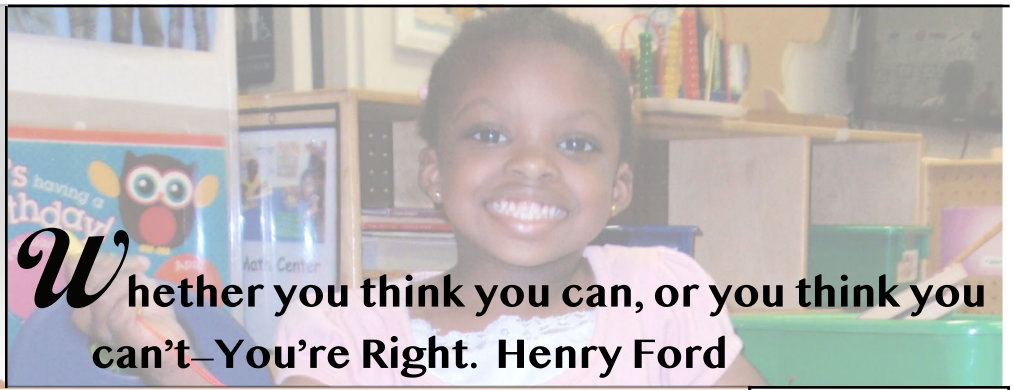


# October Newsletter 2025



## Children's Aid Club

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



**Whether you think you can, or you think you can't—You're Right. Henry Ford**

## President's Message:

### Holiday Campaigns are Underway!

We began the season with our newest initiative—the **Feeding Families Campaign**—and it was a tremendous success. With a budget of up to \$50,000, we were able to provide Walmart food gift cards to **235 families**—that's **684 children and 441 adults, a total of 1,125 people!** If you ever wonder whether the effort you put in is worth it, remember this incredible impact. Because of *you*, more than a thousand people in our community felt supported this season.

### *Save the Dates:*

**Board Meeting on Google Meet  
Oct. 14th- Tuesday - 9:30am**

**General Meeting  
Oct 21th - Tuesday - 9:30am  
Henderson Behavioral Health  
4740 N. State Rd. 7  
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33319**

**Hosting:  
Heather Knight  
Valerie Taylor**

\*If you are unable to come: Call Valerie Taylor

Adding to this wonderful news, **CAC is thrilled once again to be the recipient of the Gore Foundation's generous \$22,500 grant!** This ongoing support strengthens our mission and ensures we can continue to reach families in meaningful ways.

Now we turn to the next phase—**Thanksgiving Baskets are underway**, and the **Holiday Appeal Letters** have gone out! If you know a family, friend, or group who would like to adopt a family in need, please connect them with us. The more we bring our community into CAC's mission, the greater the awareness, the support, and the reach.

As you go about your day, don't forget to continue asking for **donations and gift cards**—every bit helps! Once the holidays are behind us, **TNT will be right around the corner**, and the more we can accomplish now, the smoother things will be.

Finally, a heartfelt **thank you to all of our liaisons** working with partner organizations. Your dedication is the reason we can meet the needs of our community where it matters most.

Humbled in Service,

*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

# Spotlight



Little Schoolhouse preschooler loved his birthday cake!

## Devotional

*September 16, 2025 Monthly General Meeting*



You mean the world to someone. Someone you don't even know loves you for who you are and what you have done for them. Every night, someone thinks about you before they go to sleep. If not for you, someone may not be living. To the world you may be just one person, but to one person you may be the world. Unknown Author

## THANKSGIVING & HOLIDAY BASKETS HAVE OFFICIALLY BEGUN!!!!



It's that time again. Your Holiday Forms are attached.

4 Families for Thanksgiving      **FIRM DUE DATE WED, OCT 29th**

3 Families for Christmas      **FIRM DUE DATE FRI, OCT 31st**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO DO THE FOLLOWING:**

**No individuals may be added to your organization.**

**Please Print with Black pen.**

**Please go over your forms to make sure all names are legible before sending.**

**EMAIL forms to : Louise Proffer**

**[plproffer@aol.com](mailto:plproffer@aol.com)**

**Sandy Noonan**

**[sandyknoonan@gmail.com](mailto:sandyknoonan@gmail.com)**

**If you have questions, feel free to email us  
or come to the General Meeting to hear more about it!!**

**Thank you! Louise P. and Sandy N.**

**Both forms are found at the end of the newsletter!**

**Children's Aid Club**  
**Board Meeting Minutes (Zoom)**  
**September 9th, 2024**



Meeting called to order at 9:33 a.m. by President Laura Balistreri.

Devotional – Pam Markus read a quote by Henry Ford “Believe you can or believe you can’t, either way you’re right.”

