

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

## In this edition:

- **Christmas in July events**
- **Summer fun with our foster children**
- **MCS agency news**
- **"Groovin' for Good" gala**
- **Success stories**

# CHRISTMAS IN JULY: A MIDYEAR GIFT OF JOY

While we await the joy of our Holiday Project, foster children need our help now. This July, your gift of \$50 or more will fund incentives for good behavior and academic success: helping children feel seen, supported, and motivated. Incentives build confidence, encourage learning, and reward positive choices.

Join our mission by giving today, or become a Pinwheel Pal and make a difference all year long.



<https://www.manateechildreNSServices.com/donate/#holiday>

## \$50 or more supports:

- ✓ Gift cards
- ✓ Arts and crafts
- ✓ Pizza parties
- ✓ Sports activities
- ✓ Fun events
- ✓ Ice cream outings

## Giving Period:

July 1 through July 31, 2025

**Payment via cash, check,  
or card**



Manatee Children's Services  
1227 9th Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941) 345-1200  
[www.mcsfl.com](http://www.mcsfl.com)





# TRIVIA



MCS Child  
Advocacy Center

# NIGHT

**BENEFITING "CHRISTMAS IN JULY"  
FOR MCS FOSTER CHILDREN**

**JULY 29TH  
7-9 PM**

**GOOD LIQUID  
BREWING COMPANY**

**1570 LAKEFRONT DR, SARASOTA**

**SPECIAL SWAG & GIFT CARDS FOR TOP 3 WINNERS**

**FREE APPETIZER FOR ALL  
PARTICIPANTS!**

**PLEASE REGISTER THROUGH QR CODE  
WITH A \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION:**

**[WWW.MANATEECHILDRENSSERVICES.COM/DONATE/#TRIVIA](http://WWW.MANATEECHILDRENSSERVICES.COM/DONATE/#TRIVIA)**







# Benefiting Christmas in July

Treat yourself or someone special to Kendra Scott's stunning collection while supporting child abuse prevention. Enjoy complimentary champagne as you shop in-store, or shop online with the GIVEBACK code below at checkout.

All proceeds benefit Christmas in July, bringing midyear joy to the children we serve.



## Shine Bright, Do Good

JOIN US FOR A  
KENDRA GIVES BACK EVENT

### DATE & TIME

July 18th from 4:00PM – 6:00PM  
Sarasota | University Town Center

### 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-JPFVP  
July 18th – July 19th



# SUMMER FUN AT MCS



Thanks to the generosity of our monthly donors and previous Christmas in July supporters, our foster youth are enjoying unforgettable summer moments — including a thrilling day at Busch Gardens!





# Agency News & Updates



Our staff celebrated reunification at the Safe Children Coalition Reunification Celebration! Seated here are Becky and Sean from SCC, who led the reunification teams with heart and dedication. We welcomed nine families who have been reunited with their children, a powerful reminder of hope, healing, and new beginnings. The day was filled with inspiring speakers and an amazing lunch. What a truly special event!

We're so thankful to the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers for their funding to support the After-Mouse PLAY therapeutic table. Now part of our Child Protection Team waiting area, this tool helps children feel safe and supported during medical exams and interviews through healing, therapeutic play.



Thanks to a generous grant from the Bishop-Parker Foundation, our new dual-purpose vehicle is already making a big impact at MCS! It provides safe, reliable transportation for the children in our care and helps our staff with essential maintenance tasks that keep our homes running smoothly. Thank you to Bishop-Parker for investing in the well-being and daily care of the children we serve!

