



“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 Inclusivity Month

Inclusivity is the practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those having physical or intellectual disabilities or belonging to other minority groups. Inclusivity is important in all areas and organizations, especially nonprofits. Not only should nonprofits be inclusive of all clientele but also their staff. Gathering a group of diverse individuals helps clients when seeking a helping hand because with a more diverse atmosphere, it creates a higher chance of staff that have a better understanding of those that they're working with. Being inclusive brings about a larger array of ideas and ways to handle each situation attached to each client. Also, being more inclusive of staff makes it a healthier environment in the workplace which can help everyone feel

more valued and respected, therefore uplifting levels of motivation and productivity. The House Next Door stays mindful of inclusive ideas but it's important to always find ways to continue improving along with continually pursuing new ideas to be more impactful for the community.



June 2023



www.thehnd.com

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May 2023 Employee of the Month Julia

Our May Employee of the month is most comfortable being behind the scenes highlighting the accomplishments of our staff and clients. Through social media and sharing of our story, this employee embodies our agency values of making a difference with our services, empowering communities, listening with compassion, advocating for change, and inspiring growth. Please join us in congratulating our May employee of the month, Julia.

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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.

VPK Graduation at The Little House Next Door

On May 26, The Little House Next Door put together a graduation for their VPK class. Graduation took place at City Hall after a look at the cloudy weather, thanks to a quick call from one of our board members, Mike Grebosz, who works for the city of Deland. So everything was held indoors and teachers, Ms. Mary and Mrs. Dixie swiftly decorated for the kids and parents to enjoy this special day to never forget. The kids sang and danced, and awards were handed out. The teachers, Ms. Mary and Mrs. Dixie, even made their own award catered to each child on what they think was an important characteristic to highlight for them.



“Graduation. To some it may mean heading from middle school to high school. It may mean leaving high school and heading to the college world.

To me, it is saying goodbye to my VPK students as I send them out into a world that I hope I prepared them for. I always tell them to reach for the stars and do what your heart tells you. This year was no different, I had a group of the most dedicated, smart, funny, kind, loving children. They worked hard all year and excelled in all areas. They absolutely loved practicing for our graduation ceremony and were so proud of themselves. While we were getting ready, some were excited because they had their family waiting to see them. My heart is full and it is very hard to say goodbye, but I know they will do great things in the future. We hope everyone enjoyed the program and thank you to the management team for coming and supporting us.” - Ms. Mary

Staff Appreciation Day

Our staff appreciation consisted of fun times together along with some friendly racing competition. Thanks to K1 Speed in Daytona for giving us the ability to show our staff appreciation at such an incredible place. It was different from what is normally done and this year, everyone wanted to plan something big for the staff. As soon as everyone came into the building, they all set their things down, and were getting right in line for the races. Loud cheering can be heard throughout as soon as our first race had started, and there was lots of eager excitement as they all watched to see who would make it at the top with the fastest speed. It was announced that whoever made the best time for the day would not only receive a Go Kart trophy, but they would also race our CEO, Jen Nadelkov. The suspense of waiting to see who would make it to the top quickly spread throughout the room and we looked over to see our top competitor get called up at the end. Dixie Ambriz, the fastest Go Kart racer, who not only raced with such speed but also so much elegance with keeping safety in mind as well. Everyone scurried back to the room to watch the last race of the day and yet again, Dixie takes the victory, holding the checked flag high!



Staff Awards

Cynthia Blomquist Quality Client Care Award 2022/2023 Mary Kamine



Cynthia Blomquist was the very first employee hired by The House Next Door. The history of our agency was positively shaped by her dedication, out of the box thinking and exceptional work ethic. As the first employee she embraced the notion of supporting the family unit and believed in the power of the family structure. At the heart of work was her passion to always provide the highest quality of care to our clients. This passion continues to be present in her work today in the insurance field. Cynthia provided quality client care, before standards of care existed. Her passion laid the groundwork for what we today refer to as HND standard of care.

The Cynthia Blomquist Quality Client Care award was created to recognize and celebrate a staff member who has gone above and beyond to provide high quality care to our clients. The recipient of the Cynthia Blomquist Quality Client Care award must have demonstrated throughout the past year, dedication to providing high quality care, embraced meeting the client where they are, and helped the client decrease risk factors while increasing protective factors, combined with providing HND level of high standard of care. This year's recipient continuously meets and exceeds HND standard of high-quality client care with her students. This employee received perfect scores in two categories of her ELC observation and raised all of her VPK students' assessment scores. When not showing the children how to milk a cow, this employee helped her four-year-old students learn how to be kind citizens and even to read. I was shocked when one of my favorite VPK students, Winter, daughter of LHND teacher Shelby, proudly read to me. While reading she looked up to her teacher for approval and encouragement. Her wide eyes and sweet dimples showed that this little girl was so very proud of herself. Winter and her classmates were challenged this year by a teacher that nurtured, empowered and encouraged them not only in their academics, but in their social and emotional health as well. Please join us in congratulating our 22/23 Cynthia Blomquist Quality Client Care award winner, Mary Kamine.

