



Insights

Quarterly Newsletter | Summer 2026



A Message FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

Welcome to the summer issue of *Insights*! **The last quarter was truly impactful** as we remained focused on making a meaningful difference in the lives of students, families, and individuals throughout Fort Bend County. From providing future-building opportunities for our youth, to fostering community connections and supporting crime victims, we are proud of the progress we continue to make together.

In April, FLCRC participated in **health and wellness community events**, connecting with like-minded organizations and expanding our network of community partners.

This spring, our Youth Ambassador Leadership Education (Y.A.L.E.) program placed a strong emphasis on college and career readiness with the launch of our new **Workforce Readiness and Career Pathways** initiative. Through this initiative and several university tours, students gained valuable insight into their personal strengths and future career possibilities.

Our **partnerships with local leaders** continue to grow. In April, we were honored to be a recipient of Fort Bend County District Attorney Brian Middleton's 2026 *Expose Excellence* grant. We were also proud to participate in the D.A.'s

National Crime Victims' Rights Week event at Fort Bend County Justice Center.

We were especially excited by the success of our two-week **summer enrichment camp** in June. We kept students highly engaged with a variety of fun and educational learning sessions and field trips.

Thanks to our dedicated supporters, our mission of *Building Better Communities by Building Stronger Families* continues to be fulfilled throughout Fort Bend County. **We are grateful for your partnership in this important work.**

Top: Students visited Texas State University in June during our summer enrichment camp. Bottom, left to right: FLCRC staff and community members attended Fort Bend County's National Crime Victims' Rights Week event in April; FLCRC displayed an informational table at an April health and wellness event; students enjoyed planting flowers in their own decorated pots at the summer enrichment camp.

**FLCRC
10TH ANNUAL
BANQUET**
Purchase your tickets and
program ads now!

Join us on December 5th for an evening to remember! Proceeds will support our Scholarships and Awards program. Visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet to purchase tickets and program ads.





Supporting Health and Wellness

In **April**, FLCRC participated in several community events focused on health and wellness, including Texas State Technical College's Student Health and Wellness Fair and Fort Bend Church's Health & Wellness Expo. Our team members shared about our programs and services and sparked meaningful connections with many other community-focused organizations. We value these important partnerships that empower us to have a greater positive impact in Fort Bend County.

Preparing Our Students for *Bright Futures*

This quarter was filled with future-focused activities for our Y.A.L.E. program student leaders. At the Y.A.L.E. meetings on **April 11th** and **May 16th**, the students completed interactive **Workforce Readiness & Career Pathways (WRCP)** sessions providing personalized guidance and tools for college and career planning. Each student completed a personal strengths inventory, identified their higher education and career goals, and made plans for next steps. In **June**, many of the Y.A.L.E. leaders attended our summer enrichment camp, which included financial literacy sessions and tours of two local universities. We are excited to see each student's future unfold as the Y.A.L.E. program empowers them for success in college and beyond!



FLCRC is Awarded 2026 Expose Excellence Grant

On **April 21st**, FLCRC was presented with a check as a recipient of the Expose Excellence Youth Foundation grant. Founded by Fort Bend County District Attorney Brian Middleton, the Foundation strives to ensure that youth have the resources they need to thrive. We extend our sincere thanks to D.A. Middleton and the Foundation for their continued support!



Observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week

FLCRC staff and volunteers observed National Crime Victims' Rights Week by participating with a community event on **April 22nd** at the Fort Bend County Justice Center. The event included an awareness walk and healing vigil, and we were pleased to share information with participants on our free and comprehensive services for crime victims.



Two Weeks of *Discovery and Enrichment*

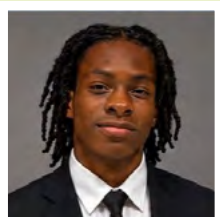
FLCRC'S **2026 SUMMER ENRICHMENT CAMP** IS A HIT WITH STUDENTS!

