



# The Helping Hand

The voice of Community Partnership for Children

*We restore families, support caring relatives, connect children with loving homes and prepare adolescents for adulthood.*

**VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2  
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## Friends Ban Together To Find Loving Homes For Abused And Neglected Children

Friends of Children gathered on January 17 to help raise awareness of the need to find loving homes for abused children. The gathering served as the cornerstone fundraising event to benefit programs offered through Community Partnership for Children. Ms. Linda Merrell was honored as recipient of the first "Distinguished Friend of Children" award for her many years of advocating for local children.



Riverside Bank was announced as the 2007 Signature Partner in recognition of their strong commitment to supporting Community Partnership for Children.

Coming together as partners for children, many local businesses helped to make this event possible including Halifax Community Health System, Florida Health Care Plans, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.,

Jennifer Ferguson CFP, USTA Florida, Wal-Mart, and Consolidated Tomoka Land Company.

Guest speaker Anna Triplett, a dedicated, local foster parent, gave an emotional and enlightening review of the blessings of foster parenting.



Anna Triplett (L) and Emily Bates, honored event speakers

Emily Bates, a mother recently reunified with her young son, gave moving testimony sharing her story of success.

Bates, who had turned to substance abuse at the loss her fiancé to a fatal work related accident, said, "I had to completely surrender myself, so that I could begin to heal and bring my son home to me. He is the greatest blessing in the world."

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## A Name To Remember



**Community Partnership for Children**  
*protecting children . . . fostering family stability*

Community Based Care of Volusia and Flagler Counties proudly announces a company name change to Community Partnership for Children.

Under the principle, 'It takes a community to raise a child', the company needed a name that showed the strong community partnership necessary for its programs to be successful.

"Our company provides many critically important services to children in Volusia and Flagler counties," explained Joe Bendix, Community Partnership for Children Board of Directors member. "Our team of professionals has made great progress toward fulfilling our mission of preserving families while protecting the children we serve, but we can only achieve our mission with the help and support of the entire community. Our new name more accurately reflects

what it is we do, and we are hopeful that this will help us to mobilize the community to support our mission."

The re-branding effort includes a three month promotions campaign with a new company website at [CommunityPartnershipforChildren.org](http://CommunityPartnershipforChildren.org).

Welcome to 2007 and welcome to Community Partnership for Children!

As we work to improve our services and strive to accomplish our mission of helping abused and neglected children, we do so with a renewed vigor under the name Community Partnership for Children. We are so proud of the partnerships we have formed with local businesses, civic groups, our great staff, and residents of this community.

Through the efforts and involvement of the community, we are able to keep children safe and build strong families.

Our December numbers are in and here is what they tell us...

Sincerely,  
Ron Zychowski, CEO

## By The Numbers

### Child Abuse

Volusia and Flagler Counties

**140**

Abuse Reports Every Week

**11**

Children Removed From Families Every Week

**8**

Children Reunited With Families Every Week

**1,462**

Abused Children Being Helped Today

## My Day With A Foster Family

Stepping into the Triplett household, I was not able to identify which children were foster children and which were born a Triplett. This is because the Triplett's treat every child who is in their care as their very own. Their philosophy..."This is our community and these are our children".

As I nestled into the family-room, I took in their genuinely loving home. There were displays of school work from all of the children on the refrigerator, children's artwork adorning the walls, books for bedtime reading, and a seat for all at the dining room table.

When four little girls began foster care with the Triplett's, they arrived as frightened, timid children distraught by family separa-

tion. On that very first day, Anna Triplett began her mission to make them feel special. She took them shopping to buy them each a frilly dress and crown of jewels, letting them know just how very special they were. Each morning as Anna fixed their hair, she commented on how beautiful they were. Each afternoon as she prepared an after school snack, she let the girls pick out a game to play together, as a family. She enrolled the girls in extracurricular activities and she began a scrapbook to give to their parents, so they could stay informed while the family worked to be reunited.

The girls, like all the Triplett children, have to tend to chores and homework. They also help with grocery shopping and meal plan-

ning. As Anna shared her story, I could see the transformation of which she spoke. They all sat together at the table enjoying snack time, giggling, and talking about their day. The five-year-old sang for me *Did Jesus Really Live Again?*, and then the oldest serenaded me with a song from her school play.

As I said goodbye to the Triplett family, I took with me a stronger passion to do all that I can to help. As a community, we must step up to the plate and participate in this role of protecting children in every way we possibly can.

By Jo Lynn Deal

Learn more about becoming a Foster Parent and ways to help by visiting our website, [CommunityPartnershipforChildren.org](http://CommunityPartnershipforChildren.org).



On April 7, 2007, the tradition returns as The Children's Advocacy Center teams up with Community Partnership for Children and The House Next Door for the **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fore Kids Golf Tournament** at LPGA International's Champions Course. Funds raised by this event will benefit all three agencies, becoming a true community fundraiser once again.

Location:

**LPGA Champions Course**

Date:

**April 7, 2007**

Tickets:

**\$150 per golfer**

Includes green fees, cart, breakfast, lunch, team photograph, golf shirt and goodie bag

Visit

[childrensadvocacy.org/forekids](http://childrensadvocacy.org/forekids)

## Volunteers Extraordinaire: Sister Power

One of the greatest gifts is to give of yourself. If you were to carefully consider your talents and skills with the needs of our community, you would find a perfect way for you to lend a helping hand. Community Partnership for Children, is blessed with friends who donate of "themselves", behind the scenes, to help us fulfill our mission. It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize two volunteers extraordinaire. These special women just happen to be sisters... but not each other's sister.