Approval of Minutes from May 2025 – Pam Markus made a motion to approve the minutes. Valerie Taylor seconded motion and minutes were approved.

Membership - Valerie T. - Valerie shared membership roster. There are 26 Active members, but Valerie hasn’t heard yet from Carol Helms. Auxiliary member Missy Butt hasn’t responded. Kimberly Pietro and Suzee Bailey are leaving CAC. Candy Moore, Allison LaRocca, Sheri Wilcox going Auxiliary. Coffee and Conversation on September 30 at Valerie Taylor’s house. Valerie will ask Sara Rashti if she is interested in Honorary membership, she hasn’t wanted this in the past. There will be a Fall Orientation with Heather Knight and Pam Markus.

Treasurer - Barb – Reports \$61,336.59 in checking, \$375,006.22 in Schwab for total balance of \$436,342.81 Credit card payment of \$8,086.61 was paid September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We deposited \$46,092.86 from the CASF golf tournament. Donations in memory of Don Taylor were \$1165.00; the money will be used to purchase children’s books. Barbara and Jacalyn are working on a way to use and streamline the Organization spreadsheet for treasurer use. Linda I. will make sure the organization tracking forms are being filled out.

Ways and Means - Belinda M. - A committee has been formed for Grant writing and wrote a grant for The Episcopal Church of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Martin that was submitted on September 1 for the maximum amount of \$20,000. This will be used to distribute “Blessing Bundles” to a few of our organizations. Other grants are being worked on including one from the Grant Cardone Foundation. There was conversation about a quarterly newsletter for businesses that support CAC. Janice B. reported she includes a bit about what CAC does in each thank you letter she sends to these companies. Cost may be prohibitive of producing a professional, colorful newsletter.

Welfare - Kristina B., see report. All families in the report have previously been approved by the board and will be ratified by membership at the General meeting. She spoke on the campaign to feed the children, which is to provide immediate food support to children and families in need by distributing grocery store gift cards to some of the partner organizations which they can hand out immediately to a family in need. They will have to track where the food cards go. CAC budget for this campaign is \$50,000. Program will launch at General Meeting on September 16; organizations will have 10 days to respond. Hoping for 10 families per organization. Amount of gift cards will be determined by the size of family. It is recommended that organizations use different families for this campaign than they will use for Thanksgiving baskets. Motion made to approve the feeding families campaign with funding up to \$50,000 by Pam Markus, second by Louise Proffer. Motion passed unanimously. Kristina reported we are getting a lot of inquiries for help through our website. There are criteria we should all be using stating we work exclusively through our partner organizations. Kristina shared a letter to that effect. It’s important so all members are saying the same thing regarding these requests.

Corresponding Secretary - Janice B. Getting monthly donations so Janice has been acknowledging these. A thank you was sent to Enterprise Holdings. Christmas toys were donated in May by Mrs. Feldman, 615 toys, \$6,092, thank you sent.

Unfinished Business

Children's Aid Club  
**Board Meeting Minutes (Zoom)**  
September 9th, 2024



Period Packs Distribution – Pam. Spent \$4814.68 out of the \$5000 allocated budget. 1600 packs were made and over 1000 packs were distributed. There are about 500 packs left. There are no more funds left so if CAC wants to continue this campaign in the future, funds will need to be raised. Retention and Destruction Policy (reminder to liaisons - can destroy 2018-19)

**New Business**

Holiday Appeal – Valerie showed the new letter for the Holiday Appeal. It is ready to be mailed right after the September meeting.

Holiday Baskets forms & Deadlines – Thanksgiving and Christmas basket forms will be coming out along with the deadlines for their return dates.

TNT Chairs are Barb Hume, Kristina Bryn and Linda Ianelli – A dress rehearsal for the live auction is something being considered. The theme is “A Giving Heart” using 2023 logo with darker hearts. Committee chair meeting will be held soon. New items are needed for the live auction. LYC does not want to have the usual tasting lunch in December; it is difficult for them to do. TNT Invitations/guestlist verification, members should have received an email to verify their guest list. TNT Afterparty - Monica is working on something with Carraba's. Others stated Rebecca is working on something.

Holiday Social – Laura will follow-up with Jeanne Dixon for an update. Perhaps TNT recipes might be served at the social.

