

# MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE Website: Mcchildrensalliance.org

Volume 24, Issue 1 ~ January 2024



Kids Central, Inc. is a community-based care lead agency contracted with the Department of Children and Families

# **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 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;

Staff	E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org
Executive Director E	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.



# Proud Supporter of the Marion County Children's Alliance





**Marion County** 

# World's Greatest Baby Shower

Friday, January 26, 2024

Mary Sue Rich Community Center 1821 NW 21st Street, Ocala 34475

Session 1 2-4 p.m. Session 2 5-7 p.m.

Choose **ONE** Session. Preregistration not required.



Expecting a baby? Come to our community Baby Shower! Parents of infants up to one year old are also invited.

Exhibitors · Games · Scavenger Hunt · Prizes · Fathers Encouraged



For more information, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/WGBS24\_Marion.



for the

# Alliance Monthly Meeting

# Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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

at the Mary Sue Rich Community Center, 1812 N.W. 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475

# **Agency Spotlights:**

# Dr. Barbara Brooks, Founder/CEO

R.A.M.A.L. Educational and Social Services

### **Edward Deskovic**

Workforce Development Specialist CareerSource

# **Guest Speaker:**

**Wendy Proctor, CFRE** 

Camp Boggy Creek Director of Outreach and Development: Central Florida



# 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.

**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



MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Helping Every Student Succeed"

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT"



# Does the New Year have you thinking about your future?

Turn those resolutions into reality at the College of Central Florida.

At CF, you'll find the programs and support to help you advance your career or explore new passions. From career-focused degree programs to flexible schedules that fit your busy life, we're here to help you succeed.

This is your year, and CF is your catalyst for change.

Classes start six times a year. Apply today.



MARION · CITRUS · LEVY · ONLINE

CF.edu/Spring 352-873-5800

# **CONCERT FOR GOOD WILL DO A LOT OF GOOD!**



# Thank you

Caleb and Luke Lombardo

for organizing the **2023 Concert for Good.** 

Thank you Ocala Civic Theater for hosting the event and to all the sponsors who generously gave to support the concert.

More than **\$26,000** 

was raised for the Marion County Children's Alliance and Brother's Keeper.





# Monarch Center for Hope & Healing Winter 2024 Program Schedule

#### Adults

#### **Grief Connection**

Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 7, April 4 | 10:30 am Elliott Center

#### Grief 101

Jan 16, 18; Feb. 15, 20; March 19, 21; April 16, 18 | 3:00 pm The Monarch Center and Elliott Center

#### **Memorial Services**

April 25 | 6:00 pm, April 26 | 10:00 am Elliott Center

#### Six Week Friends in Grief Support Group

Jan. 3 | 10:30 am, Feb. 13 | 1:30 pm, April 3 | 1:30 pm The Monarch Center and Cates House

### Children

#### Teen Tuesdays

Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19, April 16 | 5:30 pm The Monarch Center

