



The House Next Door

FEBRUARY 2017

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Thank you Rotary Clubs!



Little House Next Door Kids



Florida Hospital DeLand



Pall Corporation



Homework Club Art Show



From our House to Yours

Steve Sally, Chief Executive Officer



We Are the Lucky Ones

I'm looking out my office window as I am writing this and seeing another gorgeous, February Florida morning with a high temperature of 78 degrees being forecasted. I think we sometimes take our weather for granted but we need to remind ourselves how fortunate we are to live here and of the many things we have in our lives to be thankful for. Most of us have our family, our husband or wife, children, jobs, friends, homes, health or a large percentage of these things. We are the lucky ones! Where am I going with this you may ask? Each and every program that The House Next Door has, offers services to fill gaps in the people's lives that come to us for help because they are missing some of those things we take for granted. In our Family Coach, Family Connections and Conflict Resolution programs we are working with families in their homes to successfully keep families intact without the children being removed for abuse or neglect. Our Parenting programs not only help parents become better parents, but in many cases, help parents complete their case plans to be reunited with their children. Our school based programs, Alpha, Beta and Success by Design, are working with students that are failing, exhibiting behavioral problems and being expelled from class and/or suspended. We are working with those kids, with their teachers and counselors in school and their families in their homes with the majority of them increasing their math and reading scores by 1-2 years during part of one school year. Our after school program, The Homework Club in Spring Hill does a lot of the same things in the community.

Our Sexual Abuse Treatment program is successfully healing children and their families whether they are referred through the Abuse Hotline or as a self-referral. We provide mental health services for people trying to cope with divorce, grief, children acting out, suicidal ideation and homelessness or near homelessness. Other people come to us with gender identity issues, treatable mental health disorders, depression, drug and alcohol issues, domestic violence, financial issues and health issues and we are achieving successful outcomes in the large majority of our cases.

So, you ask again, where am I going with this? A recent acquaintance asked me "what exactly do you do on your job and how long have you been doing it?" I answered, "I help people and next month will be 41 years". Our entire staff comes together for a monthly meeting and I thought about that discussion before I addressed them this month. I concluded my address by saying "every day we go out there and provide services to our clients and every day we are making real, positive changes in their lives. What an awesome thing to do every day for our jobs, help people and help people to help themselves to improve their and their families' lives". And for all of our readers out there, our volunteers, supporters and donors, you are walking right beside us when we're delivering those services each day. Your help and support help provide the resources we need to do what we do day in and day out. You see "you are we" or another way of saying that "We are the lucky ones!"



**The Little House Next Door
Child Development Center**
Hours: 6:30 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
133 East Church Street, DeLand
386-740-8823



The kids at The Little House Next Door enjoy the The DeLand Christmas Parade



Thank you!



A huge thank you to Florida Hospital DeLand! If it wasn't for the generosity of the employees of Florida Hospital DeLand, many local families would not have had a Christmas. For the 12th year in a row, Florida Hospital staff have coordinated with our agency to give 17 families with 56 children a wonderful Christmas! Thank you, once again, for your support of our community!

www.thehnd.com



Volunteer Highlight

Our Homework Club “Grandma”

After Sandy Bryan retired from the Postal Service in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; she and her husband decided to move to Florida. They have lived in DeLand for two and a half years.

Sandy was motivated by the “need to give back” and her love of children when she started looking for volunteer opportunities. She connected to The House Next Door through an organization called, Volunteers for Community Impact. The organization connects seniors with volunteer opportunities in the community. Sandy started volunteering at The Homework Club in the fall of 2015 and she has been an important part of the program ever since.

Sandy comes to The Homework Club twice a week and works with the kids on their homework and where ever else she might be needed. She brings homemade cookies for different activities, she donates craft items, small toys and “goodies” for special holiday parties, she is the “Camp Lady” when she volunteers with PAL (the Police Athletic League) and The Homework Club kids during school holidays and summer break. But most important of all, the kids know that she will be there and is always willing to give out hugs when they are needed.

When asked what keeps her coming back to work with the kids, she explains how rewarding it is for her to see that she is making a difference in the lives of kids in her community.

