

January Newsletter 2026



Children's Aid Club

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



*Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much! Helen Keller*

President's Message

A New Year for Giving Hearts!

I hope each and every one of you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season shared with family and friends. As of now, still no baby—but I promise to keep everyone updated!

We are officially one month away from our signature event, and I hope everyone is feeling energized as we finalize auction baskets and put the finishing touches on baked goods. This is an exciting time as all of our efforts begin to come together.

Save the Dates:

Virtual Board Meeting:
January 6th Tuesday - 9:30
Google link sent the night before

General Meeting
January 13 - Tuesday - 9:30am
Powell Warehouse
1851 SW 2nd Ave. Unit 10
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315
Passcode in black book*

Hosting:
Pam Markus
Janice Bloomfield

*If you are unable to come:
Call Valerie Taylor

I encourage each of you to really put yourself out there when it comes to acquiring auction items and basket donations (Deadline is Jan. 18th to enter into google grid!). With a simple ask, we can secure everything we need without spending a lot of money. Walk into a nail salon, restaurant, boutique, or jewelry store—just ask for a donation and share the CAC donation letter. Be sure to get the name and contact information of the manager or person who handles charitable donations so we can follow up. Pam M. and I would be happy to help!

Your small efforts now will make a tremendous impact. Together, we have the potential to raise more than **\$100,000** to support the children and families we serve every day. If you do not yet have a basket partner, please reach out—I would be happy to work with you or pair you with someone.

I am looking forward to seeing our invitations go out this week, RSVPs rolling in, and collaborating with all of you as we finalize preparations for TNT. Thank you for your dedication, generosity, and commitment.

Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Laura A. Balistreri



In this newsletter you can expect:

◆
Spotlight Article

◆
Board Updates

◆
Minutes

◆
Financial Reports

◆
Welfare Report

◆
Community Impact Photos

◆
Member News & Birthdays

◆
Event Calendar

January Spotlight

How to Ask for Donations & the Google Grid



The Power of Asking

I truly believe that the vast majority of people are good and want to help others. While many may not have the time to volunteer, they *do* want to give—and often, all they need is someone to ask.



Asking for donations can feel uncomfortable at first. It may seem awkward or intimidating, but here is another way to look at it: when you ask, you are not taking—you are offering someone the opportunity to be part of something meaningful. You are giving them a chance to support children and families who truly need help, in a way that fits their own capacity.

A simple ask can open the door to generosity. Whether it's a local restaurant, nail salon, boutique, or small business, many are happy to give back to their community. Often, they are just waiting to be invited. When you share our mission and hand them the CAC donation letter, you are sharing hope—not pressure.

Remember, every donation—large or small—adds up to real impact. One basket item, one gift card, one baked good may seem modest on its own, but together they help us raise the funds that allow CAC to serve children and families every single day.

So take a deep breath, smile, and ask. The worst that can happen is a polite “no.” But far more often, the answer will be “yes,” and that simple moment of courage will make a lasting difference.



Because generosity is everywhere—sometimes it just needs an invitation. Donation Request Letter and Acquisition form are at the end of the newsletter for your convenience.

How to Enter Your Basket & Auction Items (Google TNT Grid Instructions & deadline is January 18th to add to the google grid!)

To keep everything organized and ensure a successful Taste 'N Tell, we are using a shared Google spreadsheet to track all **raffle baskets, silent auction items, and live auction items.**

The Google TNT Grid is ready for your entries.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Click the link to open the Google TNT Grid. [Google TNT 2026 Grid Link](#)
2. At the **bottom of the spreadsheet**, you will see tabs labeled:
 - *Baskets 2026*
 - *Silent Auction 2026*
 - *Live Auction 2026*
 - *Prospective Donors*
 - *Vendors Contacted*
 - *Up for Grabs*
3. Enter items with their value.
4. **Please only edit your own entries.**
5. It SAVES automatically & exit

**FINAL deadline for changes is Sunday,
January 18th (Email Julie N. & Caroline C.)**

If You Cannot Access the Google TNT Grid

If you are having trouble opening or editing the Google TNT Grid, please don't worry—there are easy solutions.

Step 1: Try a Different Browser - try opening the link using Chrome, Safari, or Firefox. Google Sheets works best in these browsers.

Step 2: Check Your Google Account - Make sure you are logged into your Google account/gmail.

Step 3: Request Help - If you still cannot access or edit the sheet, please **text, email, or call Julie Newton** and simply provide:

Your basket or auction item name
Description of the item
Vendor(s) confirmed
Estimated value (if known)

She will gladly enter the information for you.

THANK YOU



Board Meeting Devotional

"Life is like a camera. Focus on what's important. Capture the good times. Develop from the negatives. And if things don't work out, take another shot!"

Attributed to
Ziad K. Abdelnour.



General Meeting Devotional
"Enjoy the Holidays!"
by Fran English

ALL Hands on DECK! One Month before Taste 'N Tell Luncheon 2026!!!

SCHEDULE CHANGE:

January Meeting Date and Location!

