skills with others.

October's session saw over 70 participants representing 25 of 28 agencies who signed on to participate in the ATM Learning Cohort attending with their organization's racial equity core team. The Racial Equity Core Team opened the session for the first time doing a racial justice Land Acknowledgement. A Land Acknowledgment is a formal custom that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. To learn more visit: A guide to Indigenous land acknowledgment - Native Governance

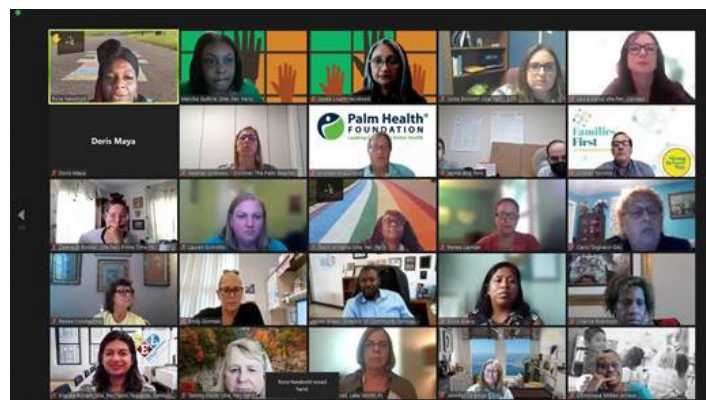
Center to find what native territory you live and work in visit Native Land Territory Map – <https://native-land.ca/>.

Three workshops were offered on 10/27, which were delivered based on learning tracks:

- **Beginner: Building the Field/A Vision for Equity**—this workshop provided space for reflections on Racial Equity Institute Training and offered insights to support organizations in developing a Racial Equity Statement.
- **Intermediate: Building an Anti-Racist Organization**—this workshop sought to understand how race and racism manifest in organizations, communities, and lived experiences of staff and offered strategies for building an anti-racist organization.
- **Advanced: Awake to Woke to Work**—Centering Racial Equity Within Your Organization, this workshop supported participants to understand key research findings from the "Awake to Woke to Work" publication, and how to apply the Race Equity Cycle framework in their own work.

The next ATM Learning Cohort session is scheduled for December 15 and is anticipated to be an in-person working session for teams. The Racial Equity Core Team will make time to work with teams offering technical assistance and, if necessary, a deeper review of content delivered in sessions one and two. To learn more about Birth to 22's Advancing the Mission work visit <http://pbcbirthto22.com/equity/>.

You can also sign its racial equity pledge at <https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/YS-Birth-to-22-Advancing-The-Mission-Racial-Equity-Pledge>.





# Poverty Awareness Week



The Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI), a poverty-alleviation, collective impact initiative housed within the Community

Services Department and supported by the Citizen's Advisory Committee and the Birth to 22 Alliance, hosted Poverty Awareness Week from October 18, 2021 through October 29, 2021. Over the course of two weeks, the Securing Our Future Initiative engaged 350 community members through five events plus an additional 1,576 people through the Facebook Live Streams of the Poverty Awareness Week Proclamation and the Webinar entitled: Process, Policy, and Poverty: A Systematic, Integrated Approach to Breaking the Cycle of Poverty.

On Tuesday, October 19, the Securing Our Future Initiative partnered with CareerSource Palm Beach County to host a multi-industry career fair. The career fair promoted entry-level, living wage jobs to encourage and assist community members with gaining self-sufficiency through financial upward mobility. Thirty-five employers were present and recruited from a pool of over 70 job seekers. Employers and job seekers were equally satisfied with the opportunities presented.

The Poverty Awareness Week Proclamation was held on Monday, October 25. Palm Beach County Commissioner Bernard presented the proclamation. Viewers had the opportunity to hear about the Securing Our Future Initiative from one of our direct service providers, Community Partners, along with hearing about the lived experiences of a client enrolled in the Initiative. You can watch the Live Stream [HERE](#).

United Way of Palm Beach County partnered with SOFI to host a virtual Poverty Simulation on Tuesday, October 26. During the simulation, 36 participants experienced financial decisions made by families of low-income every month. Participants are given a monthly salary based on above minimum wage jobs. With this salary, they are asked to allocate funds to childcare, transportation, healthcare, housing, savings, food, internet, clothing, and phone services. Participants experience two emergencies during this experience where they reduce their salary and reallocate their funds to cover expenses. The simulation is designed to build an understanding of the challenges experienced by low-income families and ultimately build empathy for nonprofit and government workers interacting with these families daily.

On Wednesday, October 27, Bread for the World hosted the

Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation. During this virtual evening event, 133 participants learned about 13 federal policies that have adversely affected our communities of color, including redlining, the original Social Security Act, Homestead Act, and more. While most of these policies have formally been cancelled, the effects are still felt throughout our communities of color today.

Palm Beach County Library System hosted a Poverty Awareness Week Book Club on Thursday, October 28. After spending the month reading *Automating Inequality* by Virginia Eubanks, community members had the opportunity to join a lively discussion on the impacts of technology on families of low-income. Questions such as, "are internet-based social service applications equitable" and "are we in a better place with providing social services with the advent of technology?"

Finally, on Friday, October 29, the Securing Our Future Initiative hosted a webinar entitled Process, Policy, and Poverty: A Systematic, Integrated Approach to Breaking the Cycle of Poverty. Dr. Chris Koehn, a Citizen's Advisory Board member, moderated the Webinar. Speakers were nationally recognized poverty alleviation experts in the realm of policy and collective impact initiatives. Dr. Alex Camardelle with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies presented the importance of developing anti-racist policies through a lens of racial equity. Ms. Tiffney Marley and Ms. Tiffany Day with the National Community Action Partnership presented a variety of federal policies they are monitoring, including the Child Tax Credit and the Community Services Block Grant. Innovative statewide policies from across the nation were also presented to inspire participants to be thinking about poverty alleviation creatively. The Webinar can be watched [HERE](#).

To learn more about the Securing Our Future Initiative, or to get involved, visit our [WEBSITE](#) or email Jodie Boisvert at [JBoisver@PBCGov.Org](mailto:JBoisver@PBCGov.Org).



## Guardian Ad Litem



### GUARDIAN AD LITEM

What is happening in the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) program? GAL is a program of fantastic staff and volunteers who pride themselves on being superheroes. They work together as a multi-disciplinary team that advocates and represent a child's best interest in court.

Guardian ad Litem has had many training's they have participated in during the past few months to keep all their volunteers fully informed about their ever-changing policies and procedures. Some of the training's included Active Shooter preparedness presented by an FBI Agent out of the Miami office, Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies, Poverty, Department of Children and Family facts, and Educational Surrogacy.

