



# THE MCS INSIDER

The official newsletter of  
Manatee Children's Services, Inc



## *Our History and Mission*

**"To advocate for and provide the resources, skills, and shelter to alleviate abuse through prevention and intervention for all children and their families."**

Manatee Children's Services was founded in 1977 by Carol Chamberlain: a librarian, teacher, and social worker with a passion for child advocacy. Through her work in social services, Carol learned that Manatee County had a dire need for shelter to house abused children removed from their homes. She rallied a group of citizens to make the shelter a reality and, to this day, MCS continues to operate as Manatee County's only emergency shelter for child victims of abuse and the county's only Child Advocacy Center.

We provide a full spectrum of programs serving over 16,000 children and families annually. We offer programs in treatment, prevention, intervention, and residential services. Such programs include an emergency shelter, long-term group homes, mental health services, parenting education and training, forensic medical and specialized child victim interview services, support services for relative caregivers, teen pregnancy prevention, and children's personal safety. Visit our [website](http://www.MCSFL.com) to learn more.

### In this edition:

- **Lakewood Ranch Child Abuse Prevention Series: October**
- **MCS Emergency Shelter Cleanup Day**
- **Manatee Whiskey Society Casino Night**
- **MCS in the Community**
- **Community Spotlight of the Month**

# PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION SERIES TOPIC

You won't want to miss the final session of our Child Abuse Prevention Series funded by the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund of the Manatee Community Foundation. We are so grateful for their support in this essential series to Lakewood Ranch community members and professionals.

To register, visit our Eventbrite invitation: <https://PCIT.eventbrite.com>



## **OCTOBER 12, 2022 11:00 A.M. TO 12:30 PM PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY: BUILDING SECURITY, SAFETY, AND ATTACHMENT BETWEEN CAREGIVER AND CHILD**

Please join us for an information session as part of our ongoing Child Abuse Prevention Series funded by the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund of the Manatee Community Foundation. In this session, participants will learn a brief overview of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), needs for treatment, efficacy of this evidence-based program, and case examples. This session is open to all community members, professionals, and anyone hoping to learn more about breaking the cycle of child abuse.



### **Presented by:**

**Jaimie Vanhooose, LCSW  
PCIT Program  
Coordinator**

Jaimie Vanhooose holds a master's degree in social work and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She started with MCS in 2013 as the KIDS Personal Safety Coordinator, educating schoolchildren on how to stay safe. In 2017, Jaimie became a therapist with the BRIC parenting program, providing treatment to families working toward reunification after allegations of abuse or neglect. Jaimie currently oversees the MCS Parent-Child Interaction Therapy program.

For questions, please contact  
Krista Post, Development  
Coordinator: [kristap@mcsfl.com](mailto:kristap@mcsfl.com)

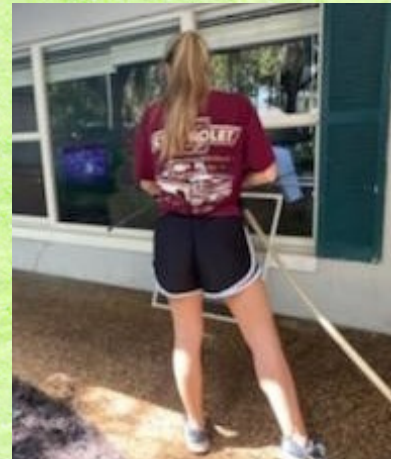
### **LOCATION:**

**RAYMOND JAMES  
LAKEWOOD RANCH**

**8120 Lakewood Main St.  
Suite 201  
Bradenton, FL 34202**



Our Girls Group Home and Boys Group Home are also in need of a community cleanup day. Interested volunteers may contact us at (941) 345-1200.





# SAVE THE DATE FOR MANATEE WHISKEY SOCIETY'S CASINO NIGHT TO BENEFIT MANATEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Please join us and the Manatee Whiskey Society for this exciting fundraiser to benefit our programs at Manatee Children's Services! Tickets on sale NOW! This event is sure to sell out quickly, so get your tickets and secure your seat.

