



# MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

Website: [Mcchildrensalliance.org](http://Mcchildrensalliance.org)

Volume 20, Issue 5 ~ June 2020

## 17th Annual

# DRIVE THRU ONLY

# BACK TO SCHOOL

# BASH

**PARTICIPANTS CANNOT GET OUT OF THEIR CARS  
NO WALK UPS ALLOWED!**

**Saturday, July 25, 2020 ~ 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Friends Recycling Center, 2350 N.W. 27th Ave.**

**FREE BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
PLUS A FREE MEAL FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!**

**CHILDREN **MUST** BE IN THE CAR TO RECEIVE  
BACKPACK—NO EXCEPTIONS!**

For more information, call (352) 438-5993 or (352) 509-9279

**\* All volunteers **MUST** sign up in advance. Masks are required!**

Sponsored by Marion County Children's Alliance, Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, Inc. and the City of Ocala in partnership with Marion County Public School System

**Volunteer Registration form available on Page 5**

# MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

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

## Our Vision

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

## Our Mission

"To improve the lives of Marion County Children"

## ~ Partners in Excellence ~

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

## Board of Directors

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Sandra Wilson  
Billy Woods  
Carl Zalak

## Staff

E-mail: [mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org](mailto:mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org)

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Prevention Coordinator .... Nancy Castillo ..... [Nancy@mcchildrensalliance.org](mailto:Nancy@mcchildrensalliance.org)  
Family Violence Prevention Coordinator .. Monica Bryant ..... [Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org](mailto:Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org)  
Supporting Kids, Involving Parents (S.K.I.P) ..... Kelley Windham ..... [Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org](mailto:Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org)  
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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](mailto: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](http://www.JenkinsAcura.com)



1602 SW College Rd • Ocala  
[www.OcalaHyundai.com](http://www.OcalaHyundai.com)



1740 SW College Rd • Ocala  
[www.JenkinsMazda.com](http://www.JenkinsMazda.com)



2305 SW College Rd • Ocala  
[www.JenkinsKia.com](http://www.JenkinsKia.com)

## **DO YOU NEED SUPPORT OR RESOURCES?**

Are you or someone you know caring for a relative child in the absence of the parents? Could you use some additional support and resources?

Kids Central, Inc.'s Kinship Program is here for you. For questions or more information, please call **(352) 387-3526** and speak to our Kinship Navigator.





# CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE MONTHLY MEETING CANCELLED FOR JUNE

Due to COVID-19 precautions, our **June 3rd Alliance Monthly meeting is cancelled**. We do not meet in July.

# Join Us!

for the next Alliance Meeting  
**Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.**  
at the MCSO Jail Interim Building



To find the most up-to-date information and guidance on COVID-19, please visit the Department of Health's dedicated COVID-19 webpage. For information and advisories from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), please visit the CDC COVID-19 website.

For any other questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, please call the Department's dedicated COVID-19 Call Center by calling **(866) 779-6121**. The Call Center is available **24 hours per day**. Inquiries may also be emailed to **COVID-19@flhealth.gov**.

# Annual Back to School Bash

Saturday, July 25, 2020 ~ 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friends Recycling Center, 2350 NW 27th Ave., Ocala, FL 34475

## BACK TO SCHOOL VOLUNTEER FORM

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER AND SIGN UP IN **ADVANCE** TO PARTICIPATE. \*WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING VOLUNTEERS THE DAY OF THE EVENT  
**A CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT TO COMFIRM YOUR PARTICIPATION.**

**MASKS ARE REQUIRED: VOLUNTEERS MUST BRING THEIR OWN**



**\*Required information** (Please Print Clearly)

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Ph: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteers are asked to arrive 10 minutes prior to the time they plan to serve.**

**\*Duties will be assigned based on the hours you choose. Please remember that we are depending on you to show up to volunteer for the hours you sign up for.**

### Hours You Want to Volunteer:

**Setup:** 8 a.m. to \_\_\_\_\_  **Breakdown:** 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (choose your own hours)

**\*NOTE:** Volunteering is a community service and an opportunity to give back to your community.

For more information, contact Monica Bryant at **(352) 438-5993**.

E-mail completed forms to **monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org** or fax to **(352) 438-5994**.

