



Communities Connected *for Kids*

Connections - August 25, 2021



CCKids assembled a volunteer team for the United Way of St. Lucie County's Back to School Bash; throughout the week, our team members also volunteered individually, packing bags of school supplies that were eventually distributed to children served by the Communities Connected for Kids system of care.

Local Football Star Graduates from Exclusive Leadership Course for Youth in Foster Care

Vero Beach – Vero Beach High School graduate Tyler Wrenn is heading to college this fall on a football scholarship. But he made a quick stop this summer to a prestigious, invitation-only, leadership training.

Tyler, a young man who uses his experience in the foster care system to help others, was selected to attend the Dale Carnegie Institute, a training course designed to teach and improve leadership skills.

More than 70 students – all young people in the state’s foster-care system – applied. But in the end, only 20 were invited.

“I loved it,” Tyler said. “It gave me great key details on how to approach people in more of an understanding way.”

The training was hosted by the Selfless Love Foundation, an organization established to help find adoptive homes for children in foster care and to help young people in care advocate on their own behalf.



Selfless Love Foundation offers the high-level leadership training to foster youth involved in local youth councils and who participate in youth advocacy, said foundation executive director Elizabeth Wynter.

During the six-week training, students worked on building self-confidence, keeping stress and worry in perspective, disagreeing agreeably and persuasive storytelling.

Tyler is using his story to help encourage others to become foster and adoptive parents, especially to teens. Adopted shortly before his 18th birthday, Tyler met his adoptive family through football.

“My adoptive dad was my football coach and he and his wife took interest in me and eventually adopted me and loved me unconditionally.

“I was a troubled kid, but they helped me change my life around.”

Tyler said he went from a 2.3 GPA to consistent A’s in high school. He will attend North Central College this fall.

For more than 100 years, Dale Carnegie has helped companies of all sizes become more productive by offering courses ranging in topics from public speaking to leadership.



Don't Wait, Vaccinate! - *In This Month's, In the Clinic*

By Lisa McBride, RN, BSN

I'm pleased to share this most recent information from a July 29th press release from the Florida Department of Health:

With the start of the new school year...the Florida Department of Health is urging parents and

caregivers to be sure that their student's immunizations are up to date.

Proof of certain immunizations, on a #680 form (Florida Certificate of Immunization), is required for school entry if a child is entering kindergarten, seventh grade or is moving to Florida from another state or country.

Additional information about immunizations is available [here](#). And the Health Department in Martin County is offering free school age immunizations for children who are uninsured, underinsured or do not have a medical provider.

Though not required for school entry, the department also is offering free COVID-19 vaccinations for everyone age 12 and older. Immunization appointments are available by calling (772) 221-4000, option #3. You can find those free clinics in the flyer below.

FREE COVID-19 Vaccine

Hosted by the Florida Department of Health, Martin County for all Martin County Residents



Locations: Parking lot of below locations

Pfizer vaccine available

Aug. 20	3pm to 6 pm	City of Stuart City Hall** 121 SW Flagler Ave. Stuart, FL 34994
Aug. 23	4:15 pm to 7:15 pm	Dr. David Anderson Middle School 7000 SE Atlantic Ridge Dr. Stuart, FL 34997
Aug. 24	4:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Martin County High School 2801 S. Kanner Hwy. Stuart, FL 34997
Aug. 25	4:15 pm to 7:15 pm	Hidden Oaks Middle School 2801 SW Martin Hwy. Palm City, FL 34990
Aug. 26	4:15 pm to 7:15 pm	Murray Middle School 440 SE Murray St. Stuart, FL 34997
Aug. 27	4:15 pm to 7:15 pm	Stuart Middle School 575 Georgia Ave. Stuart, FL 34997
Aug. 30	4:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Jensen Beach High School 2875 NW Goldenrod Rd. Jensen Bch, FL 34957
Aug. 31	5:00 pm to 8:00 pm	Indiantown Middle School 16303 SW Farm Rd. Indiantown, FL 34956
Sept. 1	4:00 pm to 7:00 pm	South Fork High School 10000 SW Bulldog Way Stuart, FL 34997

**This event is sponsored by the National Minority Health Association and organized by the City of Stuart and FLDH in Martin County.

Schools/the School District are neither endorsing nor sponsoring these events, products or services nor endorsing the views of the sponsoring organizations.

CCKids Employees Continue Work from Home



St. Lucie West - Communities Connected for Kids is putting return-to-office plans on hold in light of the recent increase in COVID-19 cases, including breakthrough cases among those who are vaccinated against the disease.

We will continue to follow the protocol established at the beginning of the pandemic, conducting business remotely or, when necessary, to visit the office or an event in the community,

wearing masks and maintaining social distance.

These plans will not interfere with daily business or our relationships in the community. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Community Relations Director [Christina Kaiser](#).

A Special Talk With Coach Tony Dungy

St. Lucie West - CCKids won a statewide challenge while celebrating National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.

The organization competed with other child-welfare agencies throughout the state to register the most people to participate in the #1Kfor1Kid campaign.

Our organization registered more than 100 residents, hosted the CCKthePark event and won a private Zoom call with legendary NFL coach Tony Dungy. Coach Dungy met virtually with local foster parents Tuesday, delivered a motivational speech and took questions.

Thank you to everyone in the community who helped us reach our goal and win this special prize for our caregivers!

