Issue #68

October 2026 Newsletter

Children's Aid Club

Our Mission is to positively impact the health, general welfare and education of underprivileged children in our community.



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As we enter this very busy and meaningful season, I want to take a moment to remind you just how much your work and dedication matter.

We begin the season with the Feeding Families Campaign. Last year, CAC provided Walmart food gift cards to 235 families—684 children and 441 adults, reaching 1,125 people in our community. Because of you, more than a thousand people felt supported when they needed it most. So let's do it again!

Thanksgiving and Holiday Baskets are underway, Holiday Appeal letters have gone out, and TNT will be here before we know it. If you know a family, friend, or group who might like to adopt a family in need, please give them a Holiday Appeal Letter and Response Card.

Every effort expands our reach and makes a difference.

To all of our liaisons, thank you for the care and dedication you give to our partner organizations. You are the heart of our connection to the children and families we serve.

Together, we are making a difference—one child, one family, and one act of kindness at a time.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Laura A. Balistreri-Ahmed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virtual Board Meeting:

Oct 13th - Tuesday - 9:30am

(link sent day before)

General Meeting

Oct 20th - Tuesday - 9:30am

Henderson Behavioral Health

6555 N. Powerline Rd #308

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Hosting:

Valerie Taylor

Randa Flinn

*If you are unable to come:

Call Janice Bloomfield,

Membership Chair



Yes! Feeding Families Campaign is back for 2026!

For the second consecutive year, our Feeding Families Campaign is making a meaningful difference in the lives of families throughout our community. With food insecurity affecting so many, this $50,000 initiative is more essential than ever.

Through our 23 partner organizations, we will provide grocery gift cards to families with children who need a helping hand. This successful campaign reflects the heart of CAC and our shared commitment to ensuring that families have food on their tables.

A heartfelt thank-you to our dedicated liaisons! All applications are in, and Louise and Sandy are working hard to order the necessary gift cards.

Liaisons, please plan to pick up your gift cards at our October 20th General Meeting at Henderson Behavioral Health.

Together, we are bringing hope and nourishment to families who need it most.

TO ALL LIAISONS - NEW FORMS!

Please send both the **Thanksgiving and Holiday forms** to your contact person at your organization as soon as possible. You can find the forms in this newsletter. Four families for Thanksgiving and three for Holiday Baskets. The earlier we get these forms returned the better as we need to compile the amount of gift cards to be ordered which can take time.



Thanksgiving deadline is Wednesday, October 28th. You can use an earlier date to make sure the form is returned on time. *All four families* should be listed on this form, *review* the form for accuracy and clarity, and *then* email it to both Louise and Sandy as stated on form.

Holiday deadline is Friday, October 30th. Again, you can submit earlier. All THREE Holiday Basket forms (one per family) need to be emailed back **to you** first so ***YOU*** can make sure all the information is filled out properly. Too many forms are being directly sent to Louise and Sandy with missing information. It is your responsibility to make sure all forms are filled out with all the proper information. Once you have proofed the forms and all the information is correct, then you can email forms to both Louise and Sandy.



Menu Team had a wonderful tasting event at Michele Holtzheuser's house on September 29th. Wonderful variety of appetizers, desserts, and take away sugar goodness. Louise even mailed her submission all the way from Lake Tahoe! Our thanks to all who cooked, baked, and tried different recipes. We are off and running this year! A heartfelt thank you to Michele for being the hostess with the Mostest.













Children's Aid Club
Virtual Board Meeting
Minutes by Becky Ford

Sept. 8th, 2026
Google Meet

"If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours." ~ *Dolly Parton*. Not everyone requires money. Sometimes the smallest gestures- kindness, encouragement, a smile- are exactly what someone needs.

Meeting called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Belinda McDonald, President Laura Balistreri attending online from Italy.
Devotional – Given by Belinda.
Approval of Minutes from May 2026 – Laura B made a motion to approve the minutes. Janice B seconded motion and minutes were approved.
Membership – Janice Bloomfield reported she has been collecting the membership dues and we are 99% paid. She is also working on the Black book with Julie. There is no Coffee and Conversation set up yet or Fall Orientation as there are no current prospects.
Treasurer - Barb – Reports $9,629.19 in checking, $387,724.99 in Schwab for total balance of $397,354.18 Credit card payment of $6,694.24. was paid September 2nd. There was a discussion regarding shipping charges when an organization orders approved items. CAC historically has not paid shipping charges.
Recommended policy is:

1. Order from somewhere that doesn't charge for shipping.
2. If a liaison has to order from a place that charges shipping for specialty items such as a school supply house, then the shipping fees will come out of their budget.
3. Remind liaisons shipping fees are donor dollars for something that doesn't directly benefit the children.

There was an issue from the 2026 TNT where a auction purchaser requested a refund. The trip to Portugal she purchased was $6000. CAC had to pay the agency $5000. The travel company has a strict no refund policy but will allow CAC to try to resell the voucher at TNT 2027. The purchaser has been offered $1000 back. Waiting for more information on this issue.
Ways and Means - Pam M. – Applied again for the grant from The Episcopal Church of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Martin that CAC had last year for the Tiny Blessings Bundle. Waiting to hear response. 25 Walmart applications are ready to go as well as 19 Aldi applications. Pam is studying up on grants through the Community Foundation of Broward and Jim Moran Foundation.
Welfare - Kristina B., see report. There was a discussion about Back to Basics and why some of our schools buy uniforms from Back to Basics when we give a substantial donation to them. Kelle acquires affordable uniforms specifically for our partner organizations so they can purchase them at the discounted price. The budget CAC gives to Back to Basics goes to the designated schools Kelle serves.
May report: Individual requests; Ruby Alsina family for $2036, Joanne Johnson family for $338.11
June report: Individual requests; Laura Daniels family for $1642.43, April Lubin family for

Children's Aid Club
Virtual Board Meeting
Minutes by Becky Ford

Children's Aid Club

Sept. 8th, 2026
Google Meet

$932.00, Veronica Cosby family for $2,239.38
July report: Emergency requests; J. Scott family for $500, Maya Payoute for $460.00. Individual requests; Alba Medina family for $312.90, Update on Lubin family for $1,058.00
August report: Special request Equine Assisted Therapies for $3000. Barb Hume made a motion to ratify May-August Welfare assistance, Heather Knight seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Corresponding Secretary – Heather Knight – Thank you's were sent to Mrs Feldman for toy donations and Peter Stramiglia for monthly donation.

