

August 2025



# 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](#) to learn more.

## *In this edition:*

- **Christmas in July recap**
- **New employee spotlights**
- **MCS community news**
- **"Groovin' for Good" gala**
- **Community spotlight**
- **MCS staff celebrations**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

# Christmas in July 2025



Thank you to Kendra Scott UTC for supporting our Christmas in July fundraiser through "Kendra Gives Back." We are so grateful for your continued support.

Thank you to BNI Key Referrals for going all in for kids at your annual charity poker night benefiting MCS! Congrats to the top 3 winners: Rob Deforge, Julia Linnenbrink, and Andrew Sweetnich!

Trivia Night was a blast! Huge thanks to host Thomas Pressley, to Good Liquid Brewing Company at Waterside, and to everyone who came out to play and support!



# Welcome to our team

*KIDS Personal Safety Coordinator*



*Colleen Cipriani*

Meet our newest KIDS Personal Safety Coordinator: Colleen Cipriani! With a Master of Arts from Gannon University and over three decades of experience in nonprofit higher education, plus years mentoring girls and volunteering as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), Colleen brings a powerful passion for advocacy and service. Her dedication to social justice led her to MCS, where she's excited to help educate students on personal safety. Please join us in giving Colleen a warm welcome!



*Danielle Foster*

*Quality Assurance Coordinator*

We're thrilled to welcome back a familiar face to MCS: Danielle Foster! With a bachelor's degree in Criminology from Florida State University and a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University, Danielle brings years of experience in juvenile programs. She joined MCS in 1998, and after a few years away, her passion for programs, policy, and quality assurance brought her back. She's most excited to collaborate with the team and dive deep into how we can continue to strengthen our services. Welcome back, Danielle!

# MCS in the Community



We're honored to be named a finalist at the 45th Annual Manatee Chamber Small Business & Non-Profit of the Year Awards on August 21. Please join us to celebrate!

We had the chance to share our mission with The Suncoast News Network and Carl Reynolds Law, highlighting our Christmas in July campaign. Check out our video on [www.snn.com](http://www.snn.com)!

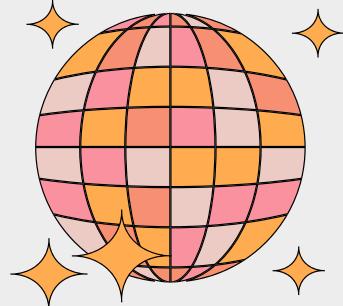
Thank you to the SRQ Women's Expo for inviting us to share our mission and upcoming events at their All White Lotus cocktail reception, where island luxury meets timeless sophistication!



A heartfelt thank you to the amazing women at the Venice Church of the Nazarene Quilting Group who have wrapped our kids in comfort and care for the past six years. Your handmade quilts and clothing donations are more than just fabric, they're love, safety, and warmth stitched together. We are so grateful for your continued support and kindness!

Save  
The Date

# GROOVIN' FOR GOOD



MCS Child  
Advocacy Center



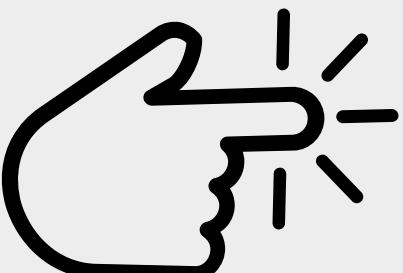
## A 70S GALA FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026**

Palmetto Marriott Resort & Spa  
600 US-41, Palmetto, FL 34221

6:00 to 10:00 pm

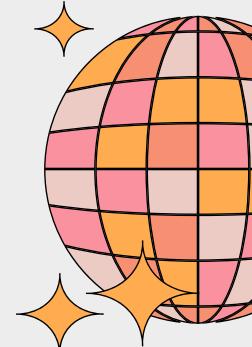
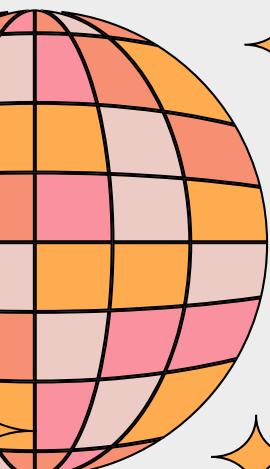
VIP Cocktail Hour: 5:00 pm  
\$150 per person



Click here for sponsorships,  
tickets, and more event details



Premier event sponsor



Manatee Children's  
Services Annual Gala

# Groovin' For Good

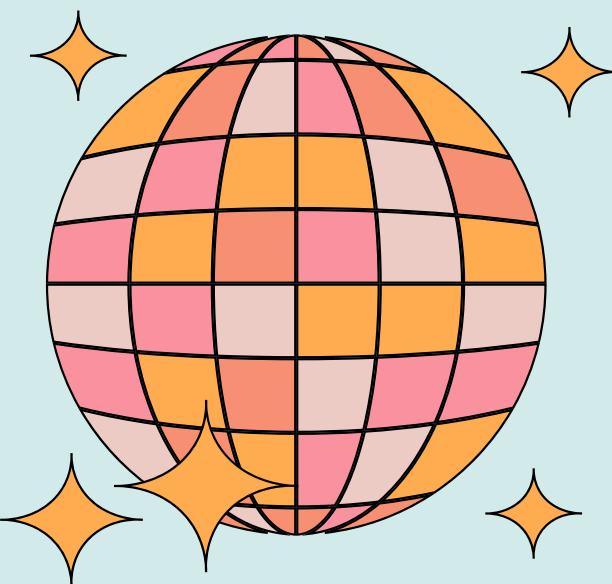
A 70s Gala for  
Child Abuse Prevention

## Table Sponsors

Stayin' Alive	\$12000
Boogie Wonderland	\$7500
Disco Inferno	\$5000
Saturday Night Fever	\$2500
Peace Love & Disco	\$1000
Disco Hero	\$500
Boogie Backer	\$250
Individual Tickets	\$150

The "Groovin' for Good" gala is more than just a night of disco and fun: it's a powerful opportunity to support child abuse prevention and help children in our community thrive.

