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Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. It is a time for us all as individuals to educate ourselves about human trafficking and learn to spot the signs of trafficking. It is also a time for us take these messages to our workplaces, our churches, our schools, our representatives and everywhere else.

The Department of Justice defines human trafficking as "trafficking in persons or modern-day slavery, a crime that involves compelling or coercing a person to provide labor or services, or to engage in commercial sex acts. The coercion can be subtle or overt, physical or psychological. Exploitation of a minor for commercial sex is human trafficking, regardless of whether any form of force, fraud, or coercion was used."

Currently, we are doing a series on Human Trafficking on our Facebook page. It provides signs to look for and tips to stay safe, especially online. Please follow this <u>link</u> to educate yourself and your children on recognizing and avoiding human trafficking.

Now Let's Recap!

October - Domestic Violence Month Wear Purple Thursday

Here are just a few of our community supporters who wore purple on "Purple Thursday" to show support for Domestic Violence Month.

We love our partners at the Citrus County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller. They are allies to survivors all year long!

Our partners at CCSO are in the fight with us against domestic violence. We are thankful for the partnership and all they do to protect survivors each and everyday!

Thank you for supporting victims of domestic violence!





November - Giving Thanks



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Thank you to Dana Davis and her amazing friends Lynda, Marina, Kelly, Ann, April, Laurie, Katie, Pam, Diana, Colette, Norma, Lawanda, Gina, Lisa, Debbie, Patty, Melinda, Joyce, Marsha and Brittney for providing this Thanksgiving Day feast for our shelter survivors and their children! We are so blessed by our community every day. We are so thankful to each and every hand that helped prepare and deliver this meal.

Citrus County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller's Office

The Citrus County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller serves as an integral partner for our survivors in the injunction process. They go a step above and also provided a donation from their employees. We are so thankful for their partnership each day!

Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Angela Vick stated, "We love giving back to the community through our

time and donations. For our "denimday" donations in the month of November 2021, Team Clerk raised \$384 for CASA Citrus."

Pictured are CASA's Sunshine Arnold, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller Angela Vick

Blessed December

This is What Community Means

CASA is truly blessed to be a part of Citrus County. The outpouring of help offered to our CASA families throughout the year, and especially during the holiday season has been unfathomable. This year alone, our community provided Christmas for 32 women and 53 children staying in our shelter. The toys and gifts provided for our survivors and their children totaled over \$18,000. What an amazing blessing!

We all know that the past two years have been very trying for everyone. Each of us have been touched by or have known someone who has been affected by this unprecedented pandemic in some way, whether it be personally or professionally. And, unfortunately, we have seen an increase in domestic violence in our county. But through all of this, our community has stayed strong and committed. Once again going above and beyond what we could ever expect! We would like to express our thanks to all of those who have supported CASA consistently through the years, and please know that everyone of you in this community are very much loved and appreciated by us and our families.

Thank you!



The Faith Lutheran Church of Lecanto

Walden Woods North Social Club

Walden Woods North Social Club presented Citrus County Abuse Shelter Association, Inc (CASA) with an early Christmas present to help support their participants and families.

Pictured left to right are Sheri McDaniel, Vice President, Sunshine Arnold, CASA CEO, and Pat Gell, President.



The Faith Lutheran Church of Lecanto made a Christmas donation to Citrus Abuse Shelter Association, Inc. (CASA) to help provide support to our shelter home participants and their families.

Pictured is Congregation member Bill presenting the donation to CASA CEO, Sunshine Arnold.



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Sisters on the Fly

Sisters on the Fly collected and donated 50 new totes filled with hygiene items and gifts for the women in the CASA shelter through their Luggage of Love Event. In addition, an art piece by local artist Carmella Thompson was donated for a raffle that brought in \$265 with all proceeds donated to CASA. The raffled art was won by a gentleman named Ray Roberts from Mount Dora, FL. We would like to thank the Seagrass Waterfront Restaurant for assisting with the raffle for three weeks by displaying the art and selling the tickets.

Inverness First United Methodist Church

Pastor, Mike Kramer, from the Inverness First United Methodist Church came to our area from the Panhandle last summer. He is excited to lead his church in their continuing support of Citrus Abuse Shelter Association, Inc (CASA). Pastor Mike presented CASA with a donation from his congregation at Christmas time. Inverness First United Methodist Church has always been supportive of CASA, and Pastor Mike plans on continuing that support.

CASA Takes 1st Place



CASA took home the 1st Place Blue Ribbon for Most Town Pride Saturday, December 4th, at Light Up Liberty Park. These ladies did a fantastic job showing off the businesses that support CASA's mission everyday!!

Pictured left to right are Outreach Advocate Kimberly Martini, Child Welfare Advocate Jennifer Stauffer, CASA CEO Sunshine Arnold, and Program Assistant Marilynn Tuten.



Donors Oct - Dec 2021

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We would like to extend our sincerest thank you to our individual donors for the months of October, November and December of 2021. Without your donations, we would not be able to do the work that we do in the community:

Alan Berg, Barbara Bullock, Jovce Carter, Jerry Castor, Morris and Sharon Crane, James and Theodora Davies, Louis Demartino, Duane and Barbara Dueker, Mary England, James Fritzell, Wayne and Melody Gherke, Holly Giguere, Roy and Evelyn Grenawalt, Jeffery Grow, Joanne Jenuleson, Carol Joy Kanka, Carol May Kramer, Jaret Lubowiecki, Kathryn Mayer, Ronnie McGriff, Emily Miranda, Nanette Mitchell, Richard Niedzwiecki, Phillip O'Dell, Rosemary Pomponio, MaryAnn Provancher, Larry Samons, Maureen Santiago, Linda Sharp, Rhiannon Steiner, Nell Taylor, Bruce and Linda Van Allen, Robert Best, Albert Bonaiuto, Cherie and Richard Byrnes, Alan Danielson, Colleen Gendron, Nancy Harney, Richard and Rosemary Nilles, Clinton and Barbara Rogers, William and Deborah Rossfeld, Rena Walsemann-Gnadt, Christian Westhall, Robert Yost, Frank North, Rudy and Diane Beres, Sarah Espin, Alfred Giannone, Nancy Joyner, William and Roxana Kavanagh, Jose Morales, Mary Tisza, Anne Walker, Brennan Wheeler Gifting LLC, Inverness First United Methodist Church, Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church, Citrus American and Italian Social Club, Crystal River Eagles AERIE 4272, Faith Lutheran Church LCMS, Homosassa Game Fish Club, Inverness United Methodist Women, IR-RU Family Social Club, Inc., Patterson Foundation, The Greene Foundation Donor Advised Fund, VFW Auxiliary 4252, Bikers C.A.R.E. Inc., Democratic Women's Club of Citrus County, Gastroenterology Associates, Hernando United Methodist Women, Joe's Family Restaurant, North Citrus Christian Church, Walden Woods North Social Club, Donnelly Architecture, Koffee Kup Supreme, LLC.

If you would like to donate to CASA now, you can go to our website www.casafl.org.



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