



New Year Kicks Off

With the final Florida schools kicking off the 2016-17 school year in the coming days, Step Up For Students team members have been busily working on applications for both the Florida Tax Credit (income-based) scholarship and the Gardiner Scholarship for children with certain special needs.

For the income-based scholarship, Step Up expects to have more than 92,000 students enrolled for the new year, and another several thousand more using the Gardiner to customize their learning.

For more information please go to

www.tepupforstudents.org

RVP Spotlight



Northeast Region RVP

Lillie Blackshear (Jacksonville),
blackshearqueenb@aol.com

T.L.C. Association Inc.
Will be hosting FSFAPA's October Mini Conference
In Mulberry on October 8, 2016

Location:

Mulberry Christian Academy Church of God
200 Dean Street
Mulberry, FL 33860

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

Lunch will be Served

Hotel:

Newly REMODELED
Best Western Mulberry 2525 State
Road, 60 East
Mulberry, FL 33860
863-425-2500 fax: 863-869-9354

Childcare:

Limited Spaces 0—12 Cost \$5.00 per Child Registration Contact:

Lori Decker Phone: 813-892-3016

Email: loriadeckertlc@gmail.com

On June 11, Duffels4Kids distributed 129 duffels and more than 100 pajamas to foster parents attending FSFAPA's annual conference in Orlando. We love having a table at events catered to foster kids and foster parents because everyone can see actual results of supporting a program like ours. (By the way, we sold out of our amazing handmade bracelets supporting kids in foster care!) We had more requests than duffels during the conference but as of today, all requests have been processed and duffels were shipped directly to the children throughout the state. New Year Kicks Off

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Your RVP's

Suncoast Region – Circuits 6, 13
Melissa Schol

Central East Region – Circuits 7, 18 / Bylaws
Lynda Thompson

Southeast Region – Circuits 19, 15, & 17
Dorothy Alvarez

Northeast Region – Circuits 4
Lillie Blackshear

Central Region – 5, 9,
Melanie Stimmell

South Central – Circuits 10 / Membership
Harry Dubia

Southern Region – Circuits 11, & 16 / Director
Trudy Petkovich

Southwest Region – Circuits 12, 20
Anne Whiteside

Northwest Region – Circuits 2, 14 / Legislation
Thomas Croom

North Central Region – Circuits 3 & 8 / Independent Living
Amanda Williams

Panhandle Region – Circuit 1 / Adoption
Kara Elliott-Jordan

DCF Child Protection Summit Draws More Than 3,000 Attendees

DCF Secretary Mike Carroll and experts share vision for child welfare
ORLANDO - The Department of Children and Families' (DCF) 2016 Child Protection Summit, held this week from Wednesday to Friday in Orlando, included more than 3,200 individuals representing approximately 240 organizations. The annual three-day summit is Florida's largest gathering of child welfare professionals to receive continuing education, share best practices, and collaborate to advance child welfare services and partnerships.

In Wednesday's general opening session, DCF Secretary Mike Carroll emphasized the importance of partnerships, expressed that our work will never be done, and praised the professionals who work every day to protect and support children, as well as help families recover.

"Child safety and well-being are not and should never be the sole domain of a single agency, community organization, or program," Secretary Mike Carroll said. "The safety and well-being of our children is and will always be everyone's responsibility."

In Thursday's general session, Child Welfare Excellence and Lifesaver Award recipients were recognized by Secretary Carroll and partners for advancing child welfare practices and outstanding individual efforts that resulted in lives saved. Workshops and classes continued through Friday.

During the closing general session today, the 2016 class of the Florida Youth Leadership Academy graduated from the leadership program and performed an original song with Motivational Edge. The Protecting the Light award was also presented by Secretary Carroll to the first and former assistant secretary for child welfare, Janice Thomas, in recognition of her contribution to the child welfare system in Florida.

Contact: David Frady, DCF Press Secretary, David.Frady@myflfamilies.com

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Executive Vice President
Chris Johnson
Vice President
Orlando Avila
Secretary
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Treasurer
Maria Bond
Executive Director
Trudy Petkovich

