

"Nurturing and Empowering Families to Help Build Stronger Communities."

Serving Flagler and Volusia Counties



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

## **August is Back to School Month**

This month is back to school! Thanks to our Homework Club staff, we are able to help our students transition from summer to back to school. Our Alpha program in particular is in high demand at several local schools as we are able to assist students with their social and emotional health throughout their academic journey.

"Our Alpha staff will be in training before the new school year starts. The Alpha Program does refreshers and trainings with our school and The House Next Door to prepare us for the new school year. We as a team brainstorm new ideas and ways that we can incorporate educational and counseling tactics that could best fit the students. We work closely with the students in their classrooms and with their families at home. We enjoy being in the classrooms, assisting students and teachers with any difficulties that may arise while they are in class. We work closely with teachers to meet specific learning styles. Counselors also provide individual sessions with students to discuss any issues that they are having in class or at home. Counselors reinforce positive actions with incentives. My favorite thing about working in the Alpha Program is that we are a team and we work in partnership with the student, teacher, school and parent to ensure student success. Also, I love being a voice for students who may feel they are afraid to speak up. Being their safe space and their go to on campus is very important at the middle school level to help guide and push them to their highest point in life. It takes a village to help raise a child and I love being in the village here at Campbell Middle School." - Dayonna Mapp



## June 2023 Employee of the Month Tiffany Dickey

Our June Employee has a passion for children and helping young people reach their full potential. They inspire our youth to see the best versions of themselves. Taking the extra few minutes to listen with compassion is not always easy when the speaker is a disgruntled or misunderstood teenager. This employee has a knack for providing adolescents with a compassionate ear. For middle schoolers, the crisis of the day can often feel like the end of the world. Our staff member has a gentle way of instilling hope in them and their family members as they navigate the early teen years. Watching her students and parents praise her for making a difference in their lives during last year's DMS ALPHA graduation ceremony was very touching. We heard a father share that his daughter began the school year in a depressive state that kept him awake at night. Through teary eyes he explained that he was fearful she would end her life. The transformation of this young lady was credited by the father to the ALPHA program and this staff member.

Please join us in congratulating our June employee of the month, Tiffany Dickey.

## **August 2023**











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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

#### <u>The House Next Door</u> 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.

### **Back to school with HWC**

Homework Club finished up the summer enrichment camp and has transitioned to a new school year. Homework Club staff joined ALPHA staff in the annual back to school training courses. We utilize the summer months to provide extra math and reading enrichment to ensure students have a successful start to the school year. The enrichment camp is provided in support from LSF (Lutheran Services of Florida), Volusia County, United Way and with donations from our generous community.

Thanks to Greg Whidden, the IT Director from City of Deland, we were given new desktop computers to replace all of the older ones for our

Homework Club kids to do their learning activities on.



Deland Pride also made a generous donation for our Home-work Club students. They donated school supplies and gift cards for the students to start their new school year off with a boost that helps the parents prepare their children. They held a Stuff the Bus campaign and chose our program to contribute to. We are grateful for the different organizations and the community within Deland who help us out so we can better help the children and clients.

## July 2023 Employee of the Month Joseph Wyatt



Our July Employee works behind the scenes supporting all of us as we work with our families. They advocate for resources for the staff, empowering our HND community to give our best to the families we serve. It is often frustrating when things don't work the way they should, and this staff always listens and then works hard to fix it. This employee is always willing to make the extra effort to teach us how to use our equipment to make our jobs easier. They make a difference at our organization. We appreciate your hard work, accessibility, dedication, willingness to go the extra mile, your patience, being a team player and advancing IT at The HND! Thank you for all you do.

Please join us in congratulating our July employee of the month, Joseph Wyatt.

## Retirement After 27 Years of Service at The House Next Door

This month is the last month before retirement for one of our longest employees, Reva Desmore. She will be retiring after 27 years of service at The House Next Door. She was not only an employee, but also a good coworker and friend to others. Not only did her coworkers appreciate her, but her students she worked with appreciated her as well. She had a huge impact in her years in the Alpha program and helped many students along in their journey. We're all so grateful for the hard work and dedication that she put into her job and now she's being promoted to the retirement stage of life.





All of The House Next Door staff wish Reva a happy and healthy retirement ahead of her along with a huge congratulations. She will be greatly missed within the Alpha program and the agency as a whole. Her impact will always be showcased within the organization. As shown in the photos, it is very difficult to say farewell to such a great employee, coworker, and friend of The House Next Door.

"On behalf of the staff, board and families you served, I would like to honor your 27 years of excellent service to our community. We celebrate the legacy of hard work and commitment you leave behind. In the years you've been with HND, you have made a tremendous difference in the lives of many children and families. Congratulations on your retirement. It won't be the same here without you!" - Jen Nadelkov, CEO.