Guardian ad Litem is slowly getting back into the community to represent their GAL Volunteer program by presenting at outdoor events and other virtual get-togethers. They attended and set up a GAL booth at a back-to-school event in Belle Glade. They also held monthly virtual community town halls to introduce prospective volunteers to their program.

The children in their program are abused, neglected, and abandoned and may not have ever experienced a proper birthday. Their continuing "Gift-a-Birthday" program welcomes new donors.

By donating \$25 to the "Gift-a-Birthday" program, a cake, gift, and card will be given to a child to help celebrate their special day.

Believe it or not, the holidays are upon us! Guardian ad Litem has been planning for the season since July, and now it's a reality. GAL hopes to count on the support of the community once again for their toy drive.

Contact [info@speakupforkidspbc.org](mailto:info@speakupforkidspbc.org) for local drop-off locations or learn how to donate.

The program appreciates all the help the community can provide for the children in the dependency system. They are collaborating with "Forever Families" to promote the Guardian ad Litem program on network television.

If you see GAL's Facebook/ Next door/ Instagram posts, please share them on your social media handles. They also welcome any ideas or leads to help acquire new volunteers for the children in the program. Please contact Beth. [zigler@gal.fl.gov](mailto:zigler@gal.fl.gov) or [christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov](mailto:christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov).

Remember, it takes a village to help the children we serve, and you are all members. For more information visit [www.galpbc.org](http://www.galpbc.org).

Community Outreach | Volunteer Recruiters

Christie Geltz | [christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov](mailto:christie.geltz@gal.fl.gov)

Beth Zigler | [beth.zigler@gal.fl.gov](mailto:beth.zigler@gal.fl.gov)

## Alliance Spotlights

### The Well of PBC



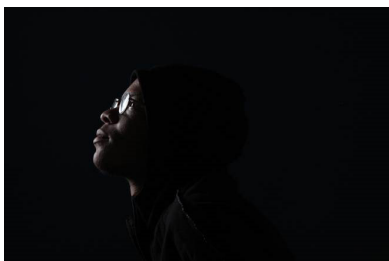
Welcome to The Well of PBC - an online, bi-monthly behavioral health publication focused in Palm Beach County.

The mission of The Well of PBC is to become the primary resource for behavioral health and wellness for Palm Beach County, a safe exchange space for the community, and an outlet for our neighbors and stakeholders to transform the behavioral health landscape.

BeWellPBC and their creative team invite everyone to read the first edition released in October (<https://www.bewellpbc.org/be-inspired#thewellofpbc>) and subscribe at [www.bewellpbc.org](http://www.bewellpbc.org) to receive future issues.







### **Club Member Wins National Imagemakers 2021 “BEST IN SHOW”**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County is once again recognized nationally for its photography program and talented Club members. Smith & Moore Family Teen Center Club Member Ayanna Graham is the National Imagemakers 2021 “Best in Show” winner. The photo known as “The Future Is Bright” was entered into the Fashion and Design category, one of five categories in the entire competition. Out of 2,500 entries, 52 were selected as National winners, including Ayanna, whose photo was also selected as the winner in the “Best in Show” category. “Best in Show” is the top category in the entire competition.

“For Ayanna to have her vision recognized in this way is exceptional and special and bodes well for her bright future,” said Cultural Arts Program Manager Casandra

Tanenbaum.

Ayanna’s photograph was in the special events section of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) online art gallery and on BGCA.net the week of September 13. A commemorative plaque was also awarded in recognition of the beautifully captured photograph.

For nearly 50 years, the Clubs have recognized members for their outstanding accomplishments and unique ability to capture the beauty of nature, fashion and style, culture, and more. With the guidance and support of Cultural Arts Program Manager Casandra Tanenbaum and Professional Photographer and Skilled Enhancement Instructor Andrea Sarcos, Club members are able to enhance their unique abilities.

The Imagemakers National Photography Contest allows young photographers ages 6-18 to compete in local and regional competitions, in which photographs are entered into several categories: Culture and Tradition, Portraits, Nature and Surroundings, Fashion and Style, and Editing and Filter. Sony and the BGCA National Photography Program supports the annual competition, which is designed to help Club members learn the many different elements of digital photography.

For more information on Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County’s art programs, please click [here](#).

### **Delray Beach’s HORSES HEALING HEARTS Inspires Film Nominated for the 36th Annual Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLiFF) and 2021 Palm Beach Film Festival**

When Lizabeth Olszewski founded a nonprofit organization in 2009 to help children growing up with parental addiction and alcoholism, little did she know that over a decade later, a short film documentary would be created about her and her mission. Even more so, that the movie would be nominated for two international film festivals.

Without Wings, a film directed by the acclaimed Richard Jackson of West Palm Beach, provides an insider’s view of how one woman’s journey of self-discovery led her to create Horses Healing Hearts (HHH). This one-of-a-kind foundation uses equine-assisted therapy to help children in South Florida.

The film, giving an inside view of lives changed, premiered for the Palm Beach Film Festival on October 16, 2021, at the Movies at Wellington, and for the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival on November 6, 2021, at the Gateway Cinema.

Founder and Executive Director of HHH, Liz Olszewski, was happy to tell the story of how the idea came to her but says a village makes it happen, and the horses bring it all together to make it possible. She said, “Horses have

been healing mankind for ages. Just now, they’re starting to get the credit. Equine therapy is so effective, insurance companies like Humana are now covering it. With the emotional toll our society has faced these last two years, we are forced to seek out-of-the-box methods that work. Honest communication is the foundation, and if we can’t be honest with ourselves starting out – a horse will spot in a second.”

In addition to the two film festival nominations, Without Wings is also being aired on PBS’s The Health Channel bi-monthly for the next three years.

Horses Healing Hearts, a 501(c)(3) organization that partners with horses to provide hope, empowerment, and healing for children and families facing trauma. In 2021, HHH expanded to serve individuals of all ages facing trauma and adversity – in addition to the youth affected by parental addiction they have served since 2009.

For more information about Horses Healing Hearts, visit [hhhusa.org](http://hhhusa.org).



### ACCF Recap

August arrived, and it was finally time to go back to in-person learning for our Achievement Centers for Children & Families (ACCF) students. ACCF is grateful to so many generous partners for choosing them to benefit from their School Supply Drive and Stuff the Bus event! This ensured that 250 ACCF students were ready to start their school year on the right foot!