Please note that January meetings have been moved one week earlier. The Board Meeting will be held on **January 6th** via Google Meet, and the General Meeting will take place on **January 13th** at the POWELL Warehouse (not Hawthorne Clubhouse).

TNT Update - Mark your Calendars!

Monday, Feb 2nd & Tuesday, Feb 3rd!

If you are unable to attend TNT Setup and/or TNT, and if you have any physical or time limitations, please send an email to Barbara Hume ASAP! Work assignments will be finalized the first week of January and handed out at the January 13th General Meeting.

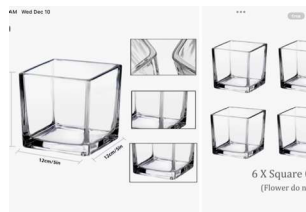
MONDAY, FEB. 2nd - SET UP AT LYC -

ALL Active Members are expected to help set up. Please wear your PINK SHIRT and know your work assignment, which you will receive at the January 13th General Meeting!

TUESDAY, FEB 3rd - TNT LUNCHEON -

Please wear PINK or RED for Valentines/CAC support and comfortable shoes. With a professional photographer there, it's a great time to get that headshot for the yearbook or gorgeous picture for Xmas card.

Decorations: If you have any vases available for TNT, please be sure to let Vanessa know.



Holiday Appeal Update

We continue to receive additional donations for the Holiday Appeal—To date, we have raised \$17,230, and we are grateful for every contribution that helps make a difference.

LYC Bake Sale

Congratulations Bakers, we raised \$1,177.99!!!

Tiny Blessings Grant

Funds have been allocated for Tiny Blessings bundles (car seat, Pack & Play with bassinet, diapers, infant formula, and wipes; \$177.50 per bundle) for:

- Hope Women's Center – 20 bundles
- Henderson Behavioral Health – 20 bundles
- BPHI – 7 bundles
- Mary Ann's Closet – 7 bundles

All bundles must be purchased by July 31, 2026. Photos and/or videos of bundle delivery are required for grant reporting.

Gore Grant

Grant applications are due January 15, 2026, from the following organizations:

Blessed Sacrament, Broward Health, BPHI Main Campus, CDTC, Donors Choose, Equine Assisted, Jessica June CCF, Light of the World Clinic, Our Father's House, and Tomorrow's Rainbow. Late submissions will not be accepted, and funds will be reallocated.

Members with CAC CREDIT CARDS

As a reminder, anyone with a CAC credit card is asked to please submit receipt forms **within seven days** for accounting purposes.

Thank you for ALL the hard work that you do!

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



December 2nd, 2025
Google Meet

Meeting was called to order at 9:37 am by President Laura Balistreri

Devotional – Linda Ianelli read a quote “Life is like a camera...capture the good times...

Approval of Minutes from November 2025 – Belinda McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes. Pam Markus seconded motion and minutes were approved.

Membership – No update, Valerie absent.

Ways and Means – Belinda reported it’s all about TNT right now.

Treasurer – Barbs report

Checking Account	\$ 29,868.00	Schwab Account	<u>\$328,281.96</u>
Total	\$358,149.96.		

We transfered \$20,000 from Schwab to checking.

Our credit card bill will be paid on December 8 in the amount of \$6,347.46.

Welfare – Kristina (see report) A request was made for liaisons to submit credit card charges within 7 days of purchase. There were two individual family requests, one was denied due to family income.

Welfare committee put together an outline for how to spend the Gore grant funds. This years the money is going to the organizations that didn’t get money last year. This allows for \$2250 per organization. The welfare committee requests that CAC contribute extra money to increase the amount to \$3500. The spending period will be 1/1/26-6/30/26. The final report to the Gore Foundation is due 7/31/26. Pam M. made a motion for CAC to contribute up to \$12,500 toward the Gore Grant projects. Barb Hume seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Corresponding Secretary – Janice B. sent 24 letters of thanks for the memorials for Bill Ferrante. Two thank you notes were received.

Unfinished Business –

- December 7 is the Holiday Social. RSVP to Jeanne Dixon and sign up for your contribution.
- December 9 is the General Member meeting at the warehouse, 9:30 am.
- December 12 Lauderdale Yacht Club Mingle Jingle and Shop Bake Sale. Reminders are going out for baked goods and those who signed up to work. There was discussion about using the proceeds toward operating expenses. Pam Markus made a motion: Bake Sale proceeds from the baked goods only will go toward organizational expenditures. This does not include the TNT Bake Sale. Any monetary donations will go toward the general fund. Barb Hume seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- December 17 will be Santa and Mrs. Claus visits to Little Schoolhouse and God’s Little Lambs.
- TNT updates: Invitations are printed and being assembled to go out. Work is being done on the auction and raffle baskets. There was discussion about the TNT After-Party and helping to defray costs for members. Pam M made a motion: CAC will commit at least \$300.00 to the TNT After-party for supplies, coming from General Member meeting raffles. Louise Proffer seconded the motion and the motion passed per vote.
- Pam Markus reports she has found a place to do CAC embroidery, tote bags \$10, pink shirts \$20 or \$5 if you bring your own shirt.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am after motion per Janice Bloomfield.

