



Happy Easter Let's see what March brought LSF *SPRING FORWARD*

"Rejoice!"
Matthew 28

In this season of renewal, we can rejoice in Christ's rising and celebrate with family and friends. I wish you and your families a joyous Easter!



For Christians, Easter is the most important day of the year. I encourage each of you to step away from the busyness of your lives and enjoy the quiet moments to reflect. Use this time to spread the inspiration that the spirit of Easter gives us.

With spring in full swing so is my Listening Tour. My first stop is in Sarasota at the Guardianship program. I am looking forward to riding along with a case manager and witnessing first hand how we are protecting the elderly.

Read on to see what else is happening around the state in our programs.

Sam Sipes
CEO

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do." —Steve Jobs



DIANA JAHOVAJ
Head Start Center Director
High Point in Clearwater, FL



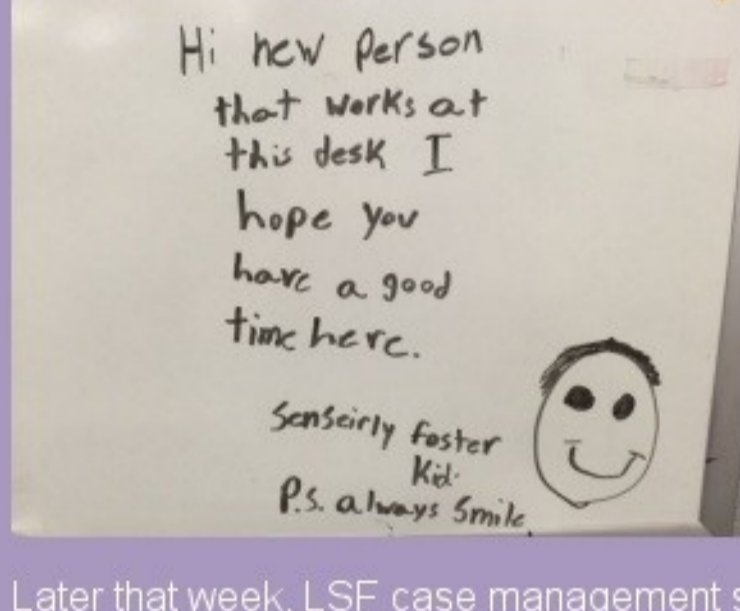
CELEBRATING WOMEN AT LSF

International Women's Day: Meet Diana Jahovaj

Women all across the world celebrated International Women's Day March 8th, but Diana Jahovaj, Head Start Center Director at High Point in Clearwater, FL says she tries to empower women all year long...

[Read more](#)
www.lsfnet.org

Case Management Optimism

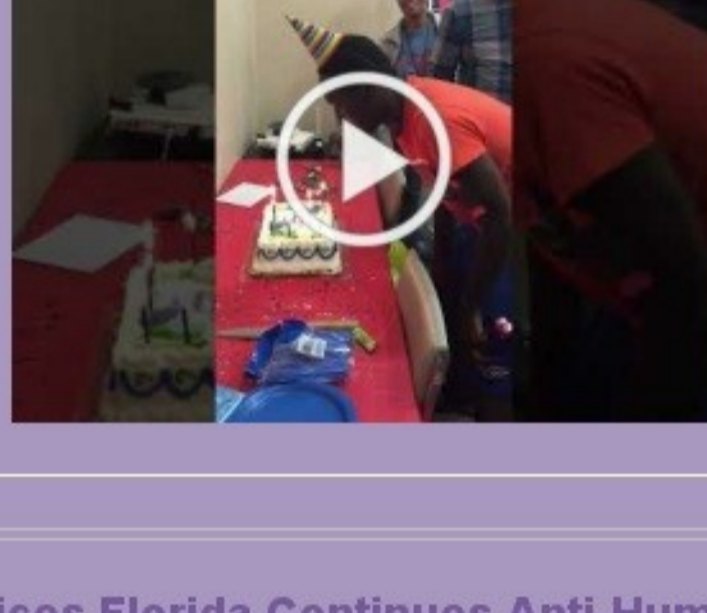


Our program director in **Pinellas** for case management stumbled across this message written on a white board in a vacant cubicle.

