

INSIGHTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FALL 2020





A Message from the executive director

Ilene Harper, PhD, Executive Director, Family Life and Community Resource Center

Our hearts and prayers go out to the families who have lost loved ones and those dealing with health issues or problems as a result of COVID-19. Seven months into this historic pandemic has been life-changing for so many people. FLCRC, like many others, has shifted program services in response to the pandemic.

Our landmark event, the **16th Annual Back- 2-School Parent Chat**, was held with a curbside-style pickup of backpacks and school supplies. The very popular Parent Sessions were expanded to a full week of informative online sessions to provide back-to-school information and discuss parents' concerns about reopening the schools safely with

COVID-19. A special "thank you" to Office Depot for sponsoring this year's event. Over 100 backpacks with school supplies were distributed to students at the Rosenberg Civic Center on August 4th.

It's an Election Year! While our Y.A.L.E. leaders are not old enough to vote, it did not stop them from participating in a **voter outreach** event. Our young scholars volunteered with a "Get Out The Vote" team and distributed voter information regarding local, state and national elections to Fort Bend County residents.

Our **Social Justice Teen Talks series** was created this summer in response to the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery

and many other unarmed African Americans whose lives were lost through injustice. The Teen Talks provide a platform for our youth leaders to have a safe space to express their emotions and discuss the current social justice issues that affect us all. In Talk 4: *Youth Voice*, students made a direct correlation between voting and social injustice. The rich discussion prompted a real conversation about the Democratic and Republican political parties. The students' recent volunteer experience with voter outreach was a great jump-start for the our final Teen Talk: *Party Affiliations*, which will take place on October 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Join us and help **#StopTheSilenceAgainstRacism**!



BACK-2-SCHOOL Parent Chat

HELPS PREPARE OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FROM A DISTANCE!

FLCRC's 16th Annual Back to School Parent Chat was a HUGE success! During this pandemic we were still able to distribute over 100 free backpacks using the curbside system. Families tuned in for virtual Zoom sessions from July 27-30, 2020.

Mr. Kenny Ta with **Rosenberg Office Depot** donated school supplies and backpacks to make this event a success. We look forward to our continued partnership. Thank you to everyone who assisted with and supported this event, including our Y.A.L.E. leaders and the amazingly helpful Rosenberg Civic Center staff. Amidst the challenges our community is facing, FLCRC's goal remains to support and encourage families throughout the school year.



PARENTS' BACK-TO-SCHOOL

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

GIVES FORT BEND COUNTY RESIDENTS A VOICE

On Wednesday, August 12th, Friendship Community Bible Church of Sugar Land hosted a town hall meeting for local parents to voice their concerns about their children's return to school. The meeting featured a panel of Fort Bend County school officials, community members, and local business owners. FLCRC's Dr. Ilene Harper served on the panel. The discussion lasted nearly two hours as virtual attendees and panel members shared their thoughts.

Watch the full town hall meeting at https://youtu.be/JeWBeiBRzgA.







GETTING OUT the VOTE!

FLCRC SUPPORTS VOTER AWARENESS

Eleven FLCRC youth leaders, volunteers and staff members participated in a voter awareness outreach event on **September 26th**, distributing 200 door hanger packets to Fort Bend County residents. The packets contained helpful information about the local ballot, candidates, voter registration, and more.



MAKE YOUR * * VOICE HEARD!

FLCRC Voting Resources

Your VOICE and your VOTE matter in the 2020 election! FLCRC strongly supports voter awareness and engagement in our community. We are partnering with several organizations to inform and empower voters in Fort Bend County. To discover helpful resources for Texas voters, safe voting options during the pandemic, volunteer opportunities and more, visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/vote.

HEAL THE VSTE

About #HealTheVote

#HealTheVote is a non-partisan civic engagement and voter education campaign hosted by Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice.

Learn more at cssj.org/vote.

SOCIAL JUSTICE Teen Talks

FACEBOOK LIVE SERIES ENGAGES STUDENTS ON CURRENT ISSUES

In Summer 2020, FLCRC launched *Teen Talks*, a virtual talk series for Pre-Y.A.L.E. and Y.A.L.E. students, providing youth with the opportunity to discuss current and relevant topics in a safe and accepting environment.

Over the course of the summer, four Teen Talks focused on the topic of social justice, with each talk featuring a group of guest panelists. On **June 26**th, the students heard three guests share their unique experiences as African American males. The July 23rd



talk featured a panel of African American mothers. On August 13th, the panel consisted of a diverse group—Fort Bend County's district attorney, the president of the NAACP Missouri City branch, a licensed social worker and a graphic designer sharing their unique perspectives on social justice. The final talk on September 26th featured a panel of middle and high school

students, and centered around a recent letter by actor Lonnie Chavis to his mother on being a young African American in these current times. The range of life experience and perspective throughout the talks highly engaged the students and broadened their view of issues surrounding social justice.

Join us for the next FLCRC Social Justice Teen Talk on Thursday, October 22nd at **6:00 p.m.**! To watch the previous talks, visit **FamilyLifeCRC.org/news**.





ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



FLCRC Campaign Sponsorship Opportunities

FLCRC is pleased to announce five sponsorship levels for the Family First: New Triumphs Capital Campaign: Elite (\$25,000+), Platinum (\$20,000), Gold (\$10,000), Silver (\$5,000) and Bronze (\$2,500). All campaign sponsors will be recognized on the FLCRC donor wall, on our website and in our guarterly newsletter. To discover all of the exciting benefits that come with each sponsorship, visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/campaign.



Social Justice Teen Talk

October 22, 2020 6:00 p.m. on Facebook Live Visit Facebook.com/ **FLCRCRichmond**



National Bullying Awareness Virtual Conference

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/ Bullying



Scholarship Application Period Open Through October 31st

service. To apply, visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/ scholarships-and-awards.

SAVE THE DATE!

Scholarships and Awards Virtual Ceremony

FLCRC BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. Sharon Delesbore, President Cleo Wadley, Vice-President Mary Sias, Secretary Millie Chatham, Treasurer Paul Delesbore, Parliamentarian & Youth Advisor

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Family Life and Community Resource Center