

The Good News

*Seniors In Service of Tampa Bay, Inc. presents the
Good News around Tampa Bay!*
Bridging Generations Through Volunteer Service

Upcoming Calendar of Events:

May 20: Hillsborough In-Service Training for Senior Companion Volunteers

May 20: AARP and Encore Tampa Bay Speaker Event with Chris Farrell the Author of *Unretirement: How Baby Boomers Are Changing the Way We Think About Work, Community and the Good Life*

May 21: Pinellas In-Service Training for Foster Grandparent Volunteers

June 11: Tampa Bay Business Journal Non-Profit of the Year Ceremony (we're a Finalist!)

June 17: Volunteer Satisfaction Interviews for Senior Companions in Hillsborough

June 18: Volunteer Satisfaction Interviews for Senior Companions in Brandon and Foster Grandparents in Pinellas

June 24: Volunteer Satisfaction Interviews for Foster Grandparents in Hillsborough

June 25: Volunteer Satisfaction Interviews for Foster Grandparents in Brandon

SAVE THE DATES!

Oct 30: Bridging Generations Breakfast (7:30 - 9:00am) at the Renaissance Tampa International Plaza Hotel

Dec 4: Volunteer Recognition Lunch (11:00am - 2:00pm) at the T Pepin's Hospitality Centre

Pinellas Bridging Generations Luncheon

On April 29th, 40 Pinellas County business leaders gathered at Bascom's Chophouse to celebrate and learn more about the mission of Seniors in Service in Pinellas County. Keynote Speaker City of Largo Commissioner Samantha Fenger delivered a moving speech about the good that Seniors in Service provides in the community through its Foster Grandparent Program and offered her enthusiastic support in helping launch the Senior Companion Program.



Senior Companion Volunteer Speaker Wilbur Wiggins, City of Largo Commissioner Samantha Fenger and Foster Grandparent Volunteer Speaker Janice Baxley

Senior Companion Volunteer Speaker Wilbur Wiggins had the whole room chuckling with his dry sense of humor while he told anecdotes from his volunteer experiences. Mr. Wiggins exemplifies the spirit of generous volunteerism in his willingness and humorous approach. When his client told him that he didn't feel comfortable having Mr. Wiggins come to his home without paying him, Mr. Wiggins replied, "I'll have to come on my spare time then." And when another client expressed reservations about getting the support, Mr. Wiggins replied, "I'm not a volunteer; I'm a friend."

Continued on page 2...



Director of Programs Lupe Proctor, Board Chair Susan Boyd, President/CEO Tammy Criollo, City of Largo Commissioner Samantha Fenger



PEOPLE Account Executive Blaire Dempsey and Health and Safety Representative Chuck Carlton



Senior Companion Volunteer Speaker Wilbur Wiggins and Board Vice Chair Mark Hall



Endless gratitude to IDC Owner Peggy LeClerc and Senior Marketing Coordinator Laura Sanchez for their gorgeous Grand Prize Raffle donation and multi-year support

Pinellas Bridging Generations Luncheon

(continued from page 1)

Foster Grandparent Volunteer Speaker Janice Baxley was nervous about speaking in front of so many people. But she spoke from the heart about what a privilege it is to help children in the classroom. She sees their progress and knows that she is a part of that. Her students love her for it. As did the luncheon guests.

Thank you to everyone who so generously gave your time and donations to honor the mission of Seniors in Service: "to engage people in volunteerism, particularly those ages 55+, to help children succeed and elders remain independent by recruiting and training devoted and skillful volunteers." We are truly bridging generations.



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Peggy LeClerc
Susan Boyd
Tammy Criollo

Silver Donors:

Jacob Hardin
Lupe Proctor

Bronze Donors:

Blaire Dempsey
Tara Geiger

Grand Prize Raffle Donor:

International Diamond Center, donated a stunning 14k White Gold Bangle Bracelet Containing Approximately 1/2 Ctw of Baguette Diamonds

Teachers get **REAL** Help from Foster Grandparents...