Lucy McKenzie is the sister of Community Partnership for Children's

Records Administrator, Frances Koski. Lucy has donated a lifetime of hours to our mission, working tirelessly with us on many projects. She has donned a bike helmet for our Poker Run and even filled in for Santa during our holiday toy drive, and always with a beautiful smile.

Marissa Buckley is the sister of Community Partnership's Jo Lynn Deal. Marissa took on the enormous task of redesigning our corporate website as part of the company re-branding. Working late nights and weekends, her unbelievable commitment of time and talent has helped Community Partnership for

Children share its mission with the world.

Volunteering offers the benefits of being with other people, staying active, and above all confirming a sense of our value in society. To learn ways you can help children in your community, please contact Jo Lynn Deal at 386-944-4709.



## A Night Out With The Stars At Ocean Walk Shoppes



Thanks to a community partnership with Ocean Walk Shoppes, six foster children currently eligible for adoption received royal treatment this holiday season.

An event touted as *A Night Out With The Stars* provided celebrity worthy extravagance to the well-deserving starlets.

The evening began with a limousine ride to the Ocean Walk Shoppes, compliments of Rufus Alexander, followed by a red carpet stroll up to the theaters for a private movie viewing in the party room.

The night was topped with a tasty dinner, a delectable ice cream cake, and special treats.

The children chose to dress to the nines for their evening on the town, and formed a well-dressed entourage of ear-to-ear smiles.

The most common request of the evening..."Can we please do this again!"

## Goodwill Cooking



William has been in foster care for most of his life. He dreams of being a chef and owning his own five-star restaurant. His amazing ambition

has led him to scout colleges offering culinary degrees. He has also taken a job in a local restaurant as a dishwasher, just to be in the kitchen.

William, a 16 year old honor roll student, says, "I wish I could be older so that I could start my life."

While we can't help William grow older, we can give him a boost of encouragement during the journey to

help him stay focused on his dream.

William has triumphed over extreme tragedy and his story has touched the hearts of many. This February he will move one step closer to his dream by receiving a personal chef lesson compliments of Meryl and Bobby Frappier of Frappes North in Ormond Beach.

Bon Appetite William!





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Community Relations

## Calendar of Events

Come join us at our event fundraisers to help support our programs and, most importantly, the children in need. Enjoy a great time networking with partners of Community Partnership for Children. **To get involved, please contact Jo Lynn Deal at 386-944-4709.**

### February 9-19, 2007

✧ **Johnsonville Brat Fundraiser**

### April 7, 2007

✧ **Fore Kids Golf Tournament**

### May 2007

✧ **Inspiration Grant Appeal**

### July 2007

✧ **Back To School Appeal**

### October 2007

✧ **2007 Estate Planning Conference**  
✧ **3rd Annual Hand of Hope Poker Run**



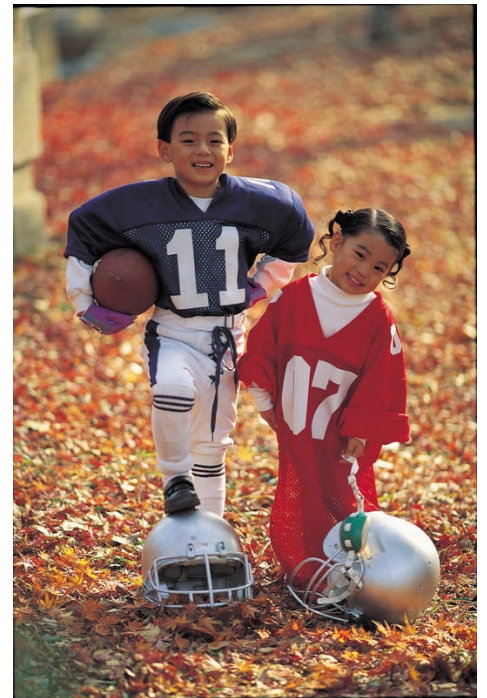
## Inspire A Child

The Community Partnership for Children Inspiration Grant provides local children who are placed in foster care, relative care, and approved non-relative care the opportunity to experience normalcy while in care. These children are able to participate in sports, arts, and extracurricular activities and are given the opportunity to enjoy cultural or educational events that would otherwise be unaffordable.

The program covers many activities enabling children to be selective and find an activity that best meets their individual skills and dreams.

"Haley is currently taking dance classes under the Inspiration Grant Program," shared Haley's proud foster mother. "When she was graduating Pre-K, she stood up and said, 'I want to be a dancer when I grow up'. Because of this grant, you are making her dreams come true".

A majority of the grant funding is provided through Community Donations. The Inspiration Grant Committee volunteers to raise money through presentations to local civic clubs, personal donations, and scholarship secure-



ments. Case Managers or caregivers have the opportunity to submit requests in the form of a grant proposal two times per year.

For more information on how you can help "inspire" a child through the Inspiration Grant, please contact Ernest Hamilton at (386) 239-6685.