*Governor's West Ocala Neighborhood  
Revitalization Council in partnership  
with The City of Ocala*

*Cordially invites you to attend the  
Legacy Park Community Service  
Recognition Program honoring  
past and present leaders on  
Thursday, June 25, 2020  
9:30 a.m.*

*at Legacy Park, located near the  
900 block of S.W. Ninth Ave., Ocala, FL.*

*~ Honorees ~*

*\*Arthur Adams*

*Carolyn Adams*

*\*Sheriff M.A. Clouts*

*June Dailey*

*Wendell Dailey*

*\*Marshall Burrell E. Dawkins*

*\*George Giles*

*Pamela Lewin, M.D.*

*Mary Sue Rich*

*For more information,  
call Monica Bryant at (352) 438-5993  
or Cynthia Graham at (352) 286-1772.*

*\*Deceased*

# ~ AGENCY SPOTLIGHT ~

## Believe in Santa Foundation, Inc.

1150 N. Williams St., Suite 108

Dunnellon, FL 34432

**CEO:** Keith Carson



**Phone:** (561) 509-5776 ext. 1225

**Email:** Keith@BelieveinSanta.com

**Website:** <https://BelieveinSanta.com>

**Mission:** The Believe in Santa Foundation is a public service, all-volunteer organization focused on improving life. Without any expectation of compensation, the foundation is dedicated to serving all children in need. We put people before profits, regardless of race, creed, color or sexual orientation.

The program serves children in need from birth to 18 years of age and works with media outlets, public safety agencies, social service agencies and other non-profit organizations.

The Foundation provides visits to children in need anytime of the year from Santa Claus. The Jolly Old Elf, spends quality time with each child, poses for photos, reads stories and gives out presents.



# LIMITED OPENINGS FOR SUMMER CAMPS

Due to the Coronavirus, camps will have additional regulations in place this year.

Summer Camps run **June 8** through **July 31** at the following facilities:

Registration, which will be first come, first served, will be online via **ActiveNet** or by phone beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Lillian F. Bryant Community Center,  
2200 NW 17th Place  
**(352) 629-8389**

E.D. Croskey Recreation Center,  
1510 NW Fourth St.  
**(352) 401-3920**

Discovery Center  
701 NE Sanchez Ave  
**(352) 401-3900**

Fort King National Historic Landmark  
3925 E. Fort King St.  
**(352) 368-5533**



## PLEASE NOTE:

- Separate enrollment will be required each week to allow more families a chance to participate
- All children and staff will be required to wear masks
- Temperature and health screenings will be done at drop-off
- Parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter the facilities
- Staff will work with the same children each week

Fees and participant ages vary per camp. For more information, registrations and regulations for each camp, go to [www.ocalafl.org/recpark](http://www.ocalafl.org/recpark).





# RECOVERY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

# North Central Florida

## Recovery Symposium

Share in the message "Recovery is a reality for over 23 million Americans!" Celebrate all the many pathways 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.

Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020

Time: 9:30am – 2:00pm

### Location:

Kingdom Revival Church

3318 E. Silver Springs Boulevard

Ocala, FL 34470

## REGISTER HERE!

<https://tinyurl.com/wpozgf4>

### Contact Info:

Nancy Castillo

[nancy@mochildrensalliance.org](mailto:nancy@mochildrensalliance.org) | 352-438-5892

Ginny LaRue

[ginny@floridabha.org](mailto:ginny@floridabha.org) | phone: 386-868-8459



Florida Alcohol and  
Drug Abuse Association

The Florida Behavioral Health Association

# SALUTING THE CLASS OF 2020



Due to the Pandemic,  
graduation dates and times  
are subject to change.

\*Most events require a ticket,  
and attendance is limited.

