



# The House Next Door

OCTOBER 2017

## The Homework Club after-school program gets off to a great start!

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# From our House to Yours

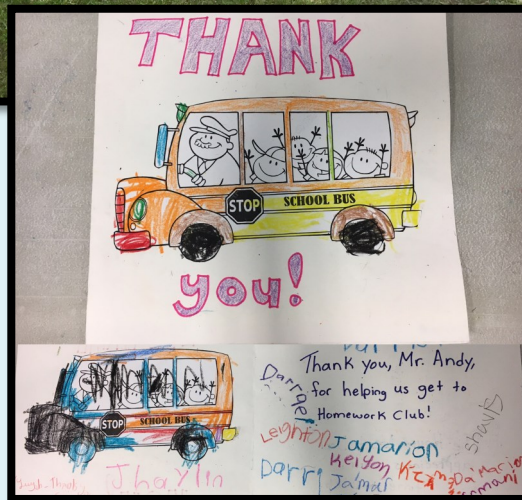
*Steve Sally, Chief Executive Officer*



It is my sincere hope that all of you and your families were fortunate enough to survive Hurricane Irma without significant damage. It will be nice when the debris all gets picked up and we are all able to complete our storm repairs to our homes, trees and outside repair. Here at The House Next Door (HND), we survived another storm of a different nature. We were notified at the end of the school year by the Sheriff's Department that they were going in a different direction and were ending the partnership with the West Volusia PAL program and HND. We were facing a challenge, but, the community stepped up. The DeLand police department, under new Chief Jason Umberger, provided an officer each day to work with the children and also committed to provide a van and driver for transportation by the end of the calendar year. In the meantime, long time community advocate Andy Ferrari (Mr. Rainbow!) stepped up to provide the transportation of the children at an extremely deep discounted fee. PAL and HND each stepped up to cover the operating and maintenance annual costs of approximately \$20,000. It takes a village to raise a child --- or a whole bunch of them!

We are also very happy to report that we had our contract renewed with Volusia County to manage the Family-Based Intervention/ Counseling Services to Prevent-Intervene in Family Violence. Additionally, we have signed a two year contract extension on The Little House Next Door which had a banner year last year and continues to serve between 66-69 children every year.

A huge thank you to Mr. Andy Ferrari for the generous use of his wonderful bus to transport the children attending The Homework Club from Woodward and Stark Elementary Schools. The children have nicknamed Andy, Mr. Rainbow! Thank you also to Officer Craig Walters of the DeLand Police Department for helping out when Andy's schedule got tight!



**Thank you Mr. Rainbow!**





The DeLand Police Department steps up to work with the kids at The Homework Club! This is what community partnerships look like!

**Thank you!**



[www.thehnd.com](http://www.thehnd.com)



# Early Childhood Court

By Lindsey Manning, MA, LMHC

Clinical Supervisor for The House Next Door



Early Childhood Court (ECCT) is a team of individuals and community partners working to decrease the recidivism rate of families and children age zero to five. The House Next Door is working closely with the Early Childhood Court Team Circuit 7 to provide child parent psychotherapy to individual families to help with reunification while providing services to help increase strong and positive attachments in the family and decrease the times a family is involved with the Department of Children and Families.

While Early Childhood Court has been in the State of Florida for the past ten years there has been a push to promote the ECCT within the past two to three years to promote a collaborative relationship between the judicial system and community providers and partners. ECCT works together to recognize what is in the best interest of the child working on fostering healthy relationships and attachments.

The House Next Door is working closely with ECCT to provide infant mental health services and child parent psychotherapy (CPP) with identified families. Therapists provide services through a trauma focused lens helping to rebuild and repair the relationship of the young child and parent due to removal from the home and exposure to trauma such as domestic violence, substance abuse, and neglect. The therapist is working to establish a strong relationship with the child and parent focusing on interactions that foster healthy development. One of the unique factors of ECCT is the program allows a Child Parent Psychotherapy trained provider to work closely and intensely with the family assigned to help guide the family towards reunification or in some instances work through the loss that may be caused as a result of termination of rights. The Circuit 7 Early Childhood Court Team Coordinator reports "My personal goal is to ascertain funding to support ECC (i.e. to sponsor CPP fees for interested therapists) through grant writing and other corporate opportunities."

While the ECCT continues to grow, The House Next Door plays an essential part in the development of ECCT, as it continues to provide therapists and trainings to develop staff in the areas of infant mental health and child parent psychotherapy. The House Next Door is contributing six CPP therapists to the team. The Circuit 7 ECCT has currently served nine families to date and Karen Woods reports, "the ultimate goal for ECCT is to expand ECC to West Volusia, Flagler, Putnam, and St. John's counties. However, to do so requires having enough CPP providers in those areas to handle the case load and to assign dedicated Case Management units in each of those Community Partnership for Children offices."





**The “DeLand Wings” have become quite a landmark in our community! We are excited to announce that Erica Group, the talented artist that created the image will be partnering with The House Next Door. Erica has agreed to let us use her image on a limited edition Christmas ornament. The ornaments will be available at several downtown DeLand businesses. For more information contact [lgrant@thehnd.com](mailto:lgrant@thehnd.com).**



# A gift to The House Next Door is always appreciated!

*Help us provide the services that have kept our community strong!*

- Mental Health Therapy
- Sexual Abuse Treatment
- Parenting Programs
- Family Intervention and Prevention Programs
- School-based Programs
- Quality After-School Mentoring and Tutoring
- Child Care Food Program
- The Little House Next Door Child Development Center

**The Holidays are just around the corner!**

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**Take a look inside and see how**

**The House Next Door is  
partnering with Erica Group,  
the artist of the  
“DeLand Wings”**