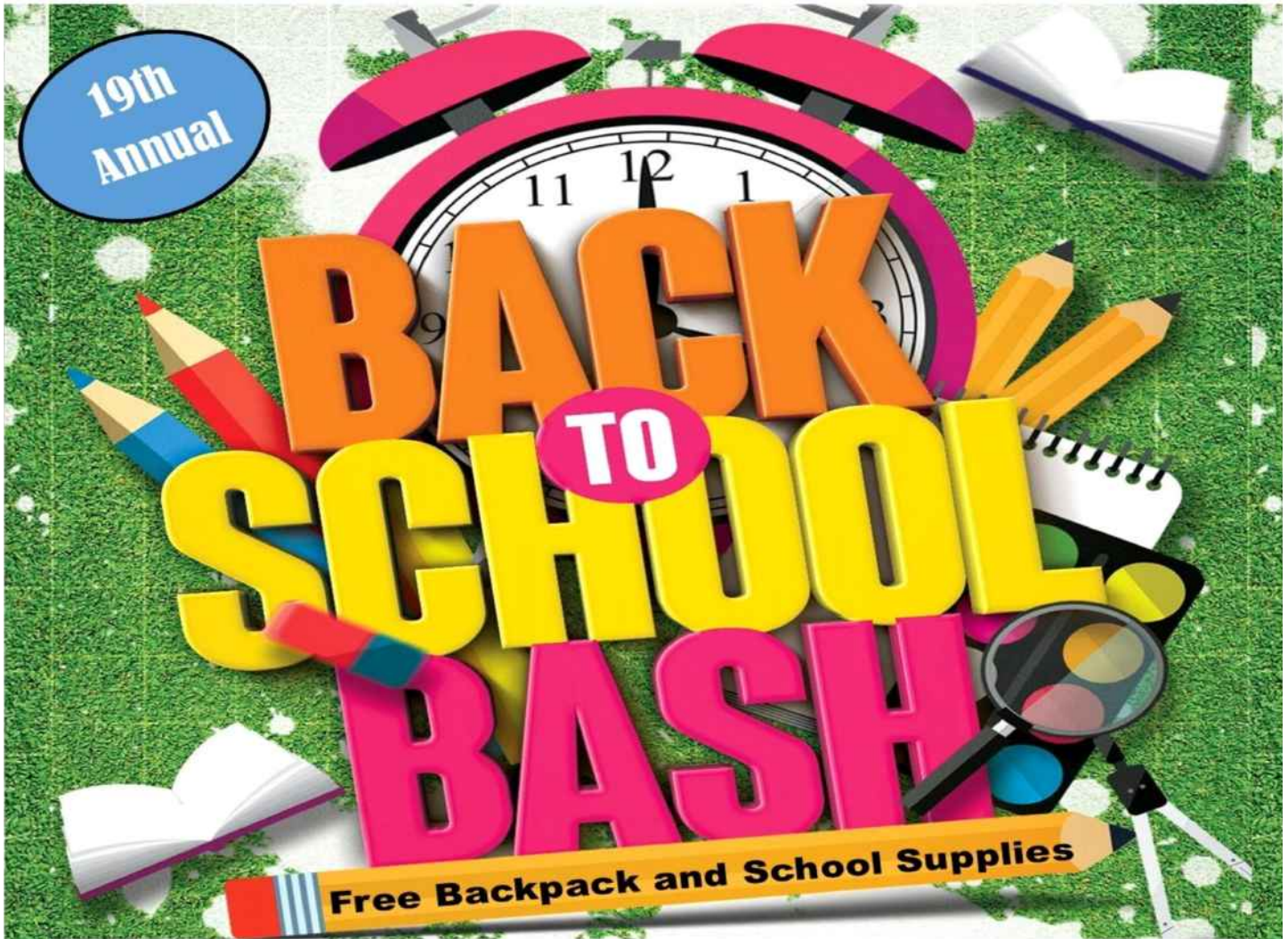




MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

Volume 22, Issue 5 ~ May 2022



SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2022

DRIVE THRU ONLY EVENT

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friends Recycling Center

2350 N.W. 27th Ave., Ocala



For more information, to donate supplies or sponsorship opportunities, call (352) 438-5993 or (352) 509-9279

Free Meal for Adults and Children SWAG Bags with Community Resources for Adults While Supplies Last!

