



**FOR THE CHILDREN INC.**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020**

*A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN COME FIRST*

## Board President & CEO

*Dear families, supporters, and partners,*

*On behalf of our staff, board of directors, families, and children, we invite you to walk alongside us as we reminisce over the activities that took place over the fiscal year 2019-2020. We are grateful and blessed for the generosity of our funders, staff, partners, and volunteers. What a challenging year 2020 was for the entire world and Covid-19 will remain as one of the events that most of us will remember forever. Because of it, we learned to come together toward one unified purpose to lift each other while battling this pandemic.*

*Our funders and supporters went deep in their hearts and souls to graciously share their treasures, times and talents with our children, families, and others throughout the world. Covid-19 demonstrated to us that we are one human race and we can conquer anything as long as we are willing to listen, share, and embrace the uniqueness of everyone. Covid-19 brought us closer than we can ever imagine.*

*We did see the rainbow at the end of the finish line, and we are hopeful that each of you will continue to lift each other up as we push forward towards the next endeavors or challenges ahead.*

*Gracefully yours,*

*Reginale Durandisse*

**Reginale Durandisse, Founder &CEO**

*Lana St Hilaire*

**Board President**

## Thank You!

I am the eighteen-year-old Makalina born in the sunshine State Florida on October 2001. Words to define my personality as an individual is someone who's optimistic, passionate and strong. I believe God is the way the truth and the light and with him I can do all things and reclaim all that has been withheld from me. With him and only him all things are possible. I have come a long way, growing up I have faced many things such as poverty, trauma, and depression. As a child having two immigrant parents, life was hard especially if one had a dream and the other was a parasite draining that dream. I was brought up in a household where my parents fought constantly never having an actual place to call home. It was hard for my mother to raise three children when you're making minimum wage at Wendy's and not getting any hours. As a child my family and I experienced humiliation for not having what a typical family does.

Going to school was an escape from my reality. School is where I met my friends, joined clubs such as P7 a Christian club and trio a talent search program. I also entered choice programs such as medical and early childhood education. Where I accomplished being a certified medical assistant, a certified early childhood education teacher, a certified emergency responder, being certified in CPR, and a varsity athlete in the sports volleyball, flag football and basketball. Most importantly school was where I was introduced to the Youth Empowerment Center "YEC", a youth empowering program which I desperately needed. YEC is where I met people like Ms. Latoya, Ms. Reggie, Mr. Hazellier, Ms. Carnee, and Ms. Trudy. I can go on and on to the people that were placed in my life to motivate me and push me to my fullest potential in the YEC program, but I'll be going on for days. Having the program YEC gave me a gift of family, a gift of knowledge that I wouldn't know on my own. YEC has guided me through my high school years and kept me in line.

YEC treated everyone like we are their actual child. As a student of this program. I had opportunities such as going on college trips, making resumes, going on field trips, being involved with my community, presenting projects, and even getting a job where I wanted to work. This program opened many doors for me and allowed me to be somewhere safe and beneficial. Being at YEC was never a wasteful time and it was always beneficial whether it was for school or even life. My experiences have humbled me and shaped me and will continue to have me strive for the succeeding women I want to be in this society. As I go on to being a college freshman at Palm Beach State College majoring in Nursing, I will always hold on to and be grateful for everyone that was placed in my life.

Thank you, Merci, Gracias, to Youth Services Department, Palm Beach County Community Services Department, United Way of Palm Beach County, Batchelor Foundation, Max M. & Marjorie Fisher Foundation, Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Children's Services Council, Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, Department of Education 21st CCLL Department, all the corporate partners, individual donors, and all of you that continued to help FTC.

*Makalina*

# KIDS ZONE



## PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN AND BEYOND

Preparing children for Kindergarten and beyond sets up participants to grow, thrive and be successful in school and life. In academic year 2019-2020, our Early Childhood Academy/Kids Zone served 48 unduplicated Pre-K students between the ages of 3 to 5 at the Historic Osborne School in Lake Worth. We offered them activities in a safe and nurturing environment that allowed children to freely explore their world through the arts, sciences, mathematics, music, and languages. The Kids Zone was designed to ensure its participants to be socially, emotionally and academically prepared to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

**In the current year, 14 children (100%) who were eligible to transfer to kindergarten were successfully promoted to start regular school in the fall 2020.**



# YOUTH ZONE

The Youth Zone located at Barton Elementary provides low-cost academic and enrichment activities for a daily average of 73 children ages 5-12 attending nearby local elementary schools. The majority of the families receive afterschool support through the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County and the rest pay whatever they can afford.