**Announcements**

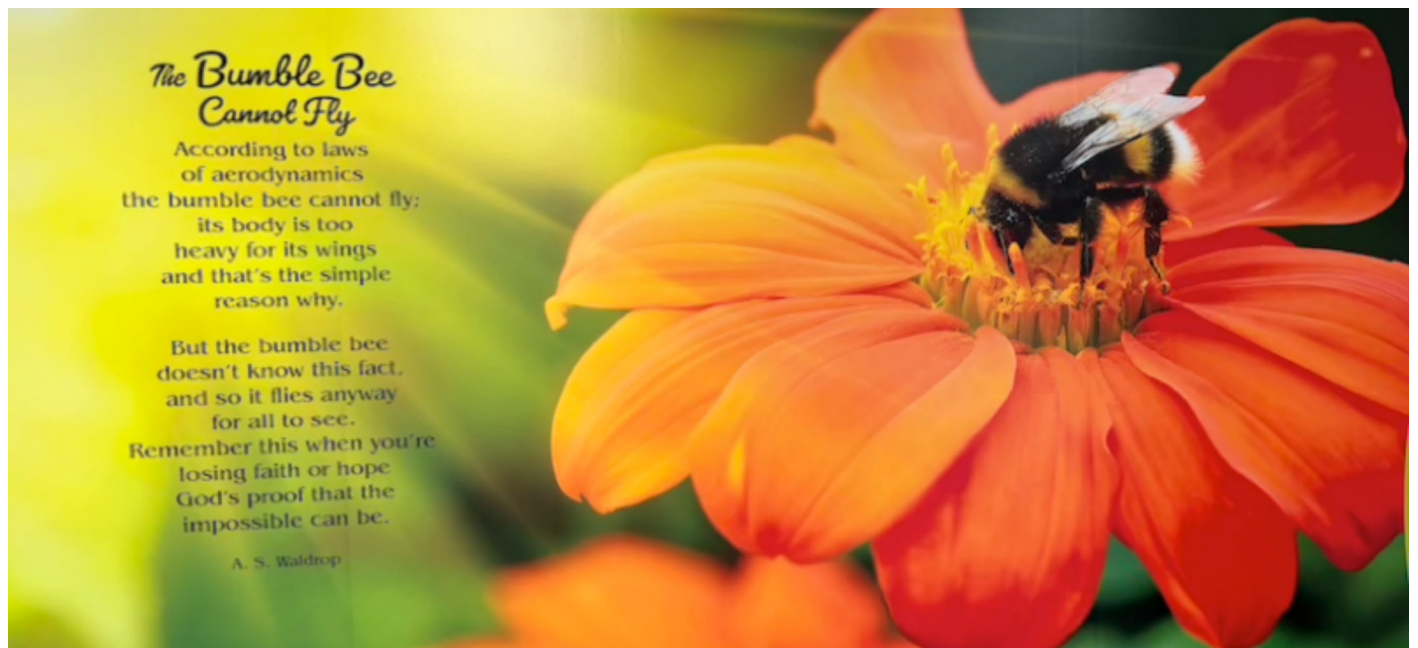
Participation needed for:

Back to Basics (October for gift wrapping, usually one day a week for the whole month) – Kelly Enriquez will let us know the dates.

Equine-Assisted Therapies Horse Hoedown (November 1st, 6- 9:30 - see below) looking for volunteers. Laura will send email asking for volunteers.

LYC Mingle and Jingle Bake Sale - December 12th - Sue Black – Members will be asked to contribute baked goods. Will be able to drop off items the day before to the warehouse.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am. Minutes recorded by Becky Ford, recording secretary.



Children's Aid Club  
General Meeting Minutes Powell Warehouse  
September 16th, 2024



Meeting was called to order by President Laura Balistreri at 9:30 am.

**Devotional** - Submitted by Linda Ianelli and read by Laura Balistreri "One day at a time."

**Approval of minutes** – Motion was made to approve May 2025 minutes by Belinda McDonald, motion was seconded by Sandy Noonan and minutes were approved by vote.

**Membership** – Valerie Taylor took roll call and reported we have 26 active members, 23 auxiliary members, 4 lifetime and 2 honorary. Two members have left, Suzee Bailey and Kimberly Pietro. There will be a Coffee and Conversation at Valerie's house on September 30 with Angie (Bizzarro?), Randa Flinn, Michelle Holtshauser in attendance. There will also be an orientation for Heather Knight.

**Treasurer** - Barbara Hume reported \$61,336.59 in checking, \$375,006.22 in Schwab for total balance of \$436,342.81 Credit card payment of \$8,086.61 was paid September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We deposited \$46,092.86 from the CASF golf tournament. Donations in memory of Don Taylor were \$1165.00; Valerie Taylor reported the money will be used to purchase children's books about animals since he was a veterinarian.

