

Devereux

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Local church hosts shower for Sanctuary

Port Saint Lucie – More than 50 people turned out for a recent house-warming shower for Sanctuary4kids, a planned “safe place” for children who are awaiting placement into foster care.

Together, they contributed \$1,400 in cash and gift cards, as well as high chairs, car seats, booster chairs and the bed and bath essentials needed to make the three-bedroom-?? house the home it’s meant to be.

“This was a great event,” said Debbie Butler, president of Guardians for New Futures, the non-profit organization spearheading the Sanctuary project. “Every day, we get a new shipment of items that people bought after hearing about the shower.”

Gift registries set up through Target and Toys R Us are still available for those who did not attend the event, which was hosted by Living Faith Church last Sunday at Tradition Town Hall. Items still needed for the house include beds, bookshelves and kitchen items.

Sanctuary4kids, which is in the final stages of construction, is a short-term placement facility for children who are removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.

“It will provide a temporary, loving distraction while professionals work to find a more permanent placement,” said Carol DeLoach, CEO for Devereux Community Based Care, which coordinates and oversees the local child-welfare system, including foster care.

Insulation and drywall for the house begin this week, and construction is expected to be complete by late December, Butler said. “We want it done and furnished by Christmas,” she said. “We’re ready to see kids in it.”

A virtual tour of the completed project is planned for some time in January. To respect the safety and privacy of children who will stay at the house, Sanctuary’s location will not be made public.

If you are interested in learning more about Sanctuary4kids, or to donate, please visit sanctuary4kidstc.org. To view the registries, visit Toysrus.com or Target.com and search for Sanctuary4kids.

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October 28, 2016

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