Children's Aid Club
General Meeting
Minutes by Becky Ford



December 9th, 2025
Powell Warehouse

Meeting was called to order at 9:38 am by President Laura Balistreri

Devotional – Linda Ianelli was absent, no devotional

Approval of Minutes from November 2025 – A motion was made to approve the minutes by Kristina Bryn, second by Pam Markus and minutes were approved by membership.

Membership – Valerie was absent, Janice Bloomfield took roll call.

Ways and Means – Belinda McDonald reports the focus is on Taste 'n' Tell right now.

Treasurer – Barb Hume's report

Checking	\$ 19,829.34
Schwab account	\$328,281.96
Total	\$348,111.30

- The credit card bill of \$6,347.46 was paid on December 3rd.
- We transferred \$20,000 from Schwab to our checking account.
- Memorial donations in the amount of \$3,550 for Bill Ferrante have been received.
- A reminder that we must have credit card forms from members using a CAC credit card within 7 days of your purchase.
- The accountant has completed our IRS Form 990.
- A donation of \$45,000 just arrived from Georgie Wright

Welfare – Kristina Bryn- (see report)

\$15,118.09 was distributed to partner organizations for November and there were two individual requests.

Lyttle Family: Pace Center for Girls – Valerie Taylor Liaison

Their 2024 tax return showed income of \$105,824. Their combined income is \$7400 per month and their expenses on application showed \$6840 per month. No work was missed due to illness or unforeseen circumstances.

Welfare denied this application.

Griffith Family: Tomorrow's Rainbow – Ghislaine Liaison

Shawanda Griffith is a young mother/grandmother who is taking care of 3 children. She is actively pursuing better employment and higher-paying career paths. According to Abby at TR she is very responsible and manages her expenses well. She asked for her November rent to be paid. Her rent is \$2815 per month with an added late fee of \$208. Since we don't pay late fees, we recommended to the board to pay November rent of \$2815. The membership suggested adding \$250 in Target gift cards for this family, motion by Rena Udell and seconded by Barbara Hume and motion carried.

There was a motion to ratify these welfare committee actions by Kristina Bryn and second was by Rena Udell.

Belinda McDonal presented a report on the use of the Gore Family Grant fund of \$22,500. A motion was made for Children's Aid Club to contribute \$12,500 so that each of the 10 chosen organizations can apply for \$3500. The money will be forfeited by the organization if not spent during the program period of 1/1/26-6/30/26. Ghislaine Martin made a motion to approve this contribution of \$12500 from CAC, Louise Proffer seconded and the motion carried. A suggestion was made to ask the organizations for thank you notes with a story of how the family benefitted when donations are made, one that can be shared with the donors. Donors appreciate hearing how their donations have helped.

Corresponding Secretary – Janice Bloomfield

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



December 2nd, 2025
Google Meet

A couple of Thank you, letters were received. New member Randa will help Janice with Thank You's for TNT.

Unfinished Business –

- **Holiday Appeal** raised \$15,500. There were 55 cash donations.
- **Christmas Baskets:** Baskets were made for 23 organizations and included 68 families, 140 adults and 231 children. \$11,600 distributed in Walmart gift cards, \$6,125 in Target gift cards with total Christmas basket expense of \$22,750.46.
- **Mingle Jingle and Shop** is Dec. 12 at LYC. Members are asked to provide baked items. Doors will open at 8:30 am to deliver your items to LYC or you can deliver to someone the day prior at their house. There will be an AM shift 09:00-12:30 and a PM shift 12:30-4:00. Bring lunch and wear your pink CAC shirts and comfortable shoes. There was a motion made at the board meeting that needs to be ratified by the membership regarding the distribution of funds from the bake sale. Motion made by Becky Ford, Bake Sale proceeds from the baked goods only will go toward organizational expenditures. This does not include the TNT Bake Sale. Any monetary donations will go toward the general fund. The motion was seconded by Sandy Noonan and after discussion the motion carried.

New Business –

- **TNT-After Party:** A motion was made by Louise Proffer to commit \$300 to the After Party to help keep the cost down for members, Caroline Courtney seconded the motion. There was discussion about the special guests who get invited to the After Party and paying for their meals. Jeanne Dixon volunteered to pay for their lunches. The motion passed. Fran English's friend has volunteered to play the cello at TNT. Vanessa needs small round and square vases for the centerpieces if you have any to donate.
- Prayers are requested for Valerie Taylor and her husband Kevin, Rachel Pope and June Felski and her husband.
- Stay after the meeting to address your TNT invitations.

Rena Udell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Belinda McDonald seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am.

Minutes recorded by Becky Ford, recording secretary.

CELEBRATING LAURA & HER NEW BABY TO COME!

President Laura Balistreri-Ahmed beams with gratitude as members of CAC present her with heartfelt gifts, and an embroidered baby blanket that reads, "Wrapped in Love, by Children's Aid Club", celebrating the upcoming arrival of her third child.





