

Dear Caregivers,

Happy Thanksgiving! We are so grateful for each and every one of you. The love you pour into your youth does not go unseen. We are also thankful for this work we are afforded and the youth we have the privilege to serve. What are you and your youth grateful for this holiday season? This month's newsletter provides fun ways to share your gratitude with each other!

If you have any questions or need extra support during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team at youthservices@familypartnerships.org.

With Love,

Your Youth Services Team



THANK-YOU LETTERS OR NOTES

CREATE ENVELOPES FOR EACH
PERSON IN THE HOME. EACH OF
YOU THEN WRITE A LETTER OR
NOTE TO THE OTHER PEOPLE IN
THE HOME EXPRESSING ONE
REASON THEY ARE GRATEFUL
FOR THEM. THE YOUTH CAN
ALSO WRITE LETTERS TO LOVED
ONES OR ANYONE IN THEIR LIFE
THEY WANT TO SHOW
GRATITUDE.
THIS IS ALSO A GREAT WAY TO
TEACH THE YOUTH HOW TO
ADDRESS AN ENVELOPE!

THANKS

GRATITUDE JAR

PLACE A JAR WITH PENS AND SLIPS OF PAPER
NEXT TO IT FOR YOU AND YOUR YOUTH TO WRITE
DOWN THINGS YOU ARE GRATEFUL FOR AND
PLACING THEM IN THE JAR. ENCOURAGE YOUR
YOUTH TO COMPLETE THIS EVERY DAY TO HELP
INSTILL A DAILY RITUAL OF PRACTICING
GRATITUDE.

AT THE END OF THE MONTH OR ON THANKSGIVING, TAKE TURNS READING THROUGH THE SLIPS OF PAPER.

GRATITUDE ROCKS

SPEND AN AFTERNOON COLLECTING STONES IN NATURE OR PURCHASE A BAG OF CRAFT ROCKS ON AMAZON. YOU AND THE YOUTH CAN THEN USE PERMANENT MARKERS TO WRITE OR DRAW THINGS FOR WHICH YOU ALL ARE GRATEFUL AND DISPLAY THEM IN THEIR ROOM OR AROUND THE HOME.





WITH NEARLY 400K AVAILABLE JOBS IN CONSTRUCTION AND 40% OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE RETIRING IN THE NEXT DECADE, A CAREER IN THE SKILLED TRADES HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IN DEMAND.

WITH TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS ESTIMATED AT A THIRD THE COST OF 4-YEAR COLLEGE OPTIONS, ALONG WITH FREE TRAINING PROGRAMS THROUGH PATH TO PRO, A CAREER IN THE TRADES HAS NEVER BEEN MORE ATTAINABLE.

THE MISSION OF PATH TO PRP IS TO EMPOWER AND BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF TRADES PROFESSIONALS AND PROVIDE PROS ACCESS TO READY-TO-HIRE JOB SEEKERS.

THE PATH TO PRO SKILLS PROGRAM IS A FREE, ON-DEMAND TRAINING PROGRAM.

THE COURSEWORK IS DESIGNED TO TEACH TRANSFERRABLE SOFT SKILLS AND HOW-TO KNOWLEDGE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN THE SKILLED TRADES.



SUNSHNE HEALTH

SUNSHINE IS ABLE TO PROVIDE A \$50 GC FOR OUR YOUTH FOR FOOD. THE YOUTH WILL COMPLETE AN ASSESSMENT WITH THEM AND WILL THEN RECEIVE A \$50 GC IN THE MAIL. THE YOUTH HAVE BEEN RECEIVING MONTHLY CONTACT FROM THEIR SUNSHINE REPRESENTATIVE BUT IF NOT, PLEASE HAVE THEM REACH OUT TO THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH WHO THEIR REPRESENTATIVE IS, CONTACT THEIR CASE MANAGER OR US AT YOUTH SERVICES.

Food Finder - Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida

FIND FOOD THROUGH OUR PARTNERS IN BREVARD, LAKE, MARION, ORANGE, OSCEOLA, SEMINOLE, AND VOLUSIA COUNTIES.