Save  
The  
Date

GROOVIN' FOR GOOD



MCS Child  
Advocacy Center



## A 70S GALA FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026**

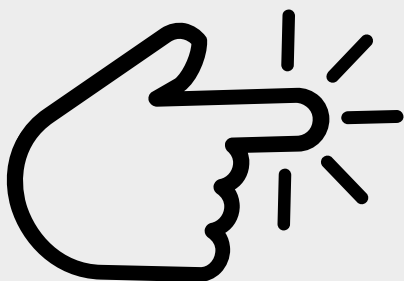
Palmetto Marriott Resort & Spa

600 US-41, Palmetto, FL 34221

6:00 to 10:00 pm

VIP Cocktail Hour: 5:00 pm

\$150 per person



MARRIOTT RESORT  
PALMETTO

Premier event sponsor

Click here for sponsorships,  
tickets, and more event details



# Groovin' For Good

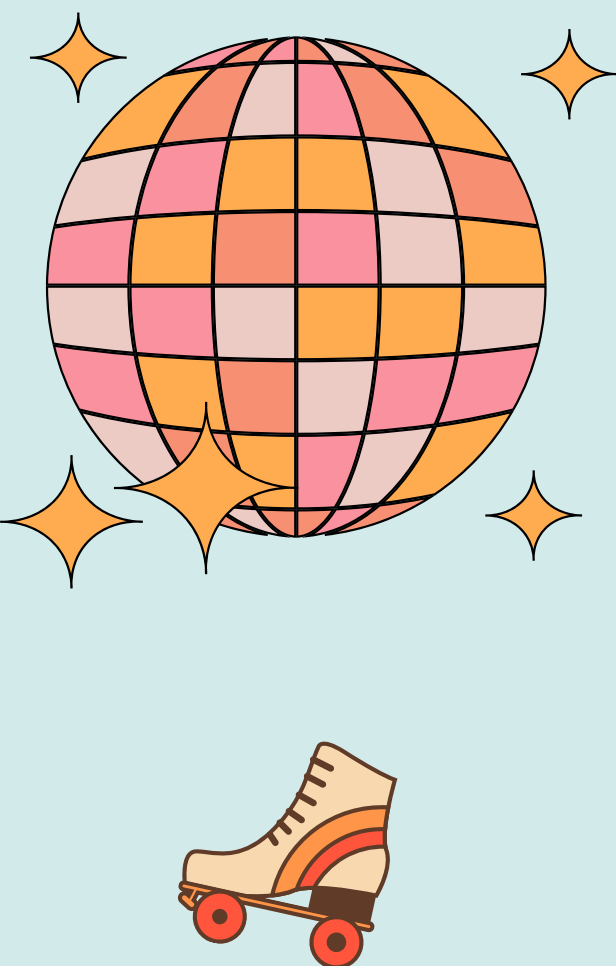
A 70s Gala for  
Child Abuse Protection

## Table Sponsors

<i>Stayin' Alive</i>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<i>Boogie Wonderland</i>	<b>\$7,500</b>
<i>Disco Inferno</i>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<i>Saturday Night Fever</i>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<i>Peace Love &amp; Disco</i>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<i>Individual Tickets</i>	<b>\$150</b>

Our "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. 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 support makes a lasting impact. Let's come together, get groovy, and make a difference.



# Groovin' For Good

A 70s Gala for  
Child Abuse Protection

## Brand Sponsors

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

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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 • hannahs@mcsfl.com



**MCS Child  
Advocacy Center**





# MCS SUCCESS STORIES



We're thrilled to share this amazing 5-star review of our KIDS Personal Safety Program from Alpha Martial Arts! "Our speaker, Britney Guerra, was amazing. She had 90+ campers completely engaged and enthralled with her presentation."



## Alpha Martial Arts

1 review

★★★★★ 13 minutes ago

They came out to speak to our Summer Camp about the 5 Safety Rules and Anti-Bullying. Our speaker, Britney Guerra, was amazing. She had 90+ campers completely engaged and enthralled with her presentation. What an awesome resource to help our kids!

[Less](#)

Have you had a positive experience with MCS? If so, please follow Alpha Martial Arts' lead by leaving us a review. Your feedback helps us grow and continue making a difference!

**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:

