A Message From The Director:

In March, Roundtable staff hosted the first ever Kids at Hope Spring Break Teen Retreat. The focus of the Retreat was to provide safe, positive activities for teens during Spring Break, while at the same time fostering meaningful connections and teaching skills to refuse drugs and alcohol, resolve conflicts without violence, communicate and relate positively to police officers and learn about community resources, such as St. Lucie County transit. For pictures and more details from the teen retreat, see pages 2-4.

During the Retreat we facilitated a Bridging the G.A.A.P. (Gaining Appreciation by Adjusting Perspectives) workshop with the Department of Juvenile Justice, in which youth and law enforcement talked about police/youth relationships in the community. Sixteen police officers participated from PSLPD, FPPD, and SLCSO. The discussion became real very quickly, as police and youth shared their perspectives openly and honestly. The consensus from both sides was positive, and the teens suggested that the next event be a basketball game between youth and police at a local basketball court. Whenever I have the privilege of participating in these conversations, I am always so proud of our teens and our police. Thanks to all who participated.

We also wrapped up the last of our Resource Assessment meetings in March. The next step is for the Steering Committee to review the Community Assessment Report and make recommendations for the Roundtable’s consideration for the Strategic Plan. Thank you to the hundreds of community practitioners and providers who have participated in the process thus far. Together, you are continuing the difficult, but necessary work of building a community that supports the success of all children, without exception. Thanks for all you do!

Shaniek Maynard
The Roundtable of St. Lucie County is making efforts to get St. Lucie County teens working together and collaborating to make both themselves and the community better. Those efforts led to the first ever Kids at Hope Spring Break Teen Retreat. We had just under 50 teenagers participating from Frontline, Sword Outreach and Boys & Girls Clubs (The Garden Terrace Unit and The Infinity Unit). The Retreat took place at the River Walk Center and the Old City Hall over the course of three days, March 22nd through March 24th, 2016.

Day One – The morning session involved conversational icebreakers and activities that enhanced team building and leadership skills. The afternoon session was all about conflict resolution, with a presentation from the Restoring the Village Youth Initiative, led by Monica Jakobsen and the outreach workers (Darcy, Thernell and Randy).

Day Two - The morning session was the Youth & Law Enforcement Forum called “Bridging the G.A.A.P.” where 20 teens were able to sit down side by side with 16 law enforcement officers for an engaging conversation about police and community youth relationships. The Roundtable thanks the Fort Pierce Police Department, Port St. Lucie Police Department and the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office for their participation and commitment to our youth. The afternoon session featured a workshop from New Horizons Substance Abuse Prevention team on the dangers of drugs, particularly marijuana, for children and teens. The afternoon closed with a presentation from St. Lucie Community Services Transit Department, where the teens were taught about how to use the Treasure Coast Connector buses.

Day Three - The most active day, starting at 7am at the Fort Pierce Intermodal Facility, the teens worked with their organization teams to “Get on the Bus” and follow the routes they’d learned about the previous day to explore all of the places they can get to on the routes. After riding the bus routes, the teens had a Downtown Scavenger Hunt in Fort Pierce, where they were given clues to get to places such as the Library, the Courthouse and the Sunrise Theatre. Late that afternoon, they celebrated the week with a party at the Lincoln Park Pool. Although the weather shortened the pool party, the teens had a fantastic time.

The Roundtable thanks all of its partners for making this event a success: the City of Fort Pierce and Public Works for free use of the River Walk Center and Old City Hall; the staff at the River Walk Center; the Department of Juvenile Justice, Lifebuilders and law enforcement partners for joining us for the “Bridging the G.A.A.P.” discussion; New Horizons Substance Abuse Prevention; BOCC Community Services and Transit Department; Kids at Hope and Restoring the Village Youth Initiative Staff; the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee for providing volunteers throughout the retreat; the Police Athletic League for letting us use their van and Officer Dani Dreizehnter for being the shuttle driver to the bus station; the youth organizations’ staff and teens for participating.

Special thank you to Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (SEFBHN), Children’s Services Council and Fort Pierce
“Bridging the G.A.A.P.”
The Roundtable of St. Lucie County and its partners at the Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections, Fort Pierce Police Department, City of Fort Pierce, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office, held the Second Annual Reentry Center Resource Hub in St. Lucie County on Friday, March 25, 2016.

The Reentry Center Resource Hub provides an opportunity for citizens who are currently on adult or juvenile supervision to learn about and access resources to help them become productive members of our community. This year, the event was open to the public as well, so that anyone wanting to learn about available resources in St. Lucie County could take advantage of this opportunity.

We had about 70 individuals on probation or parole come to learn about St. Lucie County resources. The event was a great success thanks to the collaborative efforts of our partners and agencies.