**Ways and Means** – Belinda McDonald reported she has formed a Grant Committee (Pam Markus, Tara Bakatselos, Jacalyn Murray, Heather Knight). They did a lot of work on the very comprehensive application for a grant from the Episcopal Church of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Martin. The grant is for \$20,000 and will consist of "Tiny Blessing Bundles" - a car seat, pack 'n' play, diapers and wipes which will benefit four of our organizations. CAC received a grant from Enterprise Mobility for \$4500. CAC is signed up on a platform that distributes grants from several companies. Belinda will soon be meeting with Grant Cardone Foundation, they want to get in and work with CAC. Belinda encouraged members to research this foundation.

**Welfare** – Kristina Bryn (see her report for details) A motion was made by Ghislaine Martin to ratify the actions of the welfare committee for the months of June and July. Valerie Taylor seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously. Belinda sent liaisons instructions for filling out forms when they are requesting reimbursements for their organizations stressing it is very important to track the number of adults and children reached for each request. Kristina reports there is a surplus funds campaign which is called "Feeding Families Campaign." The purpose is to provide immediate funds to families for food relief through grocery store gift cards. \$50,000 has been allocated and each organization will have opportunity to request gift cards for 10 families. This program launches today, check your email for forms, and the deadline to submit forms is September 26. On October 21 gift cards will be distributed to the liaisons. Questions were asked about Walmart cards since they can be used for things other than food. Vanessa asks about her new organization, Light of the World Clinic, they cannot participate as a new organization.

Children's Aid Club  
General Meeting Minutes Powell Warehouse  
September 16th, 2024



Discussion ensued about why they cannot participate – they were given a budget of \$6000 to cover exams, referrals to dentists, etc. but not for participation in Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter basket programs. The welfare committee felt it would be better to get to know this organization first before including them in all the programs. Members felt they should be allowed to participate fully as this restriction of “probation” hadn’t been imposed prior to this. A motion was made by Barbara Hume to remove the probation period from Light of the World Free Clinic so they can participate in all the CAC programs. Rena Udell seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed with the majority but there were three dissenting votes.

Recording Secretary – Becky Ford did not have anything new to report.

Corresponding Secretary – Janice Bloomfield was not present but asked Becky to give her report. It was reported that thank you letters were sent over the summer to donations given in honor of Fran English’s birthday (\$200) and also for Laura Balistreri and her husband in honor of their birthdays (\$600). Thank you was sent to Enterprise Holdings for the donation of \$4366.45. And to Peter Stramiglia who continues to give a monthly donation of \$200. Thank you notes were received from Jeanne Dixon and Tomorrow’s Rainbow, both were published in the September newsletter.

Unfinished business – Barbara Hume showed the memorial cards we have available for donations in someone's name. Period Packs: 816 were distributed. This program was started by Kelle Enriquez’ daughter, there was \$5000 left in her fund. Pam Markus made packs with the funds, and they were distributed to our organizations. There are additional packs (794) available in the warehouse should you need any for your organization. Does CAC want to continue this program? How do we fund it? Ideas are welcome going forward. Document destruction: liaisons were reminded they can now discard documents from years 2018-2019.

New Business – Holiday appeal letters: ready and will be sent out today. Holiday baskets: Thanksgiving and Christmas forms will be going out soon. Organizations will be able to submit 4 families for Thanksgiving (due back October 29) and 3 for Christmas (due back October 31). Taste ‘n’ Tell: will be February 3 at Lauderdale Yacht Club, held a week earlier due to a conflict at the club. The theme will be “Giving Hearts”. Assignments have been sent out. Members are encouraged to start collecting donations now. The Afterparty is being worked on, and a place has been reserved. Linda Ianelli sent out guest list for you to verify and send back to her. Holiday Social: Jeanne asks for a partner to help her plan, Michelle Holtshauser volunteered to help her. NSU Museum of Art: Rebecca Solomon spoke on the opportunity for our partner schools to use a program through the museum to take children on a field trip. Information forms are available from Rebecca. NSU provides busing to the museum, and the kids get to make an

Children's Aid Club  
General Meeting Minutes Powell Warehouse  
September 16th, 2024



art project to take home.

Announcements – Participation will be needed for:

Back to Basics wrapping Christmas packages usually one day a week for the month of October.  
Equine-Assisted Therapies Horseshoe Hoedown November 1. Let Caroline know if you can help and a signup sheet was circulated.

LYC Mingle, Jingle and Shop – LYC has again asked CAC to provide a Bake Sale for their event and CAC can keep the proceeds from the sales. Sue Black and Jeanne Dixon will chair this event and members will be asked to provide baked goods and help sell items the day of event. This will be on December 12.

Get your Black Book changes to Julie Newton today!

Jeanne Dixon reminds us to donate any extra jewelry. Please keep Pam and Bill Ferrante in your prayers while they are dealing with health issues.