Looking for creative ways to keep the youngest students happy and engaged, Chef Leslie is dedicated to his craft. He teaches the ACCF Early Learning Program (ELP) students how to cook. AACF expresses gratitude to the excellent community partners that support their essential programs, making fun and interactive opportunities like this possible. As the students settle into their school routine, AACF is working hard to engage their teens. Led by new Teen Coordinator Marcus Thomas, who has worked with ACCF youth for many years, the Teen Program continues to make great strides.

Most recently, their artistic skills were on display as part of the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce inaugural Do Good Delray initiative. ACCF was pleased to be the first event, held at the Chick Fil A on Linton Blvd. AACF showcased their incredibly talented teens' artwork and had a special reception to recognize their efforts.

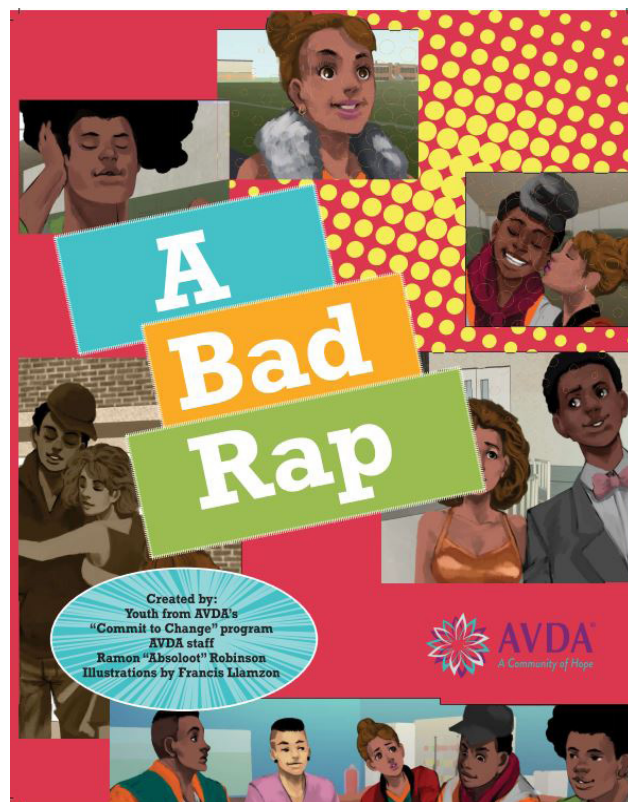
October was Spooktacularly busy, culminating in several Trunk or Treat events at four locations: Pine Grove Elementary, Village Academy, ELP, and the Morton Downey Family Resource Center. Hundreds of students were able to enjoy a safe and FUN Halloween, thanks to so many community volunteers.

AACF is thrilled to announce that the 10th Annual Witches of Delray Charity Bike Ride, held on October 30th, benefitting ACCF, raised more than \$23,000 for the children and families they serve!



### Commitment to Change Program (Ramon "Absoloot" Robinson)

In collaboration with Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA) Violence Prevention Educators, local youth engaged in AVDA's Commit to Change program, which included Ramon "Absoloot" Robinson and community partners. AVDA is excited to announce the availability of their new comic book, "A Bad Rap." The comic book, telling a story of teen dating violence, how to help a friend, and how peers can hold someone accountable for their abusive behaviors, is a resource created as a part of AVDA's "Committed Men" public education campaign. AVDA's Committed Men public education campaign is comprised of billboards, bus shelter ads, keychains, posters, educational video series on YouTube, youth created and produced songs. This comic book was developed to inspire men and boys to engage in efforts to prevent domestic and dating violence. The Committed Men campaign encourages youth to take responsibility for their actions in relationships and encourages the same among their peer groups. To learn more of AVDA's Committed Men campaign materials and examples of their work with young people visit YouTube and Instagram at @AVDACommits.





## Unicorn Village Academy has moved



On August 24, 2021, the doors of Unicorn Village Academy (UVA) reopened at their new location at 500 NE Spanish River Blvd. Boca Raton, FL 33431.

Unicorn Village Academy, established in 2013, provides a complete education, designed with the necessary built-in supports for students ages 11– 22 unable to succeed in a typical school setting. Now located on the corner of Spanish River Blv, and Federal Highway, UVA has once again created the perfect setting for students with varying abilities to receive an education designed for their individual needs.

The focus of UVA programs is preparing students for life as adults. Students receive instruction in academics, life skills, and employment readiness. The curriculum encourages independence, self-advocacy, and pursuing employment. Regardless of academic abilities, it is the executive function, communication, and social skills that will truly make a difference in the success of students to become contributing

members of society. UVA students succeed because their teachers care. They've created an environment that is supportive and safe. Parents continuously report how happy and eager their children are to come to school. Unicorn Village Academy has a rolling enrollment; new students are welcome to join at any time of the school year. UVA accepts McKay and Gardiner scholarships.

For more information, visit [unicornvillageacademy.com](http://unicornvillageacademy.com) or call 561-826-9156.



## Unicorn Village Academy Has Moved !!

*We are now located at:*

**500 NE Spanish River Blvd Suite 12  
Boca Raton, FL 33431**



**Unicorn Village Academy:**  
*Preparing students for life*

Phone: 561-826-9156  
E-mail: [info@unicornvillageacademy.com](mailto:info@unicornvillageacademy.com)  
[www.unicornvillageacademy.com](http://www.unicornvillageacademy.com)

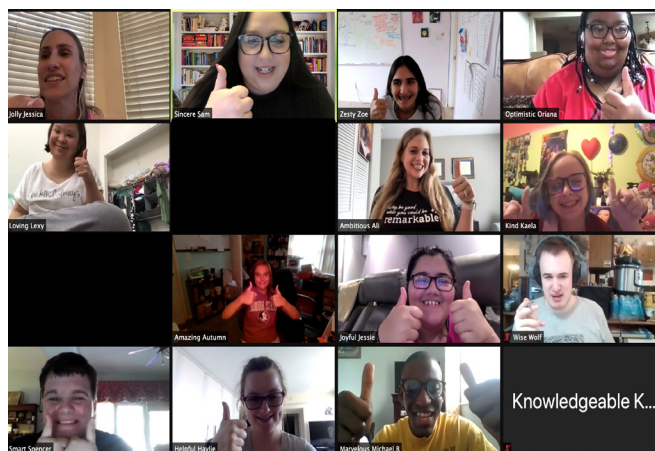
## Junior Board & Fall Virtual Classes

On October 20, 2021, the Unicorn Children's Foundation's Junior Board met in the Unicorn Connection Center to paint rocks for their Rock Garden! The Rock Garden is a special way of welcoming every time someone enters their doors and shares kindness with the community through art.