Unfinished Business

LYC Farmers Market – It was hot and CAC will probably not participate in this again.
Golf Tournament check came in for $50,000
Irene Feldman called Barb for a small pick-up

New Business

Holiday Appeal – Committee started early, ordered all the pieces and started putting batches together. Members can get the letters they need at the September meeting, then the letters will be sent out.

TNT - Pam reported for the Stylin' team. The theme is A Work of Heart. There will be QR codes on the table for donations. Courtney Ortiz has been booked for photography and will bring a second person to be at the Photo op area. David will do the A/V again this year. Joyce Virga will be the emcee. Print Dynamics has been consulted about the digital logo and there should not be any increase in cost due to the colors. Table designs are being worked on using the colors of the logos. Louise and her team are working on the menu.
Kristina reported they are checking with Gordon regarding being auctioneer, but if he is not able, we have a good backup.

Back to Basics – Help needed on Thursdays in October, there will be a sign-up at Gen. mtg.
LYC Mingle, Jingle and Shop will be December 11.
Delivering Good Clothing donations came in this summer from PacSun and Bermies.
CASF Golf Tournament – will be Friday, April 16 at Jacaranda.
Social Committee is now Rebecca and Randa

Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.
Minutes recorded by Becky Ford,
recording secretary.



Lovely birthday girl, Sara Rashti was so moved at our general meeting as CAC members sang and presented a cake!
We love you Sara!!

Children's Aid Club
General Meeting
Minutes by Becky Ford

Children's Aid Club

Sept. 15th, 2026
Sea Ranch Lakes Clubhouse

Meeting called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Belinda McDonald, President Laura Balistreri attending online from her travels.
Devotional – "The Pencil" about having the right tools for children helping them write brighter futures. Given by Belinda. There were pink CAC pencils for the members.
Approval of Minutes from May 2026 – Rena U. made a motion to approve the minutes. Caroline C. seconded motion and minutes were approved.
Membership – Janice Bloomfield took roll call and reported we have 30 active members. Janice has been in contact with a few potential members who want to volunteer with CAC this year. The Black book pages are ready and can be picked up today. September birthdays were recognized and Sara Rashti was presented with a cake for her "19th birthday" (actually 91).
Treasurer – Barb was away but sent her report by email: $9,629.19 in checking, $387,724.99 in Schwab for total balance of $397,354.18 Credit card payment of $6,694.24. was paid September 2nd.
Ways and Means - Pam M. – A grant was received from Enterprise for $4851.50. Applied again for the $10,000 grant from The Episcopal Church of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Martin that CAC had last year for the Tiny Blessings Bundle. Waiting to hear response. Applying for Walmart and Aldi gift cards. Pam is studying up on grants through the Community Foundation of Broward and Jim Moran Foundation.
Welfare - Kristina B., see report. Kristina presented the assistance that was given during the summer months (May-August). There were many individual requests. Ghislaine Martin made a motion to ratify the work of the welfare committee that was presented, Jeanne Dixon seconded the motion and the motion carried. Shipping costs were discussed, and it was agreed that CAC should pay the shipping costs but it will come out of the organization budget. Liaisons should encourage their organizations to be thrifty.
There will be a 2026 Feeding Families Campaign to distribute food cards to 10 families for each of our organizations. It starts today and there is a quick turn around time for getting the info back to the welfare committee.
Corresponding Secretary – Heather Knight – Thank you's were sent to Mrs Feldman for toy donations (over 180 toys). CAC received thank you's from Equine Assisted Therapies, Henderson Behavioral Health and Our Father's House.
Unfinished Business
LYC Farmers Market – It was scalding hot with no shade and the food was melting. CAC will probably not participate in this again. $411.00 was made for the administrative fund.
Golf Tournament check came in for $50,000
Irene Feldman called Barb for a small pick-up worth $1700 at sale prices.

The Pencil

At the beginning of every school year, millions of brand-new pencils are used for the very first time. They all look the same: clean, sharpened, eraser intact.

But no one can tell which one will write a poem, solve a difficult math problem, sketch a landscape, or begin an essay. Potential is like that. You can't always see it.

The children we serve come with their own blank pages and endless possibilities. Sometimes, all they need is someone to place the right tools in their hands and remind them that they are capable of great things.

As we begin another year together, may we remember that our work isn't simply about providing supplies or assistance. It's about helping write brighter futures.

Children's Aid Club
General Meeting
Minutes by Becky Ford

Children's Aid Club

Sept. 15th, 2026
Sea Ranch Lakes
Clubhouse

New Business

Holiday Appeal – Committee (Vanessa, Valerie, Janice) started letter early and plan to send it out today after the meeting as responses are due back in October.

TNT - Leaders started meeting in July.

Linda reported for the Architect team – your guest list verification will be coming in your email, keep a lookout for that and return by October 28. Consider deleting guests who haven't attended in the last 3 years.

