



SAFE SUMMER & BOYS PROGRAM GO TO USF, Shriner's and Moffitt!



Donors who made it possible:

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Summer has ended and so has a successful trial run of FICS' Multicultural Family Center's **Safe Summer Program**. The teachers of this program, **Jessica Becker** and **Theresa Yuricic**, led a diverse group of children through a curriculum including tutoring in the areas of math, reading, writing, safety lessons, career planning, and a variety of fun activities. Additionally, the group of students participated in such activities as *Fear Factor*, *Olympics*, and *Monopolis*, which is the creation of a city in which each child is given the responsibilities of an adult. All of these activities helped in the development of leadership skills, self-esteem, and teamwork while maintaining a safe, fun environment! *Written by: Jessica Becker and Theresa Yuricic, picture by Alayne Unterberger*

This picture was taken at **Moffitt's Lifetime Cancer Screening** program during our only fieldtrip this summer, which was sponsored by our partners at the **Gulfcoast North Area Health Education Centers**, otherwise known as GNAHEC. GNAHEC came in to teach our youth about the numerous health careers that are open to them and during our daylong trip, they learned many things about education, health and future career opportunities. **Thank you to everyone at GNAHEC, USF, Moffitt and Shriner's for making July 11, 2006 such an outstanding day for all of us!** FICS is working with various partners, agencies and funding sources to continue our success throughout the year in our afterschool program. **Please help!**



This summer, FICS was blessed with the excellent fortune of having two extremely creative young women teach our Safe Summer: **Theresa Yuricic** (left), a senior at USF and **Jessica Becker** (right), a junior at Southeastern University. Our evaluation showed that the teachers and students rated the program as exceeding goals. Kids especially liked **Fear Factor** (eating gummy worms and pudding), pictures of which we are sharing here:



PROYECTO PREVENCIÓN

As the summer winds down Project Prevention gears up for another round of sessions. This summer was very busy with Project Prevention classes taking place at [Alexander Park](#), [Timberlane Park](#), and the [MultiCultural Family Center](#). Project prevention is a 10-session program targeted at youth between 10–18 years old focusing on drug prevention, HIV prevention, making good choices, and leadership skills. We give a special thanks to [Carlton Lewis](#) and [Joseph Lennox-Smith](#), Positive Education, for being guest speakers on HIV. We graduated 19 youth at Timberlane Park, 18 at Alexander Park and 10 at our Multicultural Family Center this summer! We are proud of our **47 new Project Prevention alumni** (Alexander Park below, Timberlane above)!



Check out Project Prevention on MySpace.com
www.myspace.com/104401327



We welcome aboard our newest teen coordinators: [Monica Martinez](#) and [Alexander Merchan](#). They are currently busy helping set up Project Prevention cohorts at Leto High School and Webb Middle School. Between July and August, staff signed up **137 students** at back to school and orientation events. Our efforts at Leto were the most successful, where 87 youth signed up to participate in our program. As a team our goal is to start Project Prevention at all three school sites within the first month of school. **GO TEAM GO!!!!** Thank you, [SAMHSA](#), our funder!

Congratulations goes out to [Monica Martinez](#), [Alexander Merchan](#), and [Nina Lopez](#) who recently finished the Hillsborough County Health Department's three-day training course on HIV counseling at the Health

Department. They are now on their way to being certified HIV counselors!

Thanks to all School and Hillsborough County Recreation personnel who work with us in making a difference with the youth of Town N Country. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at 249-8100, or stop by the Multi-Cultural Family Center at 6704 Hanley Road. We always welcome new positive dedicated role models who are interested in helping our youth. If

you are interested please contact us @ 813.249.8100 or ficsnadia@yahoo.com

(Written by [Nina Lopez](#), Teen Coordinator)

New in Fall 2006: Sign Up Today

1. **Project Prevention II**: keep up with your friends and keep making good choices with FICS
2. **Prodigy**, an arts program featuring hip-hop/breakdance, theater and dance classes!

The Mission Statement of the Florida Institute for Community Studies (FICS): to partner with communities across Florida to help them achieve their goals through research, services, education and training.

Wall of Fame: Project Prevention awards a special Wal-Mart Gift Card to students earning the most points over the 10-session program. Congratulations to all our Winners, by class!

