



MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

Website: Mcchildrensalliance.org

Volume 23, Issue 9 ~ September 2023

SAVE - THE - DATE

NIGHT OF HOPE

HONORING THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Dinner ~ Music ~ Giveaways ~ Survivor Testimonies ~ Vendors



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Rosalind Osgood

Senator, Florida State District 23

Community Activist

Ordained Minister

President/CEO of non-profit

Mount Olive Development Corp.



Thursday, September 28, 2023

5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

College of Central Florida,

3001 S.W. College Rd., Ocala

For information, sponsorship opportunities
or to purchase tickets, scan the QR Code
or call Valerie at (352) 438-5990.

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
Rep. Stan McClain
Kevin McDonald
Jim McCune
Pamela Michell
Randy Reynolds
Brad Rogers
Charles Scherer
Vickie Sullivan
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.; 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; 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
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.



YOLANDA N. THOMAS
PRESENTS

A Top Tier
Tea Party

**DRESS IN YOUR BEST
TEA PARTY ATTIRE**

**FANCIEST HAT
PRIZE**

**MUSICAL
ENTERTAINMENT**

**SPECIAL MISSION
STATEMENT**

**AN ARRAY OF AMAZING
REFRESHMENTS**

**SPONSORSHIP
AVAILABLE**

THE APPLETON MUSEUM
4333 E. SILVER SPRINGS BLVD. OCALA, FL 34470
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
2:00PM-4:00PM

EVENTBRITE.COM: A TOP TIER TEA PARTY
\$30.00 PER TICKET

CONTACT YOLANDA THOMAS FOR INQUIRIES
MADEFORTEACHERS5@GMAIL.COM



Hear the opinions and concerns of our youth pertaining to gun violence



TEEN GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TASKFORCE & MEGGA PRESENTS

LABOR DAY JUMPOFF

TEEN SUMMIT

BOUNCE HOUSES

GIVEAWAYS

LIVE DJ

FREE FOOD

ENTERTAINMENT

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 3RD
4:00-8:00pm

Special Guest Panelist
Including >>>>

Byron Luckey
Tiera Gates
Mook Boy

ED CROSKY RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

1510 NW 4TH ST OCALA, FL 34475

For More Info Jeremy (352) 512-5276
Shawn (352) 445-3539



Join Us!

for the next

Alliance Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

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

Mary Sue Rich Community
Center at Reed Place

1812 N.W. 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475

Agency Spotlight:

Carson Pennypacker, Community Engagement
& Partnership Coordinator for the VA

"Suicide Prevention Month"

Marion County Public Schools - School is back in session so now is a great time to hear from district leaders about important topics like safety, family and school engagement and financing public education. Participants will learn how MCPS aims to foster a powerful partnership between schools and the business community to help every student succeed.

Guest Speakers:

Lauren Debick,
Executive Director, Communication & Community Engagement

Theresa Boston-Ellis
Chief Financial Officer

Dennis McFadden,
Executive Director, Safety & Security

EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE? HELP IS AVAILABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

IF YOU ARE IN NEED
— CALL THE —

FLORIDA
**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**
HOTLINE

1-800-500-1119

(Hotline Open 24/7)

OCALA RECOVERY FESTIVAL

CELEBRATE, REMEMBER, TAKE ACTION

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Saturday,
September 9th

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
at Tuscawilla Park.

Thanks to the
generosity of our
sponsors
EVERYTHING IS FREE!

Visit this link for
Sponsor and
Exhibitor
Opportunities:



Don't miss the
presentation of the Annual
Recovery Champion
Award!

EXHIBITOR BOOTHS
RECOVERY RESOURCES
FOOD
ENTERTAINMENT
KIDS ZONE
SWAG AND GIVEAWAYS

[MCCHILDRENSALLIANCE.NETWORKFORGOOD.COM/EVENTS/
56144-6TH-ANNUAL-OCALA-RECOVERY-FESTIVAL](https://mcchildrensalliance.networkforgood.com/events/56144-6th-annual-ocala-recovery-festival)

Info Detail: Tuscawilla Park
500 NE 9th Street Ocala, FL 34470
have questions? email us at mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org

THERE'S STILL TIME TO NOMINATE A SURVIVOR

Conqueror Award Nomination Form

The Marion County Children's Alliance Family Violence Prevention Workgroup is pleased to present its annual Night of Hope on **Thursday, September 28, 2023** honoring Victims and Survivors of Domestic Violence as well as advocates for the amazing work they do. We are now accepting nominations for the **2023 CONQUEROR AWARD** designed to recognize three outstanding survivors in our community that have overcome challenges and flourished despite their circumstances.

We need your help! If you work in the field of domestic violence, are a community supporter or know someone who is a survivor, please nominate those individuals for this award.

Recipients will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Nominee must be a Survivor and resident of Marion County
- Nominee must be making a positive impact by speaking out against domestic violence
- Nominee must have made a positive change in their lives
- How the nominee's actions have influenced attitudes, policies or practices in the field of domestic violence

Conqueror Awardees receive two complimentary tickets to attend the Night of Hope, a special gift and highlights of their story and recognition at the event.

Nominee's Name: _____ # of years a survivor _____

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

Best Contact #: _____ Email Address: _____

Are you willing to have part of your story shared at the Night of Hope? ____ yes or ____ no

Nominator's Name: _____

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

Best Contact #: _____ Email Address: _____

What is your relationship to the Nominee? _____

Why do you believe this nominee should be nominated for this award?

Call Valerie at **(352) 438-5990** for more information or a Nomination Form. Nominations can be mailed to Marion County Children's Alliance, 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475 Attn: Monica Bryant. Forms can also be e-mailed to **Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org**. Put Conqueror Nomination in the Subject Line. Deadline to submit nominations is **Friday, September 15, 2023** at 5 p.m.

OR DONATE A BASKET TO SUPPORT THE EVENT

SHOW OUR SURVIVORS WE CARE SPONSOR A BASKET TO GIVE THEM



for Victims and
Survivors of
Domestic Violence
attending the 2023
Night of Hope
September 28, 2023



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 Theme**



Baskets or supplies can be dropped off at the
Alliance Office, 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala , FL 34475

Deadline: **September 15, 2023.**

Scan the **QR Code** to purchase tickets to attend
the event or for Sponsorship Opportunities

Call Valerie at **(352) 438-5990** for more information.

WEAR YOUR WINGS 5K RUN/WALK

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Race Starts and Ends at the College of Central Florida
3001 SW College Rd., Ocala, FL 34474

(Park in the Dassance Fine Arts (Building 4) parking area)

Meet by the Bell Tower for Start

Register Now:

<http://wearyourwings5k.itsyourrace.com/>



7 AM REGISTRATION AND PACKET PICK UP
8 AM RACE | WALK STARTS

Early Registration

\$30 per adult

\$10 per child (under 10)



Day of Registration

\$35

Group Rate: \$25 for groups of 10 or more
Call (352) 438-5990 for team discount code



SHIRTS & FINISHER MEDALS GUARANTEED TO THE FIRST 250 REGISTERANTS

AWARDS: FIRST PLACE OVERALL MALE/FEMALE
AND TOP 3 FINISHERS IN EACH AGE GROUP MALE/FEMALE



or Scan QR Code to register

For sponsorship opportunities or if you would like
to make a donation call Valerie at (352) 438-5990.



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



WEAR YOUR WINGS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 5K RUN/WALK 2023 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, October 14, 2023 ~ Walk starts and ends at the College of Central Florida

~ HOPE SPONSOR: \$1,000

Sponsorship Level Includes:

- ✓ 6 complimentary Wear Your Wings 5K Race Entries
- ✓ 5 complimentary tickets to our Annual Night of Hope: Honoring Victims and Survivors on Sept. 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the College of Central Florida (Sponsorship must be received by September 18, to attend)
- ✓ Signage at event listing your company or organization as the **HOPE** Sponsor
- ✓ Immediate recognition of your support on social media platforms and in Alliance monthly newsletter

~ LOVE SPONSOR: \$1,000

Sponsorship Level Includes:

- ✓ 4 complimentary Wear Your Wings Domestic Violence 5K T-shirts
- ✓ 3 complimentary tickets to our Annual Night of Hope: Honoring Victims and Survivors on Sept. 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the College of Central Florida (Sponsorship must be received by September 18, to attend)
- ✓ Signage at event listing your company or organization as the **LOVE** Sponsor
- ✓ Immediate recognition of your support on social media platforms and in Alliance monthly newsletter

~ PEACE SPONSOR: \$750

Sponsorship Level Includes:

- ✓ 3 complimentary Wear Your Wings Domestic Violence 5K T-shirts
- ✓ 2 complimentary tickets to our Annual Night of Hope: Honoring Victims and Survivors on Sept. 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the College of Central Florida (Sponsorship must be received by September 18, to attend)
- ✓ Signage at event listing your company or organization as the **PEACE** Sponsor
- ✓ Immediate recognition of your support on social media platforms

~ JOY SPONSOR: \$500

Sponsorship Level Includes:

- ✓ 2 complimentary tickets to our Annual Night of Hope: Honoring Victims and Survivors on Sept. 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the College of Central Florida (Sponsorship must be received by September 18, to attend)
- ✓ 2 complimentary Wear Your Wings Domestic Violence 5K T-shirts
- ✓ Signage at event listing your company or organization as the **JOY** Sponsor
- ✓ Immediate recognition of your support on social media platforms

~ COMMUNITY PARTNER: \$250

Sponsorship Level Includes:

- ✓ 1 complimentary ticket to our Annual Night of Hope: Honoring Victims and Survivors on Sept. 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the College of Central Florida (Sponsorship must be received by September 18, to attend)
- ✓ 1 complimentary Wear Your Wings Domestic Violence 5K T-shirt
- ✓ Immediate recognition of your support on social media platforms

~ **UNABLE TO SPONSOR, PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION OF \$ _____**

Submit sponsorships as soon as possible for Maximum Benefit!

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

**TEEN GUN
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
TASKFORCE**

3RD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH

**BE A PART OF
THE SOLUTION**

Community Taskforce
Facilitated by the Marion
County Children's Alliance

**MARY SUE RICH COMMUNITY CENTER
1821 NW 21st AVE OCALA, FL 34475
6:00pm**



For information contact: Jeremy Vickers
Cell: (352) 512-5276
email: Jeremy@mcchildrensalliance.org

Made with PromoteMyEvent.com

YOU ARE INVITED



— AN EVENING OF —
**MISSION
AND MUSIC**

featuring a musical performance by members of the AdventHealth Orchestra with AdventHealth Ocala CEO Erika Skula on percussion. The event proceeds will fund our hospital's Labor and Delivery services.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER

10

2023

2:30 PM VIP Reception | **4 PM** Performance Starts

THE REILLY ARTS CENTER

500 Northeast Ninth Street, Ocala, FL 34470

FOR TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIPS:

OcalaMissionAndMusic.com


Advent Health
Foundation | Ocala



FAMILY FOCUS

2023 - 2024



TAKE A WALK DOWN MCPS LANE

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Lake Weir High School

9 am - 12 pm

Join us to learn how MCPS plans to support your child to succeed academically and remain resilient. Come learn how you can partner with us for a successful year!

FALL FESTIVAL OF LEARNING

Saturday, November 4, 2023

West Port High School

9 am - 12 pm

Families will enjoy learning new skills and concepts to support learning at home and on the go!

TOGETHER TOWARD TOMORROW

Saturday, January 27, 2024

Forest High School

9 am - 12 pm

Thinking about the future? Come learn how to help your child prepare for their next transition.