#### **Heart Stitches**

Jan. 18, Feb. 22, March 21, April 18 | 3:30 pm The Monarch Center

#### Camp Mariposa

April 13 | 8:00 am Elliott Center

RSVP Required, Please call (352) 873-7456



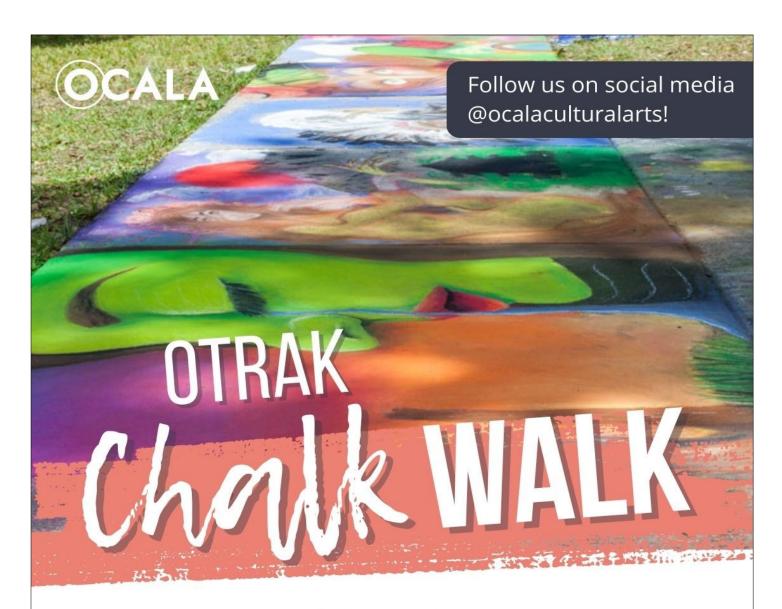


# CALL FOR VENDORS



- Food and beverage trucks
- Non-profit organizations
- Sponsors

ocalafl.gov/levittamp | 352-629-8447 | artinfo@ocalafl.gov



SATURDAY, JAN. 27 | 10 A.M. - 6 P.M. TUSCAWILLA ART PARK, 213 NE FIFTH ST.

Enjoy chalk art, food trucks, local vendors, live music, and more at this free, fun event!

Visit <a href="www.ocalafl.gov/artpark">www.ocalafl.gov/artpark</a> for more information or call 352-629-8447.



### **EMERGING ARTISTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**

The City of Ocala invites artists, with up to six years of experience, to submit entries for 'Community,' a Student and Emerging Artist Competition, which will take place Tuesday, April 9 through Monday, Oct. 14, 2024, at City Hall, 110 S.E. Watula Ave.

Artists will compete in three divisions according to their respective years of experience including: high school students, one to three years of active experience, and four to six years of active experience. All entries must have been completed within the last two years. A juror will award winners in each division, as well as Best of Show. Awards will be presented at a reception Tuesday, April 23 taking place at City Hall.

Prizes for this competition include scholarships to the College of Central Florida (high school division), a feature in The Ocala Gazette (Best of Show), a professional art framing at Cartigliano Arts (Best of Show), a free class at Picasso's Palette (Best of Show), annual memberships to the Appleton Museum of Art and Marion Cultural Alliance (all winners), and a registration fee waiver for the 2024-25 season of First Friday Art Walk (all winners).

#### **Entry Procedures**:

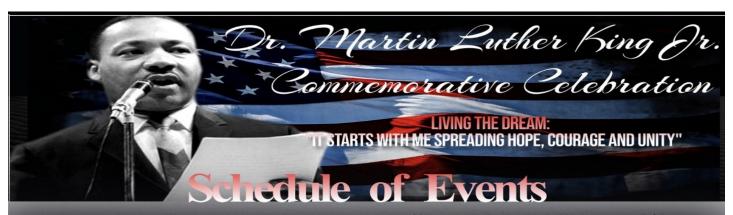
Each artist may submit one piece for the exhibition and jurying. All entries must include the entry form, an artist statement, and photographs of the artwork (in a .jpg format with a resolution of at least 1900 pixels in the widest dimension). Artists can email photos, mail printed photos, or submit a CD or USB with digital images. Entries must be submitted no later than Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.

Entries can be submitted online at www.ocalafl.gov/StudentAndEmergingArtistExhibit, via email to artinfo@ocalafl.gov or mailed to City of Ocala Cultural Arts, 201 SE Third Street, second floor, Ocala, FL 34471. Mailed items will not be returned.

#### Calendar of Events:

- Sunday, March 17, 11:59 p.m. Deadline for entry submissions
- Monday, April 8, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Artwork drop off at City Hall
- Tuesday, April 9 Show opens
- Tuesday, April 23, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Opening reception & Awards ceremony
- Monday, October 14 Show closes





## Annual Food Drive

Saturday, January 6, 2024 - 9:00 a.m. 2nd Bethlehem Association N.W. 4th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34475 Contact: Ire Bethea, (352) 208-0819 or Eric Cummings, (352) 804-6871

# Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, January 13, 2024 - 9:00 a.m. Mary Sue Rich Center at Reed Place 1812 NW 21st Ave. - Ocala, FL 34475 Contact: Loretta Jenkins - (352) 351-0824

# Wreath Ceremony

Saturday, January 13, 2024 - 12:00 p.m. Martin L. King Jr. Park 500 SW MLK Jr. Ave. - Ocala, FL 34471 Contact: Cassandra Boston - (352) 209-2973