If you'd like more information on joining the Junior Board, please visit <https://www.unicornchildrensfoundation.org/jrboardapp.html>.

Unicorn Children's Foundation's students had a wonderful time in the Fall virtual classes! They have grown to serve 383 participants —many of whom express they do not have access to other programs in their local area. These classes promote independent living skills, including topics such as Daily Living, Coping Skills, and industry training courses for employment.

To register for next semester please visit: <https://www.unicornchildrensfoundation.org/classes.html>.



### **A Way of Being with Children: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Building Resilience**

Growing up has never been easy. Children have always faced the challenges of making friends, adapting to new environments, and coping with the ups and downs of family life. But, these days, children have the added stressors of technology, social media, exposure to global crises, and a worldwide pandemic.

Helping children build coping skills and resilience is the best antidote to counteract the stress of these influences. Fortunately, resilience is like a muscle that can be exercised and strengthened, and can give children powerful tools in their battle to remain calm in the face of adversity and stress.

In May, [Center for Child Counseling](#) (CFCC) launched “[A Way of Being with Children: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Building Resilience](#).” This online training for parents, teachers, childcare workers, or anyone who regularly interacts with children and families aims to build a more trauma-informed community so that children can grow up with adults who understand the impact of stress and trauma on the developing child.

Being trauma-informed involves understanding, sensitivity, and a deep knowledge of how trauma can affect a child’s growing brain and potentially result in lifelong physical and mental health implications.

The [5.5 hour online course](#), accompanied by a spiral-bound manual with over 80 pages of practical advice and technique-building exercises, introduces a new way for adults to simply “be” around children. Based on decades of research on brain development and the expertise of countless childcare workers and professional therapists, “A Way of Being with Children” aims to create family and school relationships where children feel accepted, and parents and teachers feel empowered. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

#### **‘A Way of Being with Children’ Online Workshops**

In addition to the 5.5-hour course, there are an array of shorter online workshops available on-demand for one month. The “A Way of Being with Children” workshops offer practical information, strategies, and activities for teachers, parents, and adult caregivers of children. Learn more at: [www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeing/workshops](http://www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeing/workshops).

#### **Self-Regulation for the Classroom and Beyond**

Self-regulation is the ability to monitor and manage what’s going on in our heads and hearts. More specifically, it means

being aware of our energy level, thoughts, and feelings resulting from either external experiences or internal ideas. This awareness can help us decide on appropriate approaches to manage ourselves better to find and execute safe, well-thought-out, adaptable behaviors to meet our needs. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

#### **Showing Affection During the Pandemic**

As human beings, we all need physical contact to feel secure and loved, and children are no exception. The limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic have made it increasingly difficult for adults to show affection to children, which may have resulted in feelings of isolation, loneliness, and disconnection. Reduced physical contact also impacts adults, especially teachers and caregivers in the classroom environment. But there are ways to safely show affection and care while still adhering to smart safety guidelines. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

#### **Implementing Effective Transitions for Children**

Transitions are simply changes -- from one activity to another, from one place to another, from one level of energy to another, from daytime activities to nighttime sleep, etc. We all make these changes constantly throughout the day, and they tend to come very naturally. For children, transitions can be challenging, though. The truth is that making transitions takes a lot of brain function and skills -- skills a child may not yet have developed. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

#### **Integrating Mindfulness into Daily Routines**

Mindfulness is simply an awareness of one’s internal states and external surroundings. It is a conscious choice to be present and aware of moment-to-moment experiences. Human beings have practiced mindfulness in different ways for thousands of years, and it is not based on any particular religion or belief system. There are many ways to practice mindfulness; meditation (the most widely known mindfulness activity) is just one. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

#### **Creating a Calm Down Corner**

A calm down corner is a designated space in a home or classroom that is designed with the sole intention of being a safe space for a child to go to when they feel their emotions are running too high and they need to regain their emotional and physical control. A calm down corner is equipped with comforting objects and soothing materials that can promote mindfulness, breathing, and reflection. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.



## Beating Burnout for Teachers

Burnout is an overwhelming feeling of being exhausted by everything you have to do while still worrying that you're not doing enough. It's often accompanied by an "I have nothing more to give" sentiment. Burnout is more than stress and more than simply having a bad day (which is natural). There are effective ways to combat burnout, however. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

## The Power of Co-Regulation

Co-regulation involves the back-and-forth exchange between two people as each participant adjusts their emotional state and responses based on the other person's state (also called the 'arousal level'). It is an interactive experience where both individuals provide moment-to-moment feedback to each other using verbal expressions and body language. This is not just a technique between an infant/child and parent/caregiver; co-regulation can occur between two people with a positive relationship. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

## Calming Down for High Energy Children

We all know that children are full of energy! Sometimes, we wonder where all that excitement, momentum, and enthusiasm comes from. But some children are on the more extreme end of the energy spectrum, and they can be tiring to interact with and sometimes frustrating to manage. Rather than growing irritated by a child's natural exuberance, you can learn ways to interact with them that work for both of you. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

## Promoting Engagement for Withdrawn Children

The child within the home or classroom that is often noticed first or identified for needing extra help and support is the outgoing, loud, active, intense, and aggressive child. Children who are quieter and more subdued in social settings are typically more unassuming, cautious, and

careful. They are the ones who are sometimes overlooked as needing extra help or support. Click [here](#) to learn more or register.

## Free for Palm Beach County Teachers, Parents, and Caregivers!

If you are a teacher, parent, or other adult caregivers in Palm Beach County, the full A Way of Being course and workshops are FREE! Simply email [Dominika@centerforchildcounseling.org](mailto:Dominika@centerforchildcounseling.org) with the name of the workshop to get your code to waive the fee.

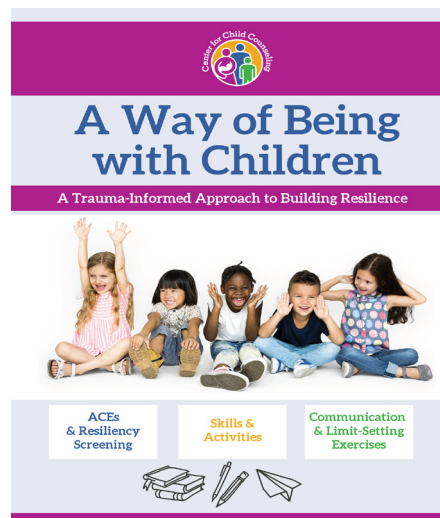
A special thank you to the [Florida Blue Foundation](#), [Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County](#), and [Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County](#) for making this possible.

