

APRIL 2024

CHILDREN'S NETWORK
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, LLC



**CIRCUIT 20 KINSHIP
NEWSLETTER**



We are thrilled to present another edition of our newsletter, reinforcing our commitment to keeping you, our esteemed caregivers, well-informed. In this issue, we aim to provide valuable insights and updates to enhance your understanding of various aspects related to caregiving and the child welfare system. Your dedication is vital, and our goal is to support you with relevant information and resources that contribute to your well-being and effectiveness as caregivers. Thank you for your unwavering commitment, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

MISSION

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida is committed to working with the community to protect children and preserve families.

VISION

Building Strong Links for Children in Need.

VALUES LEADERSHIP

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida embraces leadership guided by informed wisdom and common sense, with compassion.

INTEGRITY

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida operates with integrity, honesty, and transparency.

ADVOCACY

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida advocates for safety, permanency and well-being of children and their families.

STEWARDSHIP

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida is an active steward committed to the efficient and effective use of resources.

CAREGIVERS AND THE COURT

Did you Know?

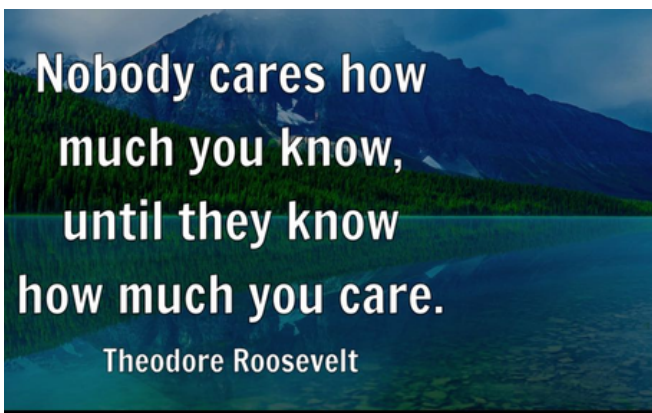
You have a right to:

- **Advance notice of court hearings.**
- **Be heard in court.**
- **Ask questions about the case plan.**
- **Respectfully share your opinion.**

How to Prepare:

- **Feel free to reach out to your case manager or children's legal services (CLS) attorney before the court hearing with any questions you may have.**
- **Upon your arrival, make sure the case manager and CLS attorney are aware of your presence and indicate if you wish to speak in court.**
- **If you are unable to attend court, fill out and return a Caregiver Input Form to the case manager beforehand for inclusion in the case documents.**

KINSHIP NAVIGATOR C.A.R.E.S.



**If you have questions,
please reach out to Greg
Reyna at
Greg.reyna@cnswfl.org
or Jody- Ann Foster at
Jodyann.foster@cnswfl.org**

C- Childcare is our priority; we engage with caregivers upon placement and assist in establishing a nurturing home environment for children in care.

A – Assist caregivers to access food stamps, cash benefits, legal services, ELC and other benefits.

R- Referrals for counseling, therapy, and Level 1 licensure are completed.

E- Educate caregivers about the resources and services at their disposal.

S- Support group meetings are conducted to offer caregivers a secure environment for sharing experiences and connecting with fellow caregivers.

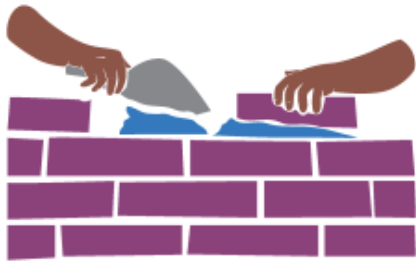
DON'T STRESS, DO YOUR BEST, AND FORGET THE REST.

Building Your 'Mental Health House'

LITTLE BY LITTLE, A LITTLE BECOMES A LOT

**Stress Awareness Month 2024 focuses on the idea that
consistent small actions can make big impacts!**

We encourage you to focus on making manageable adjustments to your daily routine. The cumulative effects of these habits can end up being profound!



Think of it like building a house - laying down a single brick may not seem to make a significant impact...

Each brick represents a conscious choice to prioritize and build your mental health and resilience.

They all add strength and stability, making you more resilient to the challenges that life brings.