Adjournment – Motion made to adjourn meeting by Jeanne Dixon and seconded by Rena Udell. Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.

Minutes submitted by Becky Ford, Recording Secretary



Julie Newton and Sandy Noonan 'organizing' the warehouse! CAC girls sure know how to have fun.



# Children's Aid Club

## Balance Sheet

As of August 31, 2025



TOTAL

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

##### Bank Accounts

BOA Charity Checking

67,974.78

Schwab Investment Fund

373,705.89

**Total Bank Accounts**

**\$441,680.67**

##### Other Current Assets

Publix Food Cards

4,500.00

Wal-Mart Food Cards

3,800.00

**Total Other Current Assets**

**\$8,300.00**

**Total Current Assets**

**\$449,980.67**

#### Fixed Assets

Leasehold Improvements

8,168.22

Accumulated Depreciation

-7,056.95

**Total Leasehold Improvements**

**1,111.27**

**Total Fixed Assets**

**\$1,111.27**

**TOTAL ASSETS**

**\$451,091.94**

### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities

##### Credit Cards

Credit card

15,706.12

**Total Credit Cards**

**\$15,706.12**

##### Other Current Liabilities

Temp Restricted Funds - Megan's Fund

381.72

**Total Other Current Liabilities**

**\$381.72**

**Total Current Liabilities**

**\$16,087.84**

**Total Liabilities**

**\$16,087.84**

#### Equity

Opening Balance Equity

167,841.21

Retained Earnings

291,550.35

Net Income

-24,387.46

**Total Equity**

**\$435,004.10**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

**\$451,091.94**



# Children's Aid Club

## Profit and Loss

August 2025



	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
cash rewards	137.53
Donations	4,560.25
Dues	2,625.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$7,322.78</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$7,322.78</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Charity	
Bennett Elementary	1,380.97
Blessed Sacrament	1,680.00
BPHI	72.61
Broward Health	1,250.00
CDTC (Children's Diagnostic)	359.60
Donors Choose.org	1,319.02
God's Little Lambs	1,295.60
Henderson Behavioral Health	447.19
Holiday Baskets	
Christmas	112.99
<b>Total Holiday Baskets</b>	<b>112.99</b>
Hope Women's Center	1,416.00
Individuals	
Florence Louis Family	2,355.00
Foux Family	512.95
Santiago Family	2,540.00
<b>Total Individuals</b>	<b>5,407.95</b>
JJCF	2,250.00
Light of the World Clinic	5,725.00
Northside Elementary	2,110.98
Our Father's Soup Kitchen	1,590.00
The Little Schoolhouse	4,904.33
<b>Total Charity</b>	<b>31,322.24</b>
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	350.00
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	<b>350.00</b>
Operations	
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	38.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>38.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,710.24</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -24,387.46</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -24,387.46</b>

## WELFARE REPORTS

### JULY (Reporting 6/1/25 - 6/30/25)

#### Organizations:

Bennett Elementary	\$ 446.00
Cypress Elementary	\$1,454.29
Henderson Behavioral Health	\$ 269.97
Mary Ann's Closet	\$1,285.71
Pace Center	\$ 676.26
Pompano Beach Middle School	\$ 277.75
Little Schoolhouse	\$ 822.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,243.13</b>

#### Special Request:

Jessica June Walmart Gift Cards \$2,000.00

#### Gift Cards on hand at 6/30/2025:

Publix Cards:	
0 \$10 cards at \$9.70 each	\$ 0
Walmart Cards:	
71 \$50 each	\$ 3,550.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 \$25 each	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL CARDS:</b>	<b>\$3,550.00</b>

No Emergency Requests  
No Individual Requests

### AUGUST (Reporting 7/1/25 - 7/31/25)

#### Organizations:

Henderson Behavioral Health	\$ 697.69
Our Father's House.	\$ 796.41
Pompano Beach Middle School.	\$1,196.55
<b>TOTAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>\$2,690.65</b>

#### Special Request Fund

Henderson Behavioral Health	\$1,788.00
Book Bags & School Supplies	

#### Gift Cards on hand at 8/31/2025:

Publix Cards:	
618 - \$10 Cards at \$9.70 ea.	\$5,994.00
Walmart Cards:	
270 - \$10 each	\$2,700.00
120 @ \$50	\$6,000.00
Aldi Cards:	
0 - \$25 each	\$ .00
<b>TOTAL CARDS:</b>	<b>\$14,694.60</b>

