

**Liza Hernandez**

**From:** Family Resource Center <dmatthews@frcflorida.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 05, 2014 2:51 PM  
**To:** Liza Hernandez  
**Subject:** Tis the Season of Giving - Fall Newsletter

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# Family Matters

News and Information from **Family Resource Center of South Florida, Inc.**

*A Non-profit Organization Dedicated to the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect*

**Fall 2014**

## Holiday Gift Drive For Children in Foster Care



**Drop off your unwrapped gifts by Monday, December 8th:**

Family Resource Center  
155 S. Miami Avenue  
Fourth Floor  
Miami, FL 33130

**Make a contribution online:**  
[www.frcflorida.org/donate](http://www.frcflorida.org/donate)

Contact Liza Hernandez at [lhernandez@frcflorida.org](mailto:lhernandez@frcflorida.org) or 305.789.4489 to get involved.

Today there are close to **2,000 children** in Miami-Dade who have been removed from their home due to **neglect or abuse**.

Please help a foster child have a bright holiday season by contributing to Family Resource Center's Holiday Gift Drive.

**How can you help?**

- Be matched with a foster child or children, and receive their holiday wish list(s).
- Host a toy drive with you company to collect unwrapped toys or gift cards.
- Make a contribution to FRC for the purchase of gift cards for teens at [www.frcflorida.org/donate](http://www.frcflorida.org/donate).



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[www.frcflorida.org](http://www.frcflorida.org)

[twitter @FRCFlorida](https://twitter.com/FRCFlorida)

Help FRC continue to champion the rights of neglected and abused children, donate today.

**Donate**

## DONOR CIRCLE

A special "**Thank You**" to all of our supporters this current fiscal year (from July 1, 2014 through October 23, 2014).

We couldn't do what we do without you!

## Lead Supporters



**OurKids**



**Join Our Board!**

Family Resource Center's board of directors is composed of leaders in different fields of business dedicated to spearheading FRC's mission to help prevent and treat child abuse and neglect through the strengthening of families.

As we continue to grow our organization, FRC is looking for passionate leaders who want to have a voice in child welfare. We are seeking individuals to join our board of directors in the fields not currently represented, including Retail, Banking, Travel/Leisure, and Hotel/Tourism and that can contribute a few hours each month.



Our organization works with over 1,400 children annually who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. Family Resource Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children throughout South Florida. Its programs are designed to strengthen familial relationships and to reunite families that have been torn apart due to abuse or neglect. When necessary, FRC provides crisis intervention services and counseling to create a safer, more stable environment for children and adolescents.

"We not only have an obligation, but a need - a very real need - to do what we can to work with families and children to give them the tools they need and deserve to be safe, to thrive, to grow, and to learn," states Kai Jacobs, FRC's Chair.

Please [click here](#) for job description for Members of the Board of Directors.

If you or someone you know would be interested in participating on our board of directors or sit in on a board meeting, please contact Dorit Matthews at [dmatthews@frcflorida.org](mailto:dmatthews@frcflorida.org).

**[Meet our 2014-2015 Board of Directors](#)**



**Bunchy  
Gertner's  
Toy Drive**



**\$15,000+**

Body Details

Bradford Renaissance Portraits

**\$5,000 - \$14,999**

Camp Cody

Charles and Joan Hermanowski  
Family Foundation, Inc.

Elite Island Resorts

Fred Astaire Dance Studio

Marlins Foundation

Rowley Portraiture



## 2014 Children's Hero Award Gala

Family Resource Center raised over **\$50,000** at its 6th Annual Children's Hero Awards.

The event was held on Friday, October 24, 2014 at the Miami Conrad Hotel and honored three leaders who have made a difference in the lives of foster children in South Florida.



Alberto M. Carvalho, Miami-Dade County's Superintendent of Schools



Kai Jacobs, FRC's Chair (left); Mario Trueba, CEO and President of Sabadell United Bank (right)

**Alberto M. Carvalho**, Miami-Dade County's Superintendent of Schools, was this year's recipient of the Children's Hero Award in recognition of his provision of critical educational resources and services to children in the foster care system, including the establishment of a data sharing project between Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the local Foster Care Agencies.

In acknowledgement of his outstanding contribution as a Family Resource Center board member, as well as his ongoing commitment to the agency, **Mario Trueba**, CEO and President of Sabadell United Bank, N.A., received this year's Children's Sustainer Award.