Thank you to the following agencies that participated in the event:

- Project Restore
- Eckerd Kids Project Bridge
- Teen Choices Program
- Treasure Coast Food Bank
- Sequel Care of Florida
- Henderson Behavior Health
- Circuit 19 Public Defender Re-Entry
- Veteran’s Affairs
- Parent Academy
- Drug Abuse Treatment Association (DATA)
- New Horizons
- S.A.F.E.R. St. Lucie
- Devereux Community Based Care
- St. Lucie County Community Services
- Department of Children & Families Economic Self-Sufficiency
- Hope 211
- Hibiscus Children’s Center
- Pace Center for Girls
- Florida Department of Health
- Career Source
- Office of Vital Statistics
- Florida Rural Legal Services
- Social Security Administration
- Supervisor of Elections Office
- We Leap Inc.
- Calvary Compassion Church
- Fort Pierce City Manager’s Office
The Substance Abuse Prevention Network will be hosting a Coalition meeting within the next couple of months regarding underage drinking and marijuana usage and would like your input.

The Sectors needed at the table are listed below:

- Business
- Civic/Volunteer Groups
- Government
- Healthcare Professionals
- Law Enforcement
- Media
- Parents
- Religious & Fraternal Organizations
- Youth
- Youth Serving Organizations
- Others Involved in Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

Anyone who is interested in this topic please contact Kim Thomas – KThomas@RoundtableSLC.org.

The Roundtable said goodbye and thank you for his service to Pastor Eldrew Baldwin with the Lincoln Park Council of Ministers.

(L-R: Shaniek Maynard, Pastor Baldwin, Sean Boyle)

Preventing Crime in the Black Community National Conference

The organizations that make up the Village Coalition of Youth Activities (VCOYA) and the Lincoln Park Advisory Council (LPAC) are collaborating to attend the Preventing Crime in the Black Community (PCBC) Conference in Miami on May 25-27th, 2016, facilitated by the Florida Office of the Attorney General and the Florida Department of Health. The conference is designed to foster collaboration, communication and action among practitioners and youth by sharing innovative ideas, best practices and research relating to criminal justice, causative factors and violence prevention strategies unique to the Black Community. Clint Sperber and Shaniek Maynard have been invited to present a panel discussion on the accomplishments of the Restoring the Village Youth Initiative.

The Group from St. Lucie County will consist of 50 students and 10 chaperones from Boys & Girls Club, Liberty Truth and Deliverance, Sword Ministries, PACE Center for Girls, Parents of Murdered Children, Kids at Hope, Restoring the Village Youth Initiative and the Health Department. Prior to attending, each student will be required to participate in a Kids at Hope mentoring program, complete 20 hours of community and family service, submit an essay and help with an implementation plan for when we return from the conference. Attendance at the conference is sponsored by Children’s Services Council, Allegany Franciscan Ministries and the City of Fort Pierce.

The Bridges Out of Poverty Network presented an update to the Roundtable and thanked Roundtable staff for their assistance.

(Upper Photo: Kim Thomas and Wydee’a Wilson)

(Lower: Shaniek Maynard and Wydee’a Wilson)
friday night DONE RIGHT
No alcohol. No dope.

PRESENTS
THE ULTIMATE
MASCOT
FACE-OFF EVENT

SPORTSMANS PARK WEST FIELD
FRIDAY
APRIL 1ST

TEENS 13-18
$FREE
6:30-9:30 PM

WIN $1000 IN SUPPLIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL'S ATHLETIC DEPT.
GAMES, MUSIC, PHOTO BOOTH, CARICATURES, TEEN-FRIENDLY BOUNCE HOUSES, & MORE!

EMAIL SLCMASCOTS@GMAIL.COM FOR ENTRY INFO

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PORT ST LUCIE, FL 34983

COMMUNITY
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END IT

Roundtable
of St. Lucie County
LEADERS UNITED FOR CHILDREN
APRIL 16TH • 2PM • ALL YOUTH GRADES 6-12 • FREE

BEATZ YOUTH CONFERENCE

WAKE UP

Join us to explore the influence of music and media on teen drug and alcohol abuse.

FREE CONFERENCE 2-6:30PM • INCLUDES LUNCH

For registration and tickets: www.EverybodyIsNotDoingIt.org
2016 Youth Development Master’s Institute
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* Joanne Jaffe
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For more information visit
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Each Spring, Kids at Hope sponsors the Youth Development Master’s Institute, co-sponsored by Arizona State University, School of Community Resources & Development.

This week-long institute brings together the top educational, youth and child development theorists, researchers and practitioners in order to better understand how all children and youth can succeed.

No Exceptions!

See you at the Master’s!
May 1 – 6, 2016
Phoenix, AZ
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At-Large Member: Karen Knapp, United Way
At-Large Member: Wydee'a Wilson, Department of Juvenile Justice
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Visit us at:
www.RoundtableSLC.com

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Tricia.Goulet@FLHealth.gov

“5210 Let’s Go!”

**Safe Kids Coalition**
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