No Emergency Requests

## August Individual Request

### Ashley Ferguson Family - PACE Center for Girls, Pam Markus, Interim liaison

Ms. Ferguson and her five children, plus one grandchild asked for assistance with past due FPL bill and rent. She receives \$1,300 in food stamps and \$943 in Social Security benefits for her 11 year old disabled daughter. Ashley's hours were cut at her current job. She will continue to work at her old job working part time. She needed to work more hours, so she found a job at Sunny Days working full time and started on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. During the couple of months when her hours were cut, she fell behind in her FPL bill and rent. Welfare committee recommended to board to pay her FPL bill (\$639.35) and one month rent (\$2,250.00) for a total of \$2,889.35. Board approved & ratified **Total: \$2,889.35**

**WELFARE REPORT** for September’s Board & General Meeting. 8/1/2025 to 8/31/2025

<b>Organizations:</b>		<b>Gift Cards on hand at 8/31/2025:</b>	
Bennett Elementary	\$ 1,380.97	Publix Cards:	
Blessed Sacrament	\$ 1,629.50	450 - \$10 Cards at \$9.70 ea.	\$ 4,365.00
Broward Health	\$ 1,250.00	Walmart Cards:	
BPHI	\$ 72.61	150@ \$10 each	\$ 1,500.00
CDTC	\$ 359.60	46@ \$50 each	\$ 2,300.00
Donors Choose	\$ 1,319.02	Aldi Cards:	
God’s Little Lambs	\$ 1,295.60	0 - \$25 each	\$ .00
Henderson Behavioral Health	\$ 559.33	<b>TOTAL CARDS:</b>	<b>\$8,165.00</b>
Hope Women’s Center	\$ 1,416.00	<b>No Special Requests</b>	
Jessica June	\$ 2,250.00	<b>No Emergency Request</b>	
Light of the World Clinic	\$ 6,000.00		
Northside Elementary	\$ 2,110.98		
Our Father’s House	\$ 1,200.00		
The Little Schoolhouse	\$ 5,421.83		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 26,265.44</b>		

**Individuals**

**Santiago Family:** Pace Center for Girls – Valerie Taylor, Liaison

Ms. Santiago is a single mom with four children. She has a steady job working as a legal assistant since 2012. She receives child support of \$35 per week for one child and \$512 in food stamps per month. Little by little she has been falling behind in her bills, rent, daycare and utilities. Louise spoke with her landlord (independent couple who rents a home to Ms. Santiago). He said she is very sweet and caring, a hard worker and a loving mom. Welfare recommended to the board to pay one month rent of \$2,240 and \$300 in past due childcare. Board approved & ratified. Total: \$2,540.00

**Jean Louis Family** - GLL – Gislaine Martin, Liaison

Ms. Jean Louis is a single mom with four children. In late spring her hours were cut by her employer and fell behind in her bills. She took on a second job in security and will receive her first paycheck on September 5. She also drives for Uber eats when time permits. She receives \$1,158 in food Stamps. She does not receive child support. She is trying to keep her family together. The leasing company worked with a lawyer to send an eviction notice. The lawyer/management company charged Her \$890 to serve the papers. Since June, when her hours were cut at her job, she has been falling behind and only making partial payments towards her rent. As of August 31 she owed \$1,700 plus the \$890 lawyer fee. Carol at GLL has a friend who said if CAC paid her September rent, he would pay the past due rent and lawyer/eviction fee. Welfare recommended we pay her September rent of \$2,175 and her \$180 past due childcare at GLL. Board approved & ratified. Total: \$2,355.00

**Foux Family:** : Pace – Heather Knight, Interim Liaison

Ms. Foux is a single mom with two children. She has been out of work for one and a half years. She is looking for part time work. Her children’s father passed away. She collects \$80.30 monthly from the father’s social security for the two children. She also receives \$561 in food stamps. She has fallen behind in all her bills and the request was to pay for past due rent and FPL. The management company of her complex can only be reached via email. Louise emailed them three times to speak with someone about her account. Finally on 8/28 someone answered Louise’s email and said they would gather her account information and send it to her. Louise never received the information. Welfare Committee suggested giving the management company until September 3 to supply the needed verification of rent. The management company never followed through with our request. Welfare recommended paying the past due FPL bill \$370.10 plus a \$2.25 CC fee and \$200 in Walmart gift cards. Board approved & ratified Total: \$ 512.95

**August Total: \$5,407.95**



# A Giving Heart

SAVE THE DATES: Monday, February 2nd and Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026  
TNT Workshop for Committee Chairs: 10am on Tuesday, Oct. 7th at the Powell Warehouse.

## Architect Team Report

Team Leader Linda Ianelli has sent out the guest list to each member for updates. Please stop what you are doing, review it and send it back to her by email. Invitations will be ordered shortly, and we want to order the right quantity.