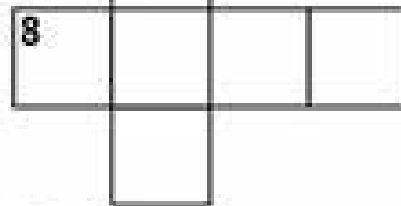
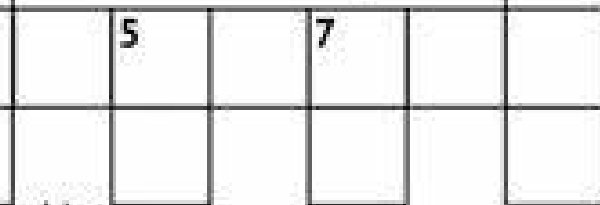
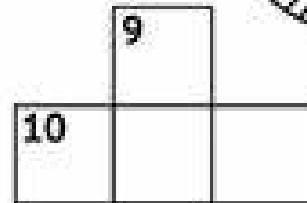
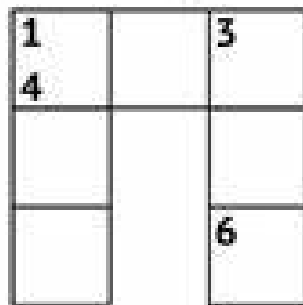
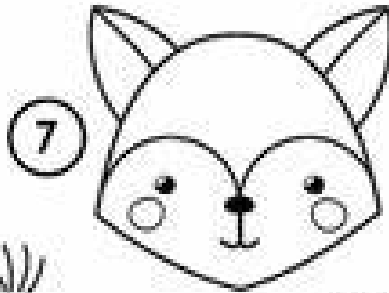
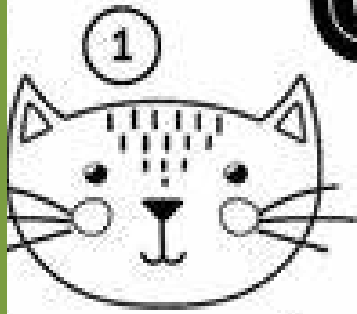
These actions may seem small but they serve as the foundation of your mental wellbeing.

As you continue to add more bricks, your mental health house begins to take shape.

Overtime, the accumulation of these small consistent efforts leads to a remarkable outcome!



Guess Who?



Kinship Care Support Group



4/23/2024 6:00PM - 7:00PM

*We are here to listen
and support you!*

PLEASE REACH OUT TO JODY ANN
FOSTER FOR MORE INFORMATION!

PHONE: 239-940-5539

EMAIL:

JODYANN.FOSTER@CNSWFL.ORG

FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

RSVP REQUIRED

Family FUN DAY

Strengthen family relationships, play and create together to make lasting memories!

FREE!

SATURDAY
APRIL 27
10AM-12PM

- Guided creativity
- Play family games
- Sensory experiences

RSVP Call:

239-297-7099

5280 Summerlin Commons
Way, Suite 804, Fort Myers,
FL 33907

www.floridaarttherapyservices.com

gulf coast
TOWN CENTER

Meet REAL LIFE Superheroes

SUPERHERO DAY

FREE FAMILY EVENT
IN THE COURTYARD
(by the playground)

SUN - APR 28, 2024
12-2 PM

Community cooperative
Ending People Nourishing Lives

Location: 9903 Gulf Coast Main St Fort Myers, FL 33913



FREE EVENT

Reserve you & your kid(s) spot here.

Florida Rep Theater for Young Children is presenting Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day

Tuesday April 23, 2024 at 3 PM

Free Tickets

Limited to the first 150. Tickets can be reserved online or at Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation Farmer's Market booth...

[Reserve Tickets](#)



April 23rd at 3pm

Location: Lakes Park

7330 Gladiolus Drive Fort Myers, FL 33907



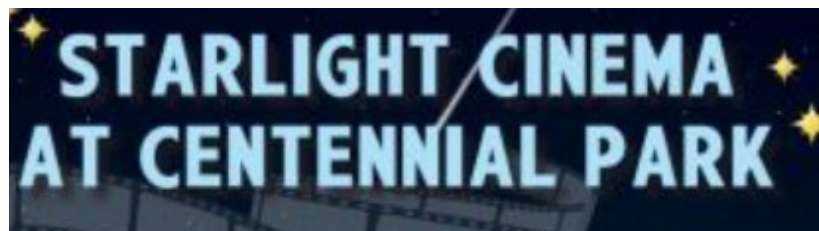
When: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Where: Conservancy Of Southwest Florida, 1495 Smith Preserve Way, Naples, Florida

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Cost: This is a FREE family friendly event for the community.

Featuring specialty presentations, story time, multiple kid zones, eco-friendly activities and games, electric boat rides, nature focused crafts, nature walks, face painting, and food trucks



When: Saturday, April 20, 2024, 7:30 pm

Location: Centennial Park Recreational Center 1120 Centennial Blvd., Port Charlotte, Florida 33953

Cost: Free

Starlight Cinema is an enchanting outdoor experience that celebrates the magic of cinema under the stars. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, snacks, nonalcoholic drinks, and whatever you need to make yourself at home.

RESOURCES

H PE4KIDS

Caring for SWFL Children

Address: 16440 South Tmaiami Trail, Fort Myers, Florida, 33908

Telephone Number: (239) 789- 1145

Contact | Hope 4 Kids, Inc. (hopeswfl.org)

They can provide clothes and necessities for children, free of charge



United Way 211

United Way of Lee,
Hendry, and Glades

WHAT IS UNITED WAY 211?

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://UNITEDWAYLEE.ORG/NEED-HELP/](https://unitedwaylee.org/need-help/)

211 is a 24-hour emergency helpline that connects people with human and social service agencies in Lee, Hendry and Glades. United Way helps anyone in need of shelter, food, hygiene, products and even school supplies for children.