

AFH VILLAGE BEAT

A Friend's House Monthly Community Newsletter



WHAT'S NEW AT AFH

Director's Reflections & Thoughts
Taste of Henry - The Cookbook
Employee of the Month
Fashion Show
Back to School
Wish List

A Friend's House, Inc. is a 501c3 organization operating as a group home for youth in the custody of the Department of Family and Children Services. Residents stay for an unspecified length of time while a best course of action is determined. During this time our goal is to provide stability, security, and opportunity to those who've suffered abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

Reflections and Thoughts from the Director

Greetings Everyone,

I want to say to our Village Friends and Family: **Schooldays during a pandemic.... We Got This!!!**

Waking up at A Friend's House for the return back to school will look a lot different than past routines of "First Day". As our Youth prepare to encounter remote learning in the coming weeks, I think about this quote from S. Devi, "Education is not just about going to school and getting a [diploma]; it's about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life." To say the least, the bitter truth is that our Youth have been soaking in a lot of abnormality regarding life in a not-so-kind fashion throughout the episodes of Covid 19.



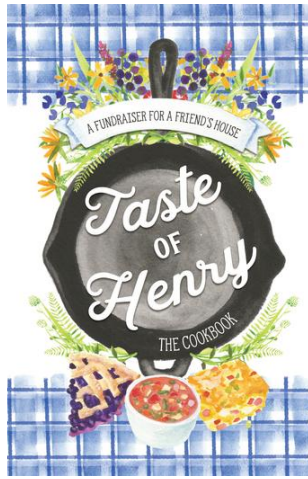
Unfortunately because of the coronavirus our Youth will have to endure major changes to their school days, which includes losing the opportunity to attend their school. Truth be told, they will have to get their mind, body, and spirit right in order to gain academic knowledge through the use of Chrome books and virtual engagement with teachers. This means no first-day rides on the big yellow bus; no opportunities to socialize in the halls with friends between classes. The loss of these rituals and experiences is not to be underestimated.

However, we have been able to maneuver our Youth through *many* challenges, and this one does not seem to pose any more of a major threat toward our good intentions and efforts. We are preparing them for a fresh new in-home learning environment and thankfully with the assistance of our faithful Volunteers, setting up is going a lot smoother than we had anticipated. We are preparing them for the unpredictable, ever-adapting, always-moving-forward "truth about life."

Therefore, with the continued support of our loyal community members and the commitment of our Organizational Staff, we will make this 2020-2021 school year just as amazing as always, aiming for academic success. We are looking forward as we begin with our end in mind!

With much love and devotion to our cause,

Sandra Gravely
Executive Director



The 2020 special edition Taste of Henry Cookbook will be available this fall at a location near you for a donation of \$20. All proceeds will go to A Friend's House!

Here's a sneak peek at the original cover art provided by the wonderfully creative Heather Ozee!

www.heatherozeedesings.com

August Employee of the Month, Lauren Asencio

Congratulations to Ms. Lauren! Lauren is one of our HSP's (Human Service Professionals) and she works directly with our youth helping them to achieve their goals, meet their potential, and strategically overcome the obstacles that have brought them to AFH. She approaches her work with great insight, compassion, and sense of humor. In short, she is a rock star! And we are immensely proud to have Ms Lauren on our team!

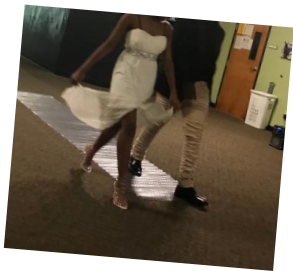


Taste of Henry Cookbook Sponsors

- Laura Crumbley, CPA
- Solid Source Realty
- Southern Grace Hospice
- Bennett International
- Whaley, Hammonds, Tomasello, PC
- One Stop Car Care - McDonough
- RAM-Tech IT Solutions
- Sabroso Chai
- Heather Ozee Designs



AFH FASHION SHOW 2020!



The kids had a blast putting on a fashion show last week! They created programs and fashion categories and provided refreshments, music, and SO much entertainment! We were so proud of the way they worked together - both with staff and each other - to provide a truly memorable afternoon! What a talented and beautiful group of kids they are!

Back to School

As we prepare to host virtual learning for our youth, we have a couple of really BIG needs and many small ones. If you would like to help, please know that your contribution is tax deductible AND provides a huge investment in the lives of our youth. A Friend's House will be working with Henry County schools to provide for each child's educational growth and development while residing at A Friend's House. With your help, we can bridge the opportunity gap that often exists for children in the foster care system.

Together, we can make a difference!

(2) Laptop computers with updated versions of Microsoft Office and Windows 10

(2) Mobile Wall Dividers 20ft long x 6' high

https://www.schooloutfitters.com/catalog/product_info/pfam_id/PFAM52226/products_id/PRO69839

Art Supplies * Mechanical Pencils * USB's * Graph Paper * Ear Buds * Poster Boards and Tri-Fold Posters.

HOME & PANTRY WISH LIST: BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION



CLEANING SUPPLIES:

SANITIZING WIPES
DISINFECTING SPRAY
GERMICIDAL BLEACH



INDIVIDUALIZED SNACKS:

BAGGED CHIPS
COOKIES
LITTLE DEBBIE SNACK CAKES
GRANOLA BARS
BREAKFAST BARS
P'NUT BUTTER OR CHEESE
CRACKERS
CHEESE STICKS



FRESH FRUIT:

ORANGES
APPLES
BANANAS
GRAPES
STRAWBERRIES



Visit our website for a comprehensive list of needs and collaborative ideas for your organization! www.afriendshouse.org