



You Can Change a Life

**CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM
OUTCOMES Fiscal Year 2023/24**

- Over 70 youth participated in the Career Pathways Program.
- 2 youth achieved Honor Roll and 1 High Honor Roll.
- 1 youth received their GED and 1 received their High School Diploma.
- 91% of students improved the percentage of completed assignments last school year.
- 353 tutoring sessions last year.
- 21 youth participated in Writing Club.
- 5 students received academic awards and 1 youth was Student of the Month.

*"This program helped me find a job and get my life together".
- Teen living at Village*

OUR MISSION

To provide safe haven, mental health, preventative care and life skills for at-risk children and families.

**Indian River County
Hibiscus Children's Village**
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HibiscusChildrensCenter.org



Hibiscus Children's Center
Saving Children Since 1985



**CAREER PATHWAYS
to INDEPENDENCE
PROGRAM**
at the Hibiscus Village



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CAREER PATHWAYS TO INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM at the HIBISCUS VILLAGE

Every child, every day, for a better tomorrow.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

60-Minute Cleaners
BankUnited
Barkley International Design Group
The Batchelor Foundation
Don Smith Paints
Exchange Club of Indian River
FedEx
Grand Harbor Community Outreach
Habitat for Humanity
Head, Heart and Hands of Indian River Club
Indian River County Library System
Indian River County Sheriff's Office
Indian River Community Foundation
Indian River State College
iTHINK Financial
John's Island Community Service League
Love of Paws Thrift Store
The Kathryn B. McQuade Foundation
The Olive Tree Foundation
Penny Hill Subs
PNC Bank and Foundation
Quail Valley Charities
The Tides & Chef Leanne Kelleher
TJX Foundation
United Against Poverty
United Way of Indian River County
Walmart Foundation/Sam's Club
Wells Fargo

*We couldn't
do it
without
each of YOU!*

THE VILLAGE

The Village is a 40-bed group home facility that opened its doors in May, 2004 to provide a safe haven for abused youth. The Village consists of a campus center, outdoor activity / basketball area and eight homes – six residences, a Career Pathways Center featuring Graphic Design & Culinary components, and an Academic Achievement Center.

YOUTH

Youth, ages 12 to 17, are removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect and/or abandonment by the State. Youth are placed at the Village for a few days, months, or sometimes, even years. Many youth will “age out of the system” at 18. While in our care, youth receive career planning and preparation services along with medical, dental, educational and mental health services.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Youth attend public schools and are encouraged to be part of extra-curricular activities. The Education Coordinator is the liaison with the school system. Youth are strongly encouraged to obtain their high school diploma or GED. Volunteers assist with after-school homework and tutoring.

THE PROGRAM

Youth living at the Hibiscus Village participate in life skill development and career preparation training. Teens are engaged in community based internships with local businesses and agencies, as well as on-site internships.

Participating youth receive a career and interest assessment to provide an understanding of talents, interests, personality and skills in order to establish compatible future work areas and fields of interest.

Teens attend seminars on a variety of career and independent living topics, attend weekly focus groups, and are provided with an opportunity to participate in different work experiences including job shadowing, internship, and part-time employment.

TRANSFORMING LIVES

The cost of child abuse can be devastating to the child, families and the community as-a-whole. Children who experience abuse are nine times more likely to become involved in criminal activity, human trafficking, and develop suicidal ideations. This program will provide employment training of a marketable skill that will help youth overcome these statistics and transform their lives and the effect they will have on their community.

GRAPHIC DESIGN IMPACT CENTER & CULINARY

Graphic Design Impact Center (GDIC) and CULINARY are both components of the Career Pathways Program. They are designed to teach youth marketable and life skills that will help to provide a successful transition to adulthood and enhance competitive employment opportunities. Activities are designed to reinforce critical thinking, problem solving, build self-esteem, and identify continuing education options to support the skills needed to attain internships and employment.

GDIC is led by a professional staff member with graphic design expertise. The goal is to help youth prepare for more advanced technical and “white collar” jobs. Youth learn skills through the Adobe Creative Suite and have the opportunity to use their creativity and talents to design and create a variety of internal and external projects.

C.U.L.I.N.A.R.Y. component (Cooking Up Life skills, Intellect, and Nutrition for Ambitious & Resilient Youth) provides culinary education and training to gain food handling and service certifications. Special thanks to our wonderful partner *The Tides* for providing youth with hands-on food preparation, training and employment.