Pam M for Stylin' team – "A work of Heart" demonstrating that the work we do is from the heart. A colorful logo has been developed and decorations are being planned with that color scheme. Each table will have a theme – think of stories of children we've helped. The Teams sign-up sheet was circulated again so members could sign up for planning jobs.

Kristina B for Golden Goose team reminded members to start thinking about baskets and to put their ideas on the grid. It was mentioned that a disclaimer should be placed in the program booklet that items purchased are non-refundable. Caroline asked if anyone has an "in" with the Blimp as she has not been able to get it the last couple of years.

Back to Basics – Help is needed every Thursday in October, a sign-up sheet was circulated.

LYC Mingle, Jingle & Shop will be 11 - 3pm on Dec. 11, Sue Black, contact. Setup -8:30am

Delivering Good Clothing donations came in this summer, primarily boys and men sizes. Sandy has a warehouse crew ready to sort and organize it this week.

CASF Golf Tournament 2027 – will be Friday, April 16 at Jacaranda.

Social Committee is now Rebecca and Randa. They are working on the Holiday Social and are looking at Dec. 12 or 13 as possible date.

Jewelry – Jeanne raised ~$1700 from Jewelry that was donated.

NSU Art Museum – Rebecca Solomon distributed information to liaisons for free field trips to the museum they can share with their organizations.

Members are reminded period packs are available at the warehouse and can be picked up for your organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 am. Motion by Heather K, second by Janice B.

A member raffle was held. Minutes recorded by Becky Ford, recording secretary.





Janice, Valerie and Vanessa (the Three Holiday Appeal Musketeers) strike again! Hurrah!

Children's Aid Club
Profit and Loss
August 2026

	Total
Income	
cash rewards	136.03
Donations	1,268.90
Dues	1,625.00
Golf Tournament	50,000.00
Total for Income	$53,029.93
Gross Profit	$53,029.93
Expenses	
Charity	
Blessed Sacrament	4,850.00
CDTC (Children's Diagnostic)	72.17
Cross Creek School	203.07
Equine Assisted Therapies of SF	3,000.00
God's Little Lambs	1,352.89
Henderson Behavioral Health	687.52
Hope Women's Center	649.00
JJCF	2,250.00
Lloyd Estate Elementary	492.58
Mary Ann's Closet	1,265.78
Northside Elementary	1,186.50
Our Father's Soup Kitchen	1,200.00
Pediatric Oncology	1,250.00
Pompano Beach Middle School	3,606.83
The Little Schoolhouse	3,054.38
Total for Charity	$25,120.72
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	350.00
Total for Contract Services	$350.00
Fundraising Expenses	
Holiday Letter	69.98
Taste & Tell	
Printing	144.38
Supplies	49.27
Total for Taste & Tell	$193.65
Total for Fundraising Expenses	$263.63
Operations	
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	38.00
Total for Operations	$38.00
Total for Expenses	$25,772.35
Net Operating Income	$27,257.58
Net Income	$27,257.58

Children's Aid Club
Balance Sheet
As of Aug 31, 2026

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BOA Charity Checking	$37,124.79
BOA Savings	0.00
Gibraltar	0.00
Schwab Investment Fund	386,718.71
Total for Bank Accounts	$423,843.50
Accounts Receivable	
Active Member Dues	0.00
Total for Accounts Receivable	$0.00
Other Current Assets	
Aldi Food Cards	0.00
Gas Cards	0.00
Other Accounts Receivable	0.00
Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Publix Food Cards	0.00
Target Food Cards	450.00
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Wal-Mart Food Cards	6,650.00
Winn Dixie Food Certificates	0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	$7,100.00
Total for Current Assets	$430,943.50
Fixed Assets	
Leasehold Improvements	$8,168.22
Accumulated Depreciation	-7,579.90
Total for Leasehold Improvements	$588.32
Total for Fixed Assets	$588.32
Total for Assets	$431,531.82
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
Credit card	11,577.72
Total for Credit Cards	$11,577.72
Other Current Liabilities	
Temp Restricted Funds - Megan's Fund	381.72
Temp Restricted Funds - St. Mary Magdalene Church	0.00
Temp Restricted Grant - Gore Family Foundation	0.00
Total for Other Current Liabilities	$381.72
Total for Current Liabilities	$11,959.44
Total for Liabilities	$11,959.44
Equity	

	Total
Opening Balance Equity	167,841.21
Retained Earnings	224,473.59
Net Income	27,257.58
Total for Equity	$419,572.38
Total for Liabilities and Equity	$431,531.82

June Board & General Meeting. Reporting Period 5/1/2026 to 5/31/2026

Organizations:

Bennett Elementary	$ 305.88
Broward Health	$ 1,250.00
CDTC	$ 933.64
Cross Creek Elementary	$ 461.19
Cypress Elementary	$ 748.76
God's Little Lambs	$ 1,108.50
Henderson Health	$ 827.04
Hope Women's Center	$ 590.00
Northside Elementary	$ 1,078.40
Our Father's House	$ 2,189.80
Pace Center	$ 680.32
Seagull Alternative HS	$ 1,143.43
The Little Schoolhouse	$ 216.50
Whispering Pines	$ 378.91
Total:	**$11,912.37**

Tiny Blessings Grant

BHI	$ 328.72
Hope Women's Center	$ 498.60
Mary Ann's Closet	$ 207.53
CDTC	$ 465.95
God's Little Lambs	$ 235.26
Pace Center.	$ 358.60
Individual-Ruby Alsina Family	$ 100.00
Total:	**$2,194.66**

Gift Cards on hand at 5/31/2026:

Publix Cards:	
0 $10 cards at $9.70.	$. 0.00
Walmart Cards:	
372 $10 cards	$ 3,720.00
17 $50 cards	$ 850.00
Target Cards:	
163 $10 cards	$ 1,630.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 $25 cards	$. 0.00
TOTAL CARDS:	$ 6,200.00