Profit and Loss

Children's Aid Club

August 1-November 30, 2025



DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Income	
cash rewards	485.86
Donations	\$6,651.95
Memorial	3,434.32
Total for Donations	\$10,086.27
Dues	3,625.00
Fundraising Income	
Holiday Letter	15,230.00
Taste 'n' Tell	
Underwriting	10,000.00
Total for Taste 'n' Tell	\$10,000.00
Total for Fundraising Income	\$25,230.00
Misc. income	115.00
Total for Income	\$39,542.13
Gross Profit	
\$39,542.13	
Expenses	
Bank Charge	22.00
Charity	
Back to Basics	20,000.00
Bennett Elementary	1,486.60
Blessed Sacrament	3,180.00
BPHI	1,946.06
Broward Health	2,500.00
CDTC (Children's Diagnostic)	2,885.92
Croissant Park Elementary	500.00
Cross Creek School	619.80
Cypress Elementary	913.74
Donors Choose.org	1,319.02
Equine Assisted Therapies of SF	7,000.00
Feeding Families	42,400.00
God's Little Lambs	4,854.92
Henderson Behavioral Health	2,714.34
Holiday Baskets	
Christmas	16,762.49
Thanksgiving	30,379.54
Total for Holiday Baskets	\$47,142.03

Profit and Loss
Children's Aid Club
 August 1-November 30, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Hope Women's Center	3,388.53
Individuals	
Colson Family	400.00
Curiel Family	2,334.00
Florence Louis Family	2,355.00
Foux Family	512.95
Griffith Family	2,815.00
Santiago Family	2,540.00
Total for Individuals	\$10,956.95
JJCF	6,750.00
Light of the World Clinic	5,725.00
Mary Ann's Closet	2,058.23
Northside Elementary	2,763.48
Our Father's Soup Kitchen	1,705.95
PACE	2,089.79
Pompano Beach Middle School	2,563.80
Seagull Alternative School	237.38
The Little Schoolhouse	5,307.80
Tomorrow's Rainbow	1,650.00
Total for Charity	\$184,659.34
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	1,709.00
Total for Contract Services	\$1,709.00
Fundraising Expenses	
Taste & Tell	
Decorations	154.91
Invitations	724.00
Raffles	1,000.00
Supplies	19.25
Total for Taste & Tell	\$1,898.16
Total for Fundraising Expenses	\$1,898.16
Office Supplies	280.49
Operations	
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	152.00
Total for Operations	\$152.00
Sunshine	519.99
Warehouse Expenses	66.34
<hr/>	
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Yearbook	300.00
Total for Expenses	\$189,607.32
Net Operating Income	-\$150,065.19
Net Other Income	
Net Income	-\$150,065.19

Balance Sheet

Children's Aid Club

As of November 30, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BOA Charity Checking	\$17,237.77
BOA Savings	0.00
Gibraltar	0.00
Schwab Investment Fund	323,705.89
Total for Bank Accounts	\$340,943.66
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
Publix Food Cards	3,000.00
Target Food Cards	0.00
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Wal-Mart Food Cards	4,850.00
Winn Dixie Food Certificates	0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$7,850.00
Total for Current Assets	\$348,793.66
Fixed Assets	
Leasehold Improvements	\$8,168.22
Accumulated Depreciation	-7,056.95
Total for Leasehold Improvements	\$1,111.27
Total for Fixed Assets	\$1,111.27
Total for Assets	\$349,904.93
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
Credit card	7,696.84
Total for Credit Cards	\$7,696.84
Other Current Liabilities	
Temp Restricted Funds - Megan's Fund	381.72
Temp Restricted Funds - St. Mary Magdalene Church	10,000.00
Temp Restricted Grant - Gore Family Foundation	22,500.00
Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$32,881.72
Total for Current Liabilities	\$40,578.56
Total for Liabilities	\$40,578.56
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	167,841.21
Retained Earnings	291,550.35
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Net Income	-150,065.19
Total for Equity	\$309,326.37
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$349,904.93

December's Board & General Meeting. 11/1/2025 to 11/30/2025

Organizations:

BPHI	\$ 42.63
CDTC	\$ 22.45
Cypress Elementary	\$ 619.21
Equine-Assisted Therapy	\$ 7,000.00
God's Little Lambs	\$ 39.67
Hope Women's Center.	\$ 590.00
Jessica June	\$ 4,500.00
Northside Elementary	\$ 652.50
Pace Center	\$ 1,301.10
Seagull Alternative HS	\$ 237.38
The Little Schoolhouse	\$ 113.15
Total:	\$15,118.09

Gift Cards on hand at 11/30/2025:

Publix Cards:	
300 \$10 cards at \$9.70.	\$2,910.00
Walmart Cards:	
97 \$50 cards	\$4,850.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 \$25 cards	\$ <u>0</u>
TOTAL CARDS:	\$7,760.00

Special Requests: None
Emergency Requests: None

Individuals

Lyttle Family - Pace Center for Girls (Valerie Taylor, Liaison)

The Lyttle family, with two daughters aged 15 and 16, applied for assistance through Pace Center for Girls. After reviewing their application and supporting documents, Welfare determined that the family is financially self-sustaining. Their 2024 tax return reported an income of \$105,824, with a combined monthly income of \$7,400 and monthly expenses of \$6,840. No income was lost due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. However, a lot of red flags showed up in their paperwork. Following a discussion with Valerie Taylor, it was agreed that these concerns would be communicated to Milena at Pace. As a result, the application was denied, but did receive Christmas Baskets.

