

MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE Website: Mcchildrensalliance.org

Volume 23, Issue 11 ~ November 2023



50 S MAGNOLIA AVE | MARIONTHEATRE.ORG | 352.820.3049

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

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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; 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 Coordin	ator 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.

Jenkins

Proud Supporter of the Marion County Children's Alliance





Friday, December 29, 2023 7:30 PM

A benefit concert for:

4337 E Silver Springs Blvd







for the next

Alliance Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, 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:

Quameshia Townsend - BRAZEN Program Stephanie Gavin - Big Brothers Big Sisters

Guest Speaker:

Jennifer Martinez, Executive Director, Marion Senior Services

"Age Friendly Community"

To learn more about the Children's Alliance visit our website at https://mcchildrensalliance.org

Please Join Us at the

ANNUAL VENDOR FAIR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023 11:00A TO 1:00P MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Discover resources and network with over 40 community partners

FREE lunch while supplies last

Would you like to be a vendor at this year's fair? Register using the link below or Scan the QR Code!

SHILDREN'S ALLIANS

NOISYW

Deadline for Vendors is November 22, 2023. Space is limited - first come, first served.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCCAVendorFair23

No phone registrations accepted .

2023 - 2024

FAM



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:

FAMILY FOCUS VIRTUAL LEARNING SESSIONS

Each month, MCPS will connect, collaborate, and partner with families in learning through a virtual setting. Families can participate in our live online session at 5:30 PM or visit the recorded sessions on our YouTube channel.

November 15, 2023 Understanding My Child's Test Scores and Effectively Communicating with My Child's School

December 13, 2023 Bonding Through Traditions: Let's cook together

January 17, 2024 Preparing Your Child for Secondary Plans

February 21, 2024 For the Love of Literacy

March 13, 2024 Preparing Your Child to Thrive Digitally: Cool Kid's Code

April 10, 2024 MCPS Summer Learning Opportunities

Register Here!



Flerida KidCare

For more information, email: EngageMCPS@marion.k12.fl.us

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"Helping Every Student Succeed" "AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT"





NOV. 4 2023

OCAL

151 SE OSCEOLA AVE,

OCALA, FL 34471

REGISTRATION: 8AM

WALK STARTS: 9AM

CITIZENS CIRCLE

WALK FOR EPILEPSY DOG & PONY AWARDS WALKER PRIZES MUSIC FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES COMMUNITY PARTNERS & MORE

REGISTER TODAY

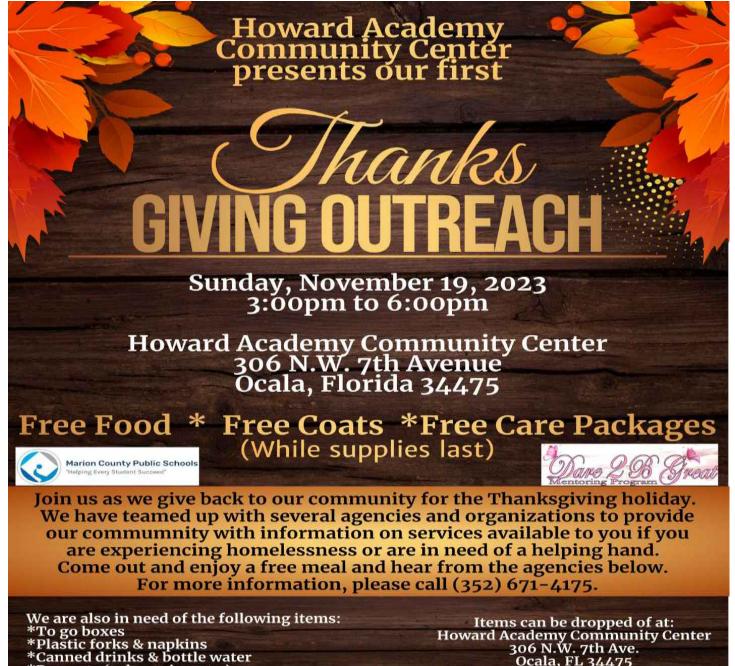


walkthetalkfl.org FOR MORE INFORMATION, **CONTACT:** giving@eafla.org

🗗 🞯 🍞 EpilepsyAFLA



12



*Desserts (cakes, pies, etc.) *Packaged snacks

Howard Academy Community Center 306 N.W. 7th Ave. Ocala, FL 34475 Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm







ST. JOHN MISSIONARY ream













toy distributions for families in Marion County.