In 2018, For The Children Inc.(FTC) was awarded, for the first time, the prestigious 21st Century Community Learning Center (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) federal grant in recognition to the agency wide excellence in further education among minority children. Under the directorship of Meleshia Weller, the program was implemented in March 2019 and is housed at Barton Elementary School to provide free tutoring and other personal enrichment activities to 100 students attending 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

The 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC offers the following to students and families:

- Small Group Tutoring
- Daily Homework Assistance
- Health and Wellness Opportunities
- Social and Emotional Learning

## Family Engagement & Support Services

132 family members took a survey from October 2020 through February 2021. Of these, 124 out of 132 (94%) agreed or strongly agreed that they improved their knowledge of literacy; 96% improved their knowledge of financial literacy; 94% improved knowledge of general literacy; and 92.5% improved their knowledge of health. Due to Covid-19, we operated the program using a hybrid model where most of the children remained virtual and others met on-site as approved by their parents or legal guardian (s).

All 174 Youth Zone program participants were promoted to the next grade; 85% maintained a passing grade in all core subjects, and 34% met the reading and math standards. There is still a lot of room for growth, and we are on our way to tackle the Covid-slide.





## TEEN ZONE

*The Teen Zone comprises the Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) and Teen Learning Center (TLC). It serves a daily average of 100 middle and high school youth at the Osborne Community Center, Lake Worth High, and South Intensive Alternative.*

Among its many accomplishments and activities, the Teen Zone had three of its high school members graduate with the mindset of seeking higher education. One of them sought collegiate endeavors out of the State of Florida and another one is now working in an internship in one of the FTC sites.

Along the way, all of our 193 students were promoted to a higher grade and no dropouts were reported.

# Children Community Wellness (CCW)

CCW provides free psychosocial assessment, behavioral and mental health, and Wraparound services for families with children ages 3-18 residing primarily in Lake Worth Beach, Town of Lantana, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, and other residents are welcome



# Healthy Families Healthy Kids (HFHK)

(HFHK)

HFHK targets 8 families every quarter and works with the entire family as follows: Weekly session in nutrition and healthy cooking. Trips to local farmer market and stores to learn how to purchase and create healthy meals in a small budget. Mental health fitness through yoga, meditation, exercise activities and Parent & Community Engagement. Braman Auto provide over 45 bicycles for children who participated in the HFH.



96% of the parents reported that their participation in the CCW and HFHK helped them to better communicate and deal with their children, spouses, and stresses.

# MULTICULTURAL ARTS PROGRAM

## (MAP)

*MAP offers our children and families with free visual and non-visual art activities ranging from dance, drum, gardening, cooking, performance, STEAM and field trips. More than 400 children participated in three or more art activities for the year.*



# ACTIVITIES & FIELD TRIPS

Our students stay on the move or out on the road headed to another field trip. We like to combine education and recreation trips for a healthy balance. Covid-19 showed us that we can be creative in spite of a pandemic. *"Covid-19 brought us deaths, pains, tears, isolations, and joy at the same time. Everything has a cause and effect"* Taddie Fanfan







# CLASSROOMS, CLEANING ,ROUTINE

We followed a similar routine across all programs. Focusing on academics until lunch at 12noon. Thereafter, we shifted into our clubs and activities. We spent the last 30 mins cleaning. We placed cleaning supplies baskets throughout the buildings as well. Face covering is required inside all premises except at lunch time and during outdoor activities.

# FOR THE CHILDREN INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	2019
<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>				
Government grants	\$ 889,469	\$ -	\$ 889,469	\$ 860,980
Contributions and grants	367,884	156,534	524,418	311,308
Program service fees	242,274	-	242,274	371,484
In-kind donations	199,263	-	199,263	295,841
Interest income	5,538	-	5,538	3,889
Special events	4,997	-	4,997	26,610
Other revenue	751	-	751	8,307
Net assets released from restrictions	48,750	(48,750)	-	-
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>1,758,926</b>	<b>107,784</b>	<b>1,866,710</b>	<b>1,878,419</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program services:				
Youth zone	721,516	-	721,516	844,045
Community Wellness	398,318	-	398,318	344,213
Teen zone	354,859	-	354,859	190,633
Early learning	162,981	-	162,981	302,695
Supporting activities:				
Management and general	68,992	-	68,992	65,252
Fundraising	3,364	-	3,364	10,895
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,710,030</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,710,030</b>	<b>1,757,733</b>
Change in net assets	48,896	107,784	156,680	120,686
Net assets, beginning of year	1,494,169	51,750	1,545,919	1,425,233
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,543,065	\$ 159,534	\$ 1,702,599	\$ 1,545,919

