

MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE Website: Mcchildrensalliance.org

Volume 20, Issue 1 ~ January 2020

2020 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration

Saturday, January 11, 2020 3:00pm Youth Enrichment Activity Movie in the Park

Youth Speakers, educational activities, prizes, etc. Howard Academy Community Center Contact person: Dwanette Dilworth, (352) 207-6036

Saturday, January 18, 2020 9:00am *Memorial Prayer Breakfast* Ed Croskey Center - \$12.00 donation

Essay presentations on the theme by Marion County Elementary, Middle and High school students Contact person: Loretta Pompey Jenkins, lorettajenk@aol.com or (352) 208-8666

Wreath Laying Ceremony

11:30am (immediately after Prayer breakfast)

(Corner of SW 6th St. & Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Ave.) Contact person: Cassandra Boston, CLBoston59@gmail.com or (352) 209-2973

Sunday, January 19, 2020 6:00pm

Ecumenical Service

New St. John Baptist Church 2251 N.W. 2nd Street * Ocala, FL 34474 Rev. Dr. T.L. Brooks, Pastor Guest Speaker: Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, Pastor Connections Community Church, Tampa, FL Music by: Marion County Community Choir Darren Robinson, Director Contact person: Shirley J. Wright, Wright_sj@yahoo.com or (352) 732-0097

Monday, January 20, 2020

7:00am

"The March"

(begins downtown at 9:00am) Transportation from the Ed Croskey Center to downtown begins at 7:00am) Contact persons: Kelvin Richardson Kelvinbrich@gmail.com or (352) 207-9558 Ire Bethea ibethea2008@cox.net or (352) 208-0819

"A Day in the Park"

Food and merchandise vendors, entertainment, speakers, etc. Contact person: Dwanette Dilworth, (352) 207-6036

"Commit yourself to the noble struggle for equal rights, you will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of our country, and a finer world to live in. -Dr. Martin L. King Jr.

Theme: "Remember! Celebrate! Act! Carrying on the Dream ~ Honoring the Legacy"

MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

3482 N.W. 10th St. Ocala, FL 34475 Phone: (352) 438-5990 Fax: (352) 438-5994 www.mcchildrensalliance.org

Board of Directors

Dennis Baxley Lori Boring Bill Chambers John Cooper Sheryll Goedert Greg Graham Michael Greiner Scott Hackmyer Mark Lander Pam Michell Jim McCune Scot Quintel Randy Reynolds Mary Sue Rich **Brad Rogers** Sharron Washington Sandra Wilson **Billy Woods** Carl Zalak

For all of Marion County's Children to have a safe, healthy and nurturing environment in which to grow.

Our Vision

Our Mission

"To improve the lives of Marion County Children"

\sim Partners in Excellence \sim

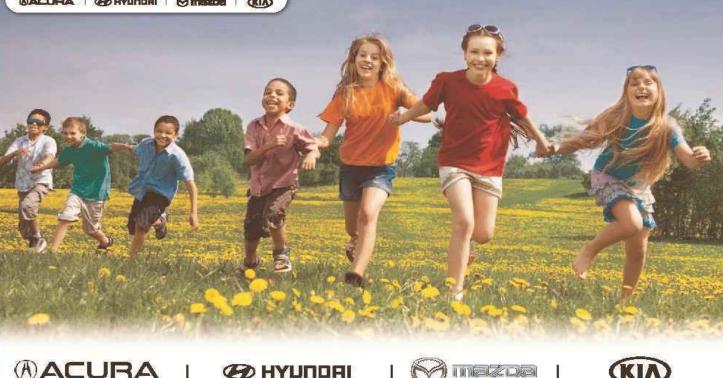
Barrett, Liner & Company; Brooklyn's Backyard; City of Ocala, Community Coalition Alliance; Cox Communication; Dept. of Children and Families; Dept. of Juvenile Justice; Drug Free Communities; Duke Energy; Florida Blue; Florida Dept. of Health in Marion County; Friends Recycling, LLC; Jenkins Auto Group; Kids Central, Inc.; Marion County Board of County Commissioners; Marion County Hospital District; Marion County Public Schools; Marion County Sheriff's Office; Ocala Police Department; Palmer Family Foundation; Quit Doc; Radiology Associates of Ocala; Renasant Bank; Signature Brands; Tri-Eagle Sales; United Way of Marion County; Wells Fargo Bank