Special Request Fund

Tomorrow's Rainbow $ 750.00
($4,250 was contributed from Bill Ferrante Memorial Fund)
Total: $ 750.00

Emergency Requests: None

Gore Grant

Broward Health $ 2,000.00
Total: $ 2,000.00

Total Disbursement for MAY 2026 = $16,857.03

Individual Requests

Ruby Alsina Family: Belinda McDonald (Personally known)

Ruby is a former colleague and a young friend of Belinda who has been caring for her two young nephews on and off since their birth. The boys' father is a habitual drug user, and their mother struggles with alcoholism. Ruby has done her best to shield the boys (ages 2 yrs and 7 months) from the devastating effects addiction has had on their family. This month (May) the situation came to a head, and Ruby was granted emergency temporary custody of the boys. Although she is employed, she has taken a few days off to help the boys settle in their new home and to arrange childcare that can provide the structure and stability their chaotic lives have lacked. Ruby is already applying for government assistance but in the immediate term, she needs help covering childcare expenses so she can return to work and continue supporting her suddenly expanded family. Belinda suggested to the Welfare Committee to pay 8 weeks of childcare totaling $4,072 and to give her $100 from Tiny Blessings grant. Welfare recommended these amounts to the board. Board approved on 5/20/26. On 5/22 Belinda purchased 1 car seat and 2 boxes of diapers to be deducted from the Tiny Blessings Grant. On 5/26 the first 4 weeks of childcare was paid to Leap Ahead Learning Center. Sandy also provided clothing for the 2 children from our warehouse. **Total: $2,036.00**

(Continued) **June** Board & General Meeting. Reporting Period 5/1/2026 to

Joann Johnson Family: Marsha Tessler knows the family through My Safe Harbor

Marsha brought the Johnson family to our attention in March who needed emergency funding for one week hotel. (This is a grandmother who has her granddaughter and great grandson living with her). Welfare Committee approved $498.24 emergency in March. This amount was ratified at the April meeting. At the meeting members asked if there was anything else we could do to help this family. Louise asked Marsha to have Joann fill out the full application for assistance. Her application came in on May 6th. Welfare discussed and recommended to the board we pay three months of rent. In April she found a room in a private home to live with her granddaughter and great grandson. The rent is $450 per month for a total of $1350.00. However, neither Joann nor Marsha have been able to get the name and address of where to send the rent. At the end of May Marsha spoke with Joann and suggested if we perhaps could pay for her rental car for a week so she could continue to work. Welfare and the board approved this payment of $338.11 to Avis rental car. Her May, June and July rent is on hold for the time being.

Total: $338.11

May Total: $2,374.11

July Board & General Meeting. Reporting Period 6/1/2026 to 6/30/2026

Organizations:

Bennett Elementary	$ 271.47
Blessed Sacrament	$ 1,455.00
CDTC	$ 129.38
Croissant Park Elementary	$ 998.87
Cypress Elementary	$ 1,000.38
Donor's Choose	$ 1,965.96
God's Little Lambs	$ 611.57
Henderson Health	$ 1,559.55
Hope Women's Center	$ 590.00
Our Father's House	$ 37.41
Pace Center	$ 1,581.35
Pompano Beach Middle School	$ 480.60
The Little Schoolhouse	$ 248.99
Total:	**$10,930.53**

Tiny Blessings Grant

Individual-Medina Family $ 130.94

Emergency Requests: None

Gift Cards on hand at 6/30/2026:

Publix Cards:	
0 $10 cards at $9.70.	$. 0.00
Walmart Cards:	
372 $10 cards	$ 3,720.00
94 $50 cards	$ 4,700.00
Target Cards:	
145 $10 cards	$ 1,450.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 $25 cards	$. 0.00
TOTAL CARDS:	$ 9,870.00

Special Request Fund

Seagull Alternative $ 1,600.00

(GCs for 8 GSs for 8 girls, clothes, hygiene, gas)

Total: $ 1,600.00

Gore Grant

. BPHI $ 3,448.14

Total: $ 3,448.14

Total Disbursement for June 2026 = $16,109.61

(Continued) **July** Board & General Meeting. Reporting Period 6/1/2026 - 6/30/2026

Individual Requests

Update on Ruby Alsina family:

On 6/25 Barbara Hume wrote the second four-week childcare to Leap Ahead Learning Center. Total: $2,036.00

Update on Joann Johnson family

On 6/11, Marsha finally received word concerning where to send the rent check. Her rent was re-evaluated and has been reduced to $356.00 per month. Total for three months of rent is now $1,068.00. The rent was paid on 6/12. Having paid for a week of rental car we had an overage of $56.11 from the original amount voted on of $1,350. Welfare asked the board to approve this overage and they approved on 6/11. Total: $1,068.00

Laura Daniels family: God's Little Lambs – Ghislaine Martin, liaison

Laura and her husband owned and lived in a 55+ community. They adopted two children, a boy 9 and a girl 7, because a family member was on drugs. Recently the husband passed away suddenly, and her HOA Community evicted her since they were living in a 55+ community. (She still owns this apartment but a leak from the upstairs neighbors has caused damage to her unit. She is fighting with her neighbor to pay for damages; she has spoken with a lawyer. She cannot rent or sell until this damage is repaired). She is working but lost one income so trying to find a place to live is a challenge. GLL is giving her free day care for the time being. She has applied for survivor benefits. She is staying in a hotel with the children with the hopes of her social security benefits and 2026 tax return will sustain herself going forward. Welfare recommended to the board to pay up to $2,000 to help with hotel, past due FPL and Walmart gc's. Board approved on 6/24. Hotel was paid for two weeks in the amount of $1,127.62, Walmart gc's $300 and FPL $214.81. It was also approved that Ghislaine could go to the warehouse to get clothes, games and activity items for the two children. Total: $1,642.43

