



SULPHUR SPRINGS  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
of PROMISE

# neighborhood News

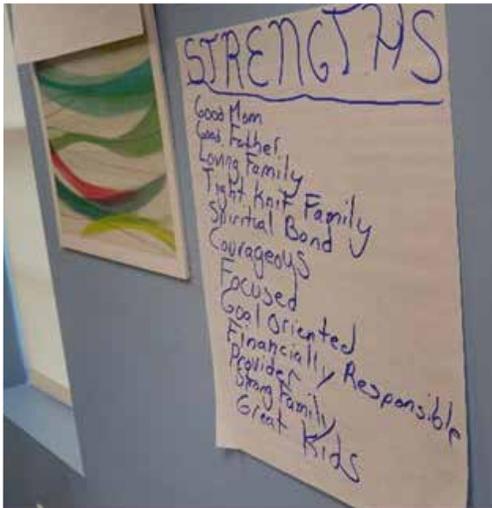
January 2016

Newsletter of the Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise

## Devereux Kids Continues to be a Positive Leader in Sulphur Springs

Devereux Kids has provided program services in Sulphur Springs since 2006. Programs include family support services, youth leadership development, parent and resident engagement, community education and capacity building training.

**Family Support:** Using the Family Team Conferencing model, Devereux Kids provides mentoring and support for families who have a minor child in the home and live in the 33604 zip code.



Identifying Strengths In The Family Meeting

It begins with a family meeting to identify strengths, challenges, needs and goals. The family is the central leader of the team and must be motivated to improve their current circumstances. For the next 90 days, Devereux works one on one with parents to connect, mentor and guide them in achieving their goals. At closing when asked what they liked most about the program, one participant said "all the help, resources, respect and kindness they gave me."

To submit a referral: [www.devereuxkids.org](http://www.devereuxkids.org) Program Services/