

# KIDS HOUSE



## WHERE HOPE AND HEALING BEGINS



### KIDS HOUSE SPOTLIGHT

#### KICKOFF TO CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS EVENT

On April 7th, Kids House held our 2nd annual Kickoff Child Abuse Prevention Month virtual event. We want to thank all of our partnering agencies who came out to support our live event. A special thank you to the Seminole County Sheriff's Office for streaming the event live. At the event, we heard from our CEO, Juliette Kong, Sheriff Dennis Lemma, and special guest, Betty Potts-Cerio. We learned about Betty's story, how we could spread awareness about child abuse and prevention, and ways to help.

<https://www.kidshouse.org/CAPM>

#### COPS-N-KIDS FISHING DERBY

On Saturday, April 9th, our partner, the Casselberry Police Department, held the Cops-N-Kids Fishing Derby. Officers were paired up with children, and everyone had a blast catching fish while enjoying the fresh air. They were able to raise over \$5,000 for Kids House! Thank you, Casselberry Police Department!

#### ELEVATE

Also, on Saturday, April 9th, Leadership Seminole Class #31 held a benefit for Kids House of Seminole at Top Golf Lake Mary. All of the funds raised go towards the Class 31 Legacy Project to complete the renovation of Hester House so that there will be a training/community meeting space and offices that can be used for mental health expansion. Thank you, Leadership Seminole Class #31!

#### WELCOME

We want to introduce our new staff members:

**Stacy Boothe** - Case Coordinator

**Ann Landry** - Accounting Coordinator

**Kimberly Torres** - Mental Health Counselor



### PARENTS CORNER

#### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mental Health is vital here at Kids House. We have our own Mental Health Program that provides trauma therapy to help children heal and overcome the unseen injuries they've suffered. Treatment often includes creative arts and play therapy and working with non-offending caregivers. We also can utilize the skills of our Certified Facility Dog, Jordon, to aid in the healing process. She was purpose-bred and service-trained (for almost two years) by Canine Companions for Independence before she started working here at Kids House in August of 2016.

<https://www.kidshouse.org/services#MentalHealthProgram>

To learn more about Jordon and follow her adventures, visit her on her social platforms:

[jordons\\_journal](#) [jordonsjournal](#)

#### BREATHING EXERCISES

Breathing techniques are essential when you or your child start to feel overwhelmed. You can try various exercises, such as elephant breathing by standing feet apart, taking in a big belly breath through your nose, and raising your arms above your head like an elephant's trunk. Next, you exhale through your mouth as your arms swing down to the ground. Repeating this a few times and adding elephant noises can make it fun for the child while helping them become centered again. Another breathing exercise would be belly breathing. For this simple exercise, you take a deep breath through your nose, holding for three seconds, then slowly releasing through your mouth for three seconds. The more you repeat this exercise, the better.



### GET INVOLVED

#### MONETARY DONATIONS

As a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization, Kids House relies on our donors' kindness and dedication to further our efforts to prevent and treat child abuse. You can give now by cash, credit, and checks. Thank you for being so supportive!

<https://www.kidshouse.org/donate>

#### HOST A DRIVE

Host a drive for Kids House and collect items off of our wishlist. Drives can reach a much larger audience than asking for monetary donations and allows you to include family, friends, neighbors, donors, customers, and more.

#### SUPPORT FAITH'S GARDEN

Honor a child whose life was tragically ended due to child abuse or neglect with a Memory Stone in Faith's Garden at Kids House. Learn more about Faith's Garden and how it started at the link below.

<https://www.kidshouse.org/faiths-garden>

#### AMAZON SMILE

Shop using AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase every time. Be sure to choose Kids House of Seminole, Inc., as the charity you wish to select.

#### SHARING SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Help bring awareness to child abuse and neglect through social media. Every like, comment, repost, share, mention, and tag helps spread the word on what Kids House does and how we help our children. Be sure to follow us on all social media.

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## -NOTEWORTHY NEWS-

### EVENT SPOTLIGHT: SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

Presented by AdventHealth and Sponsored by Brassfield & Gorrie

Friday, April 22nd, Kids House held our first annual Kids House Sporting Clay Shoot presented by AdventHealth and sponsored by Brassfield & Gorrie. A huge thank you to all of our sponsors, teams, and the Kids House Staff who helped make this event possible. This event was so successful that we were able to raise over \$50,000 for Kids House! We look forward to seeing you all again next year!



### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Hester Project: Earth Day with Leadership Seminole Class 31 partnering with Siemens and Duke

Thank you, Siemens Energy and Duke Energy, for coming out and celebrating Earth Day with Kids House. Special thank you to Leadership Seminole Class #31 for suggesting this collaborative Earth Day event benefiting Kids House.