April Lubin family: Little School House, Linda Ianelli, liaison

Gloria from Little School House brought this family to Linda. April and her two children, ages 3 & 6, are currently homeless due to loss of income. She is living out of her car, looking for work and the children are unable to attend daycare. She brings the children to her sister's house on the weekends. She is actively looking for work and has several job interviews scheduled. Linda told her about BPHI and Louise gave her three other suggestions for temporary housing. Welfare recommended to the board to pay up to $2,000 to help with daycare, hotel and clothing. Board approved. Louise mentioned to Linda about the Budgetel Hotel we have used in the past for these situations. Linda immediately spoke with April, and she was thrilled to have a roof over their heads. We paid for 14 nights at the hotel for $882.00. Linda also gave her a $50 Walmart gc. Since then, she has been cleared up for daycare assistance. The children will return to LSH on 7/6. April works with Uber/Lyft while she is looking for permanent work. She is most appreciative of the help we have given her. Linda will continue to keep in contact with her. Total: $932.00

Veronica Cosby family: Tomorrow's Rainbow, Ghislaine Martin, liaison

Veronica is a grandmother and sole caregiver of her 12-year-old grandson since her son (who did live with her and provided financial assistance) committed suicide. Jeremiah has entered the grief program at Tomorrow's Rainbow. Veronica is under financial strain and understands that she could be facing eviction since her financial situation has changed. The sudden loss of her son not only resulted in the loss of that support but also left her responsible for the funeral expenses that were not covered by insurance. Molly requested CAC to help pay with July rent in the sum of $2,050 and past due FPL bill in the sum of $179.38. Welfare recommended this request to the board and board approved on 6/28. Total $2,239.38.

June Total: $7,917.81

August Board & General Meeting. Reporting. 7/1/2026 to 7/31/2026

Organizations:

God's Little Lambs	$ 518.59
Henderson Behavioral Health	$ 36.98
Mary Ann's Closet	$ 2,641.77
Our Father's House	$ 74.82
The Little Schoolhouse	$ 516.79
Whispering Pines Center	$ 217.13
Total:	**$ 4,006.08**

Tiny Blessings Grant

Hope Women's Center	$ 153.00
Total:	**$ 153.00**

Special Request Fund

Tomorrow's Rainbow	$ 750.00
Henderson Behavior Health	$ 2,500.00
Total:	**$ 3,250.00**

Total Disbursement for July 2026 = $7,540.02

Gift Cards on hand at 7/31/2026:

Publix Cards:

200 $25 cards at $9.70. $. 4,850.00

(Note: Blessed Sacrament requested $25 cards Instead of $10 cards for this year. All Cards on hand are for Blessed Sacrament)

Walmart Cards:

370 $10 cards	$ 3,700.00
173 $50 cards	$ 8,650.00

Target Cards:

145 $10 cards	$ 1,450.00

Aldi Cards:

0 $25 cards	$ 0.00
TOTAL CARDS:	$ 18,650.00

Emergency Requests: $960.00
Scott & Payoute Families (See below)

Emergency Requests

J. Scott Family: Pace School for Girls, Valerie Taylor, Liaison

Milena from Pace School for Girls referred the Scott family to CAC who need financial assistance. This grandmother takes care of her two grandchildren (ages unknown). One has special needs and currently are unhoused. They reside with family and friends, and are trying to gain stable housing. Grandma recently incurred costly repairs on her car which is the only means of transportation to get the kids to school and appointments. Milena suggested food and gas gift cards to help defray costs so she could pay for the car repairs. Welfare discussed this emergency request and approved on 7/10/26 $300 in Walmart gift cards and $200 in gas gift cards.
Total: $500

Maya Payoute Family: Pace School for Girls, Valerie Taylor, Liaison

Milena from Pace School for Girls referred the Payoute family to CAC who need financial assistance. Maya is a retired grandmother taking care of her 12-year-old granddaughter. Her husband (and child's grandfather) recently passed away so in addition to grieving, the financial strain is overwhelming. The grandmother receives $1,500 social security benefits and $111 in food stamps. The grandmother is housing secure and is trying to secure other benefits to help raise the granddaughter. The need at this time was to find a bed frame for a queen size bed and dresser along with food gift cards. When Welfare discussed the family on 7/11 Belinda quickly acted to find the furniture needed. She went online to the "Offer Up" app and purchased a dresser for $60 and the bedframe/ headboard was free (family already had the mattress). Welfare also approved $400 in Walmart gift cards. Belinda picked up gift cards from Barbara Hume and on Sunday 7/12 Belinda drove to Miami to get the furniture. Belinda delivered the furniture and gift cards to the family and they were absolutely thrilled. A neighbor was going to assemble the bed for them. Belinda went above and beyond for this family. Welfare committee and Valerie are very grateful to her! **Total: $460.00**

(Continued) **August** Board & General Meeting. Reporti7/1/2026 to 7/31/2026

Individual Requests:

Alba Medina Family: Respect Life, Laura B contact person and Belinda translator

Laura was contacted by Alba Medina requesting financial assistance on 7/8. Communication was poor as Ms. Medina only speaks Spanish. Laura reached out to Belinda and asked if she could contact the family. Ms. Medina lives with her husband and two children ages two and seven months. After speaking with the family Belinda gathered she was referred to CAC by Respect Life. The family is asking for diapers and food. They live paycheck to paycheck. Ms. Medina says they get by but had a setback when their car needed costly repairs. With Belinda's help an application was filled out but not much information was given. Welfare decided to submit an emergency request application enabling us to quickly get the assistance they requested. Welfare agreed to purchase diapers and wipes using the Tiny Blessings grant since time is running out on CAC using this money. Sandy went online and ordered from Walmart four boxes of diapers (2 sizes) and wipes ($130.94). They were delivered to the home of Ms. Medina in Miami overnight. We also agreed to give them $300 in Walmart gift cards. Barbara mailed gift cards to their Miami home using overnight delivery ($12.90) Total**: $312.90**

Update on Lubin Family:

Linda has stayed in contact with Ms. Lubin since Welfare/Board approved up to $2,000 for this family. Ms. Lubin is actively looking for work, has many leads with securing housing and works as an Uber/Lyft driver. On July 13th another seven nights of the hotel was paid $882) and again on July 18th we paid for two more nights ($126) plus a $50 Walmart gift card.