Griffith Family – Tomorrow's Rainbow (Ghislaine, Liaison)

Shawanda Griffith is the primary caregiver for three children, including two biological children and one adopted grandchild. Her 16-year-old son is currently undergoing evaluation for schizophrenia, depression, and anxiety, following the loss of his father at a young age and a recent Baker Act incident. Shawanda receives \$1,376 in SSA benefits and \$982 in subsidies for her adopted child. She has faced significant personal loss, including the recent deaths of her infant child and mother, and the departure of the baby's father. With her youngest child now in school, daycare expenses of \$340 per month have been eliminated. Shawanda is actively seeking higher-paying employment, has obtained a B chauffeur's license, is working toward a CDL, and is completing tax preparer courses. According to Abby at Tomorrow's Rainbow, she is responsible and manages her finances well. Shawanda requested assistance with her November rent of \$2,815 (excluding late fees, which are not covered). The board approved this payment on November 19, pending ratification at the December meeting. Her internet bill, previously overdue, has since been paid.

Total \$2815.00
November Total: \$2,815.00

Santa's Visit



Santa's Visit to God's Little Lambs and The Little Schoolhouse!
At the heart of the season is the joy of giving. CAC is so grateful to Santa and Mrs. Claus for sharing thier time and holiday spirit, bringing smiles and unforgettable moments to so many children!



Bake Sale

CAC Community Impact



Thanks to everyone who tied on their aprons and baked for the Lauderdale Yacht Club's Jingle, Mingle & Shop Event on December 12th, 2025! Mingle Jingle raised \$1,177.94! Special Thanks to Jeanne Dixon for organizing the event!

Dear Children's Aid Club, December 2025

Thank you for your outstanding participation in our Jingle, Mingle & Shop event.

Your strong representation, gracious kindness, and exceptional professionalism truly elevated the experience and played a meaningful role in creating a wonderful shopping event for our members and their guests.

Your attention to detail, warm engagement, and commitment to excellence did not go unnoticed. We are grateful for the time, energy, and care you brought to the event, and for helping make the day both festive and memorable.

We sincerely appreciate your partnership and look forward to working together again in the future.

With gratitude and Happy Holidays,

Robin Dunn
& Kim Moody

Lauderdale
Yacht Club



At the end of the day, there wasn't much left on the table! Great Job Ladies!

Christmas Baskets

For more than TWO decades, Children’s Aid Club has brought the joy of Christmas to children who might otherwise go without.

Through our partner organizations, each child receives a basket or bag filled with gifts, along with gift cards to help families purchase food and necessities.



This year, thanks to our generous **Holiday Appeal sponsors**, more than **\$17,000** was raised—brightening Christmas morning for **231 children**.

With heartfelt dedication, our Holiday Angel **Irene Feldman** shops all year long, filling two storage units with toys, while **Belmont Senior Living** inspired their staff to donate pajamas for children at their holiday mixer.

It truly took a village—and because of you, hundreds of children woke up to hope, joy, and a bountiful Christmas morning. 🌲 ✨

Bennett Elementary

Whispering Pines Elementary



Christmas Baskets

Cypress Elementary

God's Little Lambs



Thank You Children's Aid
for making the Holidays
extra special



Croissant Park
Elementary

Tomorrow's Rainbow

Christmas Baskets 2025

Organizations	23
Families	68
Adults	140
Children	231
Outside sponsors	16
Total spent	\$22,780.46