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

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

Mike Balken
Lori Boring
John Cooper
Craig Curry
Pastor John Delcamp
Michael Greiner
Dr. Diane Gullett
Scott Hackmyer
Mark Lander
Adam Lombardo
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Kevin McDonald
Jim McCune
Pamela Michell
Scot Quintel
Randy Reynolds
Brad Rogers
Charles Scherer
Billy Woods

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; 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 Department of Health in Marion County; Friends Recycling, LLC; Jenkins Auto Group; Kids Central, Inc.; Macy's; Marion County Board of County Commissioners; Marion County Hospital District; Marion County Public Schools; Marion County Sheriff's Office; Ocala Police Department; Paddock Mall; Palmer Family Foundation; Radiology Associates of Ocala; Renasant Bank; Signature Brands; Tri-Eagle Sales; United Way of Marion County

Staff

E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org

Executive Director	Beth McCall	executivedirector@mcchildrensalliance.org
Family Violence Prevention Coordinator	Monica Bryant	Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org
Prevention Coordinator	Hilary Jackson	Hilary@mcchildrensalliance.org
Supporting Kids, Involving Parents Coordinator (S.K.I.P) ..	Kelley Windham ..	Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org
Supporting Kids, Involving Parents Project Specialist (S.K.I.P)	Dominic McDonald	Dominic@mcchildrensalliance.org
Peer Recovery Specialist	Kassie Leonard	Kassie@mcchildrensalliance.org
Outreach Specialist	Tanya Ousley	Tanya@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.



Marion County Early Childhood Court works with families with children from birth to five who have been removed from the home and are in the care of the child welfare system.

For more information, contact Martha Firkins, Program Coordinator at
(352) 502-2228, or email **mfirkins@circuit5.org**.



UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE NOW

UP TO \$5000

**NOW
UNTIL
9/30/2022**

How to Apply

- (1) Online at <https://www.cfcaa.org/liheap/>
- (2) If you are elderly, have a learning disability, and/or your household does not have internet access, you can obtain a utility assistance (phone) appointment by calling 1-352-373-7667

To Qualify

When applying for assistance, you must submit the following documents with your application:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Photo ID (not expired) for Applicant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social Security Cards for all Household Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ID or birth certificate to document the age of any person 60 years and older or 5 years and under. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food Stamp Letter showing amount received for current month (if applicable to your household).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two most recent, separate itemized electric bills for your residence. (No Final or Disconnect Notice). <p><i>If service is turned off, bring a letter from the utility company showing the amount needed to restore service. This letter must be signed, dated and show the service address.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ALL household Income for 30 days prior to your appointment, including anything received on the day of your appointment. This includes wages, self-employment income, social security, retirement, pensions, SSI, SSD, VA benefits, TANF, child support, unemployment, workers compensation, financial aid, subsidies. (No bank statements).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Section 8 or HUD Housing; Rental Form 50059 (if applicable to your household). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Valid Signed Lease (if applying to start new electric service)

**All of the above documentation is REQUIRED to process applications for LIHEAP services.
An application submission is not a guarantee of service.**

MARCH ALLIANCE MEETING IS IN PERSON



Join Us!

for the

Alliance Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at the MCSO Multi-purpose Room
3300 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475

Agency Spotlight:

Keith Carson

Believe in Santa Foundation

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Jennifer Fryns,

Associate Vice President of Career
and Professional Programs,
College of Central Florida

To learn more about the Children's Alliance
visit our website at **www.mcchildrensalliance.org**



Scholarships for CF Early Childhood Education Minority Students

College of Central Florida minority students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education program are eligible to receive the Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program scholarship. The award amount is \$2,000 per semester for fall and spring.



COLLEGE of
CENTRAL
FLORIDA

Office of Financial Aid
CF.edu | 352-873-5801

Scholarship Requirements

- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Have less than 18 hours of upper-division courses in education at the time of application.
- Be one of the following: African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaskan native.
- Be enrolled full time in the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education program at CF.
- Have a cumulative 2.5 grade point average.

Visit the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers at » www.ffmt.org for application deadlines.

For additional rules and requirements, download the PDF at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/MTES.pdf



It's time to prepare for summer!

Do you have a child headed to kindergarten in the fall?

Now is the time to enroll in Summer VPK to ensure he or she is ready for school.

Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) is a FREE, high-quality education program that focuses on early literacy and social-emotional skills, building a foundation for your child's success in kindergarten and beyond. Full day programs are available throughout the county at:



- Private childcare centers
- Faith-based childcare centers
- Licensed family childcare homes
- Public elementary schools



It's getting hot outside!