CATCH THE SUMMER WAVE

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Dunnellon High School

9 am - 12 pm

Come learn fun ways to keep your child engaged in learning over the summer months.

INTERACTIVE ADULT SESSIONS

FREE CHILDCARE

EXHIBIT HALL WITH COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT RESOURCES

ENTERTAINMENT & GIVEAWAYS

FREE BOOKS FOR EACH CHILD

FREE TRANSPORTATION (AGES 5+)

For more information:

 EngageMCPS@marion.k12.fl.us



Fall Openings for Success!

Enroll today to receive education, counseling and life skills in an individualized experience for middle and high school girls.

We provide:

- Academic classes to earn credits
- Small classrooms with certified teachers
- Regular check-ins with academic advisor and counselor
- Life skills such as arts, money management, social interactions
- Incentives and awards for attendance, progress toward academic and personal goals
- Shopping in the Center
- Personal goal planning to ensure progress



For more information, call Social Services Manager, Adrienne Youmans at (352) 369-0571



JOIN OUR CHILD ADVOCACY TEAM!

www.guardianadlitem.org

The Florida Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office represents abused, abandoned and neglected children in the community and their legal interests in court. Through the collaboration of a multidisciplinary team that includes a Guardian ad Litem Attorney, a child welfare professional, and hopefully a trained volunteer from the child's community, our team provides quality legal representation for Florida's most vulnerable children while assisting the child in expressing their needs and wishes. Our unique approach allows us to support the whole child, addressing their physical, educational, mental, emotional, social, and legal needs.

This could be you

- Guardian ad Litem Attorney
- Child Welfare Professional

Volunteer



You can be a part of Florida's award-winning, state-funded child advocacy organization and make a difference in a child's life.

Learn more about how you can become a volunteer child advocate or support the Florida Guardian ad Litem Foundation, which provides support and additional resources for the Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office and the families served.





First Friday Family Law Forms Review Clinic

Marion County

Have you completed your own forms for Divorce, Child Support, Child Support Modification, Paternity, Name Change, or some other family law matter?

Would you like an attorney to review your forms before filing them?

Not sure what forms you need to file?

Occurs the first Friday of each month
1:00PM - 3:00PM

Marion County Courthouse
Room 3057
110 N.W. 1st Ave. Ocala, FL 34475

Register: <https://bit.ly/2MLv7Sb> or call 1-800-405-1417





NOT EVERYONE CAN TAKE THE **HEAT**

On an 80° day, the temperature inside your car can reach 109° in just 20 minutes — more than hot enough to kill a child who may be left inside.

Make sure you **ACT** to prevent heatstroke:

Avoid heatstroke-related injury and death.

NEVER leave your child alone in a car. And lock your car so kids can't access it on their own.

Create reminders.

Put something next to your child, such as a purse or cell phone, that you need when you stop. This is especially important if you aren't following your normal routine.

Take action.

Call 911 if you see a child alone in a car. First-responders are trained for these situations and want you to call.

Visit Safe Kids at tinyurl.com/ye84jtsp to learn more.

SAFE
K:DS
MARION COUNTY

Florida
HEALTH
Marion County

The 2023 heat wave is a hot topic. Learn how to keep your family safe.

Anyone can fall victim to heat illness. But some people are more vulnerable than others. Babies, children and pregnant women are among them.



Cool tips to beat the heat:



Stay hydrated.

Drink more water and avoid sugary beverages and alcohol because they promote dehydration.



Stay indoors.

Limit your time outside and remain in air-conditioned places, including public venues. Take cool baths or showers to cool off.



Stay alert.

Never leave anyone, especially children, in a parked car. Check on family, friends, and neighbors who may be more at risk of heat-related injuries.

Heat Injuries

Heat cramps

First sign of heat-related illness.

Symptoms: painful muscle cramps, usually in legs and abdomen, and heavy sweating.

Treatment: apply pressure on cramps and provide sips of water unless the person complains of nausea.

Heat Exhaustion

Symptoms: cramps, heavy sweating, fatigue, clammy skin, nausea or vomiting, headache.

Treatment: move the person to a cooler environment, loosen clothing, apply cool, wet cloth, offer sips of water. Seek immediate medical attention if the person vomits.

Heat Stroke

Symptoms: throbbing headache, confusion, nausea, dizziness, rapid pulse, body temperature above 103 degrees, shallow breathing.

Treatment: call 911 or get the victim to a hospital immediately. Do not give fluids.

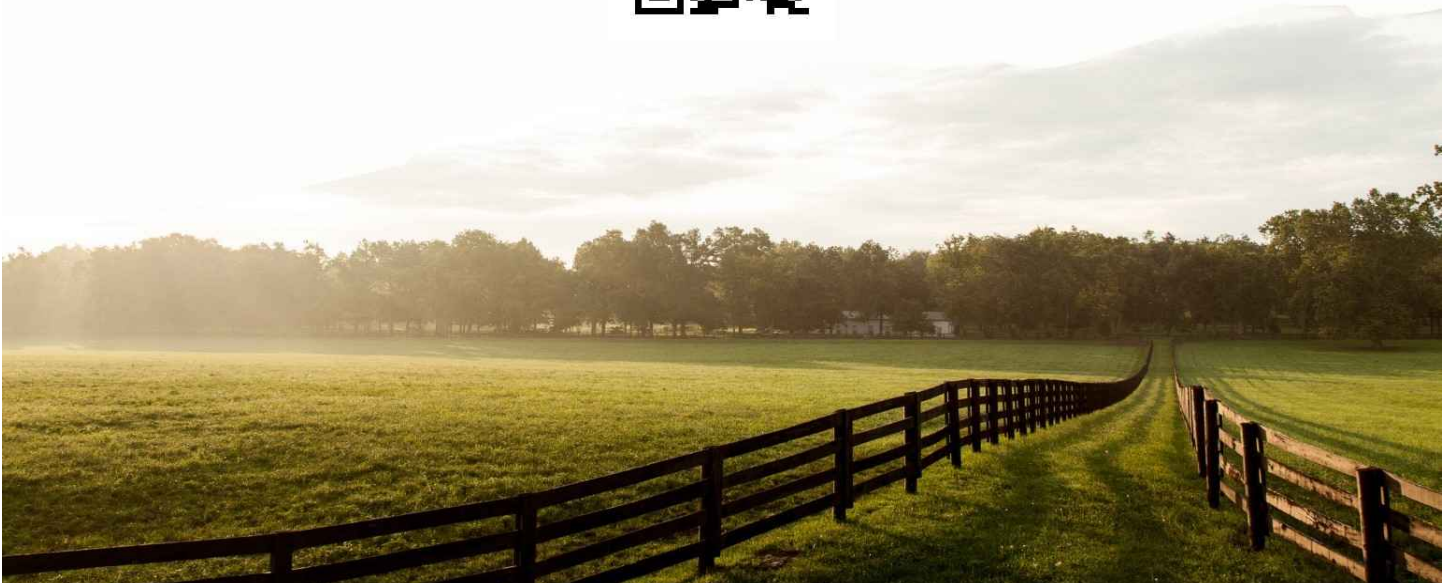
SAVE THE DATE

GIVE TO LOCAL NONPROFITS ON MARION COUNTY'S
EXCLUSIVE GIVING DAY

**September
19th-20th**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR OCALA/MARION COUNTY
352-622-5020 EXT 105
ASHLEY@OCALAFUNDATION.ORG
WWW.GIVE4MARION.ORG**





SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

Volunteer lawyers will meet individually with you to determine whether you are eligible to seal or expunge your criminal records. If you are eligible, the volunteer lawyer will fill out the forms with you.

To participate in the clinic, your criminal case must have occurred in Marion County, Florida.

