



## Silent Victims Of Crime

The Children of Incarcerated Parents

Silent Victims of Crime's Triannual Newsletter



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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



May 6, 2023

## Mother's Day and Nature A day at the Aguacate Sanctuary to express love, honor, and respect towards

our mothers



May 20, 2023

#### Engineering

Learn about science, math, and engineering while designing and building a city.



June 17, 2023

### **Ice Skating**

Summertime ice skating at the Scott Rakow Youth Center



# Written by: Dr. Amy Paul-Ward

**SVC Partnerships** 

Occupational therapists provide holistic, client-centered care focusing on function in all aspects of the rehabilitation process (e.g., screening, assessment and intervention). The most common forms of occupational therapy services target the needs of individuals, from the promotion of overall health and well-being, to early intervention programs for children with disabilities, rehabilitation services for individuals with acute and/ or chronic conditions, and psychosocial interventions for individuals with acute and/or chronic mental health issues.

Relevant to SVC programming, occupational therapy practitioners are ideally suited to address the psychosocial needs of children of incarcerated parents, but traditionally have not been included in these programs. From the literature and our professional experience, we know that these children must adapt to a myriad of psychosocial stressors. Occupational therapists have the necessary skill set to work with this population to address these life-altering issues as they attempt to maintain their roles and routines. Occupational therapists can work with all members of the family to address their unique psychosocial issues related to trauma as well as dysfunctional relationships within the family. Interventions may include one-on-one as well as group approaches based on the needs of the individual and the family.

## SKATEBOARDING AT SKATEBIRD MIAMI

Life Skills: Resiliency, goal-setting, achieving success, self-assurance.

SVC's first event of the New Year took place at Miami's largest skate park, SkateBird. The children practiced safety with helmets, knee and elbow pads. While skateboarding can be done independently, teamwork was very important when navigating the park and being considerate of others, while the caregivers watched out for the children's safety as well.

Teamwork was still highlighted when the children cheered each other on and went down steep ramps together. Many of the skate employees made comments about how brave and resilient our children were! Every child went home with a brand new donated skateboard and helmet, so they could take the day's lesson home to practice more!



















JANUARY 21, 2023

## **ART EXPRESSIONS**

In an evening filled with selfexpression and art, Art South's art exhibit displayed amazing pieces of work comprised of 60 artists in the Everglades art dormitory. Art South is a local nonprofit based in Miami that runs "Art Behind Bars", the only prisonbased visual arts program taking place at Everglades Correctional Institution.

In attendance was Art South's Janis Klein and Everglade's Warden Josh Hoskins.

FEBRUARY 11, 2023

# CREATE A BUSINESS WITH CHOCOLATE

**Life Skills:** Money and time management, responsibility, and goal-setting

February's first event kicked off with learning the importance of financial literacy. A financial advisor from EdFed, the Educational Federal Credit Union, came in to teach the children a financial course for beginners. The financial literacy lesson was useful for parents too as they could continue to instill smart financial decisions in their children after today's event.

The first step in practicing their newfound knowledge was creating a business with chocolates. The children had the option to keep their chocolate or sell them for real money to our volunteers!







FEBRUARY 25, 2023

# DRUMMING DAY AT MOTIVATIONAL EDGE

**Life Lesson:** Creativity, social interaction, and self-assurance

A professional drummer came to inspire the children's creativity with lessons on the bongo drums while boosting team skills as everyone collaborated on making music together. Creating music together also promoted bonding with children and their caregivers.

SVC has also began a partnership with Art South to assist in healing trauma through art. Led by Arsht Center artists, the art therapy activities center around expressing oneself to heal emotions. This event was their first time, and we will have an artist continue coming to all of our future events.



