



# INSIGHTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2023-24



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

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

FLCRC had another EPIC year! In 2023, we served **305 families, 115 crime victims** and over **800 individuals**. We presented **11 scholarships** totaling \$5,300 at our **7th Annual Banquet** in December. The sold-out event was a wonderful opportunity to look back at the past year with appreciation and gratitude, and to share a preview of 2024 with great anticipation and excitement.

One of the most memorable experiences in 2023 was our international trip to the **Dominican Republic**. In July, 22 Y.A.L.E. leaders along with FLCRC staff and volunteers spent five days in the beautiful Caribbean country doing volunteer work, learning about the history and culture, and much more. This trip would not have been possible for one of the students without the help of Commissioner Dexter McCoy in attaining her passport just days before the trip.

In October, we presented the **Fort Bend County Commissioners Court** with a Certificate of Appreciation for their continued support of our Youth Leadership program.

We are so excited about all that 2024 holds for FLCRC! We launched **Wellness is Personal: A Fitness Journey** in November and will continue sessions throughout this year. In July, we will be taking our Y.A.L.E. leaders to Atlanta to visit the incredible **Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs**. We are also well on our way to achieving our five-year strategic goals for the **Family First: New Triumphs 2020-2024 Capital Campaign**.

We welcome you to continue this amazing journey with us throughout 2024! To learn more about our programs and services, download the **FLCRC App** or visit **FamilyLifeCRC.org**.

# 7th Annual FLCRC BANQUET

## A SOLD-OUT EVENING OF CELEBRATION AND GRATITUDE

On **Saturday, December 2nd**, FLCRC staff, volunteers and supporters celebrated another great year of hard work in Fort Bend County. Guests enjoyed a silent auction, a delicious dinner catered by Mikki's Soul Food, saw highlights from the past year and heard an inspiring keynote message from Anitra J. Collins, Senior Manufacturing Manager at International Paper Mill. We honored eleven Scholarship and Award recipients and our Volunteer of the Year, Lacarria Green. The evening was also an opportunity to thank our generous donors and all who dedicated themselves to *Building Better Communities by Building Stronger Families* with FLCRC throughout 2023. Thank you to all who attended and helped make this a truly beautiful evening!



### 2023 Scholarship and Award Recipients



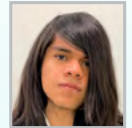
**Kendon Thibodeaux**  
Pre-Y.A.L.E. Emerging Leader Award



**Vonshea Little**  
Dakota Merriweather Scholarship



**Hannah Hu**  
Y.A.L.E. Emerging Leader Award



**Jesús Diaz**  
FLCRC Outstanding College Student Scholarship



**Trinity Brown**  
Y.A.L.E. Service Learning Award



**Kenzi Patton**  
The Hildred Jones-Drain Community Scholarship



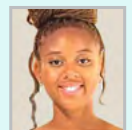
**Bryan Ung**  
FLCRC Outstanding Student Scholarship



**Ryan Norman**  
The Hildred Jones-Drain Community Scholarship



**Jeremy Zhu**  
Y.A.L.E. Leader of Year Scholarship



**Raya Johnson**  
FLCRC Outstanding High School Senior Scholarship



**Siri Reddy**  
FLCRC Service Learning Scholarship



**Lacarria Green**  
FLCRC Volunteer of the Year Award



## Halloween Fun & Bullying Awareness in October

We welcomed the community in October to two fun and engaging community events. On **October 21st**, our Y.A.L.E. leaders hosted a “frightfully” fun Halloween party and costume contest, which had a great turnout and raised funds for the Y.A.L.E. program. On **October 28th**, we held our annual Bullying Awareness Community Conference virtually for students, parents, educators and community members to raise awareness about bullying and discuss ways to prevent it.



## Thanking the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court

On **October 24th**, FLCRC presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Judge K.P. George and the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court for their support of our Y.A.L.E. program. Y.A.L.E leader Raya Johnson thanked Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy for his quick assistance with obtaining her passport for the Dominican Republic trip.

## Helping the Community Focus on Personal Wellness

We have been excited to offer the community a new program, *Wellness is Personal: A Fitness Journey*, which began in November. These empowering sessions, led by personal trainer Soweto White, focus on strengthening the body, mind, heart and relationships.



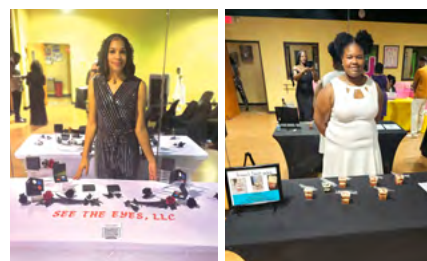
## PVAMU Alumni Support FLCRC

In November, the Prairie View A&M University National Alumni Association presented FLCRC with a check for \$500. This generous donation went directly towards our Y.A.L.E. program. Special thanks to PVAMU Alumni for your commitment to supporting FLCRC!



## Y.A.L.E. Leaders Shine at Young Entrepreneur Showcase

Y.A.L.E. leaders Aiesha and Trinity proudly showcased their businesses at a young entrepreneur event on **November 6th**. Both students were winners at the NAACP Elevator Pitch Contest in November 2022.



