

October 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](http://www.MCSFL.com) to learn more.

In this edition:

- **Save the Date: "Kendra Gives Back" event**
- **Med G Classic Golf Tournament**
- **Community and agency news**
- **Community spotlight**

Save the Date

Please support MCS for a "Sip and Shop" on Friday, October 18th (rescheduled from 9/26 due to Hurricane Helene) at Kendra Scott in the UTC Mall from 4-6 pm. Complimentary champagne will be provided while you shop. Can't make it in person? You can also shop online at www.kendrascott.com all day using the code below at checkout.



Shine Bright, Do Good

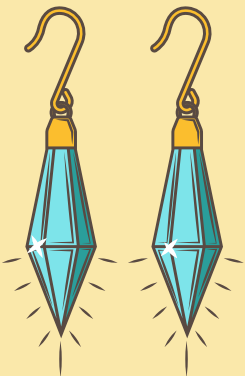
JOIN US FOR A
KENDRA GIVES BACK EVENT

DATE & TIME

Friday 10/18 @ 4:00- 6:00pm

DETAILS

Sip, Shop, Support!
Join us for a giveback
event 20% of sales
will be donated back
to **Manatee Children's
Services**. Shop online
using code:
GIVEBACK-GYVNH



PLEASE SUPPORT

Med & Classic

GOLF TOURNAMENT

We are so excited to have almost 100 golfers participating so far! We still have LOTS of spots open to win the fabulous American Pride golf cart, so don't miss your chance! Purchase your ticket by October 16 for a chance to earn a **FREE ADDITIONAL RAFFLE!** Winner will be announced on October 17.

We are still in high need of sponsors, particularly for "Own the Box." These sponsors will get exclusive space on a tee box to display a tent or table, pass out items and/or beverages to golfers, and build your brand! An oversized sign with your logo and message will also be provided and displayed on the tee box.

ENTER TO WIN THE "AMERICAN
PRIDE" GOLF CART!

*Win a
FREE
additional
raffle
before
10/16!*



Saturday, November 2, 2024

Serenoa Golf Club

COMMUNITY NEWS

Below: MCS staff Brandon Haynes, Lucy Eisenhard, and Hilary Haynes attended the 2024 Florida Children and Families Summit. The summit featured insights from judges, lawyers, law enforcement, nonprofits, and child protective services, covering topics like empowering abused children, trauma-informed interviewing, courtroom professionalism, and collaboration with law enforcement.



Below: Thank you to the Safe Sleep Program at Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County and the Safe Children Coalition Parenting Support Specialist for their donation of a new bassinet to help a mom in our parenting program who had nothing for her one-week-old baby. Not only do we rely on our community members and businesses for support in times of need, but also our nonprofit partners!



Thank you to last month's wonderful community supporters! The Bradenton Police Department (top center), Aqua Cares Foundation, and the Realtor Association of Manatee-Sarasota (RASM) awarded MCS with grants to support crime prevention testing tools, general agency funding, and furniture for our emergency shelter and group homes. We appreciate you so much!

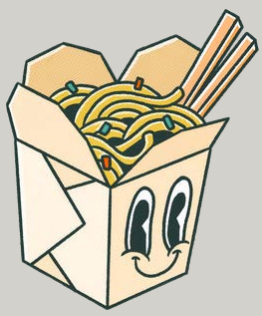




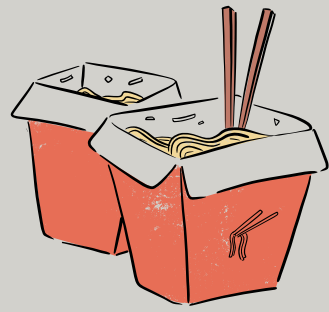
AGENCY NEWS



Our residential makeover is underway! Thanks to funding from Manatee County Government, the kitchen and laundry room at the MCS Emergency Shelter are being upgraded to provide more safety, space, and efficiency. Check out the “before” ...we can’t wait to show you the “after!”



THANK YOU!



Thank you to local businesses Beef 'O' Brady's Lakewood Ranch, Braden River, and Parrish; Jpan UTC; Food + Beer Bradenton; Morton's Gourmet Market; Palmetto Greyson; Acaapulco Lakewood Ranch; BNI Business Focus; and Bonefish Grill Cortez for feeding our foster children while the kitchen was under construction. Our kiddos were so happy to have delicious takeout to fill their bellies! Our community is the best, and we appreciate you all so much!

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:

AQUA PLUMBING & AIR / “AQUA CARES” FOUNDATION



Aqua Plumbing & Air has been a trusted name since 1974, founded by master plumber John Miller. From the beginning, the company thrived on high-quality workmanship, integrity, and customer service. After decades of growth, Miller retired in 2016, passing the business to longtime employees Chuck Jacobson and Skip Stanton, who have continued its success as a leading provider of plumbing, HVAC, and electrical services in Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

The Aqua Cares Foundation was created to formalize the company’s commitment to giving back, focusing on local causes that improve health, education, and community welfare, creating a lasting positive impact.

“The decision to support Manatee Children’s Services stems from a deep-seated belief in protecting and nurturing the most vulnerable members of our community – our children,” Veronica Brandon Miller, VBM Advancement President, said.” Aqua Plumbing & Air is particularly inspired by the organization’s commitment to providing comprehensive care and advocacy for abused and neglected children. The team feels that by supporting Manatee Children’s Services, they are contributing to a brighter, safer future for the next generation, giving these children the support and healing they deserve during a critical time in their lives.”

COMING SOON: THE ANNUAL MCS HOLIDAY PROJECT



The holidays are approaching quickly, which means it's almost time for the most magical season at MCS: our annual Holiday Project! This is a time when our community comes together to ensure *every* child has the holiday experience they deserve. We need YOUR help to bring joy and hope to the children at Manatee Children's Services this holiday season. By sponsoring our Holiday Project, you can directly support children who have endured or are at risk of abuse or neglect.



Your generous gift will provide these children with the warmth and happiness every child deserves during the holidays. Together, we can make their holiday season brighter and remind them that they are loved and cared for.

Stay tuned for sponsorship information and wish lists on our website and social media pages later this month!

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

