



Save the date – 3rd Annual Balloon Glow Gala

You are invited to the 3rd Annual Balloon Glow Gala on October 8th, 6:30 to 10 pm at Tringali Barn.

Make plans now to be part of the most exciting event of its kind featuring axe throwing, cigar bar, valet parking, photo booth, games, horse drawn carriage rides, great food, signature drinks, a stage band and of course a Hot Air Balloon. This year we are excited to announce that local food trucks will be on hand to provide continuous, hardy delicious food passed and at stations around the venue. All-inclusive tickets are \$175 pp. (balloon rides are weather dependent and an extra charge) Sponsorships on every level are available. Attendance is limited to 300 and tickets will go fast!

To register visit www.stfrancisshelter.org/events or contact Joy Burton at joy.burton@stfrancisshelter.org

Calling all Businesses, Groups and Creative Minds for the Festival of Trees

Do you like decorating for the holidays?

Are you looking for a great team project that will benefit others? Well, we have the project and opportunity for you!

Festival of Trees is looking for 25 people, groups, or businesses to create and decorate a one-of-a-kind wreath or tree. The trees and wreaths will be displayed at the Festival of Trees at the beautiful Lightner Museum December 5th to 8th. The event will feature 4 festive days of holiday music, beautiful trees and wreaths and visits with Santa Claus. Festival of Trees will be part of the Lightner Museum Holiday Market on December 8th. Trees and wreaths will be auctioned off with the proceeds going to support individuals, families and youth experiencing homelessness at St. Francis House and Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center.

So, call a meeting, send an email, gather your creative minds and make a difference. Pick your theme or go traditional. To join in the fun contact Joy Burton at joy.burton@stfrancisshelter.org or go online to www.stfrancisshelter.org/events for more information.



GLIMPSE

Through Our Door

Compassion
Shelter
Opportunity



ST. FRANCIS HOUSING CRISIS CENTER and
PORT IN THE STORM HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER
Programs of St. Augustine Society

SUMMER 2022

It's Back to School Time. Time to *Kare for Kids!*

St. Johns County has a homeless youth problem. How is that possible? We live in one of the most affluent counties in the state. But it's true. There are more than 800 homeless kids going to school. 186 of those are unaccompanied homeless youth – without a responsible parent or guardian. You can help provide safe shelter, meals, stability and support for homeless children and youth through *the Kare for Kids Program*. For as little as \$10 a month or \$100 a year you can join others to make a difference in the lives of homeless kids in our county. **Why should you join? This is why!**

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2020 marked the first time since 2010 that homelessness in families did not decrease. This trend is continuing.

These studies confirm that homelessness can have a tremendous impact on children – their education, health, sense of safety, and overall development. Fortunately, researchers find that children are also highly resilient. But it is a challenge. St. Francis House provides shelter and support for homeless families. This program allows parents to stop worrying about food, shelter, and the safety of their children while they work to overcome the cause of their homelessness.

Children are the innocent victims of family homelessness.

And how about homeless youth? The National Alliance indicates that 90 percent of homeless youth are between the ages of 18 to 24. 50% of homeless youth are unsheltered — sleeping outside or in a car. Youth homelessness is often rooted in family conflict. Many homeless youth and young adults have experienced significant trauma, including being victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation. This group also includes



youth who have transitioned out of foster care but are not prepared to fend for themselves.

Port in the Storm is a “*port in the storm*” of life for our homeless youth. The program helps youth who have been left behind catch up on life skills, overcome the challenges of the past and prepare for adulthood.

As you watch our children and grandchildren go back to school, we ask YOU to support the homeless kids who need your help by joining *Kare for Kids*. Your \$10 a month is an investment in lives and the future of our community.

Visit our website at www.stfrancisshelter.org and click on the **Kare for Kids** button at the top of the page. Are they worth it? Aren't they all worth it?