Caroline has applied for the cruise raffle from Holland America. (Sara's friend won it last year and had the time of her life on a cruise to Alaska.)

## Stylin' Team Report:

The Menu Committee has been scouring cookbooks all summer looking for the most sumptuous appetizer and dessert recipes. They have invited the Team Leaders to join them this week for a preview. Then, for the first time ever, Team Leader Barbara Hume reports that the menu will be served at our December holiday party for the members and their significant others to sample.

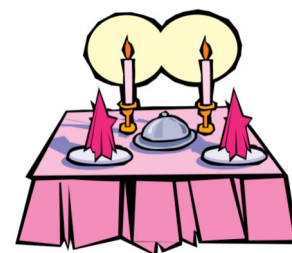
Our program will be a presentation by Abby Mosher to brief our guests on the contributions that CAC has made to Tomorrow's Rainbow.

## Golden Goose Report:

Team Leader Kristina Bryn advises that Underwriting packets and Acquisition letters will be available at the October meeting. It's never too early to start collecting items for the Silent and Live Auction. Once again, we are asking members to work in teams of two or three to assemble a Raffle Basket. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the October meeting.

Each active member will be asked to bake \$40 worth of baked goods to sell at TnT. If you are unable to bake, a donation of \$40 can be made, but we all know that our guests make a beeline for the bake sale table, so let's not disappoint them.

As always, it will take all hands on deck to make this event even more special than last year. Please clear your calendar for February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (set up day and the big event). If you have any restrictions (or have just discovered that your SO scheduled a surprise vacation that week), please email Barbara Hume at [bjhume@gmail.com](mailto:bjhume@gmail.com). Every year we say it can't get better, and every year it does! And it's all thanks to you!



# God's Little Lambs

From liaison, Ghislaine Martin:  
“The season is on again. On September 24th, we celebrated 14 birthdays (including August too). Thank you Janice B., Carol F., and Vanessa D. for making it a nice success. Our next party will be October 22nd.”



These two preschools surround their students with love and care, and CAC is honored to bring extra joy each month by celebrating birthdays with cake, presents, and smiles all around!

# The Little Schoolhouse

Photos from September's birthday celebration at the LSH attached, and new bicycles received, being enjoyed by the children.





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

September 12, 2025

Dear CAC Supporter,

The holidays are almost here—and for many of the families we serve this season brings more worry than joy. That's where you come in.

Every year the Children's Aid Club delivers Holiday Baskets filled with food certificates, gifts, and hope to families in need across our community. Last year alone, thanks to people like you, we supported **75 families and more than 228 children**.

This year, we're asking you to help us do it again.

You can **adopt a family** this holiday season. Shop for them yourself or **donate** funds directly to **Holiday Appeal** and we'll handle the shopping. Choose the size of the family you'd like to support. Make it a family project, a team effort at the office, or a meaningful way to give back with friends.

In early November we'll send you each child's name, age, clothing size, and wish list. You'll be paired with one of our CAC "elves" who will coordinate gift delivery and ensure everything gets where it needs to go. CAC also provides food gift certificates and holiday treats for each household.

The **Holiday Appeal** started in 2011 by our beloved Ann Powell, and it's grown every year because people like you have stepped up to make the holidays brighter for others.

Please return the enclosed response card by **October 16th**. To donate money, use this link: [2025 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 **Valerie Taylor** at (954) 592-4327 or email [cacvalerie@gmail.com](mailto:cacvalerie@gmail.com).

Thank you for opening your heart this season. With your help, we'll bring joy and dignity to families who need it most.

With gratitude,

*Laura A Balistreri*

Laura Balistreri-Ahmed  
President, Children's Aid Club  
[www.ChildrensAidClub.org](http://www.ChildrensAidClub.org)



A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION #CH-3868 AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING 1-800-435-7352, TOLL FREE WITHIN THE STATE, OR ON-LINE AT [www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com](http://www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com). REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Calling for Volunteers!

Happy Birthday


17th Annual  
**Horseshoe Hoedown**

Benefiting  
**Equine-Assisted Therapies**  
of South Florida, Inc.  
*Creating a path to unbridled moments. Witness the magic.*

Join Us  
**Saturday**  
**November 1, 2025**  
**6:00pm-9:30pm**  
Tradewinds Park North • Vegso Family Arena

**Reserve Your Tickets Now**  
www.equineatsf.org

For sponsorship information,  
contact Jennifer Mitchell  
jennifer@equineatsf.org • 954.974.2007  
www.equineatsf.org



Save the Date  
Early Bird  
Tickets \$150 thru  
September 5th!