## Other Free Resources:

A Way of Being with Children Tip Sheets: [www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeingtipsheets](http://www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeingtipsheets)

A Way of Being with Children Videos:

[www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeingvideos](http://www.centerforchildcounseling.org/awayofbeingvideos)



## The Talented Teen Club

The [Talented Teen Club](#) Push for Girls and Boys Leadership Academy is an in-depth mentoring program targeted for middle and high school girls and boys. The Talented Teen Club is offered in schools on Saturdays' with Entrepreneurs and Community Leaders. Components include; Entrepreneurship, school and/or career preparation and work-based learning experiences; youth development and leadership; personal mission statement; and mentor/mentee goal setting and vision-casting.

They are changing the world, one child at a time. This is YOUR invitation to join the Talented Teen Club PUSH movement.

You are invited to make this your mission. Together they aim to strengthen education and create new opportunities for students, starting with South Florida. Talented Teen Club strives to reach, teach, guide, and inspire underserved youth toward healthy ways of living.



## Department of Behavioral and Mental Health Focus on School Psychological Services

The Department of Behavioral and Mental Health in the School District of Palm Beach County continues to ground their work in 3 key beliefs:

- Mental health is the ability to live fully, engage with others, and respond to challenges.
- It's OK to be OK. It's OK to not be OK. It's OK to ask for help.
- Schools have highly trained and skilled professionals in place to support student mental health.

To learn more about the Department of Behavioral and Mental Health and the District's comprehensive school mental health efforts, visit their [website](#) and the Caring First [website](#).



School Psychological Services is the unit of work in the Department of Behavioral and Mental Health showcased in this issue. School Psychological Services comprises a team of approximately 130 certified and/or licensed school psychologists who support all District schools and Charter schools.

School psychologists provide a broad range of comprehensive and integrated services and apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. They also provide mental health crisis support for students, families, and school communities following crisis events involving loss, grief, and psychological trauma.

Ongoing crisis response and intervention training opportunities are available for school-based mental health professionals and other crisis intervention team members utilizing the PREPaRE crisis response model, which is a comprehensive and internationally recognized curriculum developed specifically to address school crisis management and to provide crisis team members with a uniform and systematic approach to meet the mental health needs of students and school communities following crisis events. Please contact Kathy Bobby ([kathryn.bobby@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:kathryn.bobby@palmbeachschools.org)) for more information.

## Building Community Together with PSELI School Teams

The School District of Palm Beach County and Prime Time Palm Beach County recently co-planned and co-facilitated communities of practice and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Planning Meetings with the Partnerships for Social and Emotional Learning Initiative (PSELI) Phase 1 and Phase 2 Leadership Teams from the fourteen PSELI sites. Teams included both in-school time and out-of-school time (OST) representatives from each campus. They focused on planning SEL implementation for the current school year, building community and alignment across the school day and OST, and deepening understanding of what SEL looks like in practice, especially in these challenging times. Teams left eager and empowered to make SEL a part of their school culture to support staff, children, and families' needs.



## Thanks to CASEL for an impactful 2021 SEL Exchange Conference

Prime Time Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County School District SEL team actively participated in the Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) SEL Exchange Conference, bridging ideas and impact for application to our SEL work in Palm Beach County. Youth from around the country inspired attendees with their stories of how civic engagement and inclusion help them grow socially and emotionally. In the closing, CASEL Chair Tim Shriver gave a powerful call to action to reframe social-emotional learning as an integral part of school and family life, and as equally important as academic learning.





## Teen Advisory Council integrates SEL and Mindfulness with Inner Explorer Tool!

In collaboration with the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department and other notable Birth to 22 community partners, SEL and Mindfulness practices are now being integrated into the Teen Advisory Council meetings through the adoption of the Inner Explorer Mindfulness tool and presentations focused on the importance of SEL! Prime Time SEL and Middle School Specialists guided Palm Beach County School District (PBCSD) middle and high school members, and adult attendees from partner organizations through a mindfulness practice and provided a walkthrough of the Inner Explorer Mindfulness tool at the launch of this year's Teen Advisory Council (TAC). The goal is to integrate Inner Explorer mindfulness practice at the

beginning all TAC meetings and to engage TAC members to practice at home with their parents and family to cultivate emotional intelligence as young leaders.

To watch a recap of the latest Teen Advisory Council Meeting, click [here](#).



## Enhanced Mentoring Project



United Way of Palm Beach County

The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners approved a contract through its Youth Services Department with Children Services Council of Palm Beach County and United Way of Palm Beach County, Inc. for the Enhanced Mentoring Engagement Program. The program will focus on supporting youth directly involved with or at risk of entering the juvenile justice and/or dependency system in low-income communities in priority geographic locations.

Based on data, it is estimated that in Palm Beach County, 1 in 3 youth directly involved with or at-risk of entering the juvenile justice/dependency system need a mentor. The Juvenile Court Judges have likewise identified this need. High-quality, enduring relationships with caring adults can

lead to a wide range of positive outcomes for young people, including social-emotional well-being, leadership skills, higher rates of volunteerism and post-secondary success. This need is further strengthened by the Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures Youth Master Plan which states there is a need to promote social and emotional learning and well-being across all environments where young people spend their time. The Safety and Justice Action Team of Birth to 22 recommends a mentor program specific to youth in the delinquency and dependency systems. This program aims to serve 200 youth; 180 parents/guardians/mentors; and 80 service organizations staff.

The United Way will provide oversight, training, technical assistance and resources to youth directly or indirectly involved in the juvenile justice and dependency systems, as well as expand capacity and willingness of more providers through Mentor Center Hubs within communities to serve this unique population and remove the stigma associated with them.

## SEL Summer Institute Offers Educators Sessions on How to Leverage SEL for Equity and Inclusion

The School District of Palm Beach County and Prime Time Palm Beach County hosted the SEL Summer Institute on July 27-29, 2021.

More than 570 registrants joined to attend three days of virtual pre-recorded sessions that encompassed learning experiences around the theme "Leveraging SEL for Equity and Inclusion." Click [here](#).