Staff E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org Executive Director Beth McCall executivedirector@mcchildrensalliance.org Prevention Coordinator Nancy Castillo Nancy@mcchildrensalliance.org Family Violence Prevention Coordinator Monica Bryant Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org Supporting Kids, Involving Parents (S.K.I.P) Kelley Windham Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org Bookkeeper Hilary Jackson Hilary@mcchildrensalliance.org Outreach Specialist Ire Bethea Ire@mcchildrensalliance.org

Notice: The Children's Alliance informs readers of current events in the nonprofit and social service fields. Opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of the Marion County Children's Alliance. Inclusion or exclusion of any agency does not imply either endorsement or disapproval by the Alliance. MCCA reserves the right to edit **ALL** submissions. Information should be e-mailed to **Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org** by the **FIRST** Friday of each month for the following months publication.



Proud Supporter of the Marion County Children's Alliance



2025 SW College Rd • Ocala

www.JenkinsAcura.com



1602 SW College Rd • Ocala www.OcalaHyundai.com



1740 SW College Rd • Ocala

www.JenkinsMazda.com



2305 SW College Rd • Ocala www.JenkinsKia.com

REALIZING RECOVERY



Are you actively in recovery for substance abuse and have successfully completed a substance abuse treatment center program?

Do you need aftercare counseling?

We are a DCF licensed program and offer outpatient counseling at NO COST to our clients. We help clients develop and use coping skills, deal with obstacles to ongoing recovery and assist clients in realizing their best potential.

Case management is available as needed.

For more information, contact Kevin Grinnell, ILC, 111 NE 12th Ave, Ocala, FL 34470. Office: (352) 277-1131.





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MARION COUNTY

You're Invited!

Every Last Tuesday of the Month 1:00pm Dr. H.L. Harrell Club 800 SW 12th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

> To Reserve Your Seat Please RSVP to: Admin@BGCofMarion.com or call 352-690-7440

> > Impact a child. Change your community. Be part of the solution.

Visit our website to apply online: www.BGCofMarion.com



You don't have to go it alone! Join this fun and safe "camp" for ages 13-18. Learn how to work with grief for a return to healing and wholeness.

Each month is different - active, involved and interesting! Lunch is provided.

Arrive at the Ocala locations 15 minutes in advance to get ready for a new adventure each month.



January 25, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Humane Society, 701 NW 14th Rd.

February 22, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Archery, Brick City Adventure Park, 1211 SE 22nd Rd.

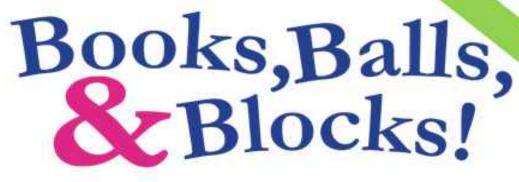
March 27, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Teen Social - Pizza Party, The Monarch Center, 2895 SE 62nd St.

April 25, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., KP Hole Kayaking, Brick City Adventure Park, 1211 SE 22nd Rd.

The MONARCH Center for Hope & Healing

To register or learn more: call the Monarch Center for Hope & Healing (352) 873-7456 or email Tracie Wiggins at twiggins@hospiceofmarion.com





Tuesday, March 17

1PM - 4PM

Early Learning Coalition of Marion County

2300 SW 17th Rd, Ocala, FL 34471

Join the Early Learning Coalition and Help Me Grow for this FREE event! Activities include:

- Children's games and activity stations
 - Developmental Screening
 - Drawings for great educational toys
 - Info on local children's programs and services
 - Free Children's Book for every child!



KID FITNESS

E.D. CROSKEY RECREATION CENTER 1510 NW FOURTH ST.





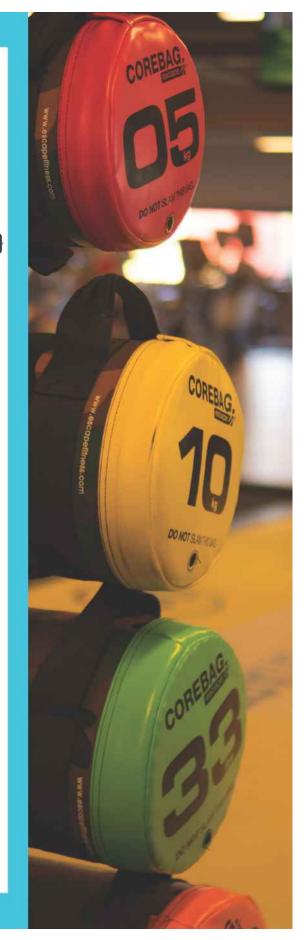
Being active is very important! Our free kid fitness program is perfect for kids ages 6 to 12 who need encouragement to create exercise habits in their daily lives.

PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN:

- HOW TO BUILD & TONE MUSCLE
- IMPROVE HAND-EYE
 COORDINATION
- BALANCE & MOVEMENT
- CARDIOVASCULAR-RESPIRATORY ENDURANCE
- FLEXIBILITY & AGILITY

Registration is open now through March 2, 2020. Register at www.ocalafl.org/recpark or call 352-368-5540.





SADD Clubs Youth Advisory Board (YAB) had a very busy holiday season! This amazing group of young people participated in some exciting events, including a trip to Tallahassee, a parade and a holiday food drive!

For their first community service project of the year, the SADD YAB decided to provide a Thanksgiving meal for 100 families. Each school based club picked one traditional Thanksgiving food item and held a food drive at their respective schools to collect donations of canned and boxed goods. One of the clubs even received a donation to purchase gift cards for each family to buy their holiday turkey. The youth worked very hard on this project and in the end were able to provide meals to 436 people.





Prevention Advocacy Day is an annual event held in the state capital and community members spend the day meeting with state representatives from across the state to advocate for drug prevention. This year, we were able to take 7 youth to Prevention Advocacy Day! These SADD YAB members took two days of from school to travel to Tallahassee and meet with 6 state representatives and 2 staff aides. The spent time preparing and studying for these meetings so they could represent Marion County with pride! Representative Stan McClain was so impressed with this dynamic group of young people that he posted pics to his social media.

For their final act of service for the year, several SADD YAB members and their friends volunteered to walk in the 64th Annual Ocala Christmas parade to collect new, unwrapped gifts from the audience for the Gift of Christmas Toy Drive! Walking in a parade doesn't sound like hard work but it is an extremely long day. Parade participants are onsite for several hours before the event starts but these youth are glad to do it!

We could not be more proud of our SADD YAB as well as all of our SADD Club members for their dedication and hard work. It is through these opportunities and events that we strive to keep youth engaged in positive activities and instill in them a sense of "buy-in" with their community and the importance of giving back!



Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January 2020

Jan 3	Red Sand Project Participatory Art Installation					
6-8pm	Ocala Downtown Square					
Jan 7	Candlelight Vigil for the end of Human Trafficking					
6pm	Ocala City Hall Steps					
Jan 25 10am	Freedom Walk to support CREATED GAINESVILLE North Florida Human Trafficking Prevention and Restoration Program Sholom Park For more information go to aflameinthedarkness.com					
Jan 28	Lunch & Learn more about Human Trafficking					
11:30am	Brick City Center for the Arts					
Jan 30 1pm	<i>Human Trafficking Awareness in Marion County</i> Saint Leo University Ocala Educatio Center					

TO REPORT SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Call: 888-373-7888 or text: 233733

RED SAND PROJECT

A participatory art project bringing awareness to the issue of Human Trafficking

These grains of sand represents men, women and children enslaved today around the world - and right here in Ocala



First Friday Art Walk January 3; 6-8pm Downtown Square

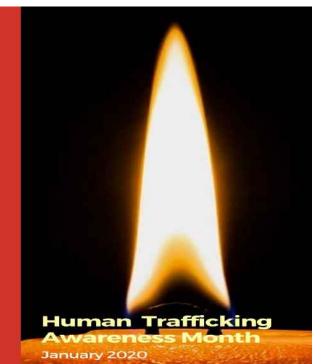
Human Trafficking Proclamation and Candlelight Vigil

January 7

Mayor's Proclamation: 5pm Ocala City Hall, 110 SE Watula Ave 2nd floor Council Chambers

Candlelight Vigil: 6pm Steps of City Hall Speaker: Allison Ungaro of CREATED GAINESVILLE

For more information call Ocala Police Department at 352-369-7139.





