



Florida Institute for Community Studies, Inc.

EL INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS COMUNITARIOS DE LA FLORIDA, INC.

Newsletter Number 7, Volume 4, Fall 2007 * Otoño 2007

New Records, New Awards, New Challenges! Siempre en la lucha con FICS.....

Congratulations to the staff and youth of Project Prevention for three major accomplishments:

First, Project Prevention won the Local Hero Award for Prevention from the Patel Foundation in 2007



Drs. Patel with Principal Investigator Dr. Alayne Unterberger



Staff: Monica Martinez, Natalie Gonzalez, Dr. Unterberger,

Mark Your Calendar!

- 11/15: 4-6 PM Tampa Theatre
Honoring Carlton Lewis & FICS
- 12/6: 6:00 PM (mixer and cash bar)
7:00 PM Fundraising Dinner
FICS 5th Anniversary @ Lowry
Park Zoo, Paradise Cafe
Retrospective, entertainment!
- 12/7: 9 AM – 5 PM 5th Anniversary
Open House, Multicultural
Family Center



Second, Project Prevention exceeded our goals and has now

graduated 441 youth, with the following Highest

Point Winners:

MFC	7/05	Kayla Figueroa
MFC	8/05	Elishca Charles & Emmanuel Lewis
TNC	10/05	Joseph Urueta
AP	10/05	Helene Horace
Leto	12/05	Indira Canario
TNC	3/06	Jonathan Bucheli
MFC	3/06	Angie Romero
TNC	5/06	Alexander Salazar
TNC	5/06	Christian "Mayonnaise" Dominguez
AP	7/06	Dimitri Mercado
Tim	7/06	Andres Martin
MFC	8/06	Melanie Pellot & Angel Otero
TNC	10/06	Charles Gonzalez
Leto	10/06	Alvin Desir
Tim	11/06	Lucia Luciano
AP	12/06	Elias Duran
AP	12/06	Chaveli Garcia
MFC	2/07	George Carrion
TNC	3/07	Austin Straight
Tim	4/07	Courtney Cathey
Per	5/07	Cynthia Meregildo
Bell	5/07	Iusaella Landa
Jeff	5/07	Seanna Ellis & Kylee Rosado
Tim	7/07	Xavier Sierra
Tim	7/07	William Rodriguez
Bell	8/07	Brittany Thompson & Kesha Martin
MFC	8/07	Stephanie & Robert Flores
Bell	8/07	Sharlin Mereci

*Thanks to our partners at Town N
Country Park (TNC), Timberlane Park
(Tim), Alexander Park (AP), Bellamy Park
(Bell), Perrone Park (Per), Jefferson High
School (Jeff) and Leto High School (Leto).
If your school or agency would like to be a
partner site for Project Prevention, call
813.249.8100. ¡Sí, se puede!*

Talent Show:
First Place
Winners



Adjani Piñeiro, Talent Show
Coordinator, with Paco, DJ 98.7 FM
and daughter @ Youth Summit 9/07

09.30.2007
PROYECTO PREVENCIÓN
 YOUTH SUMMIT
CUMBRE DE JOVENES
 TOWN N COUNTRY RECREATION CENTER

Third, Project Prevention held a very successful Youth Summit on September 30, 2007, where about 150 graduates and another 100 parents crowded into the Town n Country Recreation Center to plan for a healthier and happier future. Special thanks go to our Heroes: **Bob Conigliaro, Vice President of Casper's Corporation/McDonalds** and **Tony Jenkins, Regional Director, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida.** See back page for a list of sponsors and donors!



Alayne with DJ Juice, Wild Style DeeJays, and Timmy Justiano, winner of Candy Basket for Drug Jeopardy

FICS News and New Program

Updates.... FICS accomplishes a great deal by staying true to our Strategic Plan and partnering with community members, volunteers, students, youth and other agencies to realize common goals. We are very happy to announce that we have been able to bring science-based programming to new areas and expand our reach by 241 continuing clients:



Project Prevention is funded by the Centers for Substance Abuse Prevention, SAMHSA, US Department of Health and Human Services



Health Careers Expeditions: Through a partnership with the Gulfcoast North Area Health Education Centers (GNAHEC), FICS took **125 youth** from Wimauma/Ruskin, Plant City/Dover and Town N Country to several stops, including St. Anthony's Hospital, USF, Shriners' and Moffitt Hospitals. We also went to the beach. Photo Galleries are online at www.ficsinc.org



Safe Neighborhoods/All Stars in Wimauma Summer 2007. We were able to graduate **43 young leaders** from a joint program with the Beth El Mission! Youth did two carwashes, enough to fund their own waterslide in August! They also visited the Holocaust Museum and met **Holocaust Survivor Philip Gans** (pictured at left with Kenia). You can see more photos online at ficsinc.org!