### Remaining Steadfast with Supporting Schools with SEL Resources & Best Practices

The School District of Palm Beach County's SEL Team has remained steadfast in supporting schools with SEL resources and best practices. Now more than ever, we need to take time throughout the day to continue building and maintaining relationships and cultivating social and emotional skills for both young people and adults. Last year was the first year implementing the SEL Guide to support schools with shifting to a more systemic, school-wide approach for SEL by coordinating SEL themes across different key settings. Implementing the SEL guide was done to ensure young people develop these competencies in many ways as they move through their classrooms, school, out-of-school time (afterschool), home, and community. At the end of last year, they held focus groups with teachers, school counselors, mental/behavioral health professionals, administrators, and central office staff to get feedback on the SEL Guide. Based upon feedback, they revised the [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#) SEL Guides by organizing the SEL Themes into units to help make it clearer for young people to see how these themes are working towards an overarching goal.

- Unit 1: Being My Best Self
- Unit 2: Understanding Each Other & Appreciating Diversity
- Unit 3: Communicating with Each Other
- Unit 4: Maintaining Healthy Relationships
- Unit 5: Supporting the Well-Being of Our School and Community

Also, to support the elementary schools with communicating with families and caregivers about what is being taught

regarding SEL so they can reinforce young peoples' social and emotional development. The SEL Team created unit family caregiver letters that can be sent home. These letters are available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese. Here is an example for [Unit 1: Being My Best Self](#).

Regarding Adult SEL, the District SEL Team is hosting a micro 30-minute Adult SEL Series called "[Being My Best Self](#)" throughout the fall. They are offering their Emotional Resilience Educator Cohort for educators looking to lead SEL work on their campuses or in their departments. All participants of this cohort receive their own copy of Elena Aguilar's *Onward* book and workbook. They meet monthly throughout the year to dive deep into the SEL competencies of self-awareness, self-management, and social awareness. Participants who complete this cohort will receive the SEL Emotional Resilience Educator badge to display in their email signature.



### Putting the Lights On Afterschool!

Prime Time Palm Beach County is putting the Lights On Afterschool! Afterschool programs have risen to the occasion and stepped in to serve children and families, but now they need support. The [Afterschool in the Time of COVID-19 survey](#) finds that afterschool programs are severely affected by the hardships created by the pandemic. As programs continue to provide services in their communities, they face their struggles, from funding to staffing, with a majority unsure if the worst is over or yet to come.

This year, as part of the nationwide Lights On Afterschool celebration in October, Prime Time spotlighted local afterschool professionals in the video link below who have supported children and families as they navigated the COVID-19 pandemic across its social media channels. Now more than ever, staffing and funding are top priorities for afterschool programs in Palm Beach County and

beyond. Please join in sharing: Apply to work with youth in afterschool programs across Palm Beach County today and earn scholarships and financial incentives through Prime Time. <https://www.primetimepbc.org/2021/09/23/jobsinafterschool/>.

Prime Time Palm Beach County Shines a Light On Local Afterschool Professionals:

<https://youtu.be/CHDw4LTdT3A>





## Fifth Cohort of Students Joins the Path to College (PTC) Fellowship During Orientation at the South Florida Science Center!

After 18 months of nearly all-virtual and socially distanced meetings, PTC is thrilled to share that 46 new students have been welcomed into the Path to College, along with a returning 44 Fellows! On Friday, October 15th, students and community members gathered for their first student-centered Enrichment Day of the year. Samantha shared her favorite part was the “sweet, welcoming energy,” and Michael commented, “PTC seems amazing and feels great to be a part of it.”

With a bevy of local support, the PTC team created an engaging and inspiring curriculum and maintained a safe environment. Two PTC graduates shared their experiences with Fellows: Dodlee Mosilme, Florida Atlantic University (FAU), expounded on the notion of maintaining a “Growth Mindset,” and Jannatul Begum (Wilkes Honors College at FAU) defined the role of “College Coach” that will help guide each student on their own personal journey. Fellows also learned about various internship and academic opportunities from Dr. Erik Duboué, lead professor in the Science Scholars program, and Ammu Warriar and Paul Martin, who provide subject-focused tutoring via the volunteer-led, Advising, Support, and Knowledge (ASK) Team.

PTC is honored to have received so much support during this terrific day! The South Florida Science Center provided a space that sparked creative thought and reminded the students their big ideas matter and deserve to be heard! School Board member Alexandria Ayala shared her commitment to keeping those student voices centered in the district. After a full day, Lisa Poskanzer of Improv 2 Improve, led students through a short personality scavenger hunt, and an enthusiastic game of “Rock Paper Scissors” that got everyone moving, utilizing the left and right brains, and engaging competitive spirits! Program sponsors like the United Way of PBC, The Deluca Foundation, and our

newest supporters, The Jim Moran Foundation, make the impactful enrichment days possible.

The mission of Path to College is to expand minds and ignite potential. During their rigorous, 3-year academic fellowship, students from disadvantaged backgrounds are paired with a Career Coach Mentor, and attend ongoing SAT tutoring and leadership development workshops. Students meet college and scholarship requirements with participation in service projects, professional internships, and challenging enrichment projects that help forge their futures. PTC envisions a world where genius and leadership are cultivated in the most overlooked students in the community.

To learn more, visit [pathtocollege.org](http://pathtocollege.org).





### First Lady Casey DeSantis launched Hope Florida

In September, First Lady Casey DeSantis launched Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity. This major new initiative is spearheaded by First Lady DeSantis and implemented by the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF). The initiative utilizes ‘Care Navigators’ to guide Floridians on an individualized path to prosperity by focusing on community collaboration between the private sector, faith-based community, nonprofits, and government entities to break down traditional community silos to maximize resources and uncover opportunities.

“Having the privilege of traveling the state, our team saw an immense value in bringing together public and private groups to collaborate and communicate with and on behalf of Floridians,” said First Lady Casey DeSantis. “Essentially, we are bringing good people together to work with and on behalf of good people in need. To accomplish this, the program will empower ‘Care Navigators’ to collaborate with community partners to create a customized plan for success, tailor-made for the individual.”

‘Care Navigators’ are essential in helping individuals identify their unique and immediate barriers to prosperity, develop long-term goals, map out a strategic plan, and work to ensure all sectors of the community have a ‘seat at the table’ and are a part of the solution.

Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity was piloted in August 2020 in six counties as a voluntary program available to DCF customers receiving public benefits. To date, the initiative has served more than 10,000 Floridians.

As a result of the September announcement, services will now be available statewide and will include the following:

- Children aging out of foster care;
- Pregnant mothers contending with substance abuse disorders;
- Other Families in need of assistance.

Additionally, those seeking help and hope will now have a dedicated hotline and website to contact for support.

- Hotline: (850)300-HOPE
- Website: [www.HopeFlorida.com](http://www.HopeFlorida.com)

Today’s expansion also includes the following commitments from community partners:

- Faith and Community Based Organizations: My Florida My Family’s CarePortal is expanding to allow faith and community-based organizations to serve the needs of Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity customers. To learn more about how the CarePortal meets individualized needs, please click [here](#).
- The Business Community: A growing number of

businesses across Florida have committed to work with CareerSource Florida and Care Navigators to support Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity clients by helping them find employment. The list includes but is not limited to:

- The Florida Chamber of Commerce
- The Jacksonville Jaguars
- PNC Bank
- Crystal Automotive, Motorcycle and Tractor Group
- The Moore Agency
- Nonprofit Partners: Nonprofits and other critical community service providers should register their service or program listing with Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity’s social care network to ensure that Care Navigators have the largest possible rolodex of community partners and can connect customers based on their unique needs. To register today, click [here](#).
- Floridians: Anyone wanting to provide help and hope can visit Volunteer Florida’s Volunteer Connect Portal to find opportunities to engage in community service with 501(c)(3) organizations and governmental entities that work with volunteers. Organizations should also utilize this tool to recruit additional volunteers.

To find opportunities to volunteer, click [here](#).

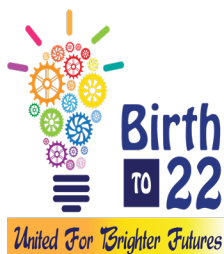
To sign up to recruit volunteers today, click [here](#).

“We are thrilled to have the support of the First Lady and the opportunity to expand Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity to further partner with Florida families who are ready to achieve their goals,” said DCF Secretary Shevaun Harris. “The successes of the program are dependent on partners across our state who respond with urgency to our customers’ needs and who are committed to making a meaningful impact on the families we serve. We are thankful to partner with the First Lady, the business community, the faith community, and other community partners who are pivotal in our expansion efforts.”



# Upcoming Events

## Birth to 22 Taskforce Meeting



Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures (Birth to 22) is an alliance of Palm Beach County community partners that engages and aligns existing coalitions, networks, systems, and youth-serving organizations, as well as connecting families, community members, and most importantly, with local young people directly. The ultimate goal is to support the healthy growth, development, and education of our children and youth prenatally through young adulthood to graduate from high school and succeed in life.

Annually, a Taskforce Meeting is held to inform, engage, and plan with the key champions, coalitions, and young

people about the work of Birth to 22. This meeting serves as an opportunity to review the work of Birth to 22 for the previous calendar year and plan for the upcoming year.

The meeting is open to community members, agency representatives, and interested participants to learn more about the goals being accomplished and give feedback to the teams as they plan their 2022 objectives.

The 2021 Taskforce Meeting, "Reimagine & Create Pathways for Success," will be held virtually on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Please register for the event here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birth-to-22-united-for-brighter-futures-presents-the-5th-annual-taskforce-tickets-204436925347>.

## Prime Time Palm Beach County Offers

### SEL Basics Onboarding

Prime Time continues to offer SEL Basics Onboarding self-paced training monthly to all partners and afterschool programs.

What does Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) mean? In this self-paced virtual training, participants will be able to develop a foundational understanding of SEL, including introducing common language and structures used in SEL

frameworks to guide effective implementation in OST settings. Participants also reflect upon why SEL is important in their personal lives and in the lives of peers and youth through interactive self-awareness practices, journaling, and self-check exercises.

December 7 – SEL Basics Onboarding

Register: <https://primetimepbc.org/register/sel-basics-onboarding-virtual-self-paced-one-hour-session-9/>

## Professional Learning Announcement

**Adult SEL Blended Series available in January 2022 to all programs and partners!**



As part of the goal to make SEL professional learning accessible countywide, Prime Time Palm Beach County is offering its first blended – self-paced with live virtual sessions – professional development offering, the Adult SEL Blended Series. This series

will now be open to all afterschool programs participating in the Palm Beach County Quality Improvement System, ELO providers, and Birth to 22 partners. The Adult SEL Blended Series is an 8-part blended online professional learning offering designed to deepen intra- and inter-personal adult SEL guide professionals through a process of self-discovery and personal growth while instilling the importance of habitual daily self-care and mindfulness practice.

Scientific studies show that the only way to build long-term brain fitness, emotional balance, and resilience in the face of crisis and chaos is through daily practice of mindful awareness and other positive psychology tools. In each session, participants share their experiences from applying the different tools and incrementally build a daily self-care practice plan that is customized to their needs based on their reflective practice. Ultimately, the goal of empowering resilient and compassionate adults is to create a climate and culture whereby youth thrive socially and emotionally, apply SEL tools to be resilient in daily life and in crisis, succeed in academic and extracurricular endeavors, and build positive and empathetic relationships.

Go to the Prime Time Training Calendar for upcoming offerings [www.primetimepbc.org/trainings-calendar](http://www.primetimepbc.org/trainings-calendar).

## ACCF Look Ahead

Looking ahead, Achievement Centers for Children & Families (ACCF) is planning a very busy 2022:

### January 2022

**Hoppportunities & ACCF Corn Hole Tournament:** Saturday, January 22nd | 11 am - 4 pm

### February 2022

**DBI presents An Evening on the Love Boat:** Saturday, February 5th | 6 pm - 9 pm

Entertainment & Game Night to benefit Living Hungry and ACCF

**Fashion Week:** Wednesday, February 23rd – Sunday, February 27th

ACCF will once again be the beneficiary of the Delray Beach Fashion Week.

Join them for a signature Delray Beach event!

### March 2022

**Community Spirit Race 5K:** Saturday, March 5th | 7 am to 11 am

2nd Annual Community Spirit Race at FAU benefitting ACCF

**Home Tour:** Wednesday, March 9th | 10 am to 4 pm

19th Annual Home Tour will feature the Lake Ida neighborhood.

For more information please click [here](#).



## City of Greenacres Events

The City of Greenacres is hosting the following upcoming events, check them out!

The City of Greenacres greatly appreciates your help in promoting these events that will benefit the community.

**THE CITY OF GREENACRES PRESENTS**

# Holiday in the Park

**Saturday**  
**DECEMBER 4, 2021**  
**5:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

Join us for the  
*Tree Lighting Ceremony*

**AT SJF COMMUNITY PARK | 2905 JOG RD.**

- Pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus
- Horse & Carriage Rides
- Crafts Vendors
- Face Painting
- Food Trucks
- Carolers
- Inflatables
- Music and more!

