



**Silent Victims Of Crime**  
The Children of Incarcerated Parents



**WE STAND FOR KIDS**

*Silent Victims of Crime's Triannual Newsletter*



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**UPCOMING EVENTS**



*September 10, 2023*  
**Carillon Wellness Resort**  
A day of wellness with rock climbing, boxing and art.



*November 20, 2023*  
**Turkey Trot**  
Thanksgiving Dinner and fixings to the families.



*November 24, 2023*  
**Motorcycle Slingshot & Run**  
A fundraiser with a day of riding, food and fun!  
Tickets \$50



## **Congratulations Dr. Mindingall**

Dr. Bendross-Mindingall is among South Floridians given presidential awards for community service.

Warm congratulations to the recent honorees of The President's Lifetime Achievement Award. The ceremony, held last weekend in Davie, honored people who have shown outstanding dedication to their communities. They include the Hon. Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall for her decades of outstanding work in the field of education. She is a former teacher and principal who has served on the Miami-Dade County School Board since 2010. She is also a former Democratic member of the Florida House of Representatives.

Read more at:

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/article277487983.html#storylink=cpy>

MAY 6, 2023

## MOTHER'S DAY AND NATURE

**Life Skills:** Emotional intelligence, social interaction, thankfulness, responsibility for the environment.

To celebrate their mothers and caregivers, the children headed to Aguacate Sanctuary to paint, decorate, and fill flower pots as gifts to show love and appreciation.

Afterwards, they were able to explore everything the sanctuary had to offer by feeding the animals, and learning about nature, wellness, and the Japanese art of "kintsugi", the art of repairing broken pots.

Our mothers and caregivers were also taught about the importance of health and nutrition. Photography was also introduced to the children, and many of the photos from this event were taken by them!



MAY 20, 2023

## CREATE AND BUILD: ENGINEERING DAY

**Life Skills:** Problem-solving, critical thinking, initiative, curiosity, self-confidence.

The children came together to map out cities and create their own bridge models using various craft materials after two engineers came to speak about their jobs and career-related possibilities. This activity allowed them to apply engineering principles of science and mathematics to solve real world problems and innovate new products.

The children then concocted slime mixtures made with cornstarch to learn about chemical reactions. It promoted hands-on sensory play and exploring different materials.



JUNE 4, 2023

# MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE

**Life Skills:** Imagination, discovery, and future possibilities

At the Museum of Discovery and Science's "Expedition: Dinosaur!" the kids dove deep to discover their inner paleontologist. By using cutting-edge technology, the exhibit gave kids the chance to interact with real-life animatronic dinosaurs and fascinating prehistoric information. Numerous additional interactive exhibits at the museum kept their interest while teaching kids about the significance of science in daily life. They had the chance to fly through wide skies, travel over limitless red landscapes of Mars, and experience the art and science of flying thanks to an immersive aviation museum and flight simulator. They had the opportunity to explore not just what was in space, but also what was underwater thanks to the aquarium exhibit.



JUNE 25, 2023

## ICE SKATING, BOWLING, ART, AIR HOCKEY, AND BASKETBALL

**Life Skills:** Resiliency, goal-setting, art of self-confidence, and expression through art

The Scott Rakow Youth Center offered our children, parents, and caregivers ice skating, bowling, and a game room to play pool, ping pong, and foosball. All of these activities were able to reinforce teamwork and sportsmanship. They were also able to demonstrate their creativity in the arts and crafts center by painting pictures and making moldings with playdough. Allison Langer, a writing coach who specializes in personal essay and memoirs, gave our caregivers and parents writing lessons to assist them in being able to put their personal stories and experiences into written word. What a success!



JULY 29, 2023

## ART AND WINE FUNDRAISER

Silent Victims of Crime held a fundraiser at the Kfir Moyal Art Gallery. There was food, wine, and entertainment! A special performance by Maryel Epps, a jazz singer, a Disc jockey and a pianist. An exclusive silent auction was held and a special art piece was made of our VP of Health and Nutrition, Weslye Saunders.



JULY 9-JULY 22, 2023

# ART SUMMER PROGRAM

Our art summer camp was a great success with a great mix of activities and 4 art field trips over the course of 10 days. The variety of activities offered to the children during this summer camp provided enriching and enjoyable experiences and created unique and memorable experiences centered around creativity and art. A special trip was made to the Arsht Center and to an art gallery to see various mediums of art first-hand. The children were also hands on with musical instruments and learning the art of photography. They also went sailing and kayaking and created nature inspired art afterwards. Overall, the children gained a deeper understanding of the art world, the career possibilities, and the various kinds of art styles.



JULY 9-JULY 22, 2023

# ART SUMMER PROGRAM



AUGUST 4, 2023

## BACK TO SCHOOL

**Life Skills:** Learning is always “in style”

The Little Lighthouse Foundation and SVC headed to the Perez Art Museum to pass out free backpacks and school supplies! This was able to fully prepare them for the upcoming school year and get them excited about learning. We were also able to explore the museum itself and see all new and innovative mediums of art. The children were fascinated by the canvas paintings, art films, and entertaining art displays. They even took the time to practice mindful meditation followed by creating their own art. What an interactive day!



AUGUST 21, 2023

## WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN? PODCAST

Our featured guest for this episode of "Where Are the Children" is Gus Castellamos, MD, a retired Neurologist. He has since been a practitioner of mindfulness and teaching mindfulness-based stress reduction and mindfulness-based attention training since 2009. Along with our amazing hosts Paulette "Tinkerbell" Pfeiffer, Midia Joy, and Weslye Saunders, Gus discusses the true meaning of mindfulness and its application to the Bureau of Prisons and children visiting their incarcerated parents.





AUGUST 27, 2023

## POTTERY CLASS

**Skills:** The art of creative thinking, emotional intelligence, and ceramics.

The children were able to make full use of their hands during this event at Mercy Pottery, a ceramics workshop. The activities involved clay, paint, pottery wheels, and photography. They were given animal figurines to design and paint. They were also able to experience the therapeutic art of pottery classes. Similar to all of our other events, the cameras were brought, so the children could continue honing their photography skills.



## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

A big part of SVC is spreading awareness about the issue of children of prisoners through speaking engagements and advocacy efforts. We have had the opportunity to train principals and mental health professionals from Miami-Dade School District and speak to students at Florida International University. We also spoke at NAAWS in Columbus, Ohio in front of over 300 Wardens and Superintendents from across the country.

Some of our future engagements include presenting at the International Prisoners Family Conference and heading to Lost Creek, Kentucky with correctional personnel to rebuild a playground and ballpark that was destroyed by a devastating flood. Now the children can play again! (Volunteers welcome!)



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

Do you know someone who has made a big impact in children's lives? Whether the experience with children or incarceration is personal, academic, or career-related, there's lots of positives to sharing stories and spreading the insight or knowledge you've gained along the way. You can also submit anonymously to have the story shared on our newsletter. Please reach out to us at [SVC@silentvictimsofcrime.org](mailto:SVC@silentvictimsofcrime.org)

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## WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN? PODCAST

Paulette "Tinkerbell" Pfeiffer and Weslye Saunders

Midia Joy



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## 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.

Please refer to the QR code below to donate.

## DONATE



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