NOW SEEING LITTLE PATIENTS AT OUR WEST LOCATION

SERVING PEDIATRIC PATIENTS AT 6041 SW 54th Street, Suite #100, Ocala, FL 34474 Located in Charleston Place 1 Mile North of Hwy 200, off of SW 60th Avenue

352.732.6599 www.MyHFHC.org

Serving newborns to 17 years of age



Follow us @ThingsToDoOcala





Dr. Mike Jordan Award of Excellence

Nomination Form

This award will be awarded annually to a Marion County Organization that is doing outstanding work for and with the children of Marion County.

Nominator Name:	
Nominator Email:	
Nominator Phone #	
Organization to be nominated:	12
Organization Address:	
Executive Director / CEO:	
Year Established:	
Organization Mission:	

On a separate sheet of paper, please describe why this organization should receive the Dr. Mike Jordan Award of Excellence. Information must not exceed one page.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS BY 5:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 27, 2020.

EMAIL TO: executivedirector@mcchildrensalliance.org

OR MAIL TO: Marion County Children s Alliance

PO Box 3862

Ocala, FL 34478

OR DROP OFF AT: 3482 NW 10th St

SAVE THE DATE – Thursday, April 2, 2020 – Country Club of Ocala Evening of Excellence Gala Award Presentation



4th Annual Strawberry Jam 5K

March 7th, 2020

Back for our 4th sweetest race ever! A deliciously sweet addition to the Annual Strawberry Festival. A 5K that winds through beautiful Ocala neighborhoods.

Visit www.habitatocala.org/strawberyjam5k

7th Annual Habitat Ocala Strawberry Festival March 7th, 2020

STRAWBERRY BE a part of this year's Festival which will feature live music, food/drinks, vendors, pet contest, car show, pie eating, kids zones, and strawberries!

Visit www.habitatocala.org/strawberry-festival



f

Missy King's Hookin' for Habitat Fishing Tournament March 14th, 2020

A Saltwater Fishing Tournament that will promote a healthy and friendly outdoor experience for the entire family with an added Youth Division this year.

Visit www.habitatocala.org/fishing-tournament

For more info, visit habitatocala.org/events



START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!

Take a minute review the qualifications



It's your first step towards owning a home.

In addition to a mortgage with Habitat for Humanity of Marion County, you may be eligible for Down Payment Assistance from the following...Marion County SHIP, Marion County HOME Funds, City of Ocala SHIP, HOP and/or FHLB

HELP OPEN DOORS TO A BETTER FUTURE

Kids who dont have to worry about where they'll sleep tanight are hids who can focus on their education and future





OUR MISSION

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is a nonprofit ministry dedicated to building simple, decent homes with community volunteers in partnership with qualified families who are currently living in inadequate housing.



1321 SE 25th Loop Ocala, FL 34471

P.O. Box 5578 Ocala, FL 34478



8/05/19

352-351-4663

www.habitatocala.org



Attention First Time Home Buyers Why Rent









Family, Future Forever HOME!!!

STOP RENTING, BUY A HOME ...

To qualify for an affordable mortgage through Habitat for Humanity of Marion County, Inc. Please review the following criteria...

Basic Requirements

- Applicants must show proof of primary residency and/or primary employment in Marion County for 1 year
- · Applicants must be legal U.S. Residents

Need

- Applicants need to be currently residing in inadequate housing which is unsafe or overcrowded.
- · If the applicants rent is over 30% of your gross income
- If the applicants rent is government subsidized
- Simply, if the applicant cannot qualify for a traditional mortgage

Ability to Pay

- · If the applicant is employed, need steady verifiable work history for at least one year
- Perfect credit is not necessary, however an established & consistent payment record is required.
- Your overall debt will be examined to determine if your new mortgage will keep you
 from paying your other expenses
- Applicants gross income must meet the minimum annual income guidelines but not exceed the maximum annual income guidelines (See Chart below)

Family	Minimum	Maximum	Family	Minimum	Maximum
Size	Income	Income	Size	Income	Income
1	\$12,490.00	\$28,950.00	5	\$27,950.00	\$44,700.00
2	\$16,910.00	\$33,100.00	6	\$30,000.00	\$48,000.00
3	\$21,330.00	\$37,250.00	7	\$32,100.00	\$51,300.00
4	\$25,750.00	\$41,250.00	8	\$34,150.00	\$54,600.00

Willingness to Partner

- Applicants must be willing to invest a minimum of 500 hours of "sweat equity" to the completion of the home (roughly 18 months or so after application process)
- Applicants must attend the required homeowner workshops
- Applicants must accept a home in the neighborhoods where Habitat for Humanity of Marion County serves.
- Applicants need to be willing to pay out of pocket expenses (i.e.: down payment and/or closing costs) associated with homeownership
- Applicants will be responsible for maintenance of the home from the time you move into your home
- Applicants will be responsible for repaying the monthly mortgage payment of your home in a timely manner.