Total: $1,058.00

July Total: $2,330.90

September Board & General Meeting. Reporting Period 8/1/2026 to 8/31/2026

Organizations:

Back to Basics	$20,000.00
Blessed Sacrament	$ 4,850.00
CDTC	$ 85.16
Cross Creek	$ 203.07
God's Little Lambs	$ 1,352.89
Henderson Behavioral Health	$ 687.52
Hope Women's Center	$ 649.00
Jessica June	$ 2,250.00
Nicklaus Children's Hospital	$ 1,250.00
Northside Elementary	$ 1,186.50
Our Father's House	$ 1,200.00
Pompano Beach Middle School.	$ 3,606.83
The Little School House	$ 3,871.17
Total:	**$41,192.14**

Emergency Requests: None
Inividual Requests: None

Gift Cards on hand at 8/31/2026:

Publix Cards:	
0 $10 cards at $9.70.	$. 0.00
Walmart Cards:	
150 $10 cards	$ 1,500.00
103 $50 cards	$ 5,150.00
Target Cards:	
45 $10 cards	$ 450.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 $25 cards	$. 0.00
TOTAL CARDS:	$ 7,100.00

Special Request Fund

Equine Assisted Therapies	$ 3,000.00
Total:	**$ 3,000.00**

Total Disbursement for August 2026 = $44,192.14

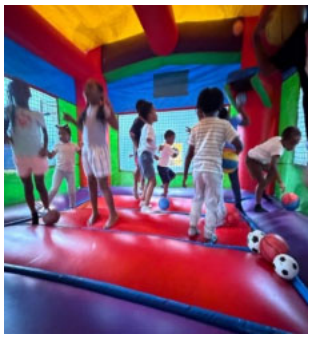






God's Little Lambs celebrated with CAC providing a Summer Party and in September, cake and presents for 14 special birthdays! Thanks to Ghislaine Martin, Janice Bloomfield & Randa Flinn!













Delivering Good!



MANY THANKS to Laura B. (and her wonderful husband) for storing and delivering the first delivery from DELIVERING GOOD!

And to the hard workers: Barb H, Vanessa D, Heather K, and Pam M.





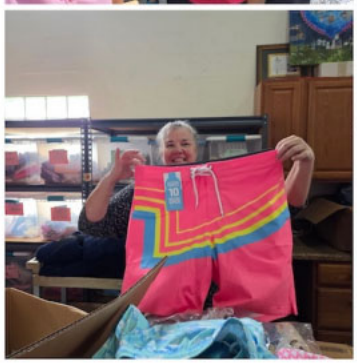


















A Birthday Blessing at Little Schoolhouse of Fort Lauderdale. Thanks to Liaisons: Linda & Fran!!

Every child deserves to feel special, celebrated, and loved on their birthday. Thanks to the generosity and dedication of our CAC Liaisons, the children at The Little Schoolhouse enjoy a birthday celebration each month, filled with joy, laughter, and the simple magic of being recognized on their special day. These celebrations are about so much more than cake and candles; they create precious memories, foster a sense of belonging, and remind each child that they matter. What a blessing it is to bring these moments of happiness into the lives of our youngest children and to know that a little celebration can make a lasting difference.







Our Father's House Family Services
P.O. Box 668571
Pompano Beach, Florida 33066
Tree of Life

July 8, 2026

Dear Children Aid ,

We're midway through another year; thought you might want to know how we were spending some of your generous donation of $1,105.00 on March 17, 2026

We have a Kitchen that serves over 120,000 meals a year; Have a10 burner gas stove that needed work - we spent 4 K + getting this refitted.

Our Building is approximately 60 years old –Electric Overhead Doors- Had to replace three (3) ... cost of each was= $9,200.00 ($27,600).

Biggest expense this year - replacing our 15yr old (256K miles VAN) we ONLY buy used. Van cost $38 K + Truck (14 yrs old, 227K miles GMC) 34K= ($ 72K for both)

As the Only daily feeding program left in Broward County , one can imagine the daily Feeding /Clothing to our many 'guests'....plus the added cost of food/kitcher supplies.

Our 2026 budget is approximately $2 million.

You ,all of Children's Aid Club , without doubt helped katie and this guy make it happen.

Until,

Jim

Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida, Inc.

Caroline Courtney
Childrens Aid Club
3296 N Federal Hwy #11503
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339

August 21, 2026

Dear Caroline,

On behalf of Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida, Inc. (EATSF), I would like to thank you for your recent contribution of $3,000.00. Your support and generosity will help provide financial assistance to our program participants.

With over 60% of our participants requiring a scholarship to receive our services, we are grateful for your support. The EATSF scholarship program can offset anywhere from 90% to 25% of the cost of our services, based on the needs of each family. Every year, EATSF families apply for financial assistance with some families requiring emergency support throughout the year due to medical bills or other life events. No participant is turned away due to their inability to pay for their program fees!