# MLK Youth Day

Saturday, January 13, 2024 - 1:00 p.m. Mary Sue Rich Center at Reed Place 1812 NW 21st Ave. - Ocala, FL 34475 Contact: Dwanette Dilworth - (352) 207-6036

## Commenical Services

Sunday, January 14, 2024 - 5:00 p.m. Ft. King Presbyterian Church 13 N.E. 36th Avenue - Ocala, FL 34470 Contact: Shirley Wright - (352) 732-0097

# The Historic March

Monday, January 15, 2024

8:00 a.m. (line-up downtown) - 9:00 a.m. (the march begins) Contact: Ire Bethea, (352) 208-0819 Transportation available at 7:00am - 8:00am, MLK Raquetball court Contact: Kelvin B. Richardson, (352) 207-9558

## Day in the Park

Monday, January 15, 2024 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### (Activities & Vendors)

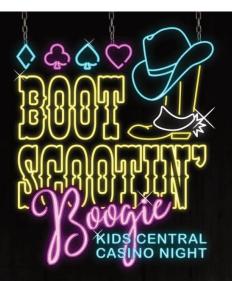
Dr. Dwanette Dilworth, (352) 207-6036

### (Performance Space)

Derek Ponder - (352) 857-4118 Te'Sha Jackson - (352) 426-0861



For performance applications for the Day in the Park, please email Tesha Jackson at entconsultantbyteshaj@gmail.com.



# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Maureen Quinlan at **Maureen.Quinlan@kidscentralinc.org**,
call **352.387-3411** or visit **KidsCentralinc.org** 

CUSTOM SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!



#### **MIDNIGHT RODEO**

- Industry-exclusivity
- Naming rights on private VIP "High-Rollers" Poker Room
- Top billing throughout the event, including all promotional materials and press coverage
- Sponsor of signature event space (photo booth, bar area, etc.)
- Sponsorship and advertising on three casino tables, including the ability to dress dealers in your company's shirt
- Recognition in the Kids Central Annual Report, Newsletters, Kids Central website, and customized social media post
- Ad in local publication as a "thank you" to our sponsors

#### SIGNATURE SPONSOR

\$7,500

- Opportunity to give a company promo item to each guest
- · Full-page ad in the event program
- Ten event tickets
- VIP Lounge Access

#### **STILLWATERS**

- Industry-exclusivity
- Top billing throughout the event, including all promotional materials and press coverage
- Sponsorship and advertising on two casino tables, including the ability to dress dealers in your company's shirt
- Sponsor of a signature event space (photo booth, bar area, etc.)
- Full-page ad in the event program
- Ad in local publication as a "thank you" to our sponsors

#### **PLATINUM SPONSOR**

\$5,000

- Opportunity to give a company promo item to each guest
- Recognition in the Kids Central Annual Report, Newsletters, Kids Central website, and customized social media post
- Eight event tickets

#### **NEON MOON**

- Prominent display of company logo on promotional materials and press coverage after event
- Sponsorship and advertising on two casino tables, including the ability to dress dealers in your company's shirt

# Sponsor of signature event space (photo booth, bar area, etc.)

 Recognition in the Kids Central Annual Report, Newsletters, Kids Central website, and customized social media post

#### **GOLD SPONSOR**

\$3,500

- Half-page ad in the event program
- Six event tickets
- Ad in local publication as a "thank you" to our sponsors

#### WHISKEY BENT

- Sponsorship and advertising on one casino table, including the ability to dress dealers in your company's shirt
- Company recognition on promotional materials and advertising
- Half-page ad in the event program

#### SILVER SPONSOR

\$2,000

- Recognition in the Kids Central Annual Report and on the Kids Central website
- Four event tickets