Here are a few summer safety reminders, brought to you by: **United Way SUCCESS BY 6**

- Always supervise children when they are in or near water and wear life jackets on boats
- Never leave a child unattended in a car
- Protect against sun and overheating
- Stay hydrated
- Wear properly fitted bike helmets



 **ELCMC** Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc.
 (352) 369-2315
 2300 SW 17th Rd., Ocala, FL 34471
 www.elc-marion.org

Stop by the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County in May 2022 for a **FREE summer safety kit!** (While supplies last.) Visit elc-marion.org or call for our current hours.



Introducing Ocala's Connection Between Art, Healing & Public Health

Join us to learn how you can promote health one creative moment at a time.



Use your creativity and expertise to advance health, wellness, and equity as a paid, trained arts in health professional. In this free, one hour luncheon presentation, the Arts in Health Ocala Metro Team will help you understand how you can be a part of this innovative new organization, whether you are an artist, a business person, a healthcare professional, or simply curious about the program.



Tina Mullen
TINA TITLE FOR AIHOM

During Tina's 31 years with Arts in Medicine she has been part of a constellation of passionate people that built the nation's leading hospital-based arts program. She is a pioneer and leader in the field of Arts in Health, and we are very fortunate to have her as our Development Partner for Arts in Health OcalaMetro.



Lisa Midgett
Chair, Board of Directors

Lisa Midgett, President of the David and Lisa Midgett Foundation, serves as Chairperson of the Board of Arts in Health. Lisa adds management, programming and arts advocacy expertise as well as a passion for facilitating bringing the arts into all aspects of our daily lives.



Patricia Tomlinson
Executive Director

Patricia Tomlinson has worked as an arts professional for 22 years. During her tenure at the Appleton Museum of Art, she became increasingly engaged with the Arts in Health community and sought to integrate art therapeutics into her curatorial work. Tomlinson is a passionate proponent of the life-changing benefits of art and strives to integrate these advancements to build stronger, healthier communities.

Saturday
07 May
11:30 - 1 pm

Transform health and wellness through the arts. Join us.

Please join us at:

NOMA Gallery
939 N Magnolia Avenue
Ocala, FL 34475

www.aihom.org

ARTS IN HEALTH
OCALA METRO



Take Stock in Children Of Marion County

Take Stock in Children is a nonprofit mentoring, college & career readiness and scholarship program. Our mission is to break the cycle of poverty for low-income, underrepresented, academically qualified students by providing opportunities for degree attainment through postsecondary education. We provide wraparound services to students through an innovative, multi-year model from high school through postsecondary completion. You can change the life of a local student in Marion County by becoming a mentor!

What is a Take Stock Mentor?

A Take Stock in Children Mentor is a caring, compassionate adult who chooses to devote their time to a young person. Mentors offer support, guidance, and encouragement. A Take Stock school-based mentor can change a life by helping a child build confidence, a solid foundation of values, establish goals, and improve their academic skills.

Want to learn more about becoming a mentor?

Scan or visit www.takestockinchildren.org:



Take Stock in Children of Marion County is a program of the Public Education Foundation of Marion County

www.pefmc.org

SAVE-THE-DATE: YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS OUT!

WOMEN AND MEN OF PURPOSE & DESTINY INCORPORATED PRESENTS

2022 SUPERMAN & SUPERWOMAN AWARDS

COLLEGE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA OCALA CAMPUS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22, 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CHRISSY VICKERS (352) 304-3908 OR AUTHORCHRISSYVICKERS@OUTLOOK.COM
WRITE TO CHRISSY VICKERS



**GUEST
SPEAKERS**

MUSIC



RECOVERY on the *Square*

Breaking the stigma of addiction with hope and connections

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

1 SE Broadway Street
Ocala, FL, 34471



FUN

FOR MORE INFO CALL: (352)765-4943
HOSTED BY: ZERO HOUR LIFE CENTER



FOOD

19th Annual Back 2 School Sponsorship Form

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

The 19th Annual "Drive Through" Back 2 School Bash will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2022, from 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Friends Recycling Center, 2350 N.W. 27th Ave., Ocala, FL 34475. This **FREE** event provides hundreds of students with backpacks filled with basic school supplies.