Hope Women's
Center

Little Schoolhouse



Belmont's Warm Holiday Gift

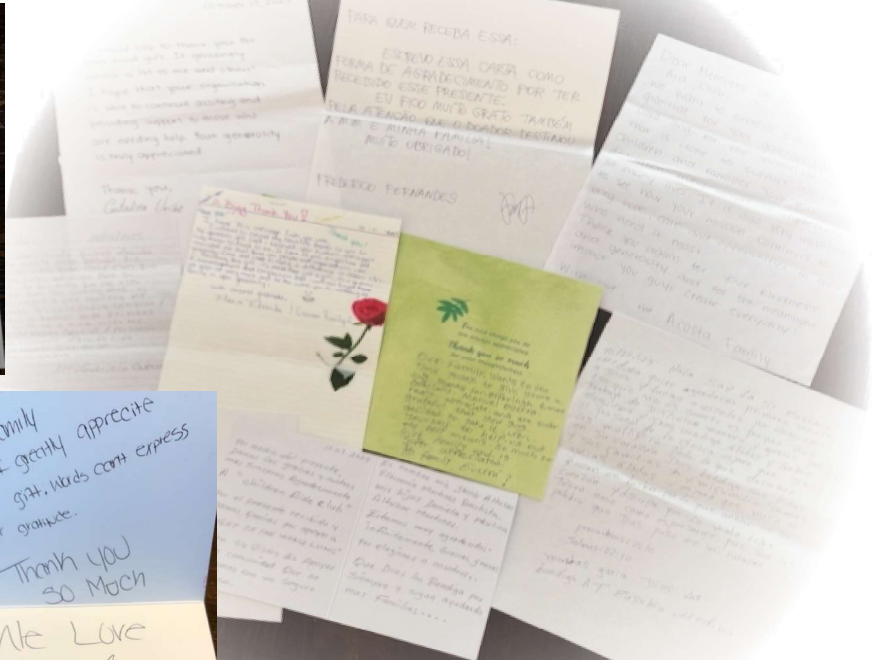


Thank You

I Do not know how much
 Thank you I have to say
 to you ALL I feel 1000
 times thank you is not
 Enough God Bless you
 ALL
 FOR Everything
 You Do for me
 in my kids
 thank you so much
 Love

Thanks for your kindness
 and thoughtfulness.
 Hope you know
 how very much
 you're appreciated
 and what a difference
 you make.

Faen Blessed Sacrament



October 17, 2025

I would like to thank you for
 your kind gift. It genuinely
 means a lot to me and others!
 I hope that your organization
 is able to continue assisting and
 providing support to those who
 are needing help. Your generosity
 is truly appreciated.

Thank you,
 Catalina Uribe

My family
 and I greatly appreciate
 the gift. Words can't express
 our gratitude.

Thank you
 so much

We Love
 YOU

Thank you!
 A Bigg Thank You! Gracias!

10 / 14 / 2025

Thank you!
 I hope this message finds you well,
 I wanted to extend my heartfelt thanks to you for
 the generous gift card received. Your kindness and support
 truly mean so much to me. It came at just a right time and
 reminded me that there are people and organizations who
 genuinely care and want to make a difference in others' lives.
 Receiving this gift, it's more than just a gift, it's a gesture
 of encouragement and compassion that I will not forget. Thank
 you quite so very much and for the work you do including our
 family in your generosity.

With sincere gratitude,
 Marcia Tejada & Gomez Family

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

How's that?

Again once I must say
 for you and your
 kind gesture and support
 from me and my family,
 Mrs Stibous

You make the world a
 better place.

To Children's Aide Club &
 our Mission Jeanne,
 Thank you for all you do to continue
 to keep our families in mind throughout
 the year and during the holidays. Your donations
 help put a smile on their faces and bring relief
 and comfort to these families in need. We truly
 appreciate you working with us.
 -Crowsant Park Elementary



The Children's Aid Club

The Johnson Family, with
 deep gratitude, Thank you for
 your kindness. This unexpected
 blessing has lifted burdens,
 May God continue to Bless you,
 to be a Blessing.

To God be the Glory!

The Johnson Family

Beyond
 GRATEFUL

To Children's Aide Club &
 our Mission Jeanne,
 Thank you for all you do to continue
 to keep our families in mind throughout
 the year and during the holidays. Your donations
 help put a smile on their faces and bring relief
 and comfort to these families in need. We truly
 appreciate you working with us.
 -Crowsant Park Elementary

Favorite Quotes from our prospective member, Randa Flinn

**“If you judge people, you have no time to love them.”
Mother Teresa**

and

**“If we couldn’t laugh we would all go insane!”
Jimmy Buffett.**



October 15, 2025

Children’s Aid Club
P.O. Box 11503
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339

Dear Children’s Aid Club Members:

We are very grateful to the members of Children’s Aid Club for recently donating ten (10) Walmart gift cards totaling \$1,750.00 to Henderson Behavioral Health for our children and families from your Feeding Families Campaign. Many of our families are food insecure and providing these donations is greatly appreciated.

Mental health conditions are amazingly common, and one in four Americans have a diagnosable mental health disorder. In 2024, 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 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

We are truly grateful to Children’s Aid Club and to Monica Blackwood who continues to advocate on our behalf to seek necessary resources to help us with our mission. Thank you again for your continued generosity and support!

Respectfully,


Steven Ronik, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Members of the Children’s Aid Club;

On behalf of the children and families at God’s Little Lambs, I want to express our deep appreciation for all you do for us! I’ve been the director of God’s Little Lambs for almost 25 years and thought out that time, you have partnered with us in so many ways. The majority of our families are low-income working-class families. You have supplied Christmas gifts for needy families, Thanksgiving baskets, monthly birthday cakes and book gifts, clothing and so many other things. And, because of your generosity, our preschool has an enormous amount of learning materials! You brighten our center with Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny every year!

A few months ago, you gave us Walmart gift certificates for needy families. The families that received them were so appreciative! One family stood out that I want to tell you about: a single mom of four children who worked for the TSA during the shutdown. When she received the gift certificates, she broke down in tears. She said that they were down to nothing and those gift certificates were so needed! Of course, once the CR passed, she was able to get her back pay, but your help carried her through a very difficult time.