FEBRUARY 28, 2023

# WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?

Silent Victims of Crime has officially launched our podcast "Where Are The Children?" with our amazing hosts "Tinkerbell" Paulette
Pfeiffer, Midia Joy, and Weslye Saunders. The podcast explores the urgent and important societal question, "What happens to the children when a parent is incarcerated?" Our first episode's guest was David Lawrence Jr, Founder and Board Chair of The Children's Movement of Florida. Stay tuned for new podcasts episodes and guests every month.

March 11, 2023

## LEARNING ABOUT OCEAN LIFE AT MIAMI SEAQUARIUM

Life Skills: Critical thinking, communication, curiosity, empathy, and compassion

The children and their caregivers headed to the Miami Seaquarium for a day of learning about ocean life and protecting the environment. The children met at Virginia Key to clean the beaches and fill buckets with trash littered around the shore. The caregivers joined as well, and everyone was able to learn a sense of community by keeping it clean together.

Afterwards, they headed to the Seaquarium to learn about the animals they are helping protect by keeping our beaches and oceans clean. They had so much fun seeing all of the amazing marine mammals and dolphin show. The exhibits allowed them to see the sea life up close and in person. More importantly, they were able to learn about wildlife rescue at the Conservation Outpost.























MARCH 11, 2023

# INTERNATIONAL POKER TOURNAMENT

Silent Victims of Crime's largest fundraiser of the year, the All In Charity Poker Event, took place at Nobu Miami. With a Yellowstone Cowboy theme, this event had everything to offer: amazing food, fashion, entertainment, and guests. Among the 140 people in attendance, some special guests were Cuba Gooding Jr., Steven Bauer, Romero Britto, and Adriana De Moura. The poker tournament paid out over \$100,000 to the lucky winners. A special thanks to Julian Johnston from our Board of Directors, for planning and executing this event!



MARCH 21, 2023

# MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE VISIT

**Life Skills:** Bright future, new ideas, and setting goals.

To further SVC's goal of creating college or career bound mindsets, we took SVC's middle and high school children on a tour of Miami-Dade College with a vast array of inspiring programs to showcase to the children and get them excited about their futures.

They were able to explore the departments related to entertainment, law, criminal justice, public safety, fashion, culinary and hospitality. The children were also introduced to all of the financial options when attending college to make it that much more feasible. A firsthand view of all the possibilities and options were able to get them excited about their future

APRIL 14, 2023

# ATTEND A LIVE PERFORMANCE

**Skills:** Acting, dance, music, communication, critical thinking, costume design, and empathy.

SVC's middle and high school children headed to the Actor's Playhouse at Miracle Theater to watch a show called "Bright Star", an uplifting true story about love and redemption. Watching a play can give viewers a glimpse into other people's lives while teaching empathy and cultural relativity. The children were able to experience natural forms of expressiveness and creativity that will inspire them in the future.



APRIL 23, 2023

## THE ARSHT CENTER

**Life Skills:** Art, dance, music, theatre, and teamwork.

SVC, the children, and their caregivers headed to the Arsht Center to experience the excitement of art, music, and poetry. While it is a performing arts center, this visit focused on working on poetry as a form of self-expression. They painted inspiring quotes on canvas, such as "I trust myself", "I am awesome", and "I am strong". These exercises are able to make thoughts visible and allow even the youngest children to communicate their ideas and express what they are feeling.



# **DO YOU HAVE A STORY YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?**

Be a guest on our podcast and have the opportunity to share an experience personal to you. We would love to have you and listeners would love to hear! Whether your experience with children or incarceration is personal, academic, or career-related, there's lots of positives to sharing your story and spreading the insight or knowledge you've gained along the way. You can also submit anonymously to have your story shared on our newsletter. Please reach out to us at



SVC@silentvictimsofcrime.org

The Children of Incarcerated Parents

# WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN? PODCAST









# DONATE OR VOLUNTEER

None of this work is possible without the donations of our supporters and the work of our volunteers. All contributions are deeply appreciated and help us to reach more children of incarcerated parents, one of the most underserved and overlooked populations in our communities.

Find information on how to donate to us through PayPal on our site.

## **DONATE**



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