Why rent when you can own your very own home.

It's a dream we all share. Someplace where you can turn rent payments into home equity. Someplace where the paint is fresh, the plumbing works, and there's room for everyone.

Start Your Future Today



Habitat for Humanity Marion County, Inc. currently has many homeownership opportunities through out Marion County. You and your family can qualify to own one of these homes, even if you have had some credit issues in the past. We may be able to help

you get the keys to your new home. We have staff dedicated to work with you to resolve most obstacles that will prevent you from becoming a homeowner.



Habitat partners with community volunteers to construct the homes. Once they are complete, they are placed into a Community Land Trust that will own the land and families will purchase only the home from the trust and have a 99 year ground lease. Homeowners have the opportunity to pay it forward, in that when they are ready to sell their home the Community Land Trust has the right to buy it, pay the homeowner their net equity and they will sell it to another family that qualifies for an affordable home.

If you are willing to be part of our "Hand up" <u>NOT</u> "Hand out" program, we may be able to make homeownership a possibility.



New Year, New Us Open House!

In honor of the new year, Paddock Hills is hosting our Friends for life event. Come and enjoy our newly Renovated building with music, drinks, yummy food, and fun times with friends. We may even have a jewelry vendor for a new look for your new year. This event will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Please RSVP by calling (352) 622-9696. Address: 1601 SE 24th Rd, Ocala, FL 34471



In February 2020, the Racial Harmony and Cultural Awareness Task Force will hold the second annual gathering of community members called REACH Across the Table. At the event, participants will be asked to explore the community's concerns and input related to RESPECT and ONE COMMUNITY. The input received from this event will be used by the Task Force to update their community action plan.

In order to prepare for conversations at the February REACH Across the Table event, the Task Force is asking the community to answer a few questions related to how RESPECT impacts our ability to come together as ONE COMMUNITY. Your response is completely anonymous. Would you please take the brief survey to help us in this regard?

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/REACHacrossthetable

Kathy Crile CPRP Recreation and Parks Director 828 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34470 (352) 368-5517 Website: www.ocalafl.org/recpark/<http://www.ocalafl.org/recpark/>



Peer Sexual Assault Support Groups



Women's Peer Sexual Assault Support Group

Wednesdays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

(NEW!) Men's Peer Sexual Assault Support Group

Thursdays 5:30 p.m., to 7 p.m.

Groups meet at the Ocala Sexual Assault Center, 2010 S. Pine Ave., Ocala FL 34471

Call (352) 620-8822 for more information



SSVF-Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Assist qualifying veterans and their families with:

- Rapid re-housing, for the literally homeless
 - We assist veterans with case management, budget counseling, job searching, finding housing, security deposits, utility deposits, rent, and become stable in their new home
- · Prevention services, for those at imminent risk of losing their housing
 - We assist with case management, budget counseling, job searching, rental and utility arrears, and returning to a stable home environment
- · For more information contact:

Casey Boone| Program Specialist |352-260-1374| cboone@voa-fla.org Brenda Vazquez-Alvarez | Support Aide IV | 352-260-1226 | bvazquez-alvarez@voa-fla.org Vinson Marsh| Support Aide IV | 352-414-8174 | vmarsh@voa-fia.org Fax 352-390-8557



Grant me the ability to write a grant!

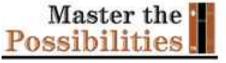
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 Time: 1 pm to 4:00 p.m. Place: Master the Possibilities Education Center, Studio 10 Fee: Member: \$27; Non-Member: \$32 Instructor: Gerry Brent, MBA, Certified Grant Writer

What: This class is for small *established* non-profit organizations and clubs as recognized by IRS regulations seeking funding for programs.

Who should attend: People responsible for obtaining funding to fund or develop social programs such as for Military Veterans, People with Special Needs, Assistance for the Elderly, Low-Income populations, etc.