Vizcaya Museum & Gardens  
Zeel Massage On Demand

### \$2,500 - \$4,999

Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod  
Blue Martini Brickell  
Broad and Cassel  
Fedex  
Maria Manzur  
Maspons Sellek Jacobs  
Sabadell United Bank  
Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous  
Barry Hurwit  
Benefit Mall  
Cake Lush  
Carnival Foundation  
CH Creations  
Courtyard Cadillac Miami Beach  
Oceanfrot Hotel  
Edith Hurwit  
Julio Romero, M.D.  
Margarita Pons  
Marsh & McLennan Agency  
Morgan Stanley  
PRP Wine International  
Staples Foundation

### \$500 - \$999

4-IT  
ADD, Inc.  
Amigos for Kids  
BNI Referral Professionals Chapter  
Cool-de-Sac  
Gibson Realty Group  
Health Foundation of South Florida  
Intercontinental Miami  
Island Queen Cruises  
Miami Heat  
Provider Network Solutions  
Rafael R. Lopez  
RedCap





Barry "Buddy" Hurwit (left), FRC Executive Director, Dr. Oren Wunderman (center), Honoree Lawrence S. Hurwit (right)

And for the first time, Family Resource Center was pleased to present the Child Welfare Legacy Award to **Lawrence S. Hurwit**, accomplished real estate developer and philanthropist, for his lifetime body of work supporting children who have suffered child abuse and neglect. Notably, Mr. Hurwit created the Hurwit Children's Emergency Shelter for those most vulnerable and in need of a safe haven. The gala was emceed by Sherry Truhlar, Auctioneer from Red Apple Auctions, who also facilitated FRC's live auction. She energized the 150+ guests and got them donating, laughing and enjoying the night!

More than **75 businesses** contributed to the **Trips, Travel and Leisure** Silent & Live Auction, which featured great getaway packages, local deals, sports memorabilia, jewelry by Chloe di Leo, live concert tickets, VIP tours and travel packages. There was something for everyone. The event raised funds to support Family Resource Center's programs and services for children in the foster care system.



The Children's Hero Awards Gala not only recognizes essential leaders who contribute to strengthening the foster care system, but also the overall importance of a community that helps promote the safety and well-being of children and families in South Florida.

- SeaWorld Parks
- Travel Trackers
- Whole Food Market
- \$200 - \$499**
- AECOM
- Anonymous
- Anthony Lopez
- Askme
- Banco Itau
- Busch Gardens Tampa
- Center for Family and Child Enrichment, Inc.
- Creamy Dreamy Sweets
- David PR Group
- Doubletree By Hilton Orlando at Sea World
- Ed Andujar
- Ed King Pop Art
- Eric McKenna
- Friends of Laz, Inc.
- Gemma Morales
- Isabel Semidey
- Jessica Wilcox
- John Keller
- John Meyer
- Katherine W. Ezell
- Kennedy Space Center
- Linsey Harris Smith
- Marco J. Morales, D.D.S., P.A.
- Margaret "Ann" Burnside
- Marielle Gomez-Kaifer
- Miami Seaquarium
- Miami-Dade College
- Miller Sports Training & Fitness
- Money Clip Direct-  
Jessica Wilcox
- New York Philharmonic
- Nicole Paez/  
Angel's Touch Charities
- Robert Fernandez
- Sherry Truhlar
- Tanya & Marie Design District
- The Filmore Miami Beach
- The Miami Heat
- Walt Disney World
- Wines For Humanity
- Zuma Restaurant

[Click here](#) to view event's full album.

## FRC's Blog: *From the Forefront*

*"FRC and its staff helped give a little girl who had nothing, everything, and me, the gift of motherhood and for that we will be forever grateful. Thank you FRC, our family." Annie Argenal*



"On May 15th, I got an email, asking me if I would be interested in fostering a 3-day old little girl, no promises were made but I was told that the case looked good for Termination of Parental Rights based on the mother's prior history with the Department of Children and Families. The weekend came and went and by Tuesday I was advised that she would be arriving to my home by 5pm. I rushed home to meet her, there she was! I told myself not to fall in love, but it was too late.

Fast forward to the first court hearing and both parents showed up. I was devastated but **Lourdes Pons**, FRC's COO, and **Jessica Harrison**, FRC's Staff Attorney and Permanency Specialist, took the time to speak with me and told me to sit tight, to give it time; I did.