What else does Sandy say? ... “The hugs are the best! If my day hasn’t been the best, a hug from the kids at The Homework Club will turn my day around!”

Thank you PALL !

Thank you to the Pall Corporation employees for their generous contribution to The House Next Door families. The Pall employees did a collection of toys and food for Christmas.

(Pall Corporation is a global leader in high-tech filtration, separation, and purification, serving the diverse needs of customers across the broad spectrum of life sciences and industry.

They are located at 1750 Filter Drive, DeLand)

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Homework Club Art Show Held on September 15

Our last issue highlighted local artist and Homework Club volunteer, Bobbi Baugh. Bobbi and co-volunteer, Mara Whitridge, had been working with the children, two at a time, to create original paintings depicting their visions of superheroes. On September 21, we hosted an art show for the families, community and agency staff to showcase the work that the children had done. There was a wonderful turnout and each child was able to highlight their work! We can't wait to see what Bobbi has in mind for their next project! Bobbi's goals for The Homework Club art program this year are:

- One-on-one interaction between the children and the artist volunteers.
- Creative expression and playfulness.

The children are encouraged to create a vision for what they want to paint, and then to go about it any way they want. We have discovered almost all children take a particular delight in mixing colors. Additionally, many of the children naturally incorporate storytelling into their work, creatively describing the artwork as it is being painted.

"The children in the Homework Club are creative, enthusiastic, polite, helpful and funny. It is a pleasure to work with them." Bobbi Baugh

The Importance of Movement

You have probably heard the expression, "a child's job is to play" and research is showing just how important "child's play" really is. Think about it: to do well in school, children need their mind and their muscles to work together as a team. Reading, writing and speaking are all activities that use muscles. For example when a child learns to write he or she must know the alphabet and know how to put letters together to make a specific word. In addition the child must also know how to grip, move and stabilize a pencil while also using sight to adjust those pencil movements to create the correct patterns of letters. When a child learns the mind and body must work together.

Easter Seals is using a program called "Motor Lab" to work with the kids at The Homework Club to help improve their motor skills and, in turn, improve their school work. The Easter Seals team comes to the PAL Center once a week to work with the kids and they love it!



Trauma Informed Care

Several years ago The House Next Door was approached by Community Partnership for Children (CPC) and asked if we would be one of the agencies in Volusia County willing to share successful strategies for working with trauma affected clients. The Chadwick Center for Children and Families in San Diego, CA was gathering resources to create a guidebook for agencies that want to create a system of care that is trauma informed. The report is called “Secondary Traumatic Stress in Child Welfare Practice: Trauma-informed Guidelines for Organizations” and it is the culmination of the information gathered by the Chadwick Center. **Trauma Informed Care** is an organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma. Trauma Informed Care also emphasizes physical, psychological and emotional safety for both consumers and providers, and helps survivors rebuild a sense of control and empowerment. Congratulations to The House Next Door therapy staff for their contribution to this important manual that will be distributed nationally!



**Congratulations to
The House Next Door
Employees of the Month for:**
October, 2016 - Amber Davis
November, 2016 - David Richie
December, 2016 - Kristina Jones
January, 2017 - Tina Goldin

The House Next Door staff enjoyed their Holiday gathering on December 9 at First Presbyterian Church of DeLand.

A gift to The House Next Door is always appreciated!

Help us provide the services that have kept our community strong!

- Mental Health Therapy
- Sexual Abuse Treatment
 - Parenting Programs
- Family Intervention and Prevention Programs
 - School-based Programs
- Quality After-School Mentoring and Tutoring
 - Child Care Food Program
- The Little House Next Door Child Development Center

MAIL DONATION TO:

The House Next Door Administrative Offices
804 N. Woodland Blvd.
DeLand, FL 32720
386-734-7571

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www.thehnd.com

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Building Communities

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DeLand, FL 32720

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**WE NURTURE AND EMPOWER FAMILIES
TO HELP BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES.**



**Sandy, our
Homework Club
“Grandma”, and the
kids at The
Homework Club
invite you to take a
look inside and see
what’s new at
The House Next
Door!**