



# INSIGHTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FALL 2024



## *A Message* FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

FLCRC began its new fiscal year with a thrilling adventure for the Youth Ambassador Leadership Education (Y.A.L.E.) students, as they explored **Atlanta, Georgia**. The trip featured a visit to the Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs (RICE), where the students created their first podcast, and enjoyed some of Atlanta's most popular attractions, including The World of Coca-Cola, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, Fernbank Science Center, The Atlanta Breakfast Club, Mall of Georgia, Lenox Square Shopping Mall, and Georgia Aquarium.

Our **20th Annual Back-to-School Parent Chat** in August was a great success! We were privileged to serve students and families in Fort Bend County by providing essential school supplies and guidance through in-person and virtual sessions. Prizes were given throughout, making it a fun and memorable event.

The application period for our **Scholarships and Awards** also opened in August. This program recognizes students who demonstrate academic potential, leadership, and a dedication to community service.

On September 24th, a historic march took place at the U.S. Capitol building, where over 3,500 crime survivors came together to demand recognition and support for survivors' rights. The **March on Washington** was an unforgettable experience for CSSJ Richmond Chapter members.

Our Y.A.L.E. leaders held a **Senior Social Mixer** on September 28th. This fun event highlighted the importance of our youth learning from the wisdom of our seniors, and was a beautiful celebration of intergenerational connection. Attendees participated in games, won prizes, and enjoyed delicious refreshments.

As we continue our journey, we need your help to make a difference in the community. **Join us on December 7th for our Annual Banquet** and the unveiling of our 2025-2030 Strategic plan. We will celebrate an amazing year and recognize our Scholarship and Award winners. Proceeds from the ticket sales, program ads and our exciting silent auction will support our Capital Campaign and our Scholarships and Awards program. Reserve your spot today at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet](https://FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet).

### SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Please take our 2024 Community Survey and help us serve you better!

<https://forms.gle/P7ScsgFLSZWCnpUB7>





# Adventures in ATLANTA

Six of our Y.A.L.E. student leaders traveled with FLCRC staff members to Atlanta, GA on **July 17-23** for an exciting week of fun and enrichment. They kicked off their week with a Meet & Greet at the **Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs (RICE)**, which is the largest center in the world dedicated to empowering Black entrepreneurs. Shakiri Murrain, Director of Innovation Solutions, and podcast producer Rodney Allen gave a tour of the center, and with Rodney's guidance the students even had an opportunity to produce their first podcast! The week continued with inspiring and educational visits to the **Fernbank Science Center**, the **World of Coca-Cola Museum**, the **Georgia Aquarium** and the **King Center**, the the final resting place of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which explores his incredible life and legacy. The students also had opportunities to shop and enjoy the delicious local dining options. Special thanks to our supporters of this trip, which was a truly unforgettable experience for our Y.A.L.E. leaders.



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARENT CHAT

Our 20th annual Back-to-School Parent Chat was a success! On **August 1-3**, we were once again able to provide essential school supplies and guidance to many Fort Bend County families through in-person and virtual sessions.



## LEADING THROUGH SERVICE



### Y.A.L.E. Leaders Step Up as Volunteers

On **September 7th**, Y.A.L.E. leaders volunteered at the “Elevate” retreat of the Alpha Gamma Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. At the monthly Y.A.L.E. meeting on **September 14th**, the students discussed more upcoming volunteer opportunities and the importance of service learning, which is one of the important character-building components of the Y.A.L.E. program.

## SURVIVORS SPEAK



### CSSJ Richmond Chapter Members Travel to D.C.

Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice (CSSJ) Richmond Chapter members traveled to Washington, D.C. for the **Survivors Speak March on Washington** on **Sept. 23-24**. Several FLCRC staff members attended this powerful event, joining thousands of other crime survivors to call for the next era of victims’ rights and public safety priorities. FLCRC offers free services to crime victims. Learn more at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/vip](https://FamilyLifeCRC.org/vip).

# Senior SOCIAL MIXER

## FLCRC HOSTS AN AFTERNOON OF **SOCIALIZING AND FUN FOR SENIORS**

On September 28th, our Y.A.L.E. leaders hosted a Senior Social Mixer for community members age 65 and over. This lively afternoon of socializing, dancing and games was truly enjoyed by all! Our Y.A.L.E. leaders also did a fantastic job organizing and volunteering at this event. Thank you to all who helped



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

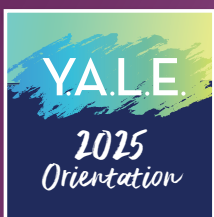


### FLCRC 8th Annual Banquet

Saturday, December 7, 2024 | 6:00 p.m. | 821 E Hwy 90A, Richmond, TX 77406

Join us in celebrating a fantastic year! We will share 2024 highlights, honor our Scholarship and Award Recipients, and share a sneak preview into 2025.

Purchase tickets and program ads at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet](https://www.FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet), or by scanning the QR code!



### Y.A.L.E. 2025 Orientation Meeting

Saturday, January 11, 2025 | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | 821 E Hwy 90A, Richmond, TX 77406

FLCRC is accepting applications for the 2025 Youth Ambassador Leadership Education (Y.A.L.E.) and Pre-Y.A.L.E. program! Program members participate in various activities related to character building, leadership, service learning, and college and career preparation. Applications for membership are due by **January 25, 2025** and can be accessed at [FamilyLifeCRC.org/YALE](https://www.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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