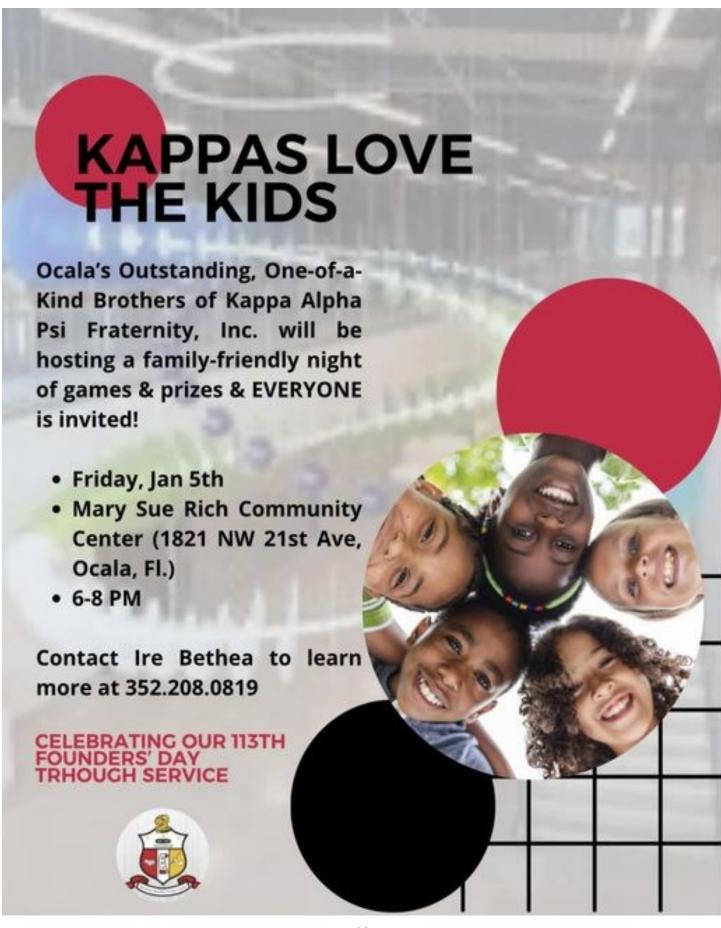
#### **WILD HORSE**

- Company recognition on promotional materials and website
- Two event tickets
- Quarter-page ad in the event program

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR**

\$750

 Recognition in the Kids Central Annual Report and Kids Central website





Drug problem? We can help!

24 hour Helpline: (352)368-6061

Forest Area of Narcotics Anonymous

F.A.S.C.

PO Box 2571

Ocala, FL 34478

Website:

www.forestareana.org

Habla Español



Forest Area of Narcotics Anonymous – Narcotics An...

forestareana.org







# Arts and Crafts for Adults

Every Friday from 10-11:30AM

# Free Program!

All Supplies Included

## **REGISTER WITH US NOW!**

infoeaihocala.org or call (352) 723-5444

With AIHOM Instructors Joanne Cornell-Ohlman and Loretta Lynn Bell

Florida 34470





We are thrilled to extend a warm welcome to you as a valued participant in the upcoming NonProfit Resource Center 2024 Showcase, hosted by The Community Foundation for Ocala/Marion County. Your commitment to making a positive impact in our community is truly commendable, and we are eager to collaborate with you to further enhance your leadership skills and amplify the collective efforts of nonprofits in our region.

JANUARY 10TH, 2024 11AM TO 12PM OCALA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM 402 SOUTH PINE AVENUE, OCALA

#### **Agenda Highlights**

Nonprofit Excellence Academy preview: Gain insights into the upcoming courses offered by The Community Foundation that will help position your organization to be noticed by funders and operate more successfully. These courses are designed to give leaders and staff the tools, knowledge, and skills needed to navigate challenges and thrive in the nonprofit environment of 2024 and beyond.

<u>Expert Speakers</u>: Be inspired by industry experts who will share their invaluable insights and experiences. Hear about these speakers as leaders in their respective fields that will provide practical advice to help you overcome challenges and drive positive change within your organization.

2024 Events Overview: Explore the diverse range of events planned for the community and nonprofits throughout the year...from workshops and networking opportunities to community engagement initiatives, The Community Foundation is dedicated to fostering collaboration and supporting the growth of all organizations involved.

Networking Opportunities: Connect with fellow nonprofit professionals, engage in meaningful conversations, and establish valuable partnerships. The NonProfit Resource Center 2024 Showcase provides a unique platform for networking, fostering a community of collaboration that extends beyond the event.

To secure your spot at this exclusive event, please
RSVP by January 9th to Ashley Gerds at Ashley@ocalafoundation.org

\*Attendees will be entered to win one of (5) \$50 gift certificates for their Give4Marion registration.

See you at the Showcase!

Spots are limited, don't forget to RSVP!