May 4, 2015

Cathie Schroeder
Program Manager
Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc.
(Foster Grand Parent Program)
1306 W. Sligh Avenue
Tampa, FL 33604-5902

MAY 06 2015

Letter of Appreciation for Mrs. Eura L. Robinson

I'd like to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the outstanding work completed by Mrs. Robinson within my classroom. Mrs. Robinson is thoughtful, helpful, and most of all very patient! I appreciate how she always helped my students realize their true potential.

Mrs. Robinson encouraged my students to be independent individuals. She helped them to take initiative to not only set realistic goals, but also accomplish them. She went out of her way to attend parent conferences and many parents expressed their gratitude for her being a part of my classroom's family.

There was so much that I have learned from her, being that this was my first year teaching elementary school. She taught me countless classroom management strategies that were immediately successful once implemented. My students and I also began forming a closer relationship thanks to Mrs. Robinson. Watching her interact with my students has helped me get a better understanding that building a strong classroom culture is extremely important.

Any teacher would appreciate and value the opportunity of having Mrs. Robinson in their classroom. She is truly a blessing. I look forward to continuing to work with her during the 2015-2016 school year.

Respectfully,

Brandi Miller
5th Grade Teacher
Shaw Elementary

Quick News

Seniors in Service has added Dorothy Thomas Center to our stations served for the upcoming 2015 – 2016 school year in our Foster Grandparent Program. This school is an ESE Center (providing special services for children with disabilities) that serves 64 students in grades K-12. The Foster Grandparent program invites volunteers over 55 to mentor students in the classroom. A triple win - a senior, students, a teacher!

May is Older Americans Month



Commissioner Ben Wacksman, THA President/CEO Jerome Ryans, Olegario Hernandez, Director of Public Housing Wence Cunningham and a THA Board Member

Olegario Hernandez was honored on May 7th with a Volunteer of the Year Award from the Tampa Housing Authority for his long-time service to the senior community. Mr. Hernandez started as a Senior Companion Volunteer in May of 2005. During these years he has served five clients, continuing to serve four of them. He is a very committed, attentive and loyal volunteer. Whenever his clients need him, he makes sure he is available to them. He also takes the initiative to assist with other volunteers including communicating with other volunteers about information from monthly In-Service Trainings if they are absent. Mr. Hernandez goes beyond the call of duty. For example, when a client has goes to the hospital or rehab, he has visited them, even beyond his regular service hours.



Marykay Logan and Rick Pritchett, Retired Senior Volunteer Program Volunteers with Tango the Sea Turtle from the Florida Aquarium at Emerge Tampa Bay's Channelside Give Day event

Volunteers and Clients help each other in so many ways ...

"I was out for 2 weeks, because of knee pain. When I went back to work, my clients were glad to see me. One of my clients would sit me down and wait on me and we would talk. She wouldn't let me do anything."

- Dollie Hollomon



**GiveDay
TampaBay**

Thanks, Tampa, Bay!

Seniors in Service participated in Give Day Tampa Bay on May 5, 2015! The official results are in and we raised over \$500.00 to be used for making a difference in the lives of children and seniors! A special thank you to our Give Day supporters: Tim Lamer, Lindsey Tucker, Joan Lamer, James Horne, Becky deMaCarty, Lupe Proctor, Olivia Lamer, Robin Ingles, Christina Crumpton and Andrew Tucker!

CEO CORNER from Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc.'s President and CEO Tammy Criollo

At the Pinellas Bridging Generation Luncheon, in addition to the exciting \$3.2K we raised through attendees at the event:

- connected with a Sun City volunteer group that can potentially support our RSVP efforts;
- connected with the staff member from the Enoch Davis Center in St. Pete for a Senior Companion Volunteer recruitment event;
- educated Pinellas County Public Schools Title I Director and staff on the impact of our Foster Grandparent Volunteers;
- received an introduction to Pinellas County Public Schools Board Chair Linda Lerner;
- received an introduction to the City of Clearwater staff for potential collaboration for services for seniors;
- And, in general connected with business and community leaders who can share our stories and positive impact on the lives of the children and seniors we serve.