**GREENACRES NISSAN**  
**adriana's complete**  
**WM ACE**  
**Humana**  
**PEPSICO**  
**sunshine health**  
**Dedicated Senior Medical Center**

**Children under age 11 may receive a gift from Santa while supplies last.**  
**FREE ADMISSION | CASH & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED | SMALL BILLS PREFERRED**  
**NO ATM | RAIN OR SHINE | NO REFUNDS**  
For more information please call 561-642-2090 or visit [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)

### Dec. 4, 2021:

**Holiday in the Park**  
– Christmas Toys Giveaway, pictures with Santa, and more. The City is also looking for Vendors for this event.

# LET'S TALK...

A Series of Community Conversations

**ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE:**  
What we now know,  
What we can do

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021**  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Presented by:  
Dr. Karen Gilbert, DNP, MS, RN, CDP  
Vice President, Education & Quality Assurance for Alzheimer's Community Care

Alzheimer's disease remains with medical care not substantially disease-modifying treatment. Despite decades of research and investment in research, however, we still know that there is much we can do to protect and preserve brain health. We will discuss the many ways in which we can protect and preserve brain health.

**Call 561-642-2090 to reserve your seat!**

Sessions are free. Space is limited. Masks are required. Each session will be available via GoToWebinar. Community Service hours for high school students that attend the in-person session!

**Greenacres Community Center | Banquet Hall**  
501 Swin Blvd, Greenacres, FL 33463  
561-642-2091 or 2090 | [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)

**ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE**

### Dec. 8, 2021:

**Let's Talk... Alzheimer's Disease: What we now know, What we can do** – Presented by Dr. Karen Gilbert, DNP, MS, RN, CDP, Vice President of Education and Quality Assurance for Alzheimer's Community Care.

# an ARTZY EVENING

**at City Hall**

**SATURDAY**  
**JANUARY 22, 2022**  
**4:00 PM TO 8:00 PM**

Join us for a celebration of our local arts at this unique event. Event will feature art, work of all ages, group performers, who, food and more! Join our Jazzman Band as they parade around the event! ARTZY Evening features something for everyone!

**GREENACRES CITY HALL**  
5800 Metaleuca Lane, Greenacres, FL 33463  
EVENT IS RAIN OR SHINE

For more information please call (561) 642-2090 or visit [www.greenacresfl.gov](http://www.greenacresfl.gov)

### Jan. 22, 2022:

**An Artzy Evening at City Hall** – A celebration of our local arts. The City is also looking for Visual Artists to exhibit their work.



## Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI):

### Secret Holiday Shoppers Needed!

Each year the Palm Beach County Community Services Department and other partners volunteer to shop for, purchase, and donate individualized holiday gifts for their Securing Our Future Initiative, a poverty alleviation initiative,

to support families. Secret Holidays Shoppers will receive a wish list for the number of children you want to shop for. Purchase your item(s) from the list (each is appx. \$30) and deliver the item to the Community Services Department (810 Datura Street, West Palm Beach). Please reach out to Jodie Boisvert at JBoisver@pbcgov.org to sign up.

## Collective Impact Pledge



Birth to 22 is committed to a common agenda, we are an alliance of community partners that engages and aligns existing coalitions, networks, systems and youth-serving organizations as well as connecting families, community members, and most importantly, young people.

Take the *Pledge*, be listed as a Collective Impact Partner of the Birth to 22 Alliance to improve outcomes from cradle to career for all Palm Beach County children, youth and families.

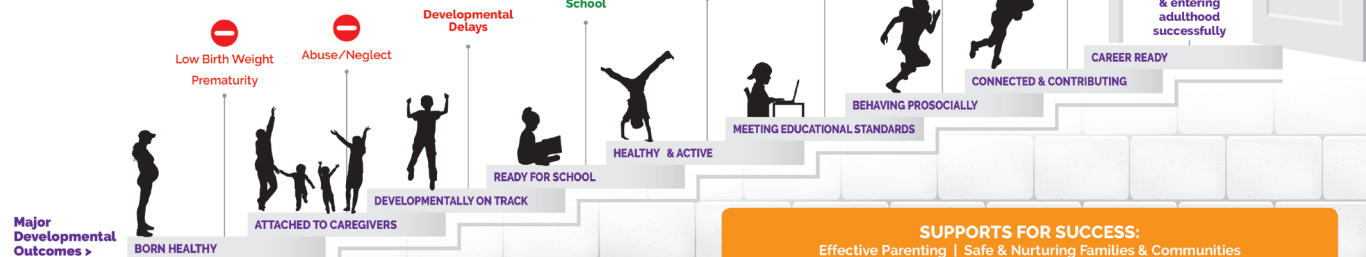
Click [here](#) to join us in envisioning and creating a culture that values our youth from cradle to career.

## Steps to Success

The Steps to Success represent 6 domains of child and youth development – physical health, behavioral health, academic readiness, social/emotional well-being, career readiness and connection and contribution to community and society. These steps represent key markers of success that allows us to access developmental outcomes. As children and youth make their way up these stairs, we are able to track their progress or lack thereof. The indicators, or measures, for these different areas are shown above the stair steps in the green text (for things we are trying to promote) and orange text (for things we are trying to prevent). Understanding what this data looks like for different subpopulations within Palm Beach County is also essential. In order to achieve those outcomes, children and youth need key supports along the way, through a combination of effective parenting and safe and nurturing families and communities. A sample of possible measures are listed below.

### Steps to Success & Supports for Success

#### STEPS TO SUCCESS: Child & Youth Outcomes & Indicators



#### SUPPORTS FOR SUCCESS: Effective Parenting | Safe & Nurturing Families & Communities

ECONOMIC ACCESS:	Percentage of Families in Poverty	Access to Housing	Workforce and Job Development Opportunities	Number and Percentage of Households receiving Food Stamps	Access to Transportation
PARENTING & ROLE MODELS:	Parenting stress (situational are chronic)	Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development	Support Services for Parents		
SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS:	Access to Afterschool Services	Access to Early Childhood Education and Care	Mental Health Assessments & Services	Caregiver Stability	Bullying
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS:	Educational Attainment	Advancement via Individual Determination	Parent Education & Involvement	Healthy School Connections	Effective Schools
HEALTH & WELLNESS SUPPORTS:	Access to Health Insurance	Food Deserts	Physical/Eye/Hearing Exams	Late or No Prenatal Care	Access to Safe and Clean Parks and Recreation Spaces
REMOVAL OF COMMUNITY STRESSORS & SYSTEMIC BARRIERS:	Crime Reduction	Access to Domestic Violence Services			

KEY: + Child & Youth Indicator (Promotion) - Child & Youth Indicator (Prevention) ■ Family, School or Community Supports **Bold** = measures & data currently available *Italics* = measures and/or data TBD