A typical therapeutic experience for a person with a disability might involve going to a hospital, clinic, or office to receive services. Horses have helped EATSF challenge that status quo since 1982, allowing people of all ages and ability levels to experience the magic of horses and the equestrian sport.

We thank you for your support of our mission. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jennifer@equineatsf.org or 954-974-2007 to schedule a time to see our mission in action and the impact of your gift.

With deep gratitude,

Jennifer Mitchell
Development Director

To Caroline & The Children's Aid Club Members, Thank you so very much for supporting our programs & Schools! With love, Molly

Innovation Compassion Hope

Henderson Behavioral Health

July 9, 2026

Children's Aid Club
3296 N. Federal Highway
Unit 11503
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339

Dear Children's Aid Club Members:

Thank you very much for donating $2,500.00 to Henderson Behavioral Health for backpacks and school supplies for our youth and family program clients.

Mental health conditions are amazingly common, and one in four Americans have a diagnosable mental health disorder. Last year, we helped 25,000 clients, over 5,000 of which were children and youth under the age of 18.

Please know that your support of Henderson Behavioral Health and our mission is so incredibly meaningful. As we continue to celebrate our 70th Anniversary and beyond, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our patients, families, and community.

Again, please know how much we appreciate your generosity and continued support.

Respectfully,

Steven Ronik, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Liaison Debra Rowand brought Whispering Pines a great gift of clothes from Delivering Good!



We had a family write a thank you note to their service coordinator for the baby items your organization provided. They were very appreciative. We translated her email from creole, which reads as follows:Again, thank you for all of the generosity your group bestows on our families. We could not appreciate you more! We look forward to working with you as the holiday season approaches.

With gratitude,

Kristen N. Ely, MSW
Associate Executive Director



Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation:
From Founder Sandra Muvdi,
Just received this text from a mom whose child, Michael, is in our Advocacy Program. Guess who will be helping them? "Good afternoon Sandra, how are you doing? Michael is on remission Thanks to God ! Michael is going back to school but I don't have money to buy school supplies for him anything will help please 🙏 "
[Sandra continues...) He has spent months in the hospital with a very tough diagnosis same as my daughter. Such uplifting news that he made it! **Thanks to CAC Walmart GC Michael will have school supplies to start the school year after a couple semesters being homebound.** It's great allocating assistance funds where they are well deserved!

It makes our dedication and effort so worth it.

Sandra Muvdi, Founder of Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation



Michael, 9-year-old- Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Michael was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) in September 2025. His mother stopped working to provide care and support for Michael throughout his cancer treatment. With two additional children in the household, the family is currently facing a possible eviction.

CAC Bulletin Board

BACK to BASICS

2365 Vista Parkway, #19 West Palm Beach, FL 33411

Back to Basics is a one of our partnered organizations led by a honorary member, Kelle Enriquez (2001). We carpool (meet at Old Time Pottery - Commerical & Turpike at 8:15am) and wrap presents for darling, wonderful boys and girls! There's music playing, chatter about life, bring a packed lunch, and it's christmas in October! All thanks to Kelle! We return around 3pm. If you haven't participated yet, please do! We need people on Oct. 15th, and 22nd only. (Pam M can drive 5 people)



October 8
Heather Knight
Pam Markus
Pam Ferrante
Randa Flinn
Ghislaine Martin
Angie Graziano- TBD

October 15
Pam Markus

October 22
Pam Markus
Linda Ianelli
Randa Flinn

Please save your empty, clean pill bottles for **Randa Flinn**. Bring them to each general meeting, and she'll give you a BIG hug in return.



Americans fill over 4 billion prescriptions per year, begging the question, "What happens to all the empty prescription bottles?" The answer is a bit complicated as most curbside recycling programs generally do not accept these #5 plastic bottles. Still, there are other ways to recycle them properly and keep them from piling up in the landfill.

Children's Aid Club will collect them to bring to Food For The Poor where they will be reused to improve medical care in developing countries while also helping to care for our environment.

To prepare them for reuse, you'll need to remove the sticker label that contains your personal information from the bottle as well as any glue residue. Dispose of any leftover or expired medication according to FDA guidelines. Then, wash both bottle and cap with hot water and soap, rinsing well. Let both pieces dry completely and then put the cap back on.

You can even mention this to your friends, family and neighbors. Collect cleaned medicine bottles in a ziploc and bring to our meetings.

Happy Birthday



Lynda Stackhouse
10/1



Sheri Wilcox
10/3



Caroline Courtney
10/12



Trudy Bieck
10/17



Kelle Enriquez
10/28



Pamela Ferrante
10/29



Jeanne Dixon
10/30



Period Dignity
You've Got This.Period

Period Packs are in the Warehouse and ready for your schools!

Since we have so many remaining, please consider contacting your local MIDDLE School and dropping a bag or two off with the nurse. These packs were meant to be distributed and not kept in the warehouse.

They are located on the second floor, and if you want a few bags, please call Pam Markus (954-816-1839), and she'll bring whatever is needed to the general meeting. Thanks to Everyone!

PRAYER CORNER:

Sadly we are announcing the passing of Marsha Sanders who was a long-time member of Children's Aid Club and continued to be a loyal supporter. After recruiting Barbara Hume to join the Club in 1982, she returned to flying the friendly skies of United Airlines a year later. She loved Taste 'n' Tell, and one year when we held the luncheon in private homes and we had sold out, she volunteered to be on the clean-up committee just so she could be there. She was admitted to Holy Cross Hospital a week ago and passed away peacefully Saturday night.

Her daughter, Chris Osborn, was here all week and survives her. Her address is 25352 N. 175th Avenue, Surprise, AZ 85387.

Please say a prayer for her family and friends as they find solace in this tough time and reminisce on their fond memories together.