Where's the class?
You guessed it - under the parachute!!



Students at the Sulphur Springs YMCA celebrated their graduation from the CATCH Healthy Habits Program on May 7th.

What Does Seniors in Service Do?

Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay is a 501(c)3 non-profit whose mission is to engage people in volunteerism, particularly those ages 55+, to help children succeed and elders remain independent by recruiting and training devoted and skillful volunteers.

Our programs are:

Foster Grandparents: 55+ volunteers assist teachers in the classroom in mostly Title 1 schools, head start programs and after-school facilities. This program is a win-win-win for a senior volunteer to stay purposeful, a teacher in a high-risk school to receive caring help and students in high-risk schools to receive one-on-one mentoring and tutoring in their areas of greatest need.

Senior Companions: 55+ volunteers provide companionship and care to homebound, frail seniors. Volunteers gets as much benefit as clients when visiting a senior who needs compassion.

Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP): 55+ volunteers can help the community in several categories from mentoring of elementary students to teaching healthy lifestyle choices to kids to providing senior companionship to using job skills to help non-profits become more successful. There is no minimum requirement for volunteering - serve as little as 1 hour. Got an hour? Give an hour!

Additionally, we always welcome donations and assistance in growing our organization and mission from people of any age. We even have board openings if you're ready to get involved!

Call Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay at (813) 932-5228 to find out how you TOO can Bridge Generations Through Volunteer Service!



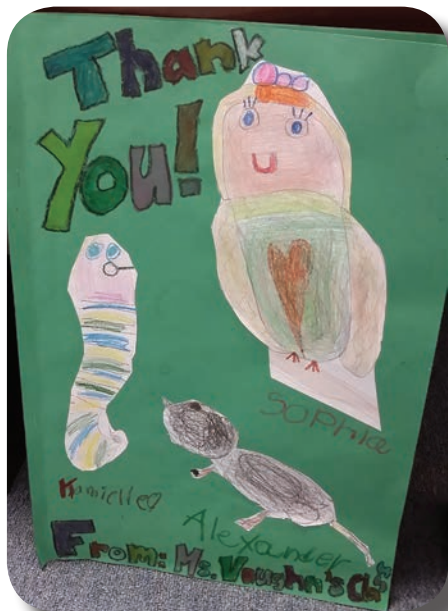
Mr. Hector Coronado and Sophia from Ms. Semler's class at Egypt Lake, along with her brother, enjoy the Sunset Safari with the Lowry Park Neighborhood Initiative on May 1st!



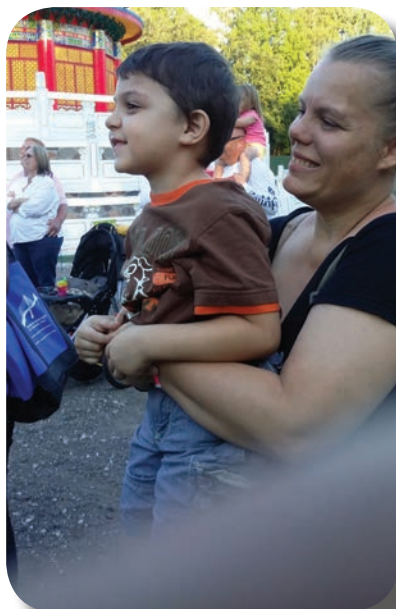
Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc. and the Families of Kindergarteners from Cleveland Elementary and Egypt Lake Elementary Get a Sunset Safari with the Lowry Park Neighborhood Initiative!
Thanks to the Children's Board of Hillsborough County!



The Hudson's, parents of Amariion Williams from Mr. Elliott's class smile as they watch Amariion (above) discover the animals he learned about in the classroom brought to real life at the Lowry Park Zoo!



Back in class, Ms. Vaughn's class from Egypt Lake makes a Thank You card featuring the animals they learned about in the classroom then met in the flesh at the zoo!



