



Jan. 21, 2010

Local, State and National News About Children and Families

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***The Children's Board vision: Hillsborough County will be recognized as one of the top places in the nation to raise children. Read the stories below for examples why it is achievable...***

**COMMUNITY RALLIES AFTER NEWS ABOUT HAITI EARTHQUAKE, RELIEF EFFORTS**

The Tampa Bay area has not only been concerned about Haitians after an earthquake rocked the country, collapsed buildings and killed thousands, it has rallied to help in the aftermath. There have been various local efforts to provide information about relief efforts and local news items. Following are a few of the stories about relief and local connections and alerts concerning the

tragedy and its aftermath:

**Central Source for Information** – United Way of Tampa Bay: [www.uwtb.org](http://www.uwtb.org). If you want to volunteer to assist in local relief efforts, email your contact information to Sheri Taylor at [staylor@uwtb.org](mailto:staylor@uwtb.org).

**Locating Family Members** – The State Department Operations Center has set up the following number for Americans seeking information about family members in Haiti: 1-888-407-4747.

**Monetary Donations** – Monetary donations are the most effective form of assistance because they allow humanitarian organizations to purchase (often within the affected region itself) the exact type and quantity of items needed by those affected by the crisis. For those interesting in helping immediately, simply text "HAITI" to "90999" and a donation of \$10 will be given automatically to the Red Cross to help with relief efforts, charged to your cell phone bill. Also: Publix: Publix customers can donate at a register, donate to the Holy Family Catholic Church-St. Petersburg at [www.holyfamilystpete.com](http://www.holyfamilystpete.com) or contact the Haitian Association Foundation of Tampa: 813-416-2558 or 813-416-3946.

**Haitian Nationals Are Eligible for Local Temporary Protected Status** - Gulfcoast Legal Services will be assisting Haitian Nationals in the Tampa Bay area (including Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee and Sarasota counties) who are income eligible to apply for Temporary Protected Status. Haitian TPS applicants wanting assistance with their immigration applications should call (727) 821-0726 ext 376 to receive an updated intake schedule and information on what to bring to an intake interview. Gulfcoast has employees who speak Creole. See [www.gulfcoastlegal.org](http://www.gulfcoastlegal.org)

**USF Athletes Keep Tabs on the Tragedy in Their Homeland** – More than a dozen Haitian athletes at the University of South Florida keep tabs on the tragedy in their homeland. <http://www.tampabay.com/sports/college/more-than-a-dozen-usf-bulls-bonding-over-earthquake-tragedy-in-native-haiti/1066688>

**Crisis Center PR Director Was on Mission Trip to Haiti Just Before the Earthquake**  
<http://www.baynews9.com/content/36/2010/1/16/570913.html>

A Tampa woman returned from a mission trip to Haiti just before the earthquake struck, and now wonders what happened to the people she encountered there. Carissa Caricato has two-week-old home video of children singing and dancing at the Happy House in Petit Goave. When Tuesday's devastating disaster crumbled most of the buildings in that area, many of the children went unaccounted for. In her Tampa office, she has spent a lot of time waiting anxiously for some news on social networking site Facebook. "When I see all the numbers on the news, I remember the faces," said Caricato. "I see the faces." Her fellow missionary, Ed, hooked up his laptop to a car battery and contacted her using a wireless Internet connection. Finally, Caricato did receive good news about one of the girls she became friends with -- Ferlandez. While Ferlandez has survived, the fate of the other children remains unknown. Caricato says she worries that the children she came to care about will be without food and water. You can support American Red Cross and other international recovery efforts now as that is the first step. If you want to support the Happy House directly, visit [www.mvi.org](http://www.mvi.org) and make a donation to the Haiti Relief & Recovery Fund. That money will get directly to help with food, clean water and rebuilding efforts.

<https://www.mvi.org/donations/haiti-earthquake-relief-fund> (See the weblink for a video of the story that aired on Bay News 9. Pictured below: Carissa Caricato with Haitian children.)