ALL Applications will be accepted on a first come- first served basis and must be



completed at and turned in to the Administrative office of Greater New Bethel M. B. Church 612 NW 4th Place * Ocala, Florida

MON-THURS (9AM-2PM) Office Hours: Mon- Thurs: 8:30am -1:30pm

Applications accepted October 9 - December 1, 2023

COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION & PICKUP DECEMBER 16, 2023 11:00AM-1:00PM **GNB MINISTRIES** 612 NW 4TH PLACE

TO ENSURE THE HEALTH SAFETY OF RECIPIENTS AND VOLUNTEERS, WE MUST ADHERE TO THE COVID-19 CDC GUIDELINES, PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLES AND **OPEN THE TRUNK WHEN VOLUNTEERS ARE READY TO** LOAD IT. WALK-UP RECIPIENTS PLEASE REMAIN 6 FEET APART, WHILE WAITING IN LINE, PLEASE WEARA FACE-COVERING.

For More Information

Contact us at:

352-622-3815

Please join Kingdom Revival Church for a FREE

Dríve Thru Community Chrístmas Lunch

with all the trimmings!

Saturday, December 16, 2023, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 3318 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470

For information, please call Rose at (352)361-5044



JOIN THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION WORKGROUP FOR ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING CAMPAIGN



December 8 – December 24, 2023 during holiday hours at the Paddock Mall

- 100% of the proceeds provide resources and services to victims and survivors of Domestic Violence.
- * All Volunteers MUST have experience wrapping gifts AND be at least 18 years old to participate.

Volunteer Gift Wrapping Form

(Please Print Clearly)

* Required Information		
*Name:		<u> </u>
*Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
*Phone: ()	or-Cell: ()	
*E-mail:		

Volunteers Needed December 8 through December 24, 2023

Please list dates and times you want to volunteer:

Date	_Time	_ to
Date	_ Time	_to
Date	_ Time	to
Date	_Time	_ to
Date	_Time	_ to
Date	_Time	_ to
Your support is sincerely apprecia on you to show up on th	ated BUT , please remember e days and hours YOU sign	
	2) 438-5994, or to monica@b ailable times and dates, call	reakthesilenceonviolence.org. Valerie at (352) 438-5990.



"Do the good that presents itself to be done." - St. Vincent DePaul

2023 Holiday Help Drives

Information for Applicants

Each year, Blessed Trinity and Brother's Keeper helps hundreds of families during the holiday season. **Eligible families receive food for Thanksgiving and food & gifts for children 12 and under at Christmas.** This year we are partnering with Toys for Tots. It is only through the generosity of many others in our parish and community that we're able to provide this assistance each year.



Holiday Sign-Ups:	Monday, October 9 through Friday, December 1* Mon. & Fri. 9am -11:30am and Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9am-2:30pm *Cut-Off for Thanksgiving food applications is Fri. November 10		
Who's Eligible:	THANKSGIVING FOOD & CHRISTMAS FOOD: Families with at least one child under the age of 18 residing in Marion County.		
TOYS FOR TOTS	CHRISTMAS <u>TOYS</u> : Families with at least one child 12 and under living in one of the following zip codes 34433, 34434, 34470, 34473, 34475, 34477, 34478, 34479, 34481		
Applicants Need:	Photo ID with Marion County address, Social Security cards for adults and children, Birth Certificates for <u>all</u> children, Lease <u>and</u> Utility Bill to prove residency and zip code Proof of food stamps qualification (if eligible)		
Pick-Up Dates/Ti	nes: Thanksgiving: Tuesday, November 14 from 9:00am-4:00pm Christmas: Tues., Dec. 12 or Wed., Dec. 13 from 9am-4pm *Clients will be assigned a pick-up time/day		
Pick-Up Location	Knights of Columbus Hall 1510 SE 3rd Ave, Ocala, FL 34471 Located at the north end of the Blessed Trinity parking lot *Bring Photo ID of the applicant when picking up		
EMERGENCY ASSIST			

320 NW 10th St.., Ocala (352) 622-3846 THRIFT STORE 320 NW 10th St., Ocala (352) 732-7988 SOUP KITCHEN 435 NW 2nd St., Ocala (352) 789-8139 MAIL TO 5 SE 17th St., Ocala, FL 34471 New Direction Recutry Center of Marion, Inc. 2023 Holiday Help for Zip Code 34482

> Sign- up by Appointment Only! 352*509*7344

November 14-16 Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am - 11:30am and 1:00pm - 4:00pm November 28-30 Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 am - 11:30 am and 1:00pm - 4:00pm December 2 10:00am-1:00pm Pick - Up Location: 5100 W HWY 40 Ste. 1100 Ocala, Fl. 34482

Who's Eligible: Families with at least one child under the age of 12

APPLICANTS NEED:

* Photo ID with Marion County address *Social Security cards for adults and children * Birth Certificates for ALL children * Lease and Utility Bill to prove residency and zip code *Proof of assistance(SNAP or TANF Benefits)

> EMAL: NDIRECTION2018@GMAIL.COM WEBSITE: https://ndirectionrc.wixsite.com/families

> > ew Direction

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL- FREE (800)435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION # CH60338

TOYS

FOR



HIRING ALL HEROES

The 2023 Paychecks for Patriots Job Fair connects veterans and their spouses to veteran-friendly businesses interested in hiring *now*. This event is open to all job seekers but priority will be given to US veterans, active service members, and their families.



Thursday, Nov. 9 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Marion County Public Library Headquarters 2720 E Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL

REGISTER TODAY:

bit.ly/HIRINGHEROES



NEED HELP? CALL: 800-434-5627, EXT. 2225

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to persons with disabilities and in Spanish. Phone numbers may be reached using TTY/TDD equipment via Florida Relay at 711. For accommodations, call 800-434-5627, ext. 7878. Programs funded by CareerSource CLM as grantee of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of awards totaling \$6.9 million, revised annually, with no funds from non-governmental sources. A proud partner of the American Job Center network and member of CareerSource Florida.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB



At Marion Oaks

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

7:30 am - 5:30 pm Monday - Friday Ages 6 - 18 December 20th - 29th Closed December 25th

Space is Limited Scholarships Available

Join us for Winter Break At the Marion Oaks Community Center

Enroll onsite November 30th 10am - 12:00 and 5pm- 7pm or call for more information

www.bgcofmarion.org

352-690-7440

DO YOU LOVE TO READ? IF SO, THE UNITED WAY IS LOOKING FOR READINGPALS

Would you like to make an investment in the future? Do you love to read?

Share that joy with a kindergartener in one of 18 schools served by the United Way of Marion County's ReadingPals program.

During the school day, ReadingPal volunteers read to a kindergartener who has been identified as needing additional support of their basic literacy skills.

In this one -on- one scenario you develop a strong relationship with the student while you are reading a book, asking some questions you are instilling the joy of reading. As a sample of the program, please view this information on our website **www.uwmc.org**), under the impact category click on ReadingPals.

Join us on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 9 a.m. at Master the Possibilities, a not-for-profit lifelong learning center located at Circle Square Commons in On Top of the World. This free workshop will be held in Live Oak Hall, a classroom of Master the Possibilities located at 8415 S.W. 80th Street.

Registration is required to ensure materials are available.

Your investment of time will make **ALL** the difference in the life of a child.

Call United Way of Marion County at (352) 732-9696 Ext. 212 or e-mail jhathaway@uwmc.org.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD. A DIFERENCE BECOME A READINGPAL

COLLEGE of

Date

REGISTER AT CF.EDU/OPENHOUSE

ON CAMPUS WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

11 A.M.-4 P.M. | OCALA CAMPUS **Ewers Century Center** 3001 S.W. College Road, Ocala

ONLINE **TUESDAY, DEC. 12** 1-2:30 P.M.

via Zoom

✓ Take a tour.

✓ Apply for free.

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✓ Meet admissions staff. ✓ Enter to win a free class!

Learn about financial aid.

✓ Complete residency.