Stephanie with one of her grandchildren. Her granddaughter Isabela is a participating kindergartener!



Teachers love their Foster Grandparents! Ms. Fernandez, a kindergarten teacher from Egypt Lake Elementary and Grandma Bertha Glover take classroom learning to the zoo!



Back row (left to right): Joan Lamer, Facilitator Candace Watson, Linda Marks, Robin Ingles, Barbara Leasure, Seniors in Service Board Chair Susan Boyd. Front row (left to right): Tracy McPhail Reed, Christine Sheeran

The next Explore Your Future Workshop

Are you retired? Thinking about retirement or a career transition? ... What's next? The mindset was once that you were done growing - intellectually, spiritually, emotionally - at 50. Feel like you have more to live, experience, and add to the world? So do we! Come, "Explore Your Future!"

This workshop will answer two big questions you may be asking yourself:

"What do I want?"

"How do I get it?"

Leave with an action plan plus a new appreciation of the rich opportunities this time of life has to offer. Explore Your Future is a facilitated workshop, helping people 50+ envision the next phase of life, including volunteer projects, lifelong learning and encore careers. Session topics include:

- What Has Influenced Me?
- Who Am I Now?
- How Can I Realize My Dreams?

Participants identify where they are in their lives and their talents, values, passions, strengths, and aspirations. Participants walk away with individually developed action plans based on specific, measurable, attainable, and timely goals and resources for support.

Stop struggling, and get your roadmap for the next phase of your life!

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ComingOfAgeTampaBay
for information about the next workshop offering

Our inaugural Explore Your Future Workshop

The Coming of Age initiative kicked off with a fantastic Explore Your Future Workshop on March 31st and April 2nd. The workshop was held in the evenings at HCC's Institute for Corporate & Continuing Education. The participants focused on managing transition through self-exploration to create a guide map for the next phase of their lives.



Coming Soon...

Capture The Energy Workshop ***ATTENTION ALL NON-PROFITS***

It's here, the definitive unique and detailed workshop for helping non-profit organizations tap into the baby boomer volunteer market. In this 2 day, fully-interactive workshop, you will discover:

- How to change thinking from scarcity to abundance ... Someone turns 50 every 7 seconds. Is your organization missing out on that?
- In 2000, only 40% of baby boomers used the internet. By 2008, it was 74%. Is your marketing exploiting the opportunity?
- Over 30% of people over 50+ who start volunteering do not continue into the next year – that's a \$38 million loss in productivity. Discover what we're doing wrong and how your organization can be the exception to that statistic
- Why the key to future success is creating "compelling opportunities" – that's the perfect balance between organizational and individual needs – and the 3 strategies to get there
- 4 Building blocks of a high impact message to laser target the baby boomer
- The 1 thing that you MUST get right in your marketing message or you're just burning that money

Your organization can't afford to miss this!

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pinellas Bridging Generations Luncheon
Teachers Fall in Love with Their Foster Grandparents
A Senior Companion Gets A Lifetime Achievement
Award AND His US Citizenship
Lions and Tigers and Bears ... The Lowry Park Zoo's
Neighborhood Initiative Brings the Wild Kingdom to
the Kids and Their Parents
Retired Senior Volunteer Program Graduates a Whole
Class from CATCH Healthy Habits Class
We're Winning Awards!
Coming Of Age Workshops Coming Soon!

Official registration and financial information may be obtained
by calling the Division of Consumer Services at 1-800-435-7352.
Reference number SC-02047.

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TAMPA BAY BUSINESS JOURNAL



We Are a FINALIST!!

For the Tampa Bay
Business Journal's
Non-Profit of the year.
Cross your fingers - we
find out if we win on
June 11th!

And even if we don't
win, we know that the
work our volunteers do
in the community still
makes us #1 in impact!

May is Older Americans Month!

Special Thanks to Our Funders:

The Corporation for National and
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Pinellas County Schools
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President/CEO Tammy Criollo and
Operations Manager Lindsey Tucker
with our award from the Afterschool
Alliance for our continued support of
After School Programs