Your support makes it possible for us to make sure as many students as possible have what they need and to be prepared and ready to learn on the first day of school.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Sponsorship Levels	BACKPACK SPONSOR \$1,500	GOLD SPONSOR \$1,000	SILVER SPONSOR \$750	BRONZE SPONSOR \$500	COMMUNITY SUPPORTER \$250
1. Logo on B2School Flyer/Website Display Banner at Event (supplied by Company)	X	X			
2. Printed Brochures/Materials in All Backpacks	X	X			
3. Printed Material in Swag Bags Distributed to Parents/Guardians (300 max)			X	X	
4. Immediate Acknowledgment on Social Media	X	X	X	X	X
5. Company Listed on Signage at Event	X	X	X	X	

**To guarantee maximum sponsor benefits 1-2, please submit sponsorship payment by April 4, 2022.*

Choose Your Sponsorship Level: Backpack (\$1,500) Gold (\$1,000)
 Silver (\$750) Bronze (\$500) Community (\$250)

Other Ways You Can Help: (\$10 sponsors a backpack filled with school supplies for one Student)

Unable to be a Sponsor, but would like to make a donation of \$_____ to sponsor _____ Backpacks

I would like to donate school supplies valued at \$_____ to support the event.

Sponsor Information:

Business or Organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to **MCCA** (put **B2School** in Memo area of check) and mail to Children's Alliance, 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475 or pay online at <https://2022b2sbash.eventbrite.com>.

For more information, contact Monica Bryant at (352) 438-5993 or Lena Hopkins at (352) 509-9279.

The Marion County Children's Alliance, City of Ocala and Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, Inc., is asking for your support in collecting school supplies to benefit the:

Nineteenth Annual Back to School Bash **Saturday, July 30, 2022**



Below is our **2022** Suggested School Supply List, however, **ALL** donations are accepted and appreciated.

- Glue sticks
- Glue (8 ounce bottle)
- Crayons (box of 24)
- Highlighters
- Colored pencils (set of 12)
- Pencils (no. 2)
- Duo Tang Folders **with** pockets
- Large Pink Erasers
- Pens (Blue and Black)
- Composition Books (wide-ruled for elementary)
(college-ruled for middle and high)

To donate supplies or for more information,
call **(352) 438-5993** or **(352) 509-9279**

#DISMANTLEPATRIARCHY

THE DISMANTLE PATRIARCHY CONTEST CHALLENGES COLLEGE STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD TO ENVISION HOW THEY MIGHT CHANGE THE LARGER SOCIETAL SYSTEM OF PATRIARCHY TO CREATE AN ACCEPTING SOCIETY THROUGH VISUAL ART, MUSIC, ESSAY, STORY, POETRY, VIDEO OR PHOTOGRAPHY

dismantle PATRIARCHY

WINNING ENTRIES WILL RECEIVE A CASH PRIZE.
FOR INFO, VISIT DISMANTLEPATRIARCHY.ORG
COLLEGE SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 5, 2022.

  @LEVITTAMPOCALA

10 FREE CONCERTS

FRIDAYS

APRIL 22 - JULY 1*

7 - 9 P.M.



WEBB FIELD

1510 NW 4TH ST.

RAIN LOCATION:
E.D. CROSKY
RECREATION CENTER

**excluding May 27*

MUSIC



2022 SERIES LINE-UP

April 22, Davina and the Vagabonds with West Port High Real Teal Jazz Combo | April 29, LPT with Denis Vasenin

May 6, Indigenous with Sheba, the Mississippi Queen | May 13, The Byrne Brothers with Scott Jackson

May 20, The Drifters feat. Rick Sheppard with Billy Buchanan | June 3, Reggae Force with Nostaljah

June 10, Bette Smith with Ecliff Telford | June 17, Natu Camara with UF Afropop Ensemble

June 24, Melvin Williams with Gospel Echoes | July 1, Miles Nielsen & the Rusted Hearts with the Ocala Symphony Orchestra

FUN



FOOD



For more information visit ocalafl.org/levittamp or call 352-629-8447.



NEED HELP FOR SUMMER CAMP? APPLY NOW

To apply, visit Elc-marion.org or call us at (352) 369-2315 and we are happy to help you see if you qualify!

SUMMER CAMP FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES!

The Early Learning Coalition of Marion County helps eligible families cover the cost of summer camp* or childcare for children 12 and younger so parents can work or pursue their education.

*with School Readiness contracted providers



To apply, visit www.elc-marion.org.
Call us at **352-369-2315**

Sponsored by the the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County and State of Florida, Division of Early Learning



FILL A BAG: LET'S HELP FEED OUR FAMILIES



Since 1993, the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive has been the U.S.'s largest one-day drive, held each year on the second Saturday in May.

Remind your family, friends and neighbors to bag healthy, nonperishable food items and put by their mailbox on **Saturday, May 14, 2022** for your letter carrier to pick up and deliver to food banks and pantries.

All donated food stays within the local community.

Please note: The food drive is subject to change or cancellation if necessary to protect the safety and health of those involved.

For more information, please visit: **nalc-info.org/food-drive**.