*The*  
**Future**  
*is*  
**Yours**

## **TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 6** at 9:30 a.m.

Dunlap Track and Field at Trinity Catholic High School

2600 SW 42nd St., Ocala

## **MARION TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

**June 12** at 9 a.m.

Booster Stadium

3050 NE 36th Ave., Ocala

## **VANGUARD HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 15** at 9 a.m.

Booster Stadium

3050 NE 36th Ave., Ocala



*Congratulations*

# CONGRATULATIONS, YOU DID IT!

## **FOREST HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 16** at 9 a.m.

Forest at Mikey Kelly Stadium  
5000 SE Maricamp Rd., Ocala

## **LAKE WEIR HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 17** at 9 a.m.

Lake Weir High School Stadium  
10351 SE Maricamp Rd., Ocala



## **NORTH MARION HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 18** at 9 a.m.

North Marion at Stan Toole Memorial Stadium  
151 W Hwy 329, Citra

## **WEST PORT HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 19** at 9 a.m.

West Port at Ken Vianello Stadium  
3733 SW 80th Ave., Ocala

## **BELLEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 20** at 9 a.m.

Belleview at Brent Hall Field  
10400 SE 36th Ave., Ocala

## **DUNNELLON HIGH SCHOOL**

**June 22** at 9 a.m.

Dunnellon at Richard Kennedy Stadium  
10055 SW 180th Ave. Rd., Dunnellon



If alternate plans are necessary, graduations will be moved to July 13 through July 21 still in school football stadiums.

The backup for this plan is to hold all graduation ceremonies inside First Baptist Church of Ocala during the same week. In this case, only graduating seniors would participate inside the sanctuary. All guests would observe commencement exercises on large screens outside from their parking spots.





COMMUNITY  
**LEGAL SERVICES**  
of MID-FLORIDA

In observance with the recommended social distancing safety protocol, Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida workforce will be working remotely to protect the public and our employees from the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

During this time, we will continue to do our best to provide you with the same level of services under normal business operations. While our offices are closed to the public our legal HELPLINE will remain open and will continue to be our centralized point of intake, providing eligible clients with immediate brief legal services and/or referrals.

For civil legal issues, please call our HELPLINE at **1-800-405- 1417** or visit our website at <https://www.clsmf.org/> to complete an online application or use our chat feature to apply for services.

**HELPLINE hours of operation:**

Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## Grant Writing Tip

You can have the most wonderful program ever but it is worthless if there is no NEED for it.

An important part of any grant application is the **Need** section. This is where you justify your program. Items that should be included in this section include:

- (a) Target population - who will benefit from this program and are there enough in your target area to benefit them? In this area you will need statistical evidence.
- (b) Other similar programs in the area - if there are too many of the same program to go around your program can't be successful. Partnership and collaboration should be considered.
- (c) Community input - does the community you're targeting want and need this program? You may have to back this up with survey or focus group information.
- (d) Does your organization have the resources to accomplish this program? Is it consistent with your organization's mission?

Your need statement must be Concise, Complete and Coherent...and backed by solid facts.

**Gerry Brent. Grants Consultant, Free consultations for 501c3 organizations.**

**Please call, text or e-mail: (352) 236-0483 (mobile) or [gerrybrent@hotmail.com](mailto:gerrybrent@hotmail.com)**

# **Assistance Available**

for those that affected by COVID -19

***Were you laid off due to COVID-19 by at least 50% or more of your wages?***

Beginning May 27, 2020, Interfaith will provide assistance for those that lost at least 50% of their income due to COVID-19 for



- Mortgage and Rent (Ocala city residents only)
- Utility assistance (for Duke and SECO customers only)

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## **You must have all the following required documents to qualify:**

1. **Paystub:** One printed paystub from March 2020
2. **Verification from your employer:** A signed letter from employer (on company letterhead) stating you were laid off due to COVID, or that your hours were reduced by 50% or more.
3. **Identification:** Marion County ID/Driver's License
4. **Housing Documentation:** Mortgage Statement/Coupon or Lease Information
5. **Statement for Duke or SECO utilities (only)**

Please check out our website ([www.iesmarion.org/COVID](http://www.iesmarion.org/COVID)) for a COMPLETE list of all documentation required before you arrive. You must bring ALL of the requirement documents to receive assistance.

Pre-screening will begin on May 27th each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am -11:45am and 1:00pm – 4:00pm, at the Interfaith Learning Center, 435 NW 2nd Street, Ocala FL 34475.