Then, I called you and let you know about another family. The mom was (and still is) on life support. The great-grandmother, came down from Orlando to take care of the three children. The mom had been on food stamps but the food stamps needed to be renewed and the grandmother didn’t have the legal authority to renew them. You were able to come up with \$400.00 in emergency food certificates for this family! Since then, grandmother has been able to get a case worker assigned to the family and the case worker is helping them navigate the system. But, your help carried them through!

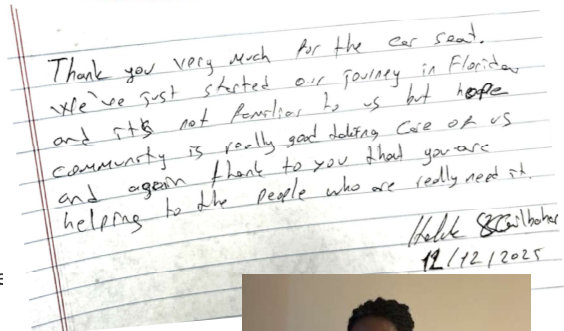
Then, there was another single mom with four children that was facing eviction. This mom had all her children come through God’s Little Lambs. Her husband left her and she lost his income and received no child support. She worked security and took on 2 other part time jobs. I called to see if you could help her. A private donor paid her pass due rent and fees, and then you helped her by paying her current rent. Your generosity enabled that mom to get back on track and avoid eviction.

For Thanksgiving, you supplied four needy families with gift certificates so that their holiday would be nice. Just this week, you supplied 3 other needy families with Christmas gifts and food certificates. I wish you could have seen their faces as they received the magnificent packages!

These are just some of the many testimonies of the families impacted by your wonderful ministry! God bless all the fabulous women that put their heart into helping the less fortunate and God bless all your donors that have a heart for children!

Happy Holidays to All!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Stevens
Director



A Happy recipient of a car seat from Hope Women’s Center.



Holiday Social



Top: Quick Sausage Appetizers. *Hawthorne Clubhouse*
& Lemon Curd in Chocolate dessert cups (Below)

Top: Endive Salad Bites with Pears, Blue Cheese, and Pecans. On Right: Caramelized Vidalia Onion and Goat Cheese Tartlets



Our TNT Tasting!



Thanks to all the members who cooked, baked or picked up their favorite appetizer, cookie or ham to make this party one to remember! Thanks to Jeanne Dixon and Rena Udell for arranging the white elephant/gag gift; always a favorite part of the party!





Available for purchase:

Official CAC Shirts:
There are short-sleeve polo shirts already embroidered for \$25 in sizes:

- Small – 1
- Large – 4
- XL – 1
- XXL – 2

Contact Barbara Hume



If any one would like a CAC Pink Bag, they are \$10. Contact Pam Markus

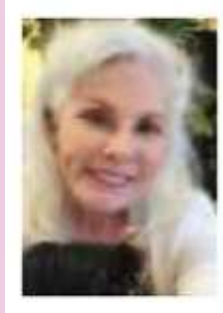


2026 Calendars are \$13.00 and available on request.

Contact Pam Markus



Happy Birthday



Carol Helms
1/10

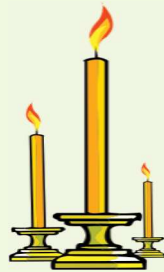


Anne Alper
1/12



Gail Jennings
1/28

Prayer Requests



We will continue to pray for all of our sisters and for their health and the health of their friends and families. Please be sure to include Kevin and Valerie Taylor, and Rachel Pope in your prayers.

With great sadness, we have learned that June Felski's beloved husband, Jerry, passed away yesterday after a short illness. Services will be held locally and will be shared when available. CAC extends our love and prayers for June and her family.

During this time, messages of comfort and support via email, text or mail would be most meaningful, as phone calls are not recommended.

June Felski
451 Lakeside Circle, #217
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
email: junejeep@aol.com



January Calendar 2026



Children's Aid Club

Tuesday, January 6th

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

Friday, January 9th

Little Schoolhouse (LSH)
Birthday Party 10 - 11:30 am
Contact: Linda Ianelli & Fran English

Tuesday, January 13th

General Meeting: 9:30 am
Powell Warehouse
1851 SW 2nd Ave, Unit 10
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315

Wednesday, January 21st

God's Little Lambs (GLL)
Birthday Party 2:15 pm
Contact: Ghislaine Martin & Janice Bloomfield

2026 CAC GENERAL MEETINGS

Jan. 13, 2026

Host POWELL WAREHOUSE

Hostess Pam Markus Hostess Janice Bloomfield

Feb. 17, 2026

Host POWELL WAREHOUSE

Hostess Vanessa Diaz Font Hostess _____

Mar. 17, 2026

Host SEA RANCH CLUBHOUSE

Hostess Sara Rashti Hostess Pam Ferrante

Apr. 21, 2026

Host THE POINTE MEETING ROOM

in Pompano Beach (Marsha Tessler)

Hostess Linda Ianelli Hostess Carole Ikanger

May 19, 2026

Host POWELL WAREHOUSE

Hostess Francine English Hostess Rena Udell

A Look Ahead...