**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIVES LOTS OF HOME-GROWN PRODUCE TO FOOD BANK**

<http://carrollwood2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/cw-food-bank-receives-schools-donation/>

America's Second Harvest had a need for fresh vegetables. Learning Gate Community School had

the bounty. The two connected last month when Learning Gate harvested 85 pounds of produce and donated it to the Tampa-based food bank, along with 313 pounds of dry goods it collected and two dozen fresh eggs from chickens the school keeps. Students from the Lutz charter school cleared out most of its winter crop, including onions, cherry tomatoes and green beans. The children also gathered greens - arugula, mustard and different types of lettuce. Learning Gate incorporates an environmental theme into its lessons and uses its organic garden to teach children about science as well as math and measurements. Compost enriches the soil and water collected in rain barrels helps irrigate it. Kindergartners through sixth-graders manage the garden with facilitators Cissy Stanko and Christine Miller. It has grown so well that Learning Gate alone couldn't eat enough to keep up. Teachers had distributed some fruits and vegetables among their classes, Stanko said, and occasionally the school's chef would toss a giant salad to feed everyone. But now the school plans to donate the garden's surplus regularly to America's Second Harvest. America's Second Harvest of Tampa Bay serves 10 counties and partners with 700 charities and churches that offer feeding programs. The organization receives donations and distributes them to its partners based on need, said Marc Sutherland, resource development director. Sutherland toured Learning Gate last month and talked to the students about America's Second Harvest's mission. He was impressed by their enthusiasm. "It's the kind of thing that really gets us excited," he said. Produce is important for the local food banks to provide healthy meals, he said. Stanko said the school hopes to donate 1,500 pounds of food - grown on site or collected through food drives - by the end of the school year. Each month will have a theme. This month, children are bringing in peanut butter for the food bank and will supplement it with its school-grown produce.

### MRS. FLORIDA'S CAUSE: PUBLIC AWARENESS OF KIDS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES



**CBHC Radio** - [http://www.childrensboard.org/cbhc\\_radio.aspx](http://www.childrensboard.org/cbhc_radio.aspx)

Kellie Lightbourn, Mrs. Florida and third runner up in the Mrs. USA contest, shared with **CBHC Radio** about her young son with developmental disabilities and how she has made her platform as a beauty queen into a voice for those with disabilities. You can hear her interview once every six hours from Jan. 21 to Jan. 28 on **CBHC Radio**, the 24/7 Internet radio station of the **Children's Board**. Also tune in to hear programming that regularly includes book shows, classical music and discussions from the national "Best of Our Knowledge" and "51 Percent." (Pictured: Mrs. Florida Kellie Lightbourn and CBHC Radio interviewer Dan Casseday)



### PROGRAM WILL MATCH MENTORS, AT-RISK TEENS

<http://carrollwood2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/cw-program-to-match-mentors-at-risk-teens/>

A new program is looking for volunteers to connect with at-risk teens and keep them on the path to finishing school. The Goodwill Industries-Suncoast is launching a mentoring program that pairs teens with adults who can provide guidance. The [program targets students](#) between the ages of 12 and 17 who face risk factors such as failing school, family violence, homelessness or other challenges. Each student will be paired with an adult who can listen to their concerns and lead

them to needed resources. Plus, the mentors will help them set their education goals and build a career plan. Chris Ward, spokeswoman for the Goodwill program, said volunteers will receive extensive training.

"Mentors won't just be thrown into a situation with a student," she said. "We will start by working in a group setting where the teens can get to know their mentors and set goals. Then, they will eventually transition into a setting where they work specifically with their mentors." Ward said the program is need of dedicated individuals who will bring passion and joy to the experience. "They have to be caring individuals who can listen and enjoy being around young people," she said. "They also need to be dependable and accountable." The program will be set up to accommodate the schedules of the mentors, and facilities will be set up by county to create close meeting locations. The Goodwill program is paid with money by a \$19 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Goodwill-Suncoast is one of 56 Goodwill organizations participating in the nationwide program.