For more information:  
[WWW.IESMARION.ORG/COVID](http://WWW.IESMARION.ORG/COVID)





**KIDS CENTRAL, INC.**  
A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN  
*Building Better Lives*



# Self - Sufficiency Program

## Community Facilitators and Locations

**Marion County**  
 Melissa Casto  
 215 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Ave  
 Ocala, FL 34475  
 (352) 732-0457

**Lake County**  
 Erica Helligar  
 1041 County Rd 468  
 Leesburg, FL 34749  
 (352) 787-0391

**Sumter County**  
 Dayana Bouey  
 336 S. Main Street  
 Wildwood, FL 34785  
 (352) 748-1354

## More Services

- Advocacy
- Resource Center
- Access Florida Assistance
- Employment
- Continuing Education
- School Readiness/VPK Assistance
- Holiday and Back to School assistance

### For more information, please contact

Jessica Cole, Supervisor of Neighborhood Projects  
[Jessica.Cole@KidsCentralinc.org](mailto:Jessica.Cole@KidsCentralinc.org)  
 Michelle Mongeluzzo, Director of Prevention  
[Michelle.Mongeluzzo@KidsCentralinc.org](mailto:Michelle.Mongeluzzo@KidsCentralinc.org)

(352) 873-6332

[www.KidsCentralinc.org](http://www.KidsCentralinc.org)

## What is the Self-Sufficiency Program?

The Self-Sufficiency Program provides case management services to parents and caregivers in need of financial stability.

## Who is Eligible?

- Parents and Caregivers who have children under the age of 18 living in their home.
- Families that are requesting services that require case management (i.e. financial assistance, housing assistance, employment, and domestic violence.)

## How are families referred to the program?

Referrals can be made to the Self-Sufficiency Program by anyone. The only requirement is that the parent or caregiver have children residing in their home and they commit to attending weekly support group sessions.

## Support Groups

Each county that is served by the Self-Sufficiency Program has a support group. The Support Groups run for eight weeks with a short break in between each session. The groups offer fellowship with other families, information on accessing services, and educational sessions that offer guidance with money management, parenting and much more.

**You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending. -CS Lewis**



"A Few Stray Hairs" by Stuart Richards is licensed under CC BY 2.0



# IN MEMORY OF SHIRLEY HANKINSON



Pictured: On both ends, Mary Dingman and Margaret Spontak, daughters of Shirley Hankinson. The others are teachers and staff from the Juvenile Detention Center.

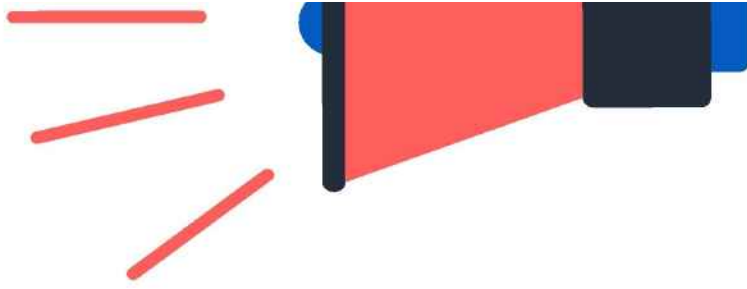
## By Beth McCall, Executive Director, Marion County Children’s Alliance

Shirley Hankinson was a mentor and educator in Marion County Public schools for 37 years. Shirley passed away on October 28, 2019, and her family requested that memorial contributions be given to the Marion County Children’s Alliance to be used for the educational center at the Juvenile Detention Center.

One of the charities that Shirley and her husband John served together on for many years was Church without Walls – an interdenominational group that did work with juveniles at the prison and the detention center. Shirley was treasurer and the two of them would go once or twice a month to the detention center taking dinner and an activity. Both were teachers, and mom later a school administrator, and had a passion for helping children to be their best.

During one of the visits to the center, Shirley had planned a Valentine’s Day art project center. She had collected colored paper, stamps, markers and envelopes for each of the youth to create a special Valentine that they could mail. One young man sat for a long time, not lifting a pen or paper. Mom asked him, “Don’t you have someone you could send a card to for Valentine’s Day?” He said, no. At the end of the session he came up to mom and handed her a valentine that he made for her.

Shirley continued to be concerned about the education of the young people at the Juvenile Detention Center and her legacy will continue because of the generous contributions in her memory.



# PLAN YOUR HEALTHCARE

BE PREPARED. BE IN CONTROL.

## Healthcare Planning Virtual Clinic

by Community Legal Services of Mid Florida

Register Here: <https://bit.ly/hcclinic>

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Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida is offering online healthcare and life planning document assistance to qualified individuals.