Spots are filling quickly! Please see our website for details on each sponsorship type and what your dollars will support. Whether you're a business or an individual, your sponsorship makes a lasting, lifechanging impact.



**Groovin' For Good**  
A 70s Gala for  
Child Abuse Protection

## Brand Sponsors

Happy Hour Hustle	\$9,000
Disco Memories	\$9,000
Boogie Nights	\$7,500
Solid Gold Gavel	\$6,000
Flower Power & Funk	\$5,000
Sweet Soul	\$4,000
Stationary Disco	\$3,000
Strike-a-Pose	\$3,000
Flashback Video	\$3,000
Cruisin' in Style	\$2,000
Jive Java	\$1,500
Ticket to Funky Town	\$1,000
In-Kind / Custom	\$7,000

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026**  
Palmetto Marriott Resort & Spa  
600 US-41, Palmetto, FL 34221  
6:00 to 10:00 pm  
VIP Cocktail Hour: 5:00 pm  
\$150 per person  
Contact Krista P. or Hannah S. for sponsorships:  
[kristap@mcsfl.com](mailto:kristap@mcsfl.com) • [hannahs@mcsfl.com](mailto:hannahs@mcsfl.com)



MANATEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
MCS Child Advocacy Center

# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Brandy, Dwayne and team planting pinwheels and promoting donations for Manatee Children's Services during Child Abuse Prevention Month

A trusted name in Manatee County since the 1970s, Bringman Roofing has long been a staple in our community. After a brief period of transition, the company was revitalized three years ago when it was purchased by Dwayne Britton and Brian Timson who, along with Brandy Britton (Dwayne's wife and Brian's sister), brought new life and leadership to the business. With the support of original founder Gary Bringman and his local network, the team has proudly restored the company's reputation and continues to grow through strong partnerships with local governments, Chambers of Commerce, and fellow businesses.

Bringman Roofing is more than a business: it's a family. Dwayne, originally from Michigan, and Brandy and Brian, from Ohio, all found their way to Bradenton after several years in Kentucky. Their blended family and shared values are at the heart of everything they do. Whether it's raising their son Connor or building roofs that protect local families, their commitment to the community is unwavering.

That commitment extends beyond the job site. The Bringman Roofing team is also passionate about supporting causes that uplift children and women, especially those addressing hunger, abuse, and recovery. Their support of Manatee Children's Services is deeply personal, as Brandy previously worked with Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky and understands the importance of creating safe, nurturing environments for all children. In fact, the Bringman team recently "adopted" MCS as their company's supporting charity because our mission resonated so deeply.

When asked about the most pressing need in our community, Brandy stated: "We need to make sure we take care of our children, as they are the future of our community."

We're grateful to Bringman Roofing for their partnership, their heart, and their dedication to making Manatee County a safer, stronger place for every child.



# MCS STAFF SHOUT OUTS

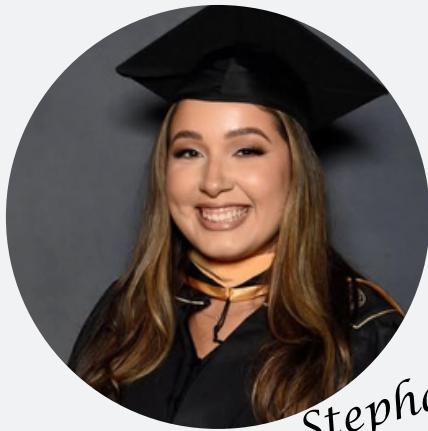


Please join us in congratulating two of our outstanding MCS clinicians, Stephanie Medrano and Britney Guerra, on earning their Master's in Social Work!

Stephanie earned her MSW from the University of Central Florida and continues to make a meaningful impact as an individual and family therapist. Her compassion and dedication shine through in her work with children and families. We're also thrilled to share that she is now a Registered Social Work Intern, well on her way to becoming a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. We can't wait to see all she continues to accomplish!

Britney earned her MSW from the University of South Florida and has officially joined our clinical team after leading education sessions in local schools for our KIDS Personal Safety Program. We're so excited to see her continue serving children and families in this new role.

We are incredibly proud of both Stephanie and Britney for reaching this milestone and for the passion they bring to their work every day.



Stephanie



Britney

*Happy Birthday*

Hilary Haynes  
Amanda Rector  
Tieshia Gary  
Janie Garza  
Consuela Hubbard



**Manatee Children's Services, Inc.**  
**A Child Advocacy Center**  
**1227 9th Avenue West**  
**Bradenton, FL 34205**  
**(941) 345-1200**  
**[info@mcsfl.com](mailto:info@mcsfl.com)**

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

