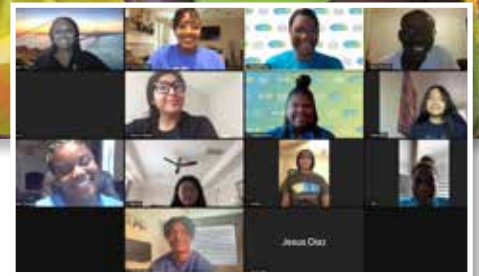




# INSIGHTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FALL 2021



## *A Message* FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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

FLCRC has been providing services to students and families in the Fort Bend County for nearly a decade. Our work began in the rural areas of Richmond and Rosenberg with our signature event, the Annual Back to School Parent Chat. Thousands have participated with this community outreach event over the years. On August 5<sup>th</sup>, we hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Parent Chat to over 500 students and parents.

In mid-August, we were deeply saddened by the loss of our Youth Ambassador Leadership

Education (Y.A.L.E.) student, Dakota Merriweather. FLCRC will honor Dakota's memory by providing a scholarship in recognition of her contributions and support for FLCRC. Our Scholarships and Awards application is open, and the Dakota Merriweather Scholarship will be provided to an outstanding 2022 graduating high school senior.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, our Y.A.L.E. students were a favorite at the Fort Bend County Parade. After being cancelled in 2020, the Y.A.L.E. students were eager to do their part and

support the County Parade and Fort Bend County Fair. FLCRC's Mardi Gras float was a colorful attraction for students and parents. The Y.A.L.E. students had a blast at the Fair!

FLCRC is well on the way to moving into the new building and we need your help to achieve our Capital Campaign goal to raise \$125,000. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will host our Annual Banquet and hope you will join us. Please visit our website to purchase tickets and shop our silent auction items for your holiday gifts.



# BACK-2-SCHOOL *Parent Chat*

HELPS **STUDENTS AND FAMILIES** KICK-OFF THE SCHOOL YEAR

For a seventeenth successful year, FLCRC conducted our Parent Chat sessions, **helping over 500 students, parents and educators** prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. These sessions continue to be a valuable source of support and information for the families in our community, especially in light of the educational challenges they are facing with the current pandemic. Virtual sessions were held **July 26<sup>th</sup> through August 4<sup>th</sup>**, followed by a curbside pickup where we distributed 330 free backpacks with school supplies. **Thank you to our staff, Y.A.L.E. leaders and attendees for making this another great event. We wish everyone a fantastic school year!**



## BOOST YOUR LEARNING!

- ▶ Discover helpful online learning resources for all age levels at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/resources](https://FamilyLifeCRC.org/resources).
- ▶ Need homework help? FLCRC offers FREE online tutoring sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6 p.m. Register at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/homework-help](https://FamilyLifeCRC.org/homework-help).



# FORT BEND COUNTY

# FALL FAIR & PARADE



On **September 24<sup>th</sup>**, our youth leaders and staff proudly represented FLCRC at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Fort Bend County parade with a Mardi Gras-themed float. Afterwards, they enjoyed a fun day together at the Fair while sporting confetti-covered, yellow, green and purple FLCRC t-shirts. **Many thanks to all who participated and helped spread the word about our important presence in the community!**





# Honoring DAKOTA

## FLCRC ANNOUNCES THE DAKOTA MERRIWEATHER SCHOLARSHIP

FLCRC suffered the great loss of our former Y.A.L.E. leader and dedicated staff member, **Dakota Merriweather**, in August. Dakota's beautiful spirit and bright smile lit up our lives and brought joy to all who encountered her. A talented dancer, athlete, active community member, driven entrepreneur and 3rd year student at Texas Southern University, her many gifts were evident. Her passion for learning, art, beauty and life impacted each person she knew. In the words of her sister, Terri, "Dakota made me feel like I was important to her and she always was willing to help me anyway that she could." We will greatly miss Dakota and share our deepest condolences with the Merriweather Family.

As we mourn her loss, FLCRC is honored to celebrate Dakota's life and continue her legacy through the **Dakota Merriweather Scholarship**. Dakota freely gave of her time and energy while pursuing her college dreams at Texas Southern University. In that spirit, each year the scholarship will go to a high school student with outstanding character and service to the community.

To learn more about the **Dakota Merriweather scholarship** or to apply by **October 31<sup>st</sup>**, visit [FamilyLifeCRC.org/scholarships-and-awards](http://FamilyLifeCRC.org/scholarships-and-awards).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



### Become a Campaign Sponsor

FLCRC invites you to consider becoming a sponsor of the *Family First: New Triumphs* Capital Campaign! Campaign sponsors will be recognized on the FLCRC donor wall, on our website and in this newsletter. To discover all of the exciting benefits that come with each sponsorship, visit [FamilyLifeCRC.org/campaign](http://FamilyLifeCRC.org/campaign).



### National Bullying Awareness Virtual Conference

Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn more and register at [Facebook.com/Bullying](https://Facebook.com/Bullying).



### FLCRC Annual Banquet

Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021  
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Ticket: \$25

To purchase tickets, visit [FamilyLifeCRC.org/Banquet](http://FamilyLifeCRC.org/Banquet)



### Scholarship Application Period is Open!

In December, FLCRC will

award six scholarships to outstanding Pre-Y.A.L.E. and Y.A.L.E. students. Applications are due by **October 31<sup>st</sup>** and interviews will take place on **November 13<sup>th</sup>**. To learn more and apply, visit [FamilyLifeCRC.org/scholarships-and-awards](http://FamilyLifeCRC.org/scholarships-and-awards).

### FLCRC BOARD MEMBERS:

**Dr. Sharon Delesbore**, President  
**Cleo Wadley**, Vice-President  
**Mary Sias**, Secretary  
**Millie Chatham**, Treasurer

**Paul Delesbore**, Parliamentarian & Youth Advisor  
**La Carria Green**, Member  
**Sharon Tanner**, Member

### CONNECT WITH US:

1.888.337.1411 | [info@familylifecrc.org](mailto:info@familylifecrc.org)  
2204 Thompson Road, Suite 200 | Richmond, TX 77469

[www.FamilyLifeCRC.org](http://www.FamilyLifeCRC.org)