To find out how to volunteer, interested adults can attend an upcoming information session on 6 p.m. Jan. 26 at the Goodwill Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment Center, 6800 N. Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 130. Interested volunteers are asked to RSVP by e-mailing [goodguides@goodwill-suncoast.com](mailto:goodguides@goodwill-suncoast.com) or by calling (727) 423-1379.

### HILLSBOROUGH HAS ONE OF FOUR FINALISTS FOR NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

<http://publicaffairs.mysdhc.org/files2009-10/NationalTeacheroftheYearFinalist.pdf>

Tampa's Cleveland Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Megan Allen is a finalist for National Teacher of the Year. In February 2009 she was named Teacher of the Year for Hillsborough County Public Schools. In July she was named the Florida Dept. of Education Teacher of the Year. Megan has taught in Hillsborough County schools for four years. she will join the three other finalists for interviews in Washington, D.C. March 6 and 7. The winner will be recognized by President Barack Obama in April.

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## LOCAL/COUNTY NEWS & FEATURES

### HILLSBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOLS WILL MOVE TOWARD SEVEN PERIOD DAY

<http://tampabay.com/news/education/k12/hillsborough-middle-schools-moving-to-a-seven-period-day/1066525>

Hillsborough County middle schools will likely switch from six daily periods to seven this fall. Officials said the changes, which were enacted two years ago at the high school level, would allow students to take more elective classes. They could also save the district \$10 million compared with the cost of hiring more teachers by August to meet the state's class-size amendment. "This was driven by kids and what they need," said superintendent MaryEllen Elia.

### BECKNER: SPEND LESS MONEY ON JUVENILE DETENTION AND MORE ON SERVICES

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/beckner-juvenile-arrest-rates-mean-new-approach-ne/>

Hillsborough County pays the state of Florida \$8.3 million a year to house juvenile offenders, but the investment hasn't resulted in fewer arrests, local officials say. "We have one of the highest juvenile arrest rates in the state," County Commissioner Kevin Beckner said. "Miami-Dade has twice the population, but fewer arrests than we do." Beckner and other local officials think the county could get better results by spending less money on detention and more on services for juvenile offenders when they are first arrested. He plans to ask county commissioners Thursday to create a task force to evaluate the county's juvenile justice system and recommend changes. "The big issue is we haven't been spending the resources on what's causing individuals to continue delinquent acts," Beckner said. "We need to start early on. Whether it's truancy or petty theft, they're engaging in delinquent behavior that leads to more serious crimes and sends them to

prison." Beckner got the idea for a task force after a community meeting last February. East Tampa residents at the meeting told Beckner they were concerned about the disproportionate number of black children referred to juvenile justice, either by arrest or by misbehaving at school. Beckner looked into the situation and found that black children make up 23 percent of the county's juvenile population but account for over half the referrals to juvenile justice. "As we started to address more research in finding ways to address disproportionate minority arrests, we found more and more issues that plague the juvenile justice system in Hillsborough County," Beckner said. Beckner is the newest member of the board of the **Children's Board**, replacing Mark Sharpe.

### **HILLSBOROUGH SECTION 8 OFFICE OFFERS ONLINE WAITING LIST REGISTRATION**

Residents seeking assistance from the Hillsborough County Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program can place their name on the waiting list anytime, anywhere. This new online feature allows residents to register for the rental subsidy service as needed rather than at limited specified periods. In addition, residents may view their status by visiting <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/hss/section8/>. Residents without internet access at home may access this online registration service through a computer at any public library. All applications received are ranked based on the housing agency's local preference categories to ensure those with the greatest need are always served first. Only applicants registered who meet the program's qualifying criterion (i.e., income limits, citizenship, and background checks) on the wait list are selected for enrollment in the rental subsidy program. Section 8 targets families who are 30 percent or below the average median income for this area. Households where any family member has been arrested for drug-related activity within the past year, violent criminal activity within the past five years, or is subject to sexual offender registration with Florida law enforcement are not eligible to apply. Wait list applicants are enrolled for the rental subsidy service to the extent allowable under the current funding allocations provided to Hillsborough County by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Service for individuals requiring special accommodations is available by contacting the Section 8 office at (813) 903-3400.

