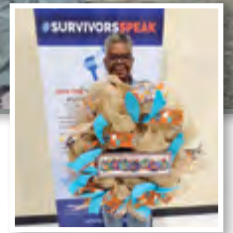




INSIGHTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FALL 2023



A Message FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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

FLCRC kicked off our new year with the Youth Ambassador Leadership Education (Y.A.L.E.) students' international trip to the **Dominican Republic!** The students experienced the culture, education, food, history and much more. They toured the Universidad del Este, volunteered at a water preservation facility in a modest rural town, traveled to the beautiful town of Punta Cana for a day of fun and journaled their adventure for a lasting impact.

From August 7th through the 9th, we hosted the **19th Annual Back to School Parent Chat** where parents and students attended several interactive sessions and received backpacks with school supplies for the school year.

From August 31st through October 31st, the **FLCRC Scholarships and Awards** application period was open. Each year we present several scholarships and awards to students who

demonstrate academic potential, leadership, and a commitment to community service. We are very proud to present the Dakota Merrifield and Hildred Drain scholarship and awards opportunity to all Texas high school graduating seniors.

Our Y.A.L.E. leaders have been working very hard this year. In August, they volunteered at several community back-to-school events. They also attended the showcase of the new Fort Bend Epic Center and are SUPER excited about their high school graduations being held there in 2024! In September they hosted their first community **Paper Shredding Day** to promote recycling awareness. Furthermore, the students were big supporters at several Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice (CSSJ) events this fall.

We dedicate a significant portion of our time and resources to programs for crime victims. In August, we held a **fitness & wellness**

session for CSSJ members, and in October, a **wreath-making class**—both of which were great events!

FLCRC is making BIG strides towards our mission of *Building Better Communities by Building Stronger Families*. We need your help to continue this amazing journey! **On December 2nd, we will host our 7th Annual Banquet and hope you will join us.** Your support will help us achieve our Capital Campaign goal to raise \$100,000. Visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet to purchase tickets. We look forward to celebrating another wonderful year together!

Top: Y.A.L.E. leaders and FLCRC staff pose during the trip to the D.R. in July. *Bottom (l to r):* Back-to-School Parent Chat attendees pick up their backpacks; Y.A.L.E. leaders operate a tent at a back-to-school event in August; a CSSJ member proudly displays her creation at a wreath-making class in October.

Adventures in the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Y.A.L.E. LEADERS EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF GROWTH ABROAD!

Nine FLCRC staff members and 12 Y.A.L.E. student leaders broadened their horizons on a trip to the Dominican Republic from **July 5-12**. This transformative experience included a visit to the vibrant Universidad del Este, meaningful volunteer work, thought-provoking discussions and cultural exchanges with community members, learning about local history, and opportunities to shop and enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings. Thank you to our supporters for helping to make this exciting and educational experience possible for our students!



Y.A.L.E. ON THE MOVE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Our Y.A.L.E. student ambassadors have been busy this summer volunteering at several community events and sharing information with families about FLCRC and the Y.A.L.E. program. On **Saturday, July 22nd**, they volunteered at Access Health's fun-filled Family Day in George Park. On **Saturday, August 5th**, they operated an FLCRC tent at Access Health's Back-to-School Health Fair in Missouri City. On **Saturday, August 12th**, they operated a tent at the Attack Poverty and Access Health Preparedness Event, hosted by the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. A big thank you to our student leaders for dedicating their time and energy, stepping up, and representing our organization with true excellence!



BACK-TO-SCHOOL *Parent Chat*

OUR ANNUAL EVENT FOR FAMILIES **CONTINUES TO BE A HIT!**

Parents and students joined us **August 7-9** for our 19th Annual Back-to-School Parent Chat. Since 2005, FLCRC has hosted this high-energy community event highlighting important educational information and linking families with resources throughout Fort Bend County. Our goal is to empower parents and students by helping them access the support they need for a high-quality, successful education—fulfilling our mission of *Building Better Communities by Building Stronger Families*.



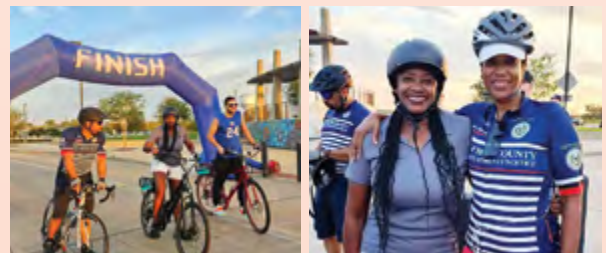
FLCRC HOSTS COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING DAY

On **Saturday, September 9th**, FLCRC hosted a community paper shredding day in partnership with ProShred. This free event allowed community members to bring up to two boxes of documents to be shredded and recycled.



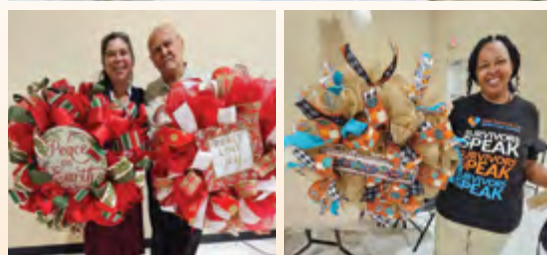
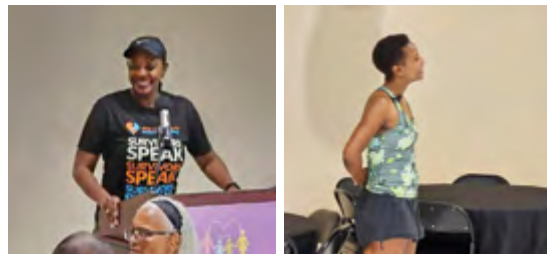
BIKING FOR SURVIVORS

On **Saturday, October 7th**, FLCRC staff members participated in Fort Bend County DA Brian Middleton's Third Annual Ride For Survivors. This annual fundraiser provides grants to local non-profits that help provide emergency food and shelter for domestic violence survivors.



CSSJ MEMBERS *Connect and Get Creative!*

FLCRC's new facility continues to be a great location for the Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice (CSSJ) Richmond/Sugar Land Chapter to gather and support each other. The Chapter had a wonderful meeting on **Saturday, August 19th** with a motivating wellness presentation from personal trainer Soweto White. On **Saturday, October 14th**, they kicked off the holiday season with a creative wreath-making class, provided by Alexander & Company. CSSJ is a national network of crime survivors joining together to create healing communities and shape public safety policy. Learn more at cssj.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



FLCRC 7th Annual Banquet

Saturday, December 2, 2023 | 6:00 p.m. | 821 E Hwy 90A, Richmond, TX

Join us in celebrating a fantastic year! We will share 2023 highlights, honor our Scholarship and Award Recipients, and share a sneak preview into 2024. Proceeds will benefit the Youth Ambassador Leadership Education program.

Purchase tickets and program ads at FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet, or by scanning the QR code!



Save the Date: Y.A.L.E. 2024 Orientation Meeting

Saturday, January 13, 2024 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | 821 E Hwy 90A, Richmond, TX

FLCRC is accepting applications for the 2024 Youth Ambassador Leadership Education (Y.A.L.E.) and Pre-Y.A.L.E. program! This program is designed for students in 5th grade through college to meet, plan and execute activities and events to foster shared leadership and responsibility. Members participate in various activities related to character building, leadership, service learning, and college and career preparation. Applications for membership are due by **Friday, January 19, 2024** and can be accessed at FamilyLifeCRC.org/YALE.



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

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