Please say a prayer for Sara Rashti and her life partner Phil.

Phil experienced a stroke last week and is still in the hospital. He is at North Broward and his daughter is coming in town next week. Sara is home and is being well taken care of by friends and neighbors. She has plenty of food coming in, is visiting Phil daily, and is trying to get some sleep when she can.

She is asking for prayers for Phil, for his recovery and that he receives good care in the hospital. Being in the hospital has been tough on Phil so we also pray he will be a good patient.



As many of you know Sara does NOT text or email. You can call her and she will answer if she is available. She will let us know when she needs something ie: food, rides to the hospital, etc. Until then just a lot of prayers.

October Calendar 2026

Friday, Oct. 2nd

Broward Partnership for the Homeless (BPHI) Central campus
Birthday Party 6:30 - 8:30
Contact: Vanessa Diaz-Font & Valerie Taylor

Friday, Oct. 9th

Little Schoolhouse (LSH)
Birthday Party 10 am
Contact: Linda Ianelli & Fran English

Tuesday, Oct. 13th

Board Mtg Via Google Meet at 9:30am
Link will be emailed the night before.

Tuesday, Oct. 20th

General Meeting: 9:30 am
Henderson Behavioral Health
4740 N. State Road 7
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33319
Come Early for Meet & Greet

Wednesday, Oct. 21st

God's Little Lambs (GLL)
Birthday Party 2 pm
Contact: Ghislaine Martin & Janice Bloomfield

Thursdays 8:30 - 3pm

Back to Basics
Oct. 8th, 15th, & 22nd
West Palm Beach
Contact: Pam Markus to Carpool

Looking Ahead:

TNT Guest Verification Due by October 28th *(Watch for the Email from Linda I.)*

Liaisons:
Thanksgiving forms Due by October 28th
Holiday Basket forms Due by October 30th

Next Meetings: (Earlier for Nov & Dec)
Nov. 3rd - Virtual Board Meeting 9:30
Nov. 10th - General Meeting 9:30 at Tomorrow's Rainbow (Hostess: Becky F & Ghislaine M.)
Nov. 14th - Horseshoe Hoedown 6 - 9:30 PM at Equine-Assisted Therapies
December 11th - Mingle Jingle & Shop at the LYC 9:30 - 3pm (9:30 - 12 Shift One; 12 - 3pm Shift Two)

SAVE THE DATES for 2027:
February 1 - TNT Set up Day, LYC 12 - 3:30pm
February 2 - TNT Luncheon [ALL CALL]
April 16th, 2027, CASF Golf Tournament & Fundraiser at Jacaranda Golf Club



Children's Aid Club

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Organization:
Contact:

Please print and provide all information listed below for the families receiving a Thanksgiving basket no later than: _____

You may submit up to **4** families from your organization.
All 4 families should be listed on this one page only.
Email to: plproffer@aol.com **AND** SandyKNoonan@gmail.com Thank you!

Name of Family:_____#of Adults___#of Children___

Name of Family:_____ #of Adults___#of Children___

Name of Family:_____#of Adults___#of Children___

Name of Family:_____ #of Adults___#of Children___

CAC Member/Liaison: _____ Phone Number: _____

Revised 2026

Children's Aid Club

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BASKETS

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE USING BLACK INK

3296 N FEDERAL HIGHWAY #11503
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33339-1503

Please print clearly and provide all listed information for the family receiving a Christmas Holiday Basket no later than (DATE) _____

E-mail the completed form to _____CAC Liaison Name _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION/SCHOOL_____ RECIPIENT FAMILY'S LAST NAME:_____

NUMBER OF ADULTS _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN ____ (18 years of age or younger) Race_____(to be used for selecting appropriate dolls/toys)

CHILDS FIRST NAME	GENDER	AGE	CLOTHING SIZE (YOUTH OR ADULT?)	SHOE SIZE (YOUTH OR ADULT?)	HOBBIES (sports, favorite teams, favorite characters, colors, arts/crafts, games, toys, etc.
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

May we contact the family if more information is needed regarding sizes? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Family's Phone Number _____ Family Contact's Name _____

THANK YOU!

Revised 2026

Children's Aid Club
3296 N. FEDERAL HIGHWAY, #11503, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33339-1503

September 12, 2026

Dear CAC Supporter,

The holidays are nearly here, and for many families we serve, the season brings more worry than joy. You can help change that.

Each year, the Children's Aid Club (CAC) provides Holiday Baskets with food certificates, gifts, and hope for families in need across our community. Last year, thanks to supporters like you, we helped **68 families and more than 231 children**.

This year, we're asking for your help again.

You can **adopt a family** this holiday season by shopping for them yourself or donating directly to the **Holiday Appeal** so we can shop on your behalf. Choose the family size you'd like to support, and make it a family project, an office team effort, or a meaningful way to give back with friends.

In early November, we'll send each child's name, age, clothing size, and wish list. You'll also be paired with a CAC "elf" who will coordinate gift delivery and make sure everything, including food gift certificates and holiday treats, arrives where it belongs.

The **Holiday Appeal**, started in 2011 by our beloved Ann Powell, has grown every year because people like you continue to make the holidays brighter for others.

Please return the enclosed response card by **October 16th**. To donate, use this link, 2026 Holiday Appeal or scan the QR code below, or send a check payable to **Children's Aid Club** in the enclosed envelope. For questions, call **Janice Bloomfield at (954) 504-5624** or email jtbloom23@gmail.com.
Thank you for opening your heart this season. With your help, we can bring joy and dignity to families who need it most.

With gratitude,

Laura B. Balistreri

Laura Balistreri-Ahmed
President, Children's Aid Club
www.ChildrensAidClub.org

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