### **NOW 18, CARLI SLACK'S LIFE OR DEATH CHOICES IN HOSPITAL ARE HER OWN**

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/15/162146/child-no-longer-her-choice-life-or-death/>

On Saturday, Carli Slack had her Cinderella moment. She arrived at the party in a royal blue dress and a pink cardboard tiara. It didn't matter she was wheeled into the room lying in a hospital bed. A sign attached to the headboard announced: "Queen Carli's Coach." Two years ago, the Tampa teenager was looking forward to her first prom at Plant High School. But that was not to be. Now she rarely sees the outside of her room in the pediatric intensive care unit at Tampa General Hospital. This day, though, was special. She turned 18. "Carli can stay at this party for as long as she likes," one of her nurses said. Some 50 friends, family members and hospital staff welcomed her with a rousing chorus of "Happy Birthday," first in English, then in Spanish. She can't eat solid food, so they devoured a dessert made of red, blue and green gelatin. This passage from child to adult is especially significant. Her future is uncertain. Carli has nearly died a half-dozen times in the past year and a half. Doctors offer little, if any, hope that she will ever leave the hospital, where she is kept alive by rigorous medical care and parents who are always at her side. Since July 2008, they have made the decisions on every medical measure taken regarding their daughter's life. Although it has been a painful journey, they are steadfast in their resolve that Carli be given every chance to survive. But now that she's 18, it's Carli's choice. What will she decide? Before her baffling, inexorable illness, Carli lived in a world of possibilities.

### **CHECK OUT LOCAL ONLINE PARENTING NEWS, BLOGS, EVENTS**

tampabay.com's Whoa, Momma - <http://blogs.tampabay.com/moms/>

tbo.com's Moms - <http://www2.tbo.com/lifestyles/moms/>

Ch. 8's Connect with Kids - <http://www.connectwithkids.com/>

Ch. 10's Moms Like Me - <http://tampabay.momslikeme.com/members/exploregroups.aspx?p=134>.

## READ ABOUT MEONSHA AND OTHER 'WEDNESDAY'S CHILD' ADOPTABLE FOSTER KIDS

<http://www.wtsp.com/life/community/adoption/>



Each week, 10 News profiles a special needs child waiting for a "Forever Home." You can see Wednesday's Child each Wednesday during 10 News This Morning, 10 News at Noon, and 10 News at 4 p.m. See this week's story on Meonsha at

<http://www.wtsp.com/life/community/adoption/story.aspx?storyid=123074&catid=23>.

Wednesday's Child is proudly sponsored by the **Children's Board of Hillsborough County** and the Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay ([www.dreamsworthgrowing.com](http://www.dreamsworthgrowing.com)).

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## NEIGHBORHOOD & FAMILY SUPPORT & RESOURCE CENTER NEWS

### ORPHAN TEEN FROM HAITI FINDS ADOPTIVE HOME IN RIVERVIEW

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/humaninterest/haitian-orphan-makes-it-to-new-parents-in-riverview/1066612>

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/na-here-to-stay-teen-is-ok-now/>

A week after her nation was devastated, Darline Blanchard Williams makes a new life with adoptive parents in Riverview.

### SEE THE LATEST RSSP NEWSLETTER ONLINE – PROMOTES CBHC FOUNDING ON TV

Check out the Rural Social Services Partnership (RSSP) newsletter online. To view current and archived newsletters go to <http://www.rsspillsborough.org/index.cfm?page=Newsletters>. Visit the RSSP website at [www.rsspillsborough.org](http://www.rsspillsborough.org).

