



## Nonprofit Newsletter September 2019

### INTRO

September brings shorter days and is the only month to have the same number of letters in its name as the number of the month. I greet each of you while you are enjoying the slight changes in the weather. I'm asking you to also give a thought to the 35 nonprofit members of the Chamber and specifically those that have events this month. It would be so nice to see more of you supporting their efforts. They will be listed later in this newsletter.

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURED NONPROFIT IS: CHI CHI RODRIGUEZ YOUTH FOUNDATION

The Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation was created to support Chi Chi Rodriguez's vision of helping at risk youth achieve academic, social, and economic success by remaining engaged in their education and acquiring the practical skills to excel at the "Game of Life". The Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation is the principal operator of the educational programs, The Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy and the First Tee of Clearwater.

Their programs are grounded in the human fundamental needs of love and respect. They work to build confidence, instill discipline and provide positive and engaging educational experiences. A unique forum was chosen to achieve their goal - a golf course. Golf is frequently considered the game of successful people – people who would be excellent role models for Chi Chi's Kids. Golf also requires self control, responsibility and respect for others. Outstanding athletic ability, size and dexterity are not necessary to participate. Success for Chi Chi's Kids had to be through { as Chi Chi says } "Love, understanding, compassion and self-esteem." Although Chi Chi was raised in a poor family, his family was

rich in all of those important qualities.

The target group for the Academy's activities is children ranging in ages from 5 to 17. They currently serve more than 2,200 children in their programs. Ninety-five of those are students that attend the Chi Chi Academy, a privately supported public school in partnership with the Pinellas County School Board for students who have been identified as at risk of dropping out of school. Under performing student candidates are typically identified and referred to the Academy by Pinellas County School District guidance counselors, teachers, and principals. Students mostly live north of Ulmerton Road to Tarpon Springs.

To be accepted into the program, the children must meet two or more of the following requirements: 1. Have poor grades: 2. Perform below state expectations on standardized testing: 3. Be socially withdrawn: 4. Have poor school attendance: 5. On some sort of Government assistance.



# Chi Chi Rodriguez YOUTH FOUNDATION

*Preparing Students for Success in the Game of Life* The Foundation uses a holistic approach in its programs. Emphasis is placed on homework assistance, tutoring, social skills, core values, personal grooming, business skills, retail, art, landscaping, and golf. Golf was chosen as a key ingredient for the program because it does not require extraordinary size, speed, or strength to achieve success. The sport does, however, require consistent personal discipline, concentration, honesty, motivation and tenacity. These teachable traits plus exposure to role models of successful adult golfers made golf a natural choice.

The Public Private Partnership School known as Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy is a voluntary mini-school for fourth through eighth grade students who are not achieving at their grade level, have low self-esteem or have difficulty adjusting to a larger academic environment. Students learn through interactive experiences in the fields of management, marketing, retail sales, landscaping, agronomy and various other real world business environments.

The Pinellas County School system provides the teachers, the teacher assistants, support staff, student services and technology and the Foundation provides the campus facility, golf education and equipment and classroom enrichment materials. The Golf Club delivers the real life learning experience.

The small school atmosphere, individualized attention, counseling, availability of student services and specialized instructional components taught by the Pinellas County certified teachers, fosters a desire in Chi Chi's Kids to succeed in school and life. The students outscored the county average in 7<sup>th</sup> grade civics and the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade science exams in 2018.

For sure they are doing something fantastic, as their students last year had a 98 % attendance record and are achieving great numbers in high school graduations as well. If you have any desire to find out more about this wonderful life saving school and would like to attend a lunch there and get an up close view of the wonderful things that go on at this school here is the following information. Luncheons are every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month and you can RSVP Laura Tobe at 727 642-6758 or [laura@chichi.org](mailto:laura@chichi.org)

## SEPTEMBER SHOUT OUT

Aug 5<sup>th</sup> Chamber "Night at the Rays". Boo hoo the Rays lost however, the Bus ride there and back was just a boat load of fun. We thought for a moment that we lost some folks but alas Mark came to the rescue. All accounted for and what a breeze of a ride home it was, not to have to fight all that traffic in your car.

Aug 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Luncheon at the Hampton Inn. Many of your local and State representatives were there for a scrumptious hot lunch and we heard from each of them and what they were trying to accomplish this year. Questions were answered from the audience. Well attended.

Aug 16<sup>th</sup> Non Profit Round table was held at Nielsen. Seventeen of our nonprofit members were treated to Stephanie Frank speaking about websites and the various ways to get them to work for you.

Aug 21<sup>st</sup> was the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Indoor Golf. What a fantastic idea and how much fun was it? Well let me tell you, as there were over 120 golfers there to share in the fun and games. Nine different places offered up space for custom putting holes, food & drinks for us to have a ball {in the hole}.