What you will learn:

- · What is a grant?
- How to search for grant funding opportunities.
- · What are funders looking for?
- · How to determine eligibility for a funding opportunity.
- How to determine if your organization has the resources to handle grant funding requirements.
- · How to fill out the application?
- How to determine how much your program needs and how to develop a budget within funding guidelines.
- · How to increase your chances of successfully intending grant funding?



A Not-for-Profit Lifelong Learning Center

Register 24/7 online at www.masterthepossibilities.org or call (352) 861-9751



Youth Mental Health First Aid Join the movement.

Sometimes first aid isn't a bandage, or CPR or calling 911. Sometimes, first aid is YOU.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Class

Date & Time 9:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Location Wednesday, Jan. 29th, 2020 Ocala Police Department 402 S. Pine Ave. Ocala, FL 34471

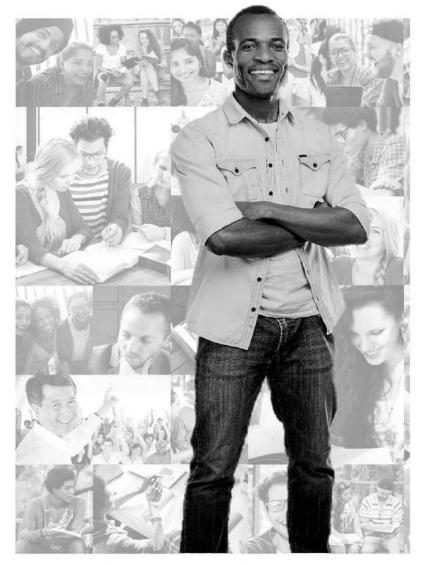
> **Register on Eventbrite** www.eventbrite.com/e/youth-mentalhealth-first-aid-tickets-74316553813



For more information contact: Nancy Castillo Prevention Coordinator (352) 438-5992 or nancy@mcchildrensalliance.org

A young person you know could be experiencing a mental health or substance use problem. Learn an action plan to help.

Anyone 18 or older can take Youth Mental Health First Aid, but it is recommended for those who regularly have contact with young people ages 12-18 - teachers, coaches, social workers, faith leaders and other caring citizens.



Take a course. Save a life. Strengthen your community.

For more information, visit www.MentalHealthFirstAid.org

RECOVERY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

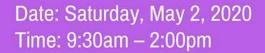
North Central Florida

Recovery Symposium

Share in the message "Recovery is a reality for over 23 million Americans!" Celebrate all the manypathways to recovery. Recovery is everywhere! Become informed on building stronger cultures of recovery in our communities. Experience how the new recovery movement advances personal recovery. Act to help reduce stigma and remove barriers to those in need of recovery. Join the faces and voices of recovery so everyone gains the resources to recover!

What to expect:

- Leaders from other Recovery Community Organizations.
- · Discussion of the dramatic increase in the use of Peer Recovery Specialists.
- Speakers from multiple paths of recovery sharing their recovery journey.
- · Breakout sessions on the effectiveness of our local recovery services.
- · Vendors and door prizes including a Grand Prize drawing!
- · Morning coffee, lunch and child care provided.
- · Many opportunities to get involved.



Location: Kingdom Revival Church 3318 E. Silver Springs Boulevard Ocala, FL 34470

REGISTER HERE!

https://tinyurl.com/spczgf4

Contact Info:

Nancy Castillo nancy@mcchildrensalliance.org | 352-438-5992

Ginny LaRue ginny@floridabha.org | phone: 386-868-8459





Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association The Florida Behavioral Health Association



Marion County Children's Alliance 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475 Ph: (352) 438-5990 Fax: (352) 438-5994 E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org



ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

January 8Safe KidsWednesday9 a.m. FDOH Auditorium

January 13Family Violence PreventionMonday11 a.m. MCSO EOC

- January 20CCASANo Meetingnoon, Ocala Police Dept.
- January 2Heroin/Opioid TaskforceNo Meeting3:30 p.m. OPD Community Rm.

January 28SENWednesday1p.m. OPD Community Room

Connect With Us, log on to

Mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org to view the Calendar to see what's going on in our community; to sign up to receive a free copy of this newsletter or to join a workgroup.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

January 8 Wednesday Alliance Monthly Meeting 11:30 a.m. Jail Interim Building



Agency Spotlight:

Tom Butler

Psychological & Social Work Services Marion County Public Schools Homeless Program

Guest Speaker: Corinne J. Turcotte, CPA

James Moore Company, Helping Nonprofits with Financial Management