**\*\*\*See also individual FSRC and Neighborhood events within all "Upcoming Events" at <http://www.childrensboard.org/citizens/enews.aspx>**

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## STATE NEWS

### AT-RISK STUDENTS IN ESCAMBIA COUNTY LEARN JOYS OF VOLUNTEERING

<http://www.pnj.com/article/20100119/NEWS01/1190316/1006/NEWS01/At-risk-students-learn-joys-of-volunteering>

Tiara Lewis watches over a group of about 20 first-graders at Montclair Elementary School after school while they wait for their parents. The students are playing a computer game being projected onto a screen at the front of the room that tests their memory. They yell "That one! That one!" and

cheer together when they get a right answer. Lewis cheers with them. What started out as a punishment has turned into a reward for the PACE Center for Girls eighth-grader who was assigned community service after getting in trouble for disruptive behavior. "I love working here, because I love kids so much," said Lewis, who volunteers with Linking Arms, an after-school program for at-risk youth. "I never thought I'd find an organization I'd like working for. I'm definitely going to keep doing it even when I don't have to." Turning a consequence into a lesson is what Escambia County School District is hoping to do with its new alternative-to-suspension pilot program that will allow some students to do community service in lieu of a suspension. The idea was born from Chain Reaction, a local teen volunteering group, which is partnering with the School District to implement the program at Pensacola High and Escambia High. If it is a success, the program could be expanded throughout the district. Chain Reaction executive director Kristin Fairchild said that for the past couple years she has worked with students individually who got into trouble and negotiated community service as a means of punishment with their schools or local law enforcement.

### TEEN PREGNANCY EXPERT BEMOANS LACK OF EDUCATION ABOUT CONTRACEPTION

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/education/k12/florida-education-chief-agrees-states-ap-program-overenrolled/1063907>

So many Florida girls are getting pregnant, the state ranks sixth in the nation for teen pregnancy. That might not be the case, says an expert in field, if more young people were taught about contraception. "While the adults are arguing about abstinence, our teenagers are getting pregnant," says Dr. Carol Cassell, an author, researcher and social scientist who will be in the Tampa Bay area next week to speak at fundraisers for Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida. From 1996 to 2004, Cassell ran the teen pregnancy research program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. She then went to the University of New Mexico to run the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, a three-year, CDC-funded study of junior and senior high school students. She now is writing a book, *Beyond Knocked Up: The Personal Dilemmas and the Price We All Pay for Unplanned and Unwanted Pregnancies*. In her work, Cassell draws on her 30 years of researching, writing and speaking on the topic — and her own experience as the mother of six children. "I know kids, I've researched their behavior for years," she says. "If we don't teach about contraception, we have unintended pregnancy."

Cassell: This is not a game you want to "win"; it's not good to be in the top 10. It's not a good idea for kids to become parents. We need to teach what they teach in Europe: safe sex or no sex. The expectation is that when they do become sexually active, they will use contraception. We have to stop insisting on abstinence until marriage. First of all, teens don't have sex to have babies. Almost all of teen pregnancy, 80 percent of it, is unwanted and unplanned. We have to deliver comprehensive sex education in a new and better way that connects with young men and young women. We need to get across to them that unwanted pregnancy leads to difficulty in life. Just telling them that they should wait to have sex until they are married doesn't equip them for real life. It's better to talk to them about decisions and emotions and consequences. It's more realistic.

*(Editor's Note: **Children's Board** researcher Kathy Maes says one indicator concerning teen pregnancy is that trends show that when the economy is good, teenage girls have higher hopes of jobs and careers and put off having children. When the economy is bad, she said, trends indicate less hope of a career and a higher chance of starting a family instead.)*

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## NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS & RESEARCH

### SCHIP INCREASES COVERAGE FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

<http://www.promisingpractices.net/newsletters/news1001.asp?ref=ppntext>

Despite recent expansions in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), studies have shown that there are still children who are eligible for SCHIP benefits but remain uninsured.

Children with special health care needs are a particularly vulnerable population, though a recent study in Pediatrics finds that the number of SCHIP-eligible children with special health care needs who are uninsured has dropped by half between 2000 and 2005, from over 21 percent to 10 percent. [http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/abstract/124/Supplement\\_4/S337](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/abstract/124/Supplement_4/S337)

### NATIONAL SITES TO DONATE MONEY OR VOLUNTEER TIME TO HELP HAITI

**Charity Navigator:** [www.Charitynavigator.org](http://www.Charitynavigator.org) America's largest charity evaluator. The site also lists several relief agencies who are accepting donations.

**InterAction:** [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org) A coalition of U.S.-based international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). It has a page of member organizations collecting for the Haiti disaster and guidelines for giving.