Aug 24<sup>th</sup> Pop Drop collected and delivered items for Blessed The Spring. As per usual Sharon Edwards out did herself with truck loads of nonperishable foods, toiletries, new or gently used clothing and very much needed women's feminine hygiene products plus Walmart gift cards and donations.

Aug 29<sup>th</sup> The Lash Lounge Ribbon cutting, UTB Chamber welcomes another new member. Enjoy the process.

Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> - Relationship builders, always such a great meet and greet as these are so well attended. Check the Chamber website calendar for upcoming dates.

## **SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES OF NONPROFITS**

### **MATTIE WILLIAMS NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY CENTER**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> - 4pm to 6pm**

**1003 Dr. ML King Jr St. Safety Harbor 34695**

Save the date, as they are celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are throwing an Open House to celebrate 25 years of helping others! They want to “Thank you” for all your support over the years. They serve Oldsmar, Eastern Clearwater and Safety Harbor

### **PROJECT POP DROP**

**September 1<sup>st</sup> thru 27<sup>th</sup>**

Project Pop Drop will be collecting for the Homeless Empowerment Program in Clearwater. Sharon Edwards will be delivering items received on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>; there are over 40 box locations to drop things into. If you can't find one drop by the Chamber office, there is a box there that isn't quite full yet.

### **SUPERFIT KIDZ**

**September 15<sup>th</sup> - 10:30am until 2pm**

**Our Lady Of Lourdes 750 San Salvador Drive Dunedin, FL, 34698**

Faith, Family, Fitness and “Fun-Draiser” \$5.00 entry. All are Welcome! Fun Fitness Activities, games, prizes, Giveaways, Vendor Tables, Face Painting, Balloon Fun and Fitness demos. There will be Professional Athlete Speakers, Music, Fun, and food. Come and bring your kids. Something for everyone will be there.

### **Blanket Tampa Bay**

**Every Monday night**

**Contact Wendie at 727 452-1460**

Blanket Tampa Bay is at St Peter Claver Church from 7-8pm in downtown Tampa handing out blankets, toilet paper and other things of necessity to the downtrodden and homeless. Beth Ross works full time so she can afford to carry on this nonprofit; she is in need of blankets, work boots and almost anything you can think of that a Homeless person might need. The blankets are for them to lie on as they are truly living outside 24/7. Contact if you can help in anyway. Thank you.

### **JAN STEPHENSON'S CROSSROADS FOUNDATION**

You can win! Jan Stephenson World Class, Hall of Fame Golfer is Raffling her refurbished 1987 Porsche 924S. Tickets are \$50.00, all proceeds go to the Jan Stephenson Crossroads Foundation that aides the Wounded Warriors. Winning ticket will be selected on or before March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. Tickets can be obtained at the Pro Shop of Tarpon Woods Golf Club.

## **JAN STEPHENSON'S CROSSROADS FOUNDATION**

**Sunday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>**

Legendary Voices of Rock Concert.

**Monday Nov 11<sup>th</sup>**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebrity Invitational Golf Classic and Concert

More information on Crossroads Foundation November events in the next two newsletter.

## **JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION NORTH PINELLAS GUILD**

**Monday September 9<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**Johns Hopkins All Children's Outpatient Care Center Eastlake, 3850 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor, Florida 34684**

Join us for an informational meeting to learn about getting involved. Make an impact in your community! Your support can make a positive impact in the lives of children and families in our community. From donating and fundraising to volunteering your time and talent, we invite you to join us on our journey to shape the future of pediatric medicine and create healthy tomorrows... for one child, for all children.

## **JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION NORTH PINELLAS GUILD**

**September 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 - Guild Summit**

**Research and Education Building 600 5<sup>th</sup> Street South St. Petersburg**

September 28<sup>th</sup> Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, Guild Summit: Hear from hospital leadership, staff and foundation Guild; sessions will cover topics such as event planning, finance, community engagement, marketing and more. Register on line at [hopkinsallchildrens.org/guildsummit](http://hopkinsallchildrens.org/guildsummit) by September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **RCS {Religious Community Services}**

**September 24<sup>th</sup> - 11:30am until 1:30pm**

**SPC Allstate Center, The Florida Room 6605 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North St. Petersburg Florida**

RCS Annual Meeting and Heritage Club Luncheon SPC Allstate Center, The Florida Room 6605 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North St. Petersburg Florida RSVP to Angela Emery; [angela.emery@rcspinellas.org](mailto:angela.emery@rcspinellas.org) by Sept 17

Well that is a wealth of information and I pray you will join the non profits in their endeavors. I have a wonderful feeling that September is going to be smooth sailing for all of us in the Chamber. Be Blessed

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