



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

Serving Flagler and Volusia Counties

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

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January is Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month. Did you know that Florida is 3rd in the nation for human trafficking?

If you would like to know more about human trafficking in Florida, The Florida Department of Children and Families publishes a report each year. [You can download the latest version on their website.](#)

Download a free training tool for parents of teens on how to protect

your children from becoming a sex trafficking victim and how to keep your teen safe on social media along with other [training guides on the ASU School of Social Work website.](#)

If you or someone you know is being forced to engage in commercial sex, housework, farm work, or any other type of forced labor, call the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** at **1-888-373-7888**.

January 2022

www.thehnd.com

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

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

LÍNEA NACIONAL CONTRA LA TRATA DE PERSONAS

1-888-373-7888

The #HND5K annual fundraiser will be on March 26, 2022 at Gemini Springs.

Registration now open!
runsignup.com/Race/FL/DeBary/HND5K

Sponsorships start at \$125! More info on our website at thehnd.com/sponsorships

For more info, please contact Gail Fleming gfleming@thehnd.com or (386) 337-5053

SAVE the DATE
March 26, 2022
#HND5K at Gemini Springs

The House Next Door Family 5K Fundraising event will be a hybrid event offering both in person and virtual options! This is our largest annual fundraiser and we greatly appreciate your support!

thehnd.com/hnd5k | facebook.com/hnd5k

Thank you to AdventHealth and DeLand Breakfast Rotary!

Thank you to AdventHealth DeLand and DeLand Breakfast Rotary Club for your generous donations of gifts for our families in need this holiday season!



Our December Employee of the month is a ball of energy with a strong heart for children and families. This employee is often the life of the party and the one who stays after to clean up those messy dishes at staff potlucks. Despite working in a different department, this employee rallied for our Homework Club to ensure the children had an amazing Christmas party, the right gear for the Christmas parade, wrapped Santa's presents, and showed up to take photos of each child with Santa. On the day of the Homework Club Christmas party, it was difficult to tell who was having more fun, the children or this staff member. A single Mom of two adorable children, this staff member has put herself through school the last few years, while working for HND full time. She is someone we can all be proud to call a coworker. Please join us in congratulating our December Employee of the month, Waleska Guadalupe.

December 2021 Employee of the Month
Waleska Guadalupe,
Victim Advocate



CONGRATULATIONS!

December 2021 Employee of the Month
Waleska Guadalupe

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(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

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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.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Here are some things that we learned when we recently spoke with Christy Gillis, Circuit 7 Community Development Administrator at Florida Department of Children and Families about human trafficking in Florida.

Florida's large population, high tourism, and lots of people moving in and out every year makes the State of Florida attractive to traffickers and contributes to Florida's ranking as the third-highest state for human trafficking in the United States.

The average age of someone entering into being trafficked is only twelve years old. All genders can be targeted, it's not just girls. Social media and video games are a huge source of trafficking victims. Parents and guardians need to be educated and know who their kids are talking to online. Anyone can be vulnerable to trafficking, but abuse, abandonment, neglect, runaways, and LGBTQ youth are at an increased risk of becoming victims of human trafficking.

According to the Polaris Project website, of the 738 reported human trafficking cases in Florida last year, 70% were sex trafficking, 15% were labor trafficking, 5% were both sex and labor trafficking, and 10% were not specified.

Florida is doing a lot to combat human trafficking, including passing a safe harbor law in 2013 so that minors can no longer be arrested for child prostitution, which is actually human trafficking. Florida is also doing a lot more education, screenings, and awareness training. The Department of Juvenile Justice looks for youth with risk factors to screen them to verify if they are being trafficked or not and get the

child access to services that they need. The Department of Children and Families also works with law enforcement to investigate possible trafficking.

While much has been done, there is still a lot more that needs to be done. Housing for victims is especially needed. While children have access to safe harbor locations throughout the state, adults do not have any options in Volusia.

If you are a local business owner, and would like to combat human trafficking, there are several things that you can do. Make sure that all supplies you need for your business come from sources that do not use child labor to make their goods. Sign your staff up for a free training from the Polaris Project or the FL Department of Children and Families. Put signs up in your business about human trafficking and include the number for the human trafficking hotline. Putting stickers in your bathrooms with the hotline number is a great way to help, because it is one of the few places that victims can be alone without their trafficker.

The best way for all of us to fight human trafficking is through education and awareness. The Polaris Project and FL Department of Children and Families both offer free trainings and provide educational materials on their websites.

Find out more about Human Trafficking on the Florida Department of Children and Families website here myflfamilies.com/service-programs/human-trafficking

You can also learn more on the Polaris Project website at polaris-project.org/human-trafficking

National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

A special thank you to all who donated to our 2021 Giving Tuesday campaign. Thanks to your generous donations, we raised nearly **\$5,000!**

