



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

*Serving Flagler and Volusia Counties*

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

**November 2023**

    

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

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

### **November is Family Month**

This month is Family month. It is important to recognize family and find any time that you can to spend with them. Not only spending time with them but also being there for them to be a helping hand in case of any needs.

As an agency, our Mission is to Nurture and Empower Families. The House Next Door works to help unite families by providing an array of different programs that can help each unique circumstance.

All of the staff understand the importance of family on a personal level along, with each having a passion for helping other families thrive. The same goes for the Board. It was crucial that the organization choose the right people to join the Foundation of Trustees and Board of Directors to help steer the agency in helping the community to their needs.

“Knowing that the organization is about improving the lives of families in our community was a real key factor in deciding where I put forth my extra time and effort. Strong and healthy families are the foundation for life.

I am most proud of the fact that the organization is about making a difference in the community and not making a profit. I have a middle school aged son and a wife of 16 years. We have an old shelter dog who has been with us for 16 years. We like to spend time at home with each other, but we do love all things Disney and have been annual passholders for several years.”,

said Mike Grebosz, member of Board of Directors.



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386-738-9169

**Flagler Service Site**

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**WVHA Office**

840 Deltona Blvd. Ste. K  
Deltona, FL 32725  
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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](http://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](mailto:tomrobertsonrai@gmail.com) for further information.



On November 9th, everyone came together for all staff training. The staff was able to enjoy another wonderful breakfast thanks to The First Presbyterian Church. There was even a scratch off to win some prizes in the spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday coming up. Thanks to Pinup Parlor and Mainstreet Deland who donated gift cards for our staff. Community awards were handed out on this day along with crowning our Employee of the Year.



**Employee of the Year  
2023  
Linette Reyes**

Our Employee of the Year, Linette Reyes, was recognized and awarded her sash and crown. She will be joining the CEO, LHND staff, and the families riding on our Christmas parade float on December 2nd.



## **Tom Robertson Community Business Investment Award**

The Tom Robertson Community Business Investment award was created in recognition of Tom Robertson, who has dedicated decades of hours to establish an ongoing supporting Family Foundation for the longevity of The House Next Door. He provides monitoring and directing of foundation funds for growth and development. The successful growth of the Foundation's assets over the years is the combination of donor gifts and prudent investing.

The recipient of the Tom Robertson Community Business Investment award must demonstrate, over a significant period of time, dedication to maintaining the financial viability of The House Next Door and its family services that promote the nurturing and empowering of families in our community.

Our recipient this year has worked for nearly 39 years in the nonprofit and government sector gaining experience in the fields of corrections, juvenile delinquency, child welfare, substance use and suicide prevention, community development and public health. Currently she serves as the CEO of Flagler Cares and One Voice for Volusia as the result of a partnership forged in 2019 between the two nonprofits. Throughout her career, she had led countless special projects in Volusia and Flagler County and across Florida, which has enabled her to gain expertise in many public and private systems of care. Personally I refer to her as Ms. Flagler, as she is changing the landscape for social services in Flagler County. She has been a steadfast supporter of HND long before my time, and I've been here almost twenty years. She has led our last two strategic planning sessions with a clear focus on how to ensure financial stability and sustainability for HND.

Please join us in congratulating our 2023 Tom Robertson Community Business Investment Award winner, Carrie Baird.



## **The Cecil Paul and Maria Jones Community Hero award**

The Cecil Paul and Maria Jones Community Hero award was created in recognition of Paul and Maria Jones. The Jones' have dedicated decades of volunteer hours meeting our community's needs and have been steadfast supporters of The House Next Door.

The recipient of the Cecil Paul and Maria Jones Community Hero Award must have demonstrated over a significant period of time, dedication to the promotion of nurturing and empowering families in our community, combined with a strong sense of civic duty.

This year's recipient is a distinguished professor and author whose influence extends beyond academic dimension. Being a South American has underscored his perspective that society must ensure that all individuals are provided with adequate education and opportunities to pursue a successful life wherever they choose to live and work.

Professionally he focuses on the integration of substance abuse and other life concerns from a cultural perspective and cultural diversity training for counselors, administrators, and policy makers in medical, human and other services. He dedicates countless hours volunteering in our community including being past vice chair of the Florida Commissioner of Education, African American Studies Task Force and current member of the Florida Commission of Education Holocaust Education Task Force, has served on the board for St. Peter's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Deland Breakfast Rotary and is a past board member of HND. He has been a supporter and community partner for HND. Our recipient has had a hand in countless great initiatives and community improvements in his lifetime.

Please join us in acknowledging and congratulating our 2022 Cecil Paul and Maria Jones Community Hero Award Winne, Dr. Patrick Coggins.



## The Gail Hallmon Champion of Families Award

The Gail Hallmon Champion of Families Award was created in recognition of Gail Hallmon, who has dedicated decades of volunteer hours to championing families in our community. Gail treats her volunteer work with as much importance and deserving the same level of commitment as her professional work. She spent many years championing families through her volunteer work with Parent Craft, as a Girl Scout Leader, taking PTA leadership positions, mission trip work with First Presbyterian Church, IDignity and countless other community events.

To be eligible for this award, the recipient must have demonstrated over a significant period of time, dedication to the promotion of nurturing and empowering families in our community, combined with community service geared toward families.

Our recipient this year is a respected Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) leader nationally recognized for originating university and community-based programs to facilitate candid discussions about law and the intersectionality of race, diversity and poverty. Alumnus of Harvard College and University of Virginia School of Law with over 20 years of experience leading, building and maintaining a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion within these higher education environments through active involvement in various admission, scholarship selection, alumni business and individual clients seeking smart legal solutions for employment, business and elder law matters. He serves as outside counsel to our local taxing district and small businesses, a neutral investigator, mediator or arbitrator to resolve litigation disputes.

The impact of Ted's work in our community is most aptly described with his commitment to the betterment of families in our community.

Ted has hosted years long series of roundtable community discussion known as the "Color Line Roundtable" which facilitates discussions on the problem of the color line. Participants include a diverse group of community members who share their thoughts and feelings about current issues in American race relations in an atmosphere that facilitates mutual respect. Ted's facilitation of this series has directly impacted families in our community, in his tireless effort provide safe spaces to hold tough conversation about the opportunity of solutions for the complex problems of racism and poverty. This dedication to the betterment of all citizens, all families in our community will have long lasting impact on not just HND clients, but our community at large.

Please join us in congratulating this year's recipient of the Gail Hallmon Champion of Families, Ted Small.