**National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD):** [www.nvoad.org](http://www.nvoad.org) National VOAD is a nonprofit membership organization which includes national nonprofit organizations whose mission includes programs either in disaster preparedness, response and/or recovery.

**TEXTING OPTIONS:** Text "Yele" to 501501 to donate \$5 on behalf of the Yéle Foundation, the leading contributor to rebuilding Haiti founded by Wyclef Jean.

- Text "Haiti" to 20222 to donate \$10 on behalf of The Clinton Foundation (former President Clinton is Special Envoy to Haiti)
- Text "Haiti" to 85944 to donate \$5 on behalf of the Rescue Union Mission and MedCorp International.
- Text "Haiti" to 25383 to donate \$5 on behalf of the Internal Rescue Committee.
- Text "Haiti" to 90999 to donate \$10 on behalf of the Red Cross in the U.S

### TIME MAGAZINE: IN A TOUGH JOB MARKET, TEENS ARE SUFFERING

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1952331,00.html>

*From Time magazine:* The Great Recession has been particularly uncool to teens. Fewer work than ever before. Is this hurting their future?

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**ADVOCACY**

### STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN ASKS TALLAHASSEE TO STEP UP FOR CHILDREN

[http://www.tallahassee.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=645&Itemid=120](http://www.tallahassee.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=645&Itemid=120)

*From the Children's Campaign:* Florida has one of the lowest high school graduation rates in the country. The state is last in what it pays for children's health care — with as many as 800,000 children going without health insurance. Infant mortality rates in some counties are as high as a Third World country. A national study has shown the Sunshine State's prekindergarten program to be one of the nation's worst in terms of quality. And Florida ranks third in the number of child deaths linked to abuse and neglect.

The Children's Campaign, focused on bringing children's issues to the forefront, is working to turn those numbers around. But with Florida legislators ready once again to slash state spending because of declining tax collections, children's advocates are worried that they are fighting a losing battle. The state needs \$2.7 billion it doesn't have just to keep government operating at its already scaled-down level. The public school budget alone could face a \$1 billion deficit. "The broad consensus is that people care about kids, but that falls apart when it's time to pay for it," says Roy Miller, longtime president of the Children's Campaign. This is where the residents of Tallahassee,

come in. Miller's challenge is simple: Are you ready to step up for children?

Miller wants to "get beyond the existing choir" and be able to call on local residents to speak out on behalf of children when the Florida Legislature convenes in March and begins its budget work in earnest. The idea is that state lawmakers might pay more attention to children's programs — and be less likely to cut funding — if members of the public come to personally testify in support of them. While others in the state may be willing to help, it takes time and money to travel to Tallahassee — and sometimes legislative committee meetings are scheduled on short notice. That's where Tallahasseeans can help fill the gap, Miller said, adding that testifying before a legislative committee isn't as tough as it sounds. "People get scared off because they think they don't know enough about the issues," Miller says. "But all they have to do is rely on their personal experiences, to do a little reality therapy with these legislators. "I'm not optimistic about the upcoming session ... that's why we want people in the community to watch," he says. "This is a special opportunity that Tallahassee has. My challenge is, are you ready to step up for children?" You can find out more about the Children's Campaign at [iamforkids.org](http://iamforkids.org) or by calling (850) 425-2600.

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## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

**\*\*\*NOTE:** *This (full) section is located on the Children's Board website at <http://www.childrensboard.org/calendar.aspx>.*

**\*\*\*You can also post your community events online at the Crisis Center website at <http://www.211atyourfingertips.org/calendar.asp>**

**\*\*\*See also a comprehensive calendar of events posted by the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) of Hillsborough County Public Schools at [http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org/10EB7F50-00757E5A?object=/support\\_calendar&infoabar=no&templates=RWD&ConfPosition=0&Calendar=1](http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org/10EB7F50-00757E5A?object=/support_calendar&infoabar=no&templates=RWD&ConfPosition=0&Calendar=1)**

### *This Week's Featured Events:*

#### **CHILDREN'S BOARD POSTS JANUARY BOARD MEETINGS ONLINE**

[http://www.childrensboard.org/board\\_meeting\\_dates.aspx](http://www.childrensboard.org/board_meeting_dates.aspx)

See the Children's Board website for Board committee meetings scheduled in January. The Board workshop and regular Board meeting will be 1-2:30 p.m. and 3-5 p.m., respectively, on Jan. 28.