For tickets, visit: <https://mwscasinonight.eventbrite.com>

**MANATEE WHISKEY SOCIETY PRESENTS**



**DECEMBER 8, 2022**

**GOLD COAST  
EAGLE  
DISTRIBUTING**  
7051 WIRELESS CT,  
SARASOTA FL 34240

**A FUNDRAISER BENEFITING  
MANATEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**A NIGHT AT  
THE CASINO**

**\$100 PER PERSON**  
**INCLUDES COCKTAIL HOUR, LIGHT BITES, DINNER, DESSERT,  
RAFFLES, WHISKEY VENDORS, CRAB BAGS, AND (1) STARTER CHIP PACK**

**Doors open at 6:00 p.m.**

**SPACE IS LIMITED! Reserve your tickets at: <https://mwscasinonight.eventbrite.com>**

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# MANATEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY

## *MCS Receives Grant Awards from Bradenton Police Department, Walmart, and Sam's Club*

Manatee Children's Services was the proud recipient of FOUR wonderful grants last month!

Sam's Club of Bradenton on 30th Street East, Walmart Bradenton on East State Road 64, and Walmart Bradenton Supercenter on 53rd selected MCS as a recipient of their 2022 grant funds courtesy of Walmart Giving. Their awards will support household items for reunifying families and holiday meals for our kinship caregivers.

MCS was also selected for the 2022 Bradenton Police Department Forfeiture Grant to support "Darkness to Light" crime abuse prevention training for staff, substance use screening tools for foster care youth in our residential program, and substance abuse education materials for teens in our TRUTH program.



THANK  
YOU



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

## *The V.L.J. Hope Fund*

MCS would like to welcome and recognize our most recent supporters, Lisea and Vince Julien of the VLJ Hope Fund. We are honored that they chose MCS and are so inspired by the wonderful work they do in the community.

Lisea is a successful realtor in the Sarasota/Bradenton area and has helped build several business with Vince throughout the years. Vince is currently the Founder and Board Chair of CR Fitness, also known as Crunch Fitness, in Florida, Georgia, Texas, and North Carolina. The couple has always felt a calling to help the community and believe no individual should be challenged with hunger or lack of shelter.



"Lisea and I have been blessed throughout the years with successful businesses in the fitness industry," Vince said. "There's a point that you have to give back to the communities that supported your businesses and that's what we're focused on at this point in our lives."

The VLJ Hope Fund was established to fund credible charitable groups that had the infrastructure capacity in place to assist people in need. Specifically, their goal was to fund groups who structurally were set up to distribute at least 80% of the charitable goods directly to the recipients rather than groups with large infrastructures that claimed 90% of the revenue for expenses within the organization itself.

"These are typically groups led by individuals with big hearts and a calling to serve rather than collect a paycheck," Vince said. "They are typically are grassroots organizations with a solid track record but clearly need financial assistance as well as some board level experience in some cases so that they can fully execute the tasks at hand."

After a recent conversation with the MCS Development Coordinator through BNI, Lisea felt compelled by our mission and wanted to help.

"It's very complicated to understand how as a society we can't create the right response to assist our children and meet the growing needs of so many challenged individuals," Vince said. "It's not just Manatee Children's Services, but also many other children's charities that are working around the clock to intercede so that our children don't have to face the many challenges that they're up against."



# SAVE THE DATE: GIVING TUESDAY 2022

Together  
we give.

Nov 29, 2022

GIVING  
TUESDAY



MCS Child Advocacy Center  
www.MCSFL.com



Giving Tuesday 2022 will be here before we know it. This year's focus is "Caregiving Through the Holidays," an initiative that will help MCS programs continue to support our hardworking caregivers through the holidays.



**Manatee Children's Services, Inc.**  
**A Child Advocacy Center**  
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**(941) 812-9361**  
**info@mcsfl.com**

Click on links below to view our website and follow  
us on social media:



Your gift will help clients like "Martha," a grandmother who raised her grandchildren off and on since birth and became their permanent caregiver in 2016 when their mother died. "Martha" stated GAP Advocates offered extra support during the loss of her daughter and guided her through some of the hardest days of her life. She also said our support groups have been especially helpful in learning new information and talking to others with similar experiences in a group setting.

"This group is an amazing team that goes above and beyond to make sure we are all cared for and doing OK," she said.