



Communities Connected *for Kids*

Connections - October 20, 2020

Keeping us connected in this hauntedly remote world



Wisecup, Morose recognized for excellent work in caring for children

St. Lucie West – Communities Connected for Kids congratulates Jerra Wisecup and Sophonie Morose for winning the most recent Going the Extra Mile – or GEM – Award for excellence in serving children and families in Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast. The duo won the award for the period spanning July through September.

Morose, a case-manager in St. Lucie County, who is pictured above on the right, received the award for case-management staff.

“Sophonie has been dealing with a very difficult case, said her supervisor, Mo

Shihadeh, who nominated Morose for the recognition. “There have been numerous setbacks yet she continues to do everything she can to get this family where they need to be, even offering to come in on her day off to take children to an appointment when the caregiver could not.”

Wisecup, licensing and caregiver support specialist, pictured above and to the left, received the award for administrative and program staff.

“Jerra is just one of these people who can do anything, and it well,” said Community Relations Director Christina Kaiser, who nominated Wisecup. “More important than that, she does it – if you ask her to help, she will do it.”

Wisecup chaired the organization’s now-defunct Outreach Committee which established organization projects like the Volunteer Time Off program.

She now co-chairs an interagency workgroup that helps raise awareness for foster and adoptive parents and leads the area’s Quality Parenting Initiative, which is helping to improve the experience of caregivers in Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast.

CCKids’ Board of Directors will recognize Morose and Wisecup on a Zoom call during its October Board meeting. Each employee will receive a \$100 bonus and a plaque.

We are happy to take nominations from the community. If you know a CCKids employee who has gone above and beyond, let us know. Click the link to the nomination form.



It's Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
Take it from someone who knows: Get your mammogram.

My name is Christina Kaiser, and I am a breast cancer survivor. I can write those words today, three years after being diagnosed with a particularly nasty form of the disease, because of one thing: I scheduled - and attended - my annual mammogram. I was diagnosed with something called triple negative breast cancer in October of 2017. It doesn't respond to hormones, and it's an aggressive form of cancer that is often unforgiving and unresponsive to treatment.

Early detection saved my life. My cancer was invasive - meaning it had outgrown its original spot - but it was still small and had not spread to my lymph nodes. Had I skipped my test that year, which I considered because I was *so* busy, I am certain that I would be dead.

I would have missed my youngest daughters graduate high school. I would have missed senior pictures, proms, horseback riding lessons, marching band and winter guard. I never would have met my oldest daughter's life partner and grown to love her as one of my own or seen my college student begin her

life as a teacher. I would have left my husband alone to finish a commitment we started together - the job of raising our children.

I also would not be here if I had waited until age 50 to start my mammograms. I know there is some debate in the medical community about the right time to start these life-saving tests, so I will just leave it at this: If you are a woman, age 40 or older, you have the right to ask your doctor about starting annual mammograms.

There is fear about the unknown. I know some of you just don't want to know. But cancer doesn't care if you're scared, and it certainly doesn't wait for you to figure things out. It will leave your loved ones alone and bereft and your children motherless.

It will remove you.

Please call today. Schedule your mammogram, and go.

No Excuses, Ladies

I'm so busy taking care of my family.

I don't know where to go.

I have no health insurance.



FREE MAMMOGRAM & PAP SMEAR

Florida Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program

SERVICES

Free or at a reduced cost for women who qualify for the program:

- Clinical breast examinations
- Mammograms
- Pelvic examinations
- Pap tests
- Diagnostic testing if results are abnormal
- Referrals for treatment

Participants must be available to complete all diagnostic testing within 60 days.

Services provided in Broward, Palm Beach and Martin counties

broward.floridahealth.gov

ELIGIBILITY

Consider this program if you or someone you know:

- Is at least 50 years old *or*
- 40-49 years old with an immediate family member with a history of breast cancer *and*
- Has little or no health insurance *and*
- Is not covered by Medicare or Medicaid *and*
- Meets income guidelines of the program *and*
- Has a picture ID *and*
- Lives in Broward, Palm Beach or Martin county



Call today for more information
and to schedule an appointment

954-762-3649