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## CLASSIFIEDS

**NOTE:** *announcements will run a maximum of 3 weeks unless other arrangements are made. Contact [DCasseday@childrensboard.org](mailto:DCasseday@childrensboard.org).*

**New! BAY AREA JOB FAIRS ARE SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 21, JAN. 25, AND FEB. 9**

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/sp-bay-area-job-fairs-scheduled/>

Click on the link to learn about three upcoming Tampa Bay area job fairs.

**New! YMCA IS LOOKING TO FILL TWO POSITIONS**

**Disability Coordinator:** Must have nursing background, RN preferred. This full time exempt level position will be fully responsible for tracking and assisting children and families enrolled in The Tampa YMCA's Early Head Start program in supporting critical health and wellness, including immunization and dental care to support child well being in preparation for school readiness. Links children with special needs to community services and County funded services. Provides oversight to (2) Family Support Specialists who work with Families of children enrolled. Provides liaison to Educational Specialists in communicating and coordinating services with Family Child Care providers. Salary Range \$38,000-\$45,000 depending on experience and skill level. Interested applicants please send resume to [Rodriguez.Perry@tampaymca.org](mailto:Rodriguez.Perry@tampaymca.org) or [bbarrett@tampaymca.org](mailto:bbarrett@tampaymca.org).

**Educational Specialist:** This full time exempt level position with experience in early childhood, preferably with Head Start or Early Head Start experience. Must have a BA in related field. Salary Range \$38,000-\$42,000 depending on experience and skill level. Interested applicants please send resume to [Rodriguez.Perry@tampaymca.org](mailto:Rodriguez.Perry@tampaymca.org) or [bbarrett@tampaymca.org](mailto:bbarrett@tampaymca.org).

**COMMUNITY TAMPA BAY SEEKS AMERICORPS PROJECT PLANNING COORDINATOR**

Community Tampa Bay is seeking an AmeriCorps Project Planning Coordinator. This 10 month, FT position to facilitate planning process resulting in comprehensive funding proposal that addresses collaborations and partnerships, curriculum, funding, recruitment and sustainability. The successful applicant will have demonstrated experience with planning, budgeting, writing, documentation and creative problem solving. Unique opportunity to work with non-profit, philanthropy and business communities to create additional support to youth serving programs/schools across the Bay area. EOE. Resume and cover letter to Stacie Blake, [sblake@communitytampabay.org](mailto:sblake@communitytampabay.org).

**MARY AND MARTHA HOUSE SEEKS FULLTIME BILINGUAL CASE WORKER**

The Mary and Martha House is looking for a full-time Permanent Bilingual (Spanish) Case Worker ...Position will start, February 1, 2010.

Normal hours are from 8-5 with some flexible hours in the evenings. Duties Include case management work, answer phones and transport clients. Applicant should have some case work experience and able to cope with homeless women and children Pay starts at \$10.00 hourly. Submit resume to Jean Gaylord to: [gaylordj.maryandmarthahouse@verizon.net](mailto:gaylordj.maryandmarthahouse@verizon.net) or contact Ms. Gaylord at 813-641-7027

**CENSUS BUREAU TO HIRE 5,000 TEMPORARY WORKERS IN TAMPA BAY AREA**

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/census-bureau-to-hire-5000-tampa-bay-temporary-workers/1051280>

Temporary workers are needed in the Tampa Bay area for the 2010 census. Peak hiring is underway and will last through May for the five- to 10-week assignments. There will be two offices in Tampa and one each in St. Petersburg, Clearwater and Brooksville. Each office will need about 1,000 workers. To apply, go to [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov) and search for an office in your area, or call toll-free 1-866-861-2010. Most positions require U.S. citizenship, a driver's license and use of a vehicle. Background checks will be conducted.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE ALSO POSTED ON THE RSSP WEBSITE**

Click on the link below to see the Rural Social Services (RSSP) website Employment Opportunities page: <http://www.rssphillsborough.org/index.cfm?page=Employment>.