A promotional banner for a Mother's Day event. The left side features a graphic with fireworks and the text "FINE ARTS FOR OCALA PRESENTS... SYMPHONY UNDER THE STARS". The right side shows a photograph of a large crowd gathered under a white tent at night. Below the photo, the event details are listed in yellow text: "Mother's Day May 8, 2022 Ocala Golf Club 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm FAFO.org".

FINE ARTS FOR OCALA

PRESENTS...

SYMPHONY
UNDER
THE STARS

Mother's Day
May 8, 2022
Ocala Golf Club
3:00 pm - 9:00 pm
FAFO.org



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
OF MARION COUNTY

YOU'RE INVITED:
**BBBS LAUNCH
MARION
COUNTY**

**SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022
10:00AM - 12:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY BLDG. AT MLK
FIRST RESPONDER COMPLEX
515 SW MLK JR. AVE**

Free food & drinks
Ice cream for the kids
Fire truck tours



Join Big Brothers Big Sisters to learn more about mentoring services for youth here in the Marion County Community!

Learn more about our mentoring programs at:
BBBSTampaBay.org

Contact: **Stephanie Gavin**
StephanieG@bbbstampabay.org
352.566.3094



INSPIRE INITIATIVES
SCHOLARSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

Funding available for exceptional students interested in STEM, Marketing, Communications, Art, and more!

APPLY:
APRIL 11-MAY 20, 2022

* Scholarships available for high school seniors, current college students, and grad students.

NAACP.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS

NAACP.

THE OCALA JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION COMMISSION

presents the 2nd Annual

Juneteenth
FREEDOM DAY

Celebration

Saturday, June 18, 2022

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Webb Field

1501 W. Silver Springs Blvd.

Ocala, Florida 34475

Food - Vendors - Entertainment & More!

For more information, contact

Sharington Houston at

ocalajuneteenth2020@gmail.com

Save the Date

18TH ANNUAL

MAKE IT HAPPEN

YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP

VANGUARD HIGH SCHOOL
7 NORTHWEST 28TH STREET
OCALA, FL 34475



JULY 1ST
5 PM - 9 PM

REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE: WWW.MAKEITHAPPEN22.EVENTBRITE.COM

DRAYTON FLORENCE
RETIRED NFL VETERAN





LEARNING IS FUN EVERYDAY!

Virtual Parent Educational Workshops

Thursdays, May 5 - June 9, 2022
6 to 7:30 p.m.

FREE weekly Parents as Teachers Virtual Workshops, fun activities that promote early learning, plus **GIFT CARDS** and **EDUCATIONAL TOYS** for participants!



GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY!

Families who attend **ALL SIX** virtual workshops will receive a \$250 Gift Card!

Limited spots. Register today at
elc-marion.org/parents/success-by-6/parents-training-scheduling/

For more information, contact Success by 6 Coordinator Chrissy Vickers at (352) 369-2315, Ext. 213 or cvickers@elc-marion.org.



SAVE-THE-DATE

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

**Juneteenth Emancipation Celebration
Empowering Freedom Forward**

Juneteenth Celebration Dinner and Dance Fundraiser

Saturday, June 18, 2022

7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

One Health Center, 1714 S.W 17th St., Ocala, FL 34471

Event includes:

**Soul Food Dinner, Live Entertainment, DJ, Dancing, Spoken Word,
Raffles, Silent Auction and much more.**

**For event details and sponsorship information,
Contact Barbara Brooks, at (352) 875-4237
or visit www.ramalservices.org**

R.A.M.A.L Educational and Social Service, Inc.



Free for everyone



Free for everyone

FREE SPORTS PHYSICAL



Dr. Theresa Harris
Tia Barriner-ARNP



MAY .14 .2022
8:00am - 12:00pm

Lillian Bryant Park (Inside)
2200 NW 17th Pl., Ocala, 34475



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

Happy Mother's Day



ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- May 9** Family Violence Prevention
Monday 11 a.m.
(Zoom Meeting)
- May 11** Safe Kids Marion
Wednesday 9 a.m.
(Zoom Meeting)
- May 16** CCASA
Monday 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(Zoom Meeting)
- May 31** Substance Exposed Newborns
Tuesday 9 a.m.
OPD Community Room
- May 5** MC Opioid & Addiction Taskforce
Thursday 3:30 p.m.
OPD Community Room

UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

- May 4 Alliance Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 11:30 a.m.
MCSO Multi-purpose Room



Agency Spotlight: Keith Carson

Believe in Santa Foundation

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Jennifer Fryns,
Associate Vice President of Career
and Professional Programs,
College of Central Florida

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