



**“Nurturing and Empowering
Families to Help Build Stronger
Communities.”**

***Serving Flagler and Volusia
Counties***

The House Next Door From our House to Yours...



June is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Month

Defining what's important to us:

Diversity: The practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, sexual orientations, etc.

Inclusion: The practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those who have physical or mental disabilities and members of other minority groups.

Equity: The quality of being fair and impartial.

Just how important is diversity, equity and inclusion in the work-place and how does it help the organization along with their employees and consumers?

It is no surprise that combining different cultures and experiences broadens the understanding for consumer needs. This brings in fresh ideas from different perspectives and can create more innovative solutions together. Two-thirds of job seekers say that diversity in an organization is an important factor for them. When in a diverse setting, employees feel more comfortable and tend to have a more overall positive experience with their company. Continue reading onto the back of this page to see how we include this topic in our organization.



The House Next Door Inclusivity Statement

At The House Next Door, our Mission is to nurture and empower families to help build stronger communities.

While **embracing** families from all walks of life, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation or background, we **celebrate** the strength of our diversity and strive for success.

We **respect** employee differences and embrace working together as a team.

We **value** each other's differences to make a stronger agency which in turn, builds a stronger community.

Employee of the Month, June 2022

Dixie Ambriz, Assistant Teacher

Our June Employee of the month is not afraid of hard work. She is willing to step in, step up and cover if one of her coworkers are out. She enjoys planning activities that ensure children have fun while they are learning. She is dedicated to her position at the Little House. Please join me in congratulating our June Employee of the month, Dixie Ambriz.



June 2022



www.thehnd.com

Administrative Office
804 N. Woodland Blvd.
DeLand, FL 32720
(386) 734-7571

DeLand Service Site
114 S. Alabama Ave.
DeLand, FL 32724
386-738-9169

Flagler Service Site
160 Cypress Point Parkway
Suite B301/302
Palm Coast, FL 32164
386-738-9169

WVHA Office
840 Deltona Blvd. Ste. K
Deltona, FL 32725
386-232-2055

Board of Directors

Chair: Pam Masters
Vice Chair: Mark Hayward
Treasurer: Kyle Glass
Secretary: Claudia Roth
Officer At Large: Meaghan Sistrunk
James Baker
Hector de Jesus
Paul Jones
DJ Lebo
Sue Monti
Nicole Stumbo
Daniel Thorne
Kathy Venice
Jake Wilkerson

Foundation

Board of Directors

President: Tom Robertson
VP: Matthew D. Branz
Treasurer: Mary Jeanne Ludwig
Secretary: Ann Grell
Cynthia Blomquist
Zonovia Proctor
Bernadette Britz-Parker
Merrie Helyn Fogle

How You Can Help

To give a secure online donation, learn about our amazon smile and scrip card programs, help fulfill our wish list, or view current volunteer or career opportunities, please visit our website at: thehnd.com

The House Next Door Family Foundation

Established in 2002, governed by local leaders, committed to the preservation of family services at The House Next Door.

Be a part of ensuring a healthy future for our community. Contact Tom Robertson, Foundation President, at tomrobertsonrai@gmail.com for further information.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the HND

At HND, we have established the priority to recognize and celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion within our organization to allow us to meet our clients needs and continue to help many within our community. We pledge to stay committed to continue our journey with learning. We asked a couple of our employees how important this topic is to them and in the workplace. Heather May, clinical supervisor and SATP Program Coordinator, said "Within the company it's really important to have a lot of different perspectives and we thrive with more voices. We want to have as much represented as possible. With our clients, its their safe place and if we were not acknowledging their identity, they may not feel as comfortable if we're not celebrating their diversity." When I asked her how we as an organization promote diversity, she answered, "Always looking for feedback and infor-

mation from management, staff and clients." I had the pleasure of also being able to speak with Stacy Brown, Associate Director C.A.R.E.S., about this topic. She proudly discussed our diversity in serving the community by informing me "We serve people from young to old, single and two parent households, people above and below poverty level, we just care about the children's safety in our program." She also spoke about our staff who translate for Spanish speakers and staff who assist those who are hard of hearing. She also included, "We're able to ask our clients if they have a preference in their assigned worker's race, gender, and culture. We have a culturally respective model". We certainly take pride in our diverse staff who's all full of incredible talent in helping our community! Without them, what we do wouldn't be possible.

Wild Game Feast

This year we were back in action with DeLand Breakfast Rotary, volunteering for the Wild Game Feast. Their purpose is putting "Service Above Self" and supporting nonprofit organizations throughout West Volusia County. Since the inception of Wild Game Feast, the House Next Door has been blessed to be the lead beneficiary of these funds. They've supported 34 local organizations and have raised over \$2.1 million within the last 30 years. This event brings us all together to not only enjoy great company, but also an exciting meal. Our wonderful staff showed up in their blue aprons helping serve our guests a lovely plated meal and of course sharing many laughs. It's events like this that bring on such great memories that we'll always treasure. This event is held every first Thursday of May each year so we're always excited to join in by volunteering and enjoying the great food DeLand Breakfast Rotary provides for everyone.

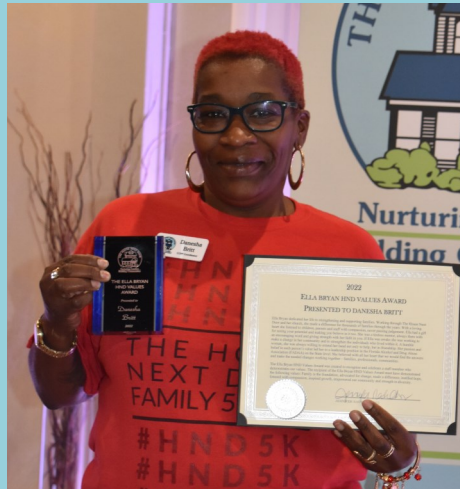


Some of our amazing staff: Heather, Reva, Tan, and Jen





**Ann Grell Employee of the Year
2022
Waleska Guadalupe**



**Ella Bryan HND Values
Award
2022
Danesha Britt**



**Cynthia Blomquist Quality
Client Care Award
2022
Lucia Russo McPherson**

Staff Appreciation Day

We were able to celebrate one of our absolute favorite days this month, Staff Appreciation Day! We love to celebrate this day in honor of our staff and all the outstanding things they continue to do to help our community. Our award ceremony highlighted the many accomplishments of our staff. Some of our favorites included Employee of the Year, Values, and Quality Care awards.

Selfie stations were set up for the staff in decorations that showcased diversity. After enjoying some time at the selfie stations, we hosted a cupcake decorating contest, which was loads of fun for everyone! Mari-sol Estrada, health card specialist, won 1st place for her skillfully designed cupcake. We even had the top 3 best designs win some awards. Proud to say our staff appreciation day was a success!

Board Installation Luncheon

Our board is a group of superheroes who guide our organization. We enjoyed time in fellowship and shared a lovely meal. We handed out awards to our board members and showcased just how much they truly do to make a difference in our organization.



**Kyle Glass
2022
Volunteer of the Year**