During the weeks of **June 15-19** and **June 22-26**, 40 students in grades 5th through 12th joined us for a fun and educational summer enrichment camp: ***Discover Your Power: Leaders, Innovators & World Changers***. The students engaged in a wide variety of sessions exploring STEM topics, leadership & motivation, financial literacy, college & career readiness, creative arts, entrepreneurship, fitness & sports, and more. The program also included tours of Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University, a Juneteenth trip to the Black Cowboy Museum in Rosenberg, and a visit to KTSU 90.9 FM radio station in Houston. On the final day, the student had a blast cooling down with our huge inflatable water slide, receiving prizes, and honoring our three graduating high school seniors in the Y.A.L.E. program. Thank you to all who helped make this a truly unforgettable experience for our youth!

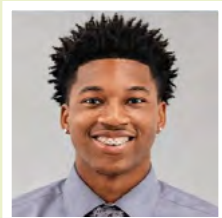


FLCRC Welcomes Creative Media & Podcast *Interns*

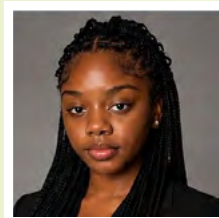
In June, FLCRC hired three student interns to support our programs and services in creative new ways. These promising young leaders will serve in the following roles throughout the 2026-2027 fiscal year:



Kason Adams
*Photography & Visual
Storytelling Lead*



Jovann Bledsoe
*Social Media & Workforce
Content Strategy Lead*



Jordan Thomas
*Podcast Production &
Career Exploration Lead*



Each intern will play an important role in amplifying our youth's voices, capturing impactful stories, facilitating our Workforce Readiness and Career Pathways program, and showcasing the work of FLCRC through social media and podcasting. We are excited to witness their innovation, leadership, creativity, and commitment to making a difference in our community. **Join us in congratulating Kason, Jovann, and Jordan!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



FLCRC Bullying Awareness Conference 2026

Saturday, October 31, 2026 | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
821 E Hwy 90A, Richmond, TX 77406

Go ORANGE against bullying with us! Join us for this fun and engaging community event focused on bullying awareness and prevention. All students are invited to enter a pumpkin carving contest! Learn more and register at FamilyLifeCRC.org/StandAgainstBullying.



2nd Annual Dakota Merriweather 5K Walk/Run

Saturday, November 14, 2026 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
George Park | 2155 Collins Rd., Richmond, TX

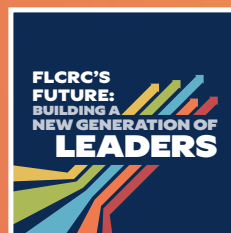
Join us for this fundraiser honoring former Y.A.L.E. student leader Dakota Merriweather! Register as an individual or a four-member team. Learn more and register at FamilyLifeCRC.org/Dakota-Merriweather-5K.



FLCRC 10th Annual Banquet: Purchase Your Tickets Now!

Saturday, December 5, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

Purchase tickets and program ads now for our 10th Annual Banquet this December! We will highlight another incredible year at FLCRC, recognize our 2026 scholarship and award recipients, and share a preview of 2027. Visit FamilyLifeCRC.org/banquet today!



FLCRC Capital Campaign

We invite you to support our 2025-2030 capital campaign, *FLCRC's Future: Building a New Generation of Leaders*. Help us reach our goal of raising \$200,000 for the expansion of our summer enrichment camp into a six-week summer enrichment *experience*! You can maximize your impact by becoming a campaign sponsor. Learn more and donate at FamilyLifeCRC.org/campaign.

FLCRC BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. Cleo Wadley, President
Millie Chatham, Vice-President
LaCarria Green, Treasurer

Sharon Tanner, Secretary
Mary Sias, Parliamentarian
Kendon Thibodeaux, Youth Advisor

CONNECT WITH US:

1.888.337.1411 | info@familylifecrc.org
821 E Hwy 90A | Richmond, TX 77406
www.FamilyLifeCRC.org