## Supporting Crime Survivors: CSSJ Atlanta Conference

**November 10-12**, Dr. Ilene Harper attended the CSSJ national conference in Atlanta. The event was truly empowering for our CSSJ Richmond-Sugar Land chapter members. Dr. Harper was the proud recipient of the CSSJ Survivor Leadership Award for “extraordinary service as a CSSJ member, advocating for change, and being an inspirational voice for crime survivors.” She was also recently named the recipient of the CSSJ 2023 Lisa Burhannan Service Award in recognition of her outstanding and dedicated service to crime victims.

*FLCRC provides free services to crime victims. To learn more, visit [FamilyLifeCRC.org/vip](http://FamilyLifeCRC.org/vip).*



## A Visit to the Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs

On **November 13th**, FLCRC Executive Director Dr. Ilene Harper had the opportunity to visit the **Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs (RICE)** in Atlanta. Shakiri Murrain, Director of Innovation Solutions at RICE, gave her a tour of this incredible facility. RICE is dedicated to empowering Black entrepreneurs to innovate, grow, create jobs and build wealth. It is the largest center in the world dedicated to this cause. We plan to take our Y.A.L.E. leaders to visit RICE in 2024!

# 2023 IN NUMBERS



**305**  
families served



**115**  
crime victims served



**501**  
volunteer hours completed



**11**  
scholarships & awards given



**\$997,320**  
Total donations, grants & fundraisers



**22**  
service projects completed by Y.A.L.E. leaders



**576**  
service learning hours earned by Y.A.L.E. leaders



**2**  
Y.A.L.E. leaders graduated from high school



**7**  
Y.A.L.E. leaders enrolled in college



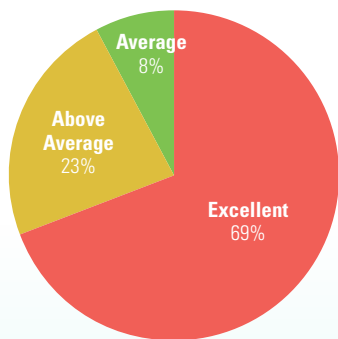
**1**  
Y.A.L.E. leader graduated from college



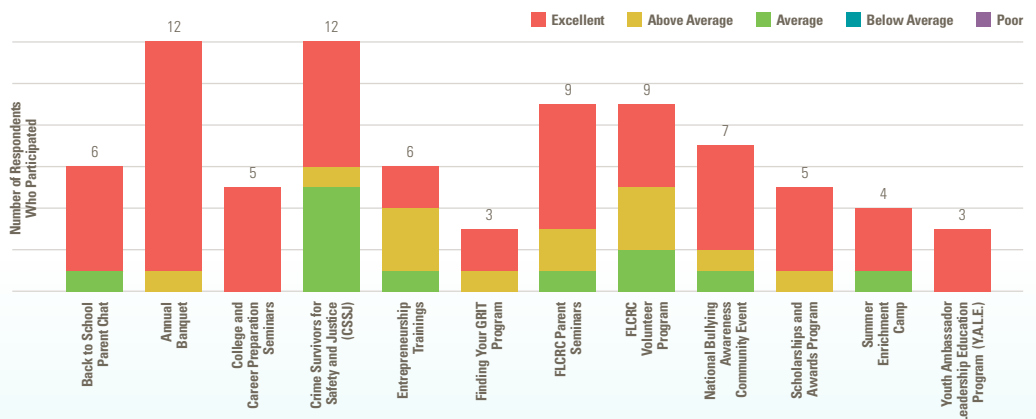
**\$424,925**  
Total raised for the Capital Campaign from 2020-2023

## ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY GIVES HELPFUL INSIGHTS

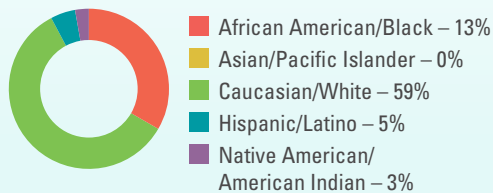
Please rate your overall experience with FLCRC programs and services:



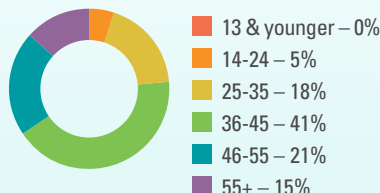
Which programs or services did you participate in? Please rate each based on your overall experience.



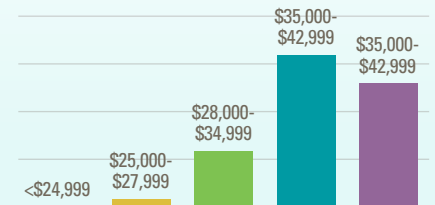
Ethnicity, Origin or Race:



Age Group:



Household Income:



Which best describes your role? Community Member **31%**

FLCRC Board Member **15%** | FLCRC Donor/Sponsor **2%** | FLCRC Partner **2%**

FLCRC Staff **13%** | Parent **8%** | Student **2%** | Volunteer **21%** | Other **5%**

View the full survey results at  
[FamilyLifeCRC.org/2023survey](https://FamilyLifeCRC.org/2023survey)



### 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:

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