This service is offered only by appointment. If you qualify for assistance, you will meet remotely with an attorney to determine what type of healthcare planning documents are best for you, such as how to designate a healthcare surrogate, pre-need guardian, or create a living will. Attorneys will help by drafting the documents. To participate, you must complete an eligibility screening and someone from our staff will contact you with more information.





# FREE Resources for Nonprofits



- Finance and Accounting Counseling
- Grant Services
- Strategic Planning for Nonprofits
- Communications & Public Relations Counseling (Coming March 2020)

**Contact Us to Learn More.**



A Program of The Community Foundation Ocala/Marion County  
324 SE 24th Street, Ocala, FL 34471  
(352) 622-5020  
[www.OcalaFoundation.org](http://www.OcalaFoundation.org)

# STRONG FAMILIES ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

## We need your help

in assisting Marion County Families in obtaining the financial literacy skills they need to better their lives!

**We are currently recruiting for our next class which starts on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 in Ocala.**

For more information, please call **(352) 732-9696**, email **[pvance@uwmc.org](mailto:pvance@uwmc.org)** or stop by our office located at 1401 NE 2nd Street Ocala FL 34470.



Strong Families is an initiative that was created to help Marion County residents get out of poverty and improve their long-term financial stability. Our Success Coaches assist families in achieving these outcomes by providing financial education and life skills opportunities to enhance their income, educational attainment, housing, and debt status.

**The goal of Strong Families is to increase financial stability**

During their year in the program, participating families attend 16 weekly skill-building sessions where they learn financial literacy skills presented by community partners. These community partners offer a variety of services pertaining to housing, education, employment, and building credit. Participating families also meet biweekly with a Success Coach who will assist them with setting personal goals and connecting them to resources and referrals provided by our community partner agencies for one year. The Success Coach serves as a source of support and an accountability partner – providing encouragement, education and guidance as families take steps to achieve financial stability.

# We continue to serve.



**NOW ACCEPTING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR ELECTRIC, RENTAL, & EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE\***



**[WWW.CFCAA.ORG](http://WWW.CFCAA.ORG)**

In light of COVID-19, Central Florida Community Action Agency's offices are closed to the public. However, we still remain available to assist our clients.

For access to the FastTrack Online application link, please search the homepage under Agency Updates.

If you are elderly, have a learning disability, and/or your household does not have internet access, you can make an appointment by calling our toll-free, automated system at 1-844-356-8136.

For additional assistance, please call 352-373-7667.

**\*LISTED SERVICES ONLY  
WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.**



# MARION COUNTY REPRESENTED AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM

By Tammy Slaughter, Outreach Specialist, Marion County Children’s Alliance

As a drug coalition, CCASA works hard to improve its knowledge and skills through prevention trainings. One of the most critical prevention trainings that any drug coalition can attend is the annual Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America’s (CADCA) National Leadership Forum. The Leadership Forum is a 4-day conference packed with multiple adult and youth-oriented opportunities to learn the latest strategies to fight substance misuse and hear from nationally-known experts and policymakers with a full day dedicated to Capitol Hill events. The Forum, held in the Washington, DC area every year, brings together more than 2,700 participants representing community anti-drug coalitions, government leaders, youth, addiction treatment professionals, researchers, educators, law enforcement professionals, youth and faith-based leaders from around the country.

The CCASA Team brings all that great knowledge and information right back to Marion County in an effort to improve the strategies and services that are used to better our community! Historically, Nancy Castillio and Hilary Jackson have attended this event, but this year the opportunity arose to bring additional staff members, Tammy Slaughter and Tanya Ousley, who were more than willing to go!

Over the course of the four-day event, there were a multitude of break out sessions on topics that ranged from youth prevention to addiction recovery, and the substances that most communities are struggling to understand and combat. There were topics on recreational marijuana, opioids, vaping, substance exposed newborns and neonatal abstinence syndrome, to policy change and the unintended consequences of legalized marijuana. The speakers were well educated on the topics on which they presented and we even heard from top officials from various government agencies, such as the FDA and CDC. Some sessions we attended together as a group, but each of us found topics of specific interest that caught our eye and we wanted to attend.