*~To return to the top, press "control" and "home" on your computer keyboard~*



## Did You Know?

**“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.” – Martin Luther King Jr.**

*~To return to the top, press “control” and “home” on your computer keyboard~*

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**TO BE ADDED TO (OR DELETED FROM) WEEKLY E-MAIL FOR JUST DREAM**, submit your request to Dan Casseday at [DCasseday@childrensboard.org](mailto:DCasseday@childrensboard.org) and be sure to include your first and last name and your e-mail address. Sorry, no e-mail addresses only. It is not the intent of the editor that your name and e-mail address be shared with other groups or used for any personal solicitations.  
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		<b>Dan Casseday</b> Communications
<b>Children's Board</b> HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY Dreams Worth Growing		
1002 East Palm Avenue Tampa, FL 33605 <a href="http://childrensboard.org">childrensboard.org</a>	TEL: (813) 204-1757 FAX: (813) 228-8122 <a href="mailto:dcasseday@childrensboard.org">dcasseday@childrensboard.org</a>	

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**CRITERIA FOR INFORMATION USED IN JUST DREAM:**

Information and pictures used in including *Just Dream* weekly e-news are collected and published by staff of the **Children's Board of Hillsborough County**. The information relates to issues affecting children and families and is shared by e-mail with members of child and family services agencies in Hillsborough County, and with other interested individuals and organizations, including contracted partners, as a public service of the **Children's Board**. Much of the information included is gleaned via local newspapers, local and national newsletters related to child and family news, magazines, websites and e-mail. Many items are submitted by individuals and agencies.

*Just Dream* grew out of *Just Think About the Children*, a communications tool of the 7-year federal system of care grant in Hillsborough County, called the Tampa-Hillsborough Integrated Network for Kids (THINK) grant. The grant worked to improve the systems of care for children with serious emotional disturbance and their families. *Just Think* was (and now *Just Dream* is) one of the legacies of the THINK grant which became integrated into the social services community in Hillsborough County and now serves to provide information about children's issues and children's social services.

Following is the major criteria by which an agency or individual may have information or pictures included in *Just Dream*:

- Information and pictures should relate to local, state or national news and events affecting children and families, Family Support & Resource Centers, or positions available within child and family service agencies.
- The information or pictures must have an obvious and clear connection with children and/or neighborhoods and Family Support & Resource Centers.
- Information should be submitted on a timely basis – preferably at least one week before publication of *Just Think* and no later than two weeks before publication of any quarterly or periodic e-newsletters also produced by the editor of *Just Dream*.
- Information about children and families suitable for inclusion will include but not be limited to feature stories, accomplishments, news announcements, grants, awards, honors, legislation affecting children and families, upcoming events, trainings, seminars, classes or conferences, special event fundraisers designed to increase awareness of a social service agency and/or children who benefit from it, research (local, state or national professional organization or university) and very importantly, *Just Dream* space considerations.
- Presentation of information should be in a journalistic format – never a personal style; any final decisions about this are at the discretion of the editor. Neither use of personal pronouns nor general use of adjectives to describe people and events are generally considered appropriate, except in the case of attribution, and in a journalistic format.

- Agencies and individuals may be excluded, at the discretion of the editor, from putting an item or picture in *Just Dream* if the goal is to simply advertise or promote increased business or profits; in those cases, advertisements in commercial media are more appropriate. It is acceptable, however, to promote an individual charity event or project for an agency that helps children and families.
- Information used must be brief, preferably condensed to one (continuous) paragraph. It is also preferable for the information to include both web link and contact information, particularly an e-mail address, if possible.
- If there is no web link associated with the item and it is longer than one paragraph, the information may be edited at the discretion of the editor of *Just Dream*, or the editor may choose to summarize the information and refer the reader to a contact for more information, if available.