Home visits, Guardian Ad Litem visits, court hearings, e-mails and telephone calls ... everything started falling into place. The biological mom was TPR'd, DNA proved that the father wasn't the father and 30 days stood between my little girl and me. Final adoption was set for October 10, 2014 two days after Final Judgment. FRC and its staff helped give a little girl who had nothing, everything. And me, the gift of motherhood, and for that we will be forever grateful. Thank you FRC, our family."

## \$1 - \$199

94th Aero Squadron Restaurant  
Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre  
Adrienne Arsht Center  
Alyssa Krop-Brandfon  
Ana Gomez  
Anonymous (3)  
Arlene Leider  
Art Basel in Miami Beach  
Bala Vinyasa Yoga  
Bobby Berrido  
Books & Books  
Butterfly World  
Cabot Creamery Cooperative  
Carnegie Hall  
Carole Hrebik  
Chantale Pinchinat  
Charles Auslander  
Claudia Oliva  
Coral Castle Museum  
David Messinger  
Diana Ramos  
Doris Quinones  
Eloisa Silva  
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden  
Family Resource Center of South Florida  
Florida International University  
Florida Museum of Natural History  
Gabriel Lema  
Gilda Mooney  
Haley Phillips  
Holly Sachs  
Isabel Estorino  
Jennifer Escobar  
John Knowles  
John Olive Photography  
Judge Rodolfo Ruiz  
Jungle Island  
Karen Wojtowicz  
Kelly Hernandez  
Lamberto Abeleda  
Lisa Edwards  
Luisa Gomez  
Maria Filippi

To learn more on how FRC can help you with adopting a child, visit [frcfloida.org/family-resource/adoptions](http://frcfloida.org/family-resource/adoptions).

## National Adoption Day

Thousands of children will celebrate this November as they find permanent loving homes on National Adoption Day. National Adoption Day is a nationwide initiative which raises awareness of the hundreds of thousands of children in foster care waiting for their forever homes. Since its commencement 15 years ago, this event has helped close to 50,000 children find loving families. Family Resource Center, along with other Miami-Dade agencies, will gather for a celebratory event at the Miami Children's Museum on November 21st to culminate the adoption process of more than 40 children. The adoptive parents vary - from foster parents, relatives, to single parent non-relatives. We are proud to celebrate a single dad adopting two of our clients this month! So stay tuned in the weeks to come as we share stories of these new families.



Considering Adoption? [Click here](#) for facts about foster care adoption.



## Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive In Full Swing

You still have time to get involved with FRC's **Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive!** Host a drive at your workplace, church or community organization, and collect food items and create Food Baskets for families for a hearty Thanksgiving meal. For more info: [frcfloida.org/thanksgiving](http://frcfloida.org/thanksgiving).

Marie Sanders  
Marilyn Cairo  
Mario Trueba  
Maroosh Mediterranean  
Restaurant  
Mary Valledor  
Miami Children's Museum  
Miami Marlins  
Old Lisbon Restaurant  
Perez Art Museum Miami  
Pointe Group  
PULSE Miami Beach  
Roberta A. Patton  
South Florida Federal Credit  
Union  
South Florida Parenting  
Susan Acosta  
Terrence L. Jackson  
The AmazonSmile Foundation  
The Chesecake Factory  
University of Florida Athletic  
Association  
Vania Salgar  
Victor Mas  
Voices for Children Foundation  
Whisk Gourmet Food & Catering  
WonderWorks



Please let us know how you plan to get involved.  
Email Liza at [lhernandez@frcflorida.org](mailto:lhernandez@frcflorida.org)  
by **Monday, November 10th.**

All donated food baskets must be delivered to FRC on  
**November 17th, 18th or 19th.**



The Miami Foundation

# GiveMiami 2014 day



Thursday Nov. 20, 2014

## What is Give Miami Day?

A special day when local citizens support those organizations in our community who are really making a difference.



## How you can help

Make a pledge to our **HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE** for over 1,000 foster children. Many of these youth will have no holiday gifts at all were it not for the wonderful donors throughout South Florida, so **THANK YOU**. The Miami Foundation will match a percentage of all gifts of \$25 or more. This year our goal is to raise \$3,500 in just this one day!



[www.frctflorida.org](http://www.frctflorida.org)

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Family Resource Center | 155 South Miami Ave | Suite 400 | Miami | FL | 33130

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