Capital Hill day is an opportunity to meet with our state representatives, or their aides, to discuss issues that affect our state as a whole. Many of the communities around Florida face the a lot of the same issues of public concern and as such, we came together as a group (all the coalition members from Florida) to agree on which topics we would discuss and who would be our group leaders. Many weeks and months prior to Capital Hill Day, our local people work hard to secure appointments with as many state representatives as possible. That particular week, the capital was abuzz with impeachment proceedings and most senators were not available to meet with personally but that did not dampen our enthusiasm at all. Everyone knows it’s the congressional aides that are the ones to talk too! As luck would have it the Senior Legislative Aide to Congressman Yoho, Jamie Cicchella, who is a graduate of North Marion High School and a founding member of the Drive 4 Life leadership club that is still an active part of the North Marion Campus, celebrated their 10 year anniversary!

This was an amazing opportunity, not only to further our knowledge of so many important topics that are of great concern to our community, but to network with colleagues and peers and get a different perspective on how other communities are tackling some of the same issues we face right here in Marion County.



# ***Fentanyl, A National Crisis Update Where We Are Today!***

***Please Join Us For A Complimentary Presentation***

***Guest Speaker: Director Dan Zsido***

***NADDI Training & Education***

***National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators***



**The deadly drug trend of fentanyl analogs and synthetic substances impacting our communities with substance abuse and tragic overdose deaths.**

**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020

**Time:** 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Location:** Marion County Courthouse – Jury Assembly Room

110 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.; Ocala, FL 34475

**Register at:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fentanyl-a-national-crisis-update-where-we-are-today-tickets-102555630652>

***Light lunch will be provided so please register by July 4<sup>th</sup>.***



Thursday, September 24, 2020

# Night of Hope

Dinner • Music • Giveaways • Survivor Recognition • Vendors  
**Honoring Victims and Survivors of Domestic Violence**

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. College of Central Florida, 3001 S.W. College Rd., 34474

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Wambui Bahati**

- Professional Speaker
- Artist
- Actress
- Producer
- Author
- Playwrite



**Tickets: \$35 per person**

For tickets, to sponsor a survivor, donate a basket or support the event, go to <https://2020noh.eventbrite.com> or at the Children's Alliance office, 3482 N.W. 10th St. Ocala, 34475

\*Free childcare for children 2 years old or older.

Call (352) 438-5993 to reserve a place.

Save \$5 with a combo registration

## 20TH ANNUAL BREAK THE SILENCE ON VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

Two Workshop Tracts: Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse

**Friday, September 25, 2020**

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25 per person

**Includes:** Snack, Continental Breakfast  
CEU available for \$15  
Lunch on your own.



**Featuring: Wambui Bahati**  
One Act Play "I Am Domestic Violence"



**Keynote Speaker: Dale D. Quigley**  
*Deputy Coordinator*  
National Marijuana Initiative  
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program

Register at <https://2020btsconference.eventbrite.com>

College of Central Florida Klein Conference Center 3001 S.W. College Rd. Ocala, FL 34474



For more information, call (352) 438-5993 or go to: [breakthesilenceonviolence.org](http://breakthesilenceonviolence.org)



# SHOW OUR SURVIVORS WE CARE SPONSOR A BASKET TO GIVE THEM



for Victims and  
Survivors of  
Domestic Violence  
attending the 2020  
Night of Hope  
September 24, 2020



Choose from one of our themes (Personal Pampering, Italian Dinner, Movie Night, Board Game, A Night Out, Gardening, Summer Time, Scrap Book/Memories, Music, Healthy Living) or ***Choose Your Own*** or **You Can Donate Items to Make a Basket.**

***All baskets are given to survivors attending the event.***

Baskets or supplies can be dropped off at the Alliance Office, located at 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL by **September 18, 2020.** Call **(352) 438-5993** for information, to sign up to sponsor a basket or to have a workgroup member pick up your basket or supplies.



**Save The Date - 4th Annual Recovery Fest - Sept. 26, 2020**

## Join us at Tuscawilla Park

To celebrate recovery and increase awareness for those struggling with mental or substance use disorders.

Listen to great music, taste local food, share your story and learn about the services available to help with recovery.



