

July 2024



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 12,000 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](https://www.mcsfl.com) to learn more.

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IT'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY AT MANATEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES



As we await our beloved Christmastime Holiday Project, the children we serve have crucial needs in the summertime. Please consider a midyear gift of \$50 or more to support our most vulnerable populations and the programs that serve them.

We also invite you to join our giving community by becoming part of our Pinwheel Pals monthly giving program and making a difference year-round.



<https://www.mcsfl.com/donate/#xmas-in-july>

\$50 or more supports:

- ✓ Birthdays
- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Experiences
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Arts and Music
- ✓ Back-to-School

Giving Period:

July 1 through July 31, 2024

**Payment via credit card (online)
or cash/check in person**



Manatee Children's Services
1227 9th Avenue West
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(941) 345-1200
www.mcsfl.com



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SUPPORT “CHRISTMAS IN JULY” AT CHICK-FIL-A CORTEZ PLAZA

Community Care Event

Tuesday, July 9, 2024
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Manatee Children’s Services “Christmas in July”
Join us on to help support summertime needs
for child abuse victims and families



Make sure to place an order through the Chick-fil-A App and
select “Support Community Care Event” when you checkout.

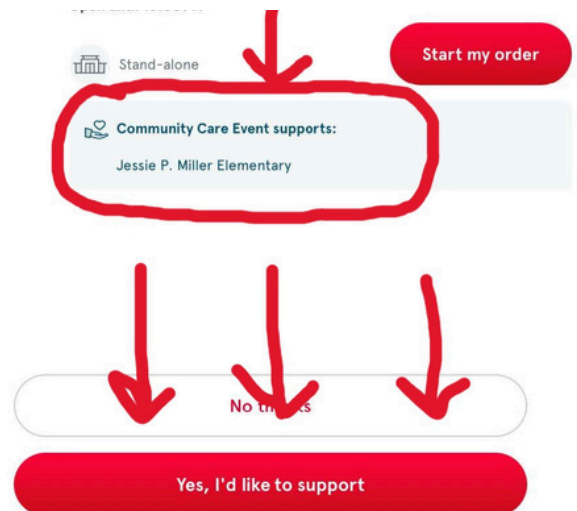


How?

- Download the CFA App
- Create an Account
- Place an Order through the CFA App
- Select “Support Community Care Event”
- CONGRATULATIONS! You've earned points and are supporting Manatee Children’s Services!



15% of all menu items purchased
from 4-8 pm through the app at
Chick-Fil-A Cortez Plaza will
benefit our “Christmas in July”
annual campaign. Thank you for
choosing to support MCS through
the Community Care event!





Christmas in July Zumbathon

Open to the public

Fundraiser for Manatee Children's Services

with Crunch instructors

Wendy, Krista, Nineth, Brittney, Chilla, Dasha,
Michi, Kristen, Mimi, Caryl, & Tess

*All ages and
fitness levels
welcome*

SATURDAY, JULY 20

10:30 AM-12:00 PM

CRUNCH AT BEE RIDGE

**\$20 SUGGESTED
DONATION**



*Raffle prizes
and vendors*

**ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFITING CHILD
ABUSE PREVENTION
PROGRAMS AT MCS**



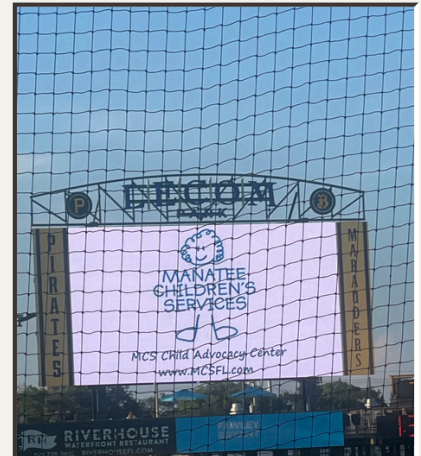
COMMUNITY NEWS



Our parenting teams honored National Reunification Month at the Safe Children Coalition Reunification event on June 6 (pictured top) to celebrate families who have been reunited after much hard work. Our staff enjoyed being able to hug and visit with many families they helped along the way.



We had lots of fun being featured at the Bradenton Marauders' Friendly City Nonprofit Spotlight Night on June 7 (pictured middle). Thank you to the Marauders for supporting our mission and helping us raise awareness about our essential services for children and families affected by child abuse.

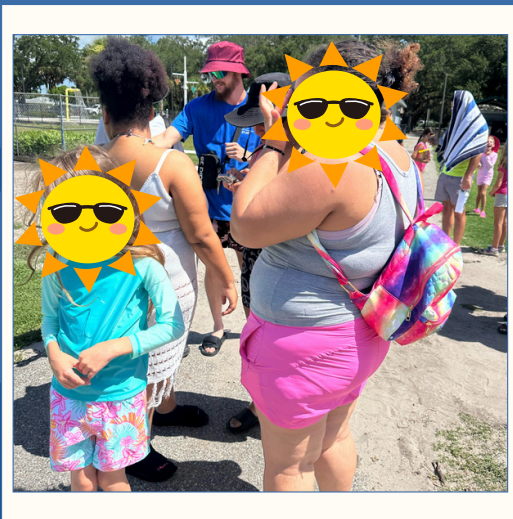


We were also honored to be selected for grant awards from Sisterhood for Good and Wells Fargo Emma Carey Groh Foundation (pictured bottom) to support food and nutrition for the foster children in our residential programs. We truly appreciate your compassion for the children we serve.



SUMMER FUN FOR MCS FOSTER CHILDREN

We've been beating the heat with fun in the sun at Lincoln Park! With your support for Christmas in July, we can give them even more summer activities and experiences they'll remember forever. We are so grateful to our community for making memories like these possible.



Med G Classic Charity Golf Tournament

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024

SERENOA GOLF CLUB

**REGISTER
NOW!**

Benefiting:

Manatee Children's Services
Feeding Empty Little Tummies (F.E.L.T.)
Suncoast Charities for Children



PLEASE VISIT
WWW.MEDGCLASSIC.COM
TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM
OR BECOME A SPONSOR

\$50 OFF A FOURSOME
NOW THROUGH JULY 31
WITH PROMO CODE:
EARLYBIRD

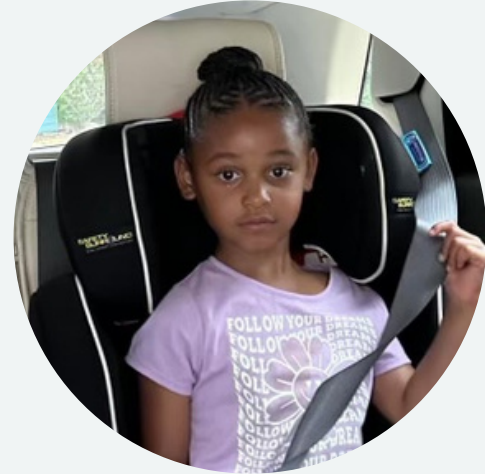




MCS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



As a caregiver parenting the second time around, sometimes the most unexpected challenges arise. Our “Grandparents as Parents” (GAP) participant, Angela, recently took in her granddaughter but did not know how to care for her hair, so she reached out to a fellow participant for advice on how to style and maintain Black hair.



“I was being hair shamed and I’ve done my best but had nobody to consult,” Angela said. “Miss Jenea was such a blessing. She didn’t make me feel silly or embarrassed, and for that, I’m grateful.”

A beautiful friendship emerged between Angela and Jenea, and their grandchildren then also became fast friends.



“Because of new friendships and help in this amazing group, I feel accomplished,” Angela said.

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