Her response: "Some days, most days are really tough working in child welfare. Then you randomly stumble upon something so small that justifies all the stress, tears and long nights."
- Heather King

Later that week, LSF case management staff honored Horace with a surprise birthday party to celebrate his 18th birthday. **You would never know by his smile that he has spent the last 15 years in foster care.**

This is just one example of our team's efforts to make every child feel loved and celebrated. Horace has graduated high school early and is transitioning into extended foster care. He will continue his education this fall. Check out this video of the birthday celebration!



Lutheran Services Florida Continues Anti-Human Trafficking..

One week after the Florida Legislative session ended, Lutheran Services Florida, (LSF) continues its focus on anti-human trafficking through a regional campaign called 'Look Beneath the Surface.'

[Read more](#)
www.lsfnet.org

Welcome Paola to LSF's Communication and Marketing Team!



The Communications and Marketing team is thrilled to introduce **Paola Calvo Florida** as our **new Creative Services Coordinator**. Paola has been on board with LSF for a month and comes to us with experience in refugee and immigration services, previously serving as the communications manager for the Florida Immigration Coalition in Miami, and prior to that she was with the ACLU.

Paola's creativity has impressed every program she has worked with so far. In just 30 days, **Paola has increased our social media engagement by 102 percent**, created banners for case management and human trafficking programs, worked with LSF Health Systems to refresh their page on the LSF website and has developed a marketing plan for Head Start recruitment and is already executing it!

If you have creative needs please reach out to Paola at Paola.calvo@lsfnet.org or via phone at 813-607-2277. Like the banners pictured above? The larger one is \$175 and the smaller one is \$75. Paola works directly with the program to create the artwork. Give her a call!

Welcome Paola! We are so glad you are here!

IT Tips: Smishing, Phishing... Funny Names or Not?

While the names of these growing threats might sound funny, being a victim of it is no joke.

Smishing is similar to phishing – where computer users receive an authentic-looking email (like the one mentioned in last month's Newsletter) that appears to be from their bank, Internet Service Provider (ISP) or even the IRS. Similarly, smishing messages are sent to you via text message or are left on your mobile phone as a voice mail.

What does the sender want? To defraud you!

[Read more](#)
www.lsfnet.org/communications

Congratulations: Community Kudos



Dr. Christine Caulfield, LSF Executive Vice President of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services is a finalist for the 2018 Sapphire Award, which recognizes excellence and innovation in community health. The ceremony will be held on May 3, 2018. Congratulations on your nomination and good luck!



Maria Hernandez who recently celebrated 35 years with LSF won the The City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council's "Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award." The award honors a community member who makes extraordinary contributions to the Hispanic community of Hillsborough County. The ceremony will take place on May 8, 2018. Congratulations Maria!

Human Resources Corner



What's Happening?



We said goodbye to our EVP of Programs, Stacy Martin, this month! She has moved on to become CEO of Lutheran Services of Nebraska. Good luck Stacy!



SW Comprehensive Refugee Services would like to thank Deputy Prado of the Hendry County Sheriff's office for the personal escort he provided for the Ft. Myers Employment Agency when they got lost in Clewiston.



LSF Central Services celebrated Black History Month with a presentation and entertainment from Chamberlain High School's Tribe Accapella Group. Thank you Kristy Pinkey and Head Start support staff for organizing the event!



The Shamrock theme brought LSF's Guardianship in Sarasota lots of luck on St. Patrick's Day! The fundraiser event raised more than \$3,500 thanks to Harbor Chase, which served as their sponsor.



City of Jacksonville Beach-Government Mayor Charlie Latham had the pleasure of reading to a very sharp group of pre-kindergartners at Lutheran Services Florida's Rhoda Martin Early Learning Center in Duval County.



Check out the youth from Lippard County competing in their own Master Chef challenges!