Staff Awards

Ann Grell Employee of the Year Award 2022/2023 Linette Reyes



The Ann Grell Employee of the Year award was created to recognize an employee that goes above and beyond in all aspects of their job. Ann Grell, Co-Founder and First Executive Director of HND, was a pioneer in advocating for families. With a shoestring budget, a clear vision and a heart for her community, Ann laid a strong foundation for HND. After many years of leading the agency, she went back to school to obtain her masters in mental health from UCF and worked in our therapy department as a therapist and later as a supervisor. In every role that she has held, Ann is an inspirational force that lovingly encourages each of us to go above and beyond to better ourselves, our agency and our community.

Our employee of the year for 2022/2023 goes above and beyond to serve our community, encourage her teammates, and support all HND initiatives. This year's recipient has an infectious laugh, kind spirit and genuinely enjoys her work and her coworkers. Anytime a need arises, she is one of the very first to ask how she can help. Evenings, weekends, or whenever a need might arise, she can be found setting up a HND booth at community fairs, swinging a golf club at Top Golf or jumping into a mascot costume at The Wild Game Feast. This year's recipient is an inspirational force that we are blessed to have as a HND team member. Please join us in congratulating our 22/23 Ann Grell Employee of the Year, Linette Reyes.

Ella Bryan HND Values Award 2022/2023 Alfreda Turner



Ella Bryan dedicated her life to strengthening and supporting families. Working through The House Next Door and her church, she made a difference for thousands of families through the years. With a loving heart she listened to children, parents and staff with compassion, never passing judgement. Ella had a gift for seeing your potential and making you believe in it too. She was a tireless mentor, always there with an encouraging word and giving strength with her faith in you. If Ella was awake, she was working to make a change in her community and to strengthen the individuals who lived within it. A humble woman, she was always willing to extend her hand not only to help, but in friendship. Her passion and belief in each person's value led her to a leadership position in the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association (FADAA) on the State level. She believed with all her heart that we would find the answers and make the needed changes working together – families, professionals, communities.

The Ella Bryan HND Values Award was created to recognize and celebrate a staff member who demonstrates our values. The recipient of the Ella Bryan HND Values Award must have demonstrated the following values: Family is the foundation, advocated for change, made a difference, instilled hope, listened with compassion, inspired growth, empowered our community and showed strength in diversity. Our recipient this year exemplifies the qualities of the Ella Bryan award in many ways. This staff member ensures that her clients are empowered to learn and grow into the best versions of themselves. Whether she is leading their drum line, creating a Grandparents Day celebration or marching in a basketball championship celebration parade, this staff member makes a difference in the lives of her students. Please join us in congratulating our 22/23 Ella Bryan HND Values Award winner, Alfreda Turner.

Board Luncheon



We held our Board Luncheon at the Museum of Arts for our board members and management team. Everyone was able to enjoy a lovely spot at the venue for lunch along with hosting our award ceremony. We also invited our Employee of the Year to hand out another award to showcase her achievements to the board. Afterwards, they had a nice walk through the museum to enjoy unique art as our activity. They were able to learn about a new artist while exploring a new art style. Another huge thanks for all that our board does to help our agency work with our community.



**Volunteer of the Year Award
2022/2023
Mike Grebosz
and Alicia Queally**



**Outgoing Board Members
2022/2023
Meaghan Sistrunk
and DJ Lebo**



**New Board Members
2023
Pam Dean
and Kasja Lebo**

This year, we have two members who won the Volunteer of the Year award who are both generous with their time and talent! Congrats to Mike Grebosz and Alicia Queally for all that you do for The House Next Door.

A huge thanks to our outgoing board members, Meaghan Sistrunk and DJ Lebo. As pictured, Kasja, accepted the award for her mother, DJ. DJ and Meaghan served on our board with so enthusiasm and truly showcased their talents while on serving on our board.

Welcoming in our newest board members, Pam Dean and Kasja Lebo. We are excited to have our newest members showcase their hard work and talents along with our board of directors and agency.