Monday, February 2nd, 2026

TNT Set-up - All active members have this day available to help set up at Lauderdale Yacht Club. Contact a TNT Chair (Linda I., Barbara H. or Kristina B.) if you have not been assigned a work detail.

Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026

Our Giving Heart Taste 'N Tell 2026
Fundraiser Luncheon!
8:30 AM to about 4:30 PM
ALL CALL EVENT

Tuesday, February 17th

General Meeting at Powell Warehouse

Thursday, February 26th - TNT Afterparty at Hawthorne Clubhouse at Noon

SPECIAL NOTE**

January 18th:
ALL TNT items for Raffle Baskets and Silent Auction Must be FINALIZED!
No more added or editing.
Descriptions are sent to printers.

January

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
						Carol Helms
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Anne Alper	Board Meeting 9:30 (Virtual)				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		General Meeting Hawthorne Clubhouse 9:30				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			Gail Jennings			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



3296 N. Federal Highway #11503, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

for your participation in our 2025 Holiday Appeal Program.
Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we were able to deliver baskets to **68** families with a total of **231** children. Each family received Christmas baskets of wonderful toys, clothes and gifts for the children, plus a Target gift card for each child and Walmart gift cards for a family holiday meal.

Your caring and sharing provided holiday joy for these families who otherwise might have had little or nothing.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Anne Alper	Caroline Courtney	Linda Ianelli	Louise Proffer
Reba Amdur	Patricai DeSanctis	Gail Jennings	Sara Rashti
Suzee Bailey	Vanessa Diaz-Font	Heather Knight	Debra Rowand
Tara Bakatselos	Jeanne Dixon	Allison LaRocca	Rebecca Solomon
Laura Balistreri	Fran English	Pamela Markus	Lynda Stackhouse
Trudy Bieck	Kelle Enriquez	Ghislaine Martin	Valerie Taylor
Angie Bizzaro	Carole Falkanger	Belinda McDonald	Marsha Tessler
Susan Black	June Felski	MaryEllen Metwalli	Rena Udell
Monica	Pam Ferrante	Sue Miller	Kitty Vagi
Blackwood	Randa Flinn	Kathy Mitchell	Joyce Virga
Janice Bloomfield	Becky Ford	Candace Moore	Andra Webb
Gina Bono-	Sharon Glavey	Mary Mulder	Sheri Wilcox
Jenkins	Angi Graziano	Jacalyn Murray	
Jennifer Boyenga	Carol Helms	Julie Newton	
Kristina Bryn	Barbara Hume	Sandy Noonan	
Missy Butt	Michelle	Polly O'Neill	
Mary Ellen Coen	Holtzhauser	Rachel Pope	



3296 N, Federal Highway, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33339-8422

The Children's Aid Club (CAC) is a local charity celebrating 70 years of dedicated service to children and families in the South Florida community. Partnerships with businesses have always been vital to the success of fundraising efforts, and support is needed to make this milestone year truly memorable.

On February 3, 2026, CAC will host the annual "Taste 'n Tell" fundraising luncheon at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. This event will feature beautiful raffle baskets, a cruise raffle drawing, and both live and silent auctions. **Contributions are essential** to continue providing critical assistance to those in need.

In the past year, CAC provided emergency assistance to 54 individual families, impacting 138 children. A total of \$98,755.94 was allocated through the Welfare Committee to prevent evictions, avoid utility shut-offs, and provide essential needs such as transportation support (e.g., car repairs, insurance, and fuel cards), food gift certificates, school uniforms, clothing, shoes, hygiene items, childcare assistance, and after-school programming. In 2024, our Holiday Basket program, administered three times a year – Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter – served 281 families comprising 860 children. We are unable to do any of this without our community support. That means YOU!

As an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, CAC ensures that **100% of funds** raised go directly back into the community. More details about this mission can be found at www.ChildrensAidClub.org.

A donation will make a significant impact on the success of this fundraiser. Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities are also available. Thank you for supporting local children and families in need.

Member of Children's Aid Club Contact # _____

This letter serves as your receipt. FOR TAX PURPOSES, no goods or services were provided in conjunction with this gift. Children's Aid Club is a 501(c)(3) organization in the State of Florida. The agency's state charitable identification number is SC-03868 and tax id number is 59-6194364. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE (800) 435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA.



**Children's Aid Club
Acquisition Form**

2- Part Form – **Top portion** is for your use to get information to the Auction Committee for an offic thank you letter

Bottom portion should be left with the vendor making the donation

Member Name: _____

This donation is _____ Personal _____ Company

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Description of Donation (please include listing of all items and/or special instructions):

Estimated Value: \$ _____

Gift Certificate Attached: _____ Yes _____ No Value \$ _____

Any restrictions and/or expiration dates: _____

Thank you for your donation of _____

Value \$ _____ Date: _____

Signature of CAC Member: _____

Children's Aid Club

a 501c3 charity, Federal ID #59-6194364