THANKSGIVING GIVEAWAYS IN ORANGE, OSCEOLA, AND SEMINOLE COUNTIES - 2025 2025 Community Thanksgiving Giveaways

RISE







NOVEMBER FOOD ASSISTANCE UPDATE

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) BENEFITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED IN NOVEMBER, DUE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN. NEW SNAP APPLICATIONS ARE STILL BEING PROCESSED AND, TO DATE, OTHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS LIKE WIC (WOMEN INFANTS AND CHILDREN) REMAIN FUNDED.

LINKED HERE ARE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ON SNAP BENEFITS.

ACTIONS WE'RE TAKING

FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA (FPOCF) IS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH STATE PARTNERS AND LEADERS TO ADVOCATE FOR CONTINUANCE OF THESE ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS COLLABORATING WITH ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST IN ENSURING FOOD AND ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDREN AND NEEDY FAMILIES IS AVAILABLE DURING THIS TIME.

BEGINNING NOV. 3 AND THROUGH DEC. 3, WE'RE ORGANIZING A NONPERISHABLE FOOD AND ESSENTIAL ITEMS (SUCH AS DIAPERS) DRIVE AT SIX FPOCF CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCATIONS. OUR EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS ARE BEING ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT THE DRIVE THROUGHOUT THE MONTH. WE WILL NOTIFY FAMILIES WHEN THESE DONATED ITEMS ARE READY FOR PICKUP.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

WE'VE CREATED A LIST OF RESOURCES SUCH AS FOOD BANKS AND RELIEF PROGRAMS ON OUR WEBSITE, WHICH WILL BE CONTINUALLY UPDATED WITH NEWLY IDENTIFIED RESOURCES AND INFORMATION.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

WE'RE ALSO ASKING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO CONSIDER DONATING TO SUPPLEMENT ASSISTANCE EFFORTS DURING THIS UNPRECEDENTED TIME (SEE BELOW LINK). WE'RE ENCOURAGING YOU TO SHARE THIS COMMUNICATION WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

YOUTH INDEPENDENT LIVING FUNDING SHORTFALLS

FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES RECEIVING INDEPENDENT LIVING FOSTER SUBSIDIES IN FLORIDA, AND WHEN THOSE BENEFITS BECOME IN JEOPARDY DUE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN,
FPOCF IS WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO FIND SOLUTIONS FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE SHARED IN THE COMING DAYS.

OUR COMMITMENT

LIKE THOSE WE SERVE, FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS IS TROUBLED BY THIS NEWS. WE'RE COMMITTED TO HELPING ENSURE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAVE THE SUPPORT THEY NEED THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT TIME. WE'LL NAVIGATE THE DAYS AHEAD TOGETHER, LEANING ON OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND AGENCIES, FAITH ORGANIZATIONS, AND FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO OVERCOME THESE CHALLENGES.

THANK YOU, AS ALWAYS, FOR BEING A COMMUNITY LEADER AND VALUED PARTNER.



DONATIONS







Caregivers, we would love to hear from you!





THIS HELPS US BETTER SUPPORT YOUR
FAMILY'S NEEDS AND IMPROVE
COMMUNICATION.









Applications DUE Sunday, December 1st at midnight!

Introducing the 2025 Florida Youth Leadership Academy (FYLA):

FYLA's missionistoinspireyoungleadersthroughbuilding healthy relationships, exploring leadership development, and actively engaging them within their communities.

Apply now if you are interested in developing your leadership capabilities relating to communication, personal development, public speaking, and interviewing while also building connections with your peers and adults!

Please send your completed application in an email to **Cal Walton** at: Cal.Walton@myflfamilies.com

A letterof recommendationmustbesubmittedwiththe application (i.e. teacher, counselor, independent living specialist, foster parent etc.)

Application responses will be provided by early January 2025.

Thank you for taking the time to apply!

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<u>Family Partnerships of Central Florida</u> is committed to protecting children, strengthening families and changing lives through a comprehensive, integrated, community-based system of care that provides adoption, foster care and independent living services for children and families in Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties.

Contracted with the Florida Department of Children and Families as the lead child welfare agency in the four-county area, Family Partnerships of Central Florida's mission is to ensure that the children it serves thrive in safe, healthy and loving families.

Visit our Website

Family Partnerships of Central Florida | Rockledge, Florida | Rockledge, FL 32955 US

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