For more information contact Karen Correale, Development/Volunteer Coordinator, karen.correale@stfrancisshelter.org



Tim's port in the storm

Tim was basically homeless the last 2 years of high school. Domestic violence and alcohol made life at home a mess. So, he left – sort of. His parents place had a porch and he slept there. When they went to work, he would shower and go to school. It's a miracle that he graduated. A counselor at school told him about Port in the Storm. He was scared. But he needed help. He didn't trust most adults. So, he was not prepared for what he found. Tim was welcomed to Port in the Storm like the prodigal son. Staff made sure he had what he needed and let him get settled in. He kept waiting for something to go wrong. But it didn't. "Maybe this place is OK", he thought. His case manager asked him about his future. No one had ever cared about that. Tim was lucky. **What would have happened if Port in the Storm was not here for him? What would have happened if YOU had not supported this program?** YOUR support saved Tim. Now, he has a job and is thinking about his future. Thanks to you he has one. But there are other kids at Port in the Storm that need you. More come every day looking for the help that only YOU can provide. Please don't let them down.

Visit www.stfrancisshelter.org and click on "Donate" to make your gift and save a youth today.



Port in the Storm Reopens

It has been a long 7 months.

By the time you read this staff and youth will be back in Port in the Storm. One of the most important things we provide to homeless youth is stability. To lose that stability was hard.

We all know that without you, our generous donors and supporters we would not be back. We know our community is the best!

Thank you for your gifts, your prayers and your relentless support in good times and in bad. You



are what has always made Port in the Storm special. You are saving kids. Your gifts do make a difference.



Visit our website at stfrancisshelter.org

St. Francis Housing Crisis Center

70 Washington Street,
St. Augustine, FL 32084

904-829-8937



Visit us and Like us on Facebook



Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center and Administrative Offices

1375 Arapaho Ave.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

904-824-8987

St. Johns County's only comprehensive housing crisis and homeless youth center. Providing housing-focused solutions for homeless men, women, children and youth in St. Johns County.



For Elisa, Being Homeless is Scary

Elisa seems like a very mature 8-year-old. But she is scared. She's scared about staying at another stranger's house overnight. She's scared about being watched by people she does not know when her mom goes to work. She misses playing with other kids and she is scared that she will not be able to go back to school. But Elisa's mom found help at St. Francis House. There Elisa will not have to be scared. There are kids to play with and she and her mom will have access to whatever they need while they get back on their feet.

Without your support, Elisa, and families like hers would have nowhere to go. Thanks to you an 8-year-old girl will not be scared tonight. You can make the difference for children like Elisa. Please support Elisa and her mom and other homeless families with your gifts today.

Visit www.stfrancisshelter.org and click on the donate button.

Wish List

- Coffee
- Sugar
- Small bags of chips
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Granola bars
- Fruit cups,
- Pasta & pasta sauce.
- \$10 gift cards for Walmart, Publix, Target or Winn-Dixie

Casino Royale

Celebrates Port in the Storm's 3rd Anniversary



The terrible sewer back-up in December at Port in the Storm did not stop donors and supporters from celebrating the 3rd anniversary of the successful Port in the Storm program on July 9th.

Art 'n Motion hosted the event with Scott Lagasse of St. Augustine's SLR Racing leading the charge to raise funds for Port in the Storm.

The 007 themed evening event was presented by Solar Stik and attended by over 150 people. More than \$50,000 dollars were raised. The evening included blackjack, roulette, craps, poker, a prize wheel, and a special VIP section. EFS Catering provided the delicious food while The Perfect Pour bartenders created and served a signature cocktail, The Goldeneye, complete with gold sugar dust, shaken and not stirred.

Thank you, thank you to all our guests, donors, and sponsors for a successful evening. Sponsors included: Solar Stik, The Law Offices of Shorstein & Lee, Harbour Island Tennis Centre, Beaver Toyota, St Augustine Realty, Gordon Dental, St Francis in the Field Episcopal Church, Upchurch & Corn Advisors, Geico Local Office, Florida Health Care Plans, Taylor Refrigeration & AC, Herbie Wiles Insurance, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra, Amy Alloways for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, Miller, Miller, Bradwish & Miller, PA, Cruise Planners, Sierra Marie Tattoo, Ancient City Accounting, and Anastasia Law.

If you missed this exciting mid-summer event, never fear. It will be back next year to raise money for Port in the Storm and our homeless youth.

For more information and pictures of the event visit <https://www.stfrancisshelter.org/events/> or contact Joy Burton, Marketing/Special Events Coordinator, at joy.burton@stfrancisshelter.org.