From the Audited Financial Year-End December 31, 2020

## Board of Directors

*Lana St Hilaire, Board President*

*Chad Carpenter, Vice-President*

*Carmelle M. Chapman, Secretary*

*Ted M. Brownstein, Treasure*

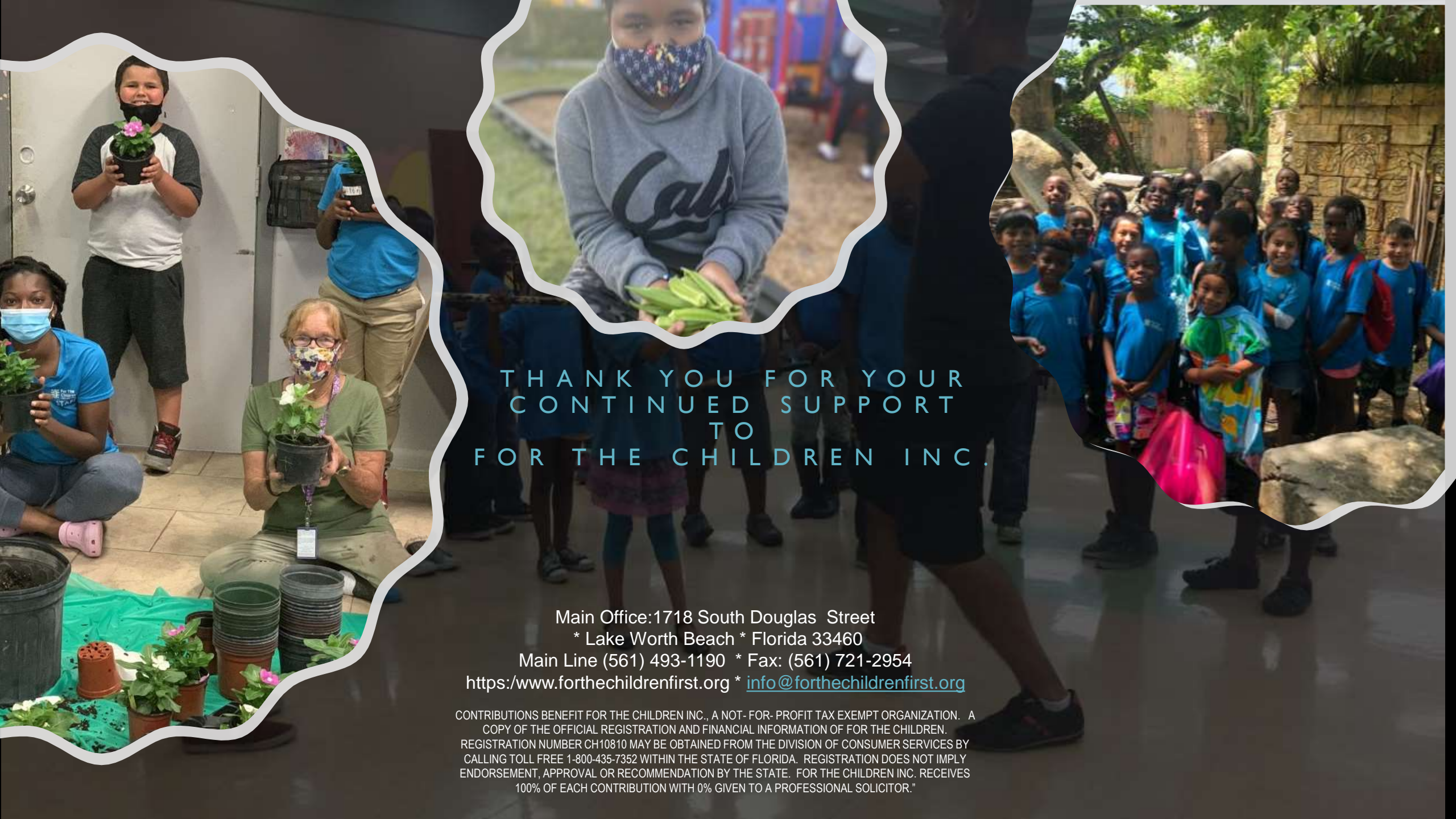
*Rev. Floyd Narcisse, Board Member*

*Dr. Myriam Glemaud, Board Member*

*Reginale Durandisse, Founder & CEO*

Thank you for carrying us through!





THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT  
TO  
FOR THE CHILDREN INC.

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<https://www.forthethechildrenfirst.org> \* [info@forthethechildrenfirst.org](mailto:info@forthethechildrenfirst.org)

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