Summer/Out of School Time Partnership between FICS and YMCA. Fifty-four (54) youth between the ages of 6 and 12 participated in a joint program this summer! Another twenty or so participated with FICS for the second year of Safe Summer Programming. FICS served as a Summer Food Provider, with free lunches to the community. Carlos gives out backpacks @ right!



Vivir Mejor and Pocos Hijos Para Darles Más, our farmworker outreach and education programs, lost Mr. Juan Gomez but gained Ms. Ana Sanchez as our new Promotora! Ana is getting acclimated to her new work in Wimauma, Dover, Plant City and Ruskin. ¡Bienvenida Ana!

English as a Second Language and GED Classes are now being offered FREE on site at FICS every day through a new partnership with the Hillsborough County School District. The teacher, Leyda, can be contacted directly at 813.317.6651.



Kloveruxjk#rxqw|ghsdup hqw#f#kloguq#huyfhw and FICS are now providing enhanced services, including our summer/afterschool program, screenings and referrals to counseling and shelter and FREE bilingual family counseling on site every Tuesday at the Multicultural Family Center with Ms. Angelica Socias. We are very excited about this new collaboration, which directly addresses our Strategic Plan initiative calling for more bilingual and low-cost family centered programming in Town N Country! **Thank you,**

Tom Papin, Johnny Zambito, Bill Hogan and Tracy Smith for making this subcontract work!

Forward to the Future Sponsors:

Hero (\$1000+):



Casper Company-McDonald's
Blue Cross/Blue Shield



Silver (\$200-\$499)

Matilda Martinez Garcia

Maria Antonieta Revello, *Reiki and Alternative Healing Medicine*



Carlton Lewis

Walt Disney

Fernando Santos Screen Printing

Bronze (\$199 and below)

Publix Supermarkets, Inc Corporate Office
Sweetbay Supermarket, Patrick Atkinson, Manager
Chilli's Grill – Kevin Montgomery, Manager
Cici's Pizza

Forward to the Future Partners

Hillsborough County Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Park Rangers (for cooking!)

DJ Juice. Wild Stvle DeeJaze



Do you believe that youth are our future? So do we! FICS cannot rely on government funding. We believe that our community can and will support us because **FICS GETS RESULTS!** Please contribute as generously as you are able. 100% of your contribution goes into programming! Contribute through Guidestar.org or via our website.

Please help us! *Our Federal Identification Number is 59-3712006 and we are listed on **Guidestar** as a reputable non-profit organization.* Checks can be made out to any amount and mailed to: **FICS, PO Box 16745, TAMPA, FL 33687.**

Thanks....¡Mil Gracias! FICS received the following since our last

newsletter: Join Justin Fontinini, Dr. Raul Revello and Maria Antonieta Riveros Revello, FICS board member, by donating today!



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|--------|--|--------|---|
| \$1500 | Dennis Penzell, MD | \$1342 | Casper's Corporation/McDonald's (Bob Conigliaro) |
| \$1000 | Maria Antonieta Revello | \$780 | Jack Levine, JD |
| \$500 | Hispanic Support Organization of Verizon | \$610 | Chili's Restaurant, Hillsborough (Kevin Montgomery) |
| \$500 | David Horst, Famous Tate | \$560 | Tony Dodd, Cici's Pizza |

Less than \$500: Patrick Atkinson, Gail Blanco, Paul & Nilda Chandler, Michael Cross @ Starbucks/ Westshore Mall, Dr. Victor Delgado, Dr. Steve Dubb and Dr. Barbara Bergland, Jacqueline Fauss, Justin Fontanini, Matilda Garcia, Louis & Nancy Gomez, Thaly Guerrero, Bill Hogan, Amanda Jackson, Jose Zuñiga, John Land, Jack Levine, Carlton Lewis, Maribel Marmol, Maria Mayorga, German & Susana Nieto, Shannon Patten, Arthur Paula, Dr.Miguel Pro, Carlos Revelo, Carol Roberts, Eduardo Santos, Dr. Hendrick Serrie, Pablo Sierra, Jr., Hugo & Felicidad Torres Gomez, William & Sadith Ulloa, Alayne Unterberger, Esteban Vasquez and Betsy Wikinson



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