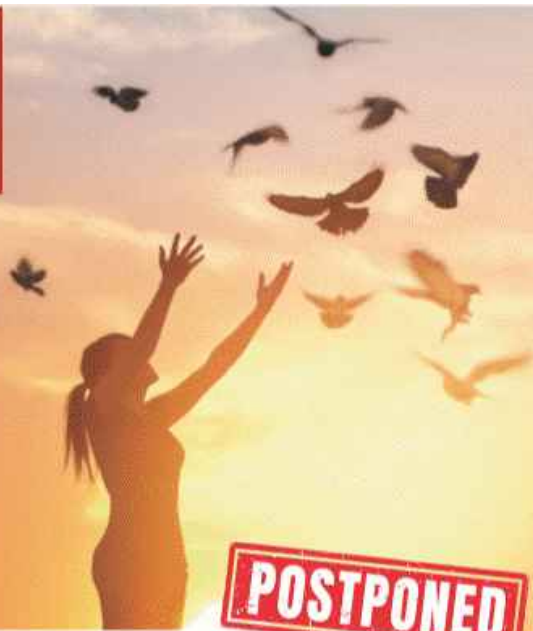
Various businesses and healthcare vendors from the community will also be offering services on site.

**Businesses or individuals looking to get involved or sponsor  
The 4th Annual Recovery Fest,  
Please contact Nancy Castillo at (352) 438-5992 or [nancy@mchildrensalliance.org](mailto:nancy@mchildrensalliance.org)**





HEALTH SYSTEMS



**POSTPONED**



Due to the coronavirus pandemic and following CDC recommendations to avoid gatherings, we have postponed our summit to October 21st.

Register at [Lsftraining.coursestorm.com](https://Lsftraining.coursestorm.com)



## 2nd Annual RURAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

Date changed:  
**October 21st, 2020**  
**8am to 4pm**

**MOUNT CARMEL  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
2505 NE 8th Avenue,  
Gainesville, FL 32641

For more information contact: Lesley Hersey,  
[Lesley.hersey@lsfnet.org](mailto:Lesley.hersey@lsfnet.org)

### ADDRESSING THE STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN REGARDS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

Rural communities are faced with challenges different than those of more urban areas. Resources are limited, especially when it comes to programs for substance abuse recovery and mental health services for those we love. However, rural communities possess qualities and hidden gems that other areas do not.

This summit will focus on discovering those hidden gems and enhancing the strengths your community contains to improve services for those struggling with substance abuse, mental health problems or suicidal thoughts, including the role the local church plays in the health of our community.

Hosting: LSFHS, DCF, Meridian and Mount Carmel Baptist Church  
Sponsors: Saint Leo University, Dept of Human Services Saint Leo, Levy Prevention Coalition, Gilchrist Prevention Coalition, Marion County Childrens Alliance, Hanley Foundation, Families First of Florida, Shands Vista.

#### KEYNOTE PRESENTERS:

Keynote presenters: Jodi Pfarr from the Aha Process, and Tanner & Andrea Clemonts from Tennessee.

#### PRESENTATIONS ON:

Bridges out of Poverty, Harm Reduction, ACE's and Mobilizing Faith Communities.

CEU's available for \$15. Approved Provider 50-16467 by Florida board of clinical social work, marriage and family therapy and mental health and Florida board of psychology.



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[www.lsfnet.org](http://www.lsfnet.org)





**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](mailto:mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org)

## Juneteenth is observed in the month of June

Juneteenth, which marks the end of slavery in the U.S., commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement.



### ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>June 8</b><br>Monday     | Family Violence Prevention<br>This will be a <b>Zoom</b> Meeting |
| <b>June 10</b><br>Wednesday | Safe Kids ( <b>NO MEETING</b> )<br>9 a.m. FDOH Auditorium        |
| <b>June 15</b><br>Monday    | CCASA<br>This will be a <b>Zoom</b> meeting                      |
| <b>June 4</b><br>Thursday   | Heroin/Opioid Taskforce<br>This will be a <b>Skype</b> Meeting   |
| <b>August 25</b><br>Tuesday | SEN (No meeting in June/July)<br>1 p.m. OPD Community Room       |

### UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| August 5<br>Wednesday | Alliance Monthly Meeting<br>11:30 a.m. Jail Interim Building |
|-----------------------|--|



**June 21, 2020**

**Connect With Us, log on to .....**

**[Mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org](mailto: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