If you qualify for sealing or expungement, you may be responsible for a \$75 application fee.

Not all records can be sealed or expunged.

Walk-ins welcome.
Priority given to pre-registered clients

**OCTOBER 6TH, 2023
11:00AM - 2:00PM**

**MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
110 NW 1ST AVE,
OCALA, FL 34475**

Register at:
bit.ly/3qil2Aa

or by calling:
(321) 270- 7711

**SCAN ME TO
REGISTER:**



The background of the poster features a dark, textured fabric, possibly a tulle or mesh, draped and gathered. The fabric is set against a black background that is densely covered with small, shimmering gold or yellow sparkles, creating a starry or confetti-like effect. The overall aesthetic is elegant and celebratory.

50th

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

benefiting
Marion Senior Services

Wednesday, September
6th, 2023 | 6PM

Reilly Arts Center
500 NE 9th St. Ocala, FL 34470
RSVP ONLY

Black tie optional

PLEASE RSVP WITH THE
QR CODE BELOW



*We look forward to celebrating 50
years with you!*

For assistance, please email
ndobkowski@marionseniorservices.org or call
(352) 620-3501



Therapeutic Riding Center



Volunteer Orientation

September 23, 2023; 9am-12pm

♥ Do you enjoy being around horses?

Experienced or not, join us at Stirrups 'n Strides. We are happy to teach you.

♥ Do you have a desire to be part of a group who is working together to make a difference in the lives of others?

Join us at Stirrups 'n Strides, where ordinary people do extraordinary things!
There are many ways to help. Call us today to talk about opportunities.



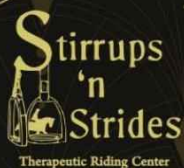
Contact Us: (352)286-2519 or (352)817-6446

www.stirrupsnstrides.com



4246 West Highway 318, Citra, Florida 32113

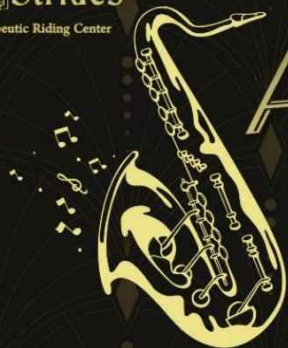
STIRRUPS 'N' STRIDES THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER PRESENTS



BOOTLEGGERS



ACKPOTS



December 2^{*} 2023



Saturday 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm



Reserved Table
Sponsorships Available



SPEAKEASY LOCATION:
MARY SUE RICH
COMMUNITY CENTER
1821 NW 21ST AVE,
OCALA, FL 34475

Tickets \$100
suggested donation

Call 352-427-3569

NO PASSWORD NO PARTY!

DON'T TELL NOBODY!!!



Stirrups'n
Strides
Therapeutic
Riding Center,
Inc. is a 501(c)3
Non-Profit Organization. Tax ID#20-5935626. Donations tax deductible in accordance with IRS guidelines.



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

We Will NEVER Forget



22nd Anniversary



ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- September 11** Family Violence Prevention
Monday 11 a.m.
Zoom Meeting
- September 13** Safe Kids Marion
Wednesday 9 a.m.
Florida Dept. of Health Marion
- September 18** Community Council Against
Monday Substance Abuse (CCASA)
Noon
Zoom Meeting
- September 18** Teen Gun Violence Prevention
Monday 6 p.m.
Mary Sue Rich Community Center
- September** Substance Exposed Newborns
Tuesday 9 a.m.
OPD Community Room
No Meeting this Month

UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

- September 6 Alliance Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 11:30 a.m.
Mary Sue Rich Community
Center at Reed Place



Agency Spotlight:

Carson Pennypacker, Community Engagement & Partnership Coordinator for the VA

"Suicide Prevention Month"

Guest Speakers:

Marion County Public Schools

Lauren Debick,
Executive Director, Communication & Community Engagement

Theresa Boston-Ellis
Chief Financial Officer

Dennis McFadden,
Executive Director, Safety & Security

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