**Happy OCTOBER Birthday**



Lynda Stackhouse  
10/1



Sheri Wilcox  
10/3



Caroline Courtney  
10/12



Trudy Bieck  
10/17



Kelle Enriquez  
10/28



Pam Ferrante  
10/29



Jeanne Dixon  
10/30

**Here's what'll have you hollerin' Yeehaw:**

- Music & dancing
- Gourmet BBQ buffet
- Open bar
- Silent & live auctions
- Participant riding demonstration

**New This Year: VIP Elevated Table Experience**

Later this fall, tables will have the exclusive opportunity to bid on a premium, elevated VIP table experience, so be sure to grab your table now and stay tuned for more details!

**Want to Do More?**

We're currently seeking sponsors and auction donations. Show your support for EATSF while gaining valuable visibility in our community. Contact Jennifer Mitchell at 954-974-2007 or [jennifer@equineatsf.org](mailto:jennifer@equineatsf.org) to get involved or learn more about partnership opportunities.

We cannot wait to "get down at the Hoedown" with you!

**If you are interested in volunteering for the Horseshoe Hoedown, or in any event, never hesitate to reach out to a CAC member or Board member. For more information on the Hoedown, contact Caroline Courtney.**

# CAC Bulletin Board



*Back to Basics - Wrapping Party*  
*What a wonderful way to spend a day but by wrapping a toy for a girl or a boy!*



Back to Basics' Angel Program needs our help! Kelle Enriquez spearheads the endeavor, hoping to clothe and give toys to thousands of children every year!

When: THURSDAYS!  
 October 9th, 16th, 23th & 30th (for a start)  
 9 - 3 pm (Wear comfy shoes & bring a lunch)

Where: Angel Workshop: 2365 Vista Parkway #19  
 West Palm Beach, FL 33411  
 (We usually Carpool! Call Pam M.)

## Prayer Corner

From our President, Laura Balistreri-Ahmed

Ladies,

We ask that you continue to pray for Pam Ferrante and Valerie Taylor.

Pam is going through her own medical challenges while also taking care of her husband and his medical challenges. Pam reached out and said that the prayers are certainly working and she would appreciate the continued prayers. It seems they have a diagnosis for one of Bill's ailments and have a solution which is working well so far. There is more to come but any progress is good progress. They are still waiting on tests, doctors, solutions etc for Pam at this time but continue to monitor her closely.

Valerie is being patient, optimistic and exhausted as she continues to care for Kevin. He is in good spirits and is doing well at this time. She has to watch him closely and have someone with him at all times but there is positive progress at this time. We will continue to pray for their recovery, rest, and wellness and they forge forward.

Please don't forget to pray for all of our sisters and their families. I know we all have our struggles, big and small, and a little prayer can go a long way. AMEN!



*Laura A. Balistreri-Ahmed*



Children's Aid Club

**Children's Aid Club President**

# October Calendar 2025 Children's Aid Club

## Tuesday, October 7th

**TNT Meeting for Committee Chairs:**  
 Powell Warehouse  
 10 am  
 1851 SW 2nd Ave, Unit 10  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315  
 A Google Meet Link will be emailed.

## Tuesday, October 21st

**General Meeting:**  
 Henderson Behavioral Health  
 at 9:30am  
 4740 N. State Rd. 7  
 Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33319  
 Come at 9am for Meet and Greet

## Friday, October 10th

**Little SchoolHouse (LSH)**  
 Birthday Party 10 - 11:30 am  
 Contact: Linda lanelli & Fran English



## Wednesday, October 29th

Deadline: THANKSGIVING BASKET FORMS  
 Email to Louise & Sandy. (4 families)



## Tuesday, October 14st

**Board Mtg** Via Zoom at 9:30am  
 Link will be email the night before.

## Wednesday, October 15th

**God's Little Lambs (GLL)**  
 Birthday Party 2:15 - 3:30 pm  
 Contact: Ghislaine Martin & Janice Bloomfield

## Friday, October 31st

Deadline: CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BASKET FORMS  
 Email to Louise & Sandy. (3 families)





| Children's Aid Club

## THANKSGIVING BASKETS

**Name of the Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization Contact's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

The organization may submit up to 4 families to receive a Thanksgiving Basket. Please print and provide all information listed below for the recipient families, no later than: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL TO: [plproffer@aol.com](mailto:plproffer@aol.com) AND [SandyKNoonan@gmail.com](mailto:SandyKNoonan@gmail.com)

Last Name of Family	# of Adults	# of Children

Name of CAC member/Liaison: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU



## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BASKETS

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 IN THE FAMILY \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY \_\_\_\_\_ (up to 18 years of age)

CHILD'S 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!