First Name	Last Name	City	State	Zip	Graduated	Age in Years
Kayla	Lepley	Tampa	FL	33615	25-Jul-05	16
Elishca	Charles	Tampa	FL	33634	3-Aug-05	15
Emanuel	Lewis	Tampa	FL	33615	3-Aug-05	16
Joseph	Urueta	Tampa	FL	33634	24-Oct-05	11
Helene	Horace	Tampa	FL	33604	11-Nov-05	15
Indira	Canario	Tampa	FL	33634	14-Dec-05	15
Angelica	Romero	Tampa	FL	33615	29-Mar-06	12
Jonathan	Bucheli	Tampa	FL	33615	14-Apr-06	11
Alexander	Salazar	Tampa	FL	33615	11-May-06	13
Christian	Dominguez	Tampa	FL	33634	26-May-06	13
Dimtiri	Mercado	Tampa	FL	33614	6-Jul-06	12
Angel	Otero	Tampa	FL	33615	1-Aug-06	10
Melanie	Pellot	Tampa	FL	33615	1-Aug-06	10



Update from the Center: Can you believe it? As of August 2006, FICS has recorded 2410 people signing into our tiny Center! In all of



2005, we had 455 recorded sign-ins and in 2006, so far, we are at 1955! Thank you, Town N Country!!! Also, in July we bid a fond farewell to **Liliana Mejia**, who is off to the University of Florida (pictured here with TC Nenas, l-r, Gen Acevedo, Nancy Ruiz, Crystal Camacho, Lili, Amanda Anglada and Rosa Ruiz). We will miss you, Lili! Over fifty people came out to celebrate Lili



and make contributions to her scholarship fund. July also marked the beginning of FICS' collaboration with Hillsborough County Children's Services in having Ms. Barbara Valles, MS (pictured above with Teen Coordinator Alex Merchan), on-site to provide free bilingual family counseling. ¡Bienvenida, Barbara!



As fall is upon us, FICS is working with various partners to bring quality and affordable afterschool programming to TNC. This fall, we plan to strengthen our Youth Advisory Board and do more artistic programming through the Center. The Boys Program through Ophelia-YMCA with Mike Trepper will continue on Wednesdays and we will do a Girls' Art Program on Thursdays. Sign up today!



Vivir Mejor & Pocos Hijos Para Darles Más

The Florida Institute for Community Studies has combined our ten year-old Pocos Hijos Para Darles Mas/Have Fewer Children So You Can Give

Them More and our newer Vivir Mejor/Live Better program under the guidance of one health promotor, Mr. Juan Gomez, pictured at left with four of our Exemplary Fathers (l-r Cayetano Polanco, Santos Vela, Juan, Ysbrain Guzman and Felipe Sanchez). We send a special thanks out to Mario and Lorenzo, pictured at right, who are members of our Community Advisory Board and volunteer at our events. In South Hillsborough County, we continue to have success on many levels. Our goal is to outreach as many families possible and teach them the basics on diabetes, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease prevention, family planning, cholesterol and good eating habits. We continue to partner with Good Samaritan Mission, Beth-El Mission, Sun Coast Community Health Centers, RCMA, and several housing projects. This year, with the help of the of the planning committee, agencies, restaurants and the Hillsborough County Parks, we have held three community events; the 3 Kings Day, Mother's Day and the Exemplary Father Day! Hopefully in the near future we can implement programs that are geared toward the youth in this part of the county. Muchas Gracias. Juan Gomez/Health Promotor



Thanks to Our "Other" Volunteers: The FICS Board!

FICS is governed by a volunteer board of 10 members: Alvin Wolfe, PhD, Chair, Sarah Egan, JD, Matilda Garcia, Tony Jenkins, Jack Levine, JD, Sandy Marquez Domingo Noriega, Maria Antonieta Riveros Revello, Richard Ryan, and Pablo Sierra.

Currently, we have one vacancy on the board.

Volunteers Needed! FICS wants

YOU! We need volunteers for many jobs: 1) help us renovate our space, 2) paint, 3) tutor kids (every day from 3 – 6 PM), 4) participate in car washes on Saturdays and 5) serve as event volunteers. We will provide community service hours and you will have fun at the same time! Call us to find out when the next volunteer orientation is being held: 813.249.8100 or email alayne@tampabay.rr.com.

Capital Campaign! FICS has embarked on our very first Yearly Capital Campaign. This will be our annual fund drive, with a goal of raising \$10,000. We will be contacting you and following up on previous donations Please help us! 100% of your donation goes to our programming! **Our Federal Identification**