352.622.5020 | www.ocalafoundation.org | @ocalafoundation



Food, Clothing, Hygiene Prayer, Service

# IN HONOR OF **MODERATOR** KEITH E. BLUNT





GEORGE ALBRIGHT
MARION COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
PRESENTS THE

# SUPPORT MARION COUNTY CHARITIES



TOP 25 TROPHIES \* PEOPLES CHOICE TROPHY \* MUSIC \* KIDS BOUNCE HOUSE OD AVAILABLE ON-SITE \* AZALEA SALE \* CRAFT VENDORS \* ANTIQUE VENDORS \* CAR PARTS SWAP SPACES FOOD AVAILABLE ON-SITE

OPEN TO ALL VEHICLES
-PAST & PRESENT-SHOW

MCPHERSON

503 SE 25TH AVE OCAL 9:00AM-3:00PM FEB

Make checks payable to MCTC Employee Fund \$15.00 Pre-registration by February 15th, 2024 \$20.00 at the gate all vehicle and car part swap spaces same price.

Ocala, FL 34478

Vehicle Make
\_\_\_\_\_ Year/Model
\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Zip \_

By execution of this form I hereby release the Marion County Tax Collector's Office from any or all damages during this event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_ For more information contact Jacob Wicklein at 352-368-8206 or e-mail at jwicklein@mariontax.com



# You're not alone. Help is available.

samhsa.gov/find-help

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 988 or 988Lifeline.org

- Español (oprime 2)
- LGBTQI+ Youth (press 3)

Veterans Crisis Line Dial 988 (press 1)

FindSupport.gov

SAMHSA's National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357)

> Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-985-5990

FindTreatment.gov

# Men's Adult Basketball League

Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place | 1821 NW 21st Ave.

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, STARTING JANUARY 22



Ages 18+ | \$400 per team | 10 player teams

For more information or to register: 352.401.6980 | OcalaFl.gov/RecParks







# LUNCH WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGIST



Bring a lawn chair, pack a lunch and join us for Lunch with the Archaeologist! We will be talking about Fort King and the artifacts that have been found on site as well as Q&A time with the archaeologists.



Thursday, Jan. 11
11 AM - 1 PM | Ages 13+
Free to Attend



FORT KING NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK
3925 E FORT KING ST.





LOCATION

623 S. Magnolia AveOcala, FL 34471

# Unlock the Power of Giving with a Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation!



When it comes to making a difference in your community, you have choices, but opening a donor advised fund at the Community Foundation offers a unique, personalized approach. Here's why you should choose us:

<u>Tailored Giving:</u> We assist you in identifying nonprofits aligned with your passion and vision.

<u>Expert Oversight:</u> We ensure that your donations are used effectively to fuel the causes that matter to you.

<u>Protecting Your Privacy:</u> We act as a discreet intermediary, respecting your anonymity as a donor.

By partnering with the Community Foundation, you'll make a lasting impact on your community, leave a legacy, and support the causes you're passionate about.

Let us guide you in creating a brighter future.

Contact us at (352) 622-5020 to establish your donor advised fund today. Together, we can change lives and build a better tomorrow.



# Marion County Children's Alliance

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



# \*Please Note Date Change: NEXT ALLIANCE MEETING

**JANUARY** 10, 2024

#### ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

**January 8**Monday

Family Violence Prevention

11 a.m.

First Responders Campus on MLK

Annual Luncheon

January 10

Safe Kids Marion

Wednesday 9 a.m.

Florida Dept. of Health

**January 15** Monday

Community Council Against Substance Abuse (CCASA)

Noon

Zoom

January 22

Safe Streets of Marion County

Monday 6 p.m.

Mary Sue Rich Community Center

**January 23** Tuesday

Substance Exposed Newborns

9 a.m.

**OPD Community Room** 

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

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

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

#### **UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES**



January 10 Wednesday Alliance Monthly Meeting

11:30 a.m.

Mary Sue Rich Community Ctr.

# **Agency Spotlights:**

**Dr. Barbara Brooks, Founder/CEO** 

R.A.M.A.L. Educational and Social Services

**Edward Deskovic** 

Workforce Development Specialist CareerSource

# **Guest Speaker:**

**Wendy Proctor, CFRE** 

Camp Boggy Creek Director of Outreach and Development:

Central Florida