College of Central Florida does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, pregnancy, age, marital status, national origin, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status or disability status in its programs, activities and employment. For inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies contact Dr. Mary Ann Begley, Title IX Coordinator, Ocala Campus, Building 3, Room 116, 3001 S.W. College Road, 352-291-4410, or Equity@cf.edu.



Every Friday from 10-11:30AM

Free Program! All Supplies Included

REGISTER WITH US NOW! info@aihocala.org or call (352) 723-5444

With AIHOM Artist Carmen Rojas Gínes ♀ 507 NE 8th Ave, Ocala, Florida 34470

IF YOU NEED HELP, PLEASE REACH OUT!

STOP Sexual Assoult

IF YOU ARE IN NEED — CALL THE —

FLORIDA DOMESTIC DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

1-800-500-1119

TERRET DELAKE A SUMTER COUNTIES, INC. Seving Vienne of Domestic Vigineva and Sevuel Assent Minimion Covinty SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

FREE SERVICES AT A GLANCE

-Individual Counseling & Therapy

-24/7 Crisis Intervention & Helpline

-Assistance with Injunctions for Protection

-Resources and Referrals

-SANE Program

24/7 HOTLINE: 352-633-5563

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

www.havenlakesumter.org

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT - DV SUPPORT GROUP

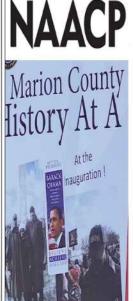
At the DCF office 1100 S.W. 38th Ave., Ocala Fl

Tuesdays @ 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. If you have any questions, please call

(352) 538-4845



POWER PLANT DOWNTOWN 2ND FLOOR RED CONFERENCE ROOM



Generations of prog

VAACP Fr

Save the Date for our Celebration of a Historic Milestone!!

1923 Represents 100 Years of operating as an NAACP Branch and 80 Years as a Chartered Branch

WHERE: New Covenant MBC, 606 SW Broadway Street, Ocala, FL 34475 SPEAKER: Rev. Stanley M. Jacobs, Sr., Pastor WHEN: Sunday, December 10, 2023 TIME: 5:00PM

The Historical Celebration Committee is collecting as much Marion County NAACP history as possible. If you know of an event or situation about our NAACP, please write a SHORT description and email to **sarah_greene2008@yahoo.com**. Also, please add the name of the NAACP President at the time.

If you have a picture or newspaper article you want to share, please mail to NAACP Marion County Branch, P. O. Box 2274, Ocala, FL 34478.

We must have all responses as soon as possible, but no later than Nov. 24, 2023. This date is critical for adding to the history journal and souvenir book.

The Committee is planning an exciting program with special recognitions. Please plan to attend!

BISHOP JAMES D. STOCKTON, III BRANCH PRESIDENT



NAACP 5114 MARION COUNTY BRANCH PRESENTS

Taste OF SOUL MARION

December 3, 2023 2pm-4pm

One Health Center SW 17th Ave, Ocala, FL 34471

Early Bird Tickets \$40

<u>Ends November 24, 2023</u>



Paper Tickets : 352-351-4560



Local Cuisine

E ADVA

NAAC

VAN .

Mobile Vendors

\$50.00 by Ticket or in person at the door



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

The Marion County Children's Alliance Staff would like to wish you and your family a



ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- November Monday Family Violence Prevention 11 a.m. No Meeting this Month
- November 8Safe Kids MarionWednesday9 a.m.Florida Dept. of Health
- November 20 Monday Community Council Against Substance Abuse (CCASA) Noon Zoom Meeting
- November 27Teen Gun Violence PreventionMonday6 p.m.Mary Sue Rich Community Center



The DECEMBER Alliance Meeting will be a **VENDOR FAIR!** Be sure to REGISTER! Spots are limited. The event will be held at the MCSO Multi-purpose Room, 3300 N.W. 10th St. on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration information on page 4!



UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

November 1 Wednesday Alliance Monthly Meeting 11:30 a.m. Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place



Agency Spotlights:

Quameshia Townsend - BRAZEN Program Stephanie Gavin - Big Brothers Big Sisters

Guest Speaker:

Jennifer Martinez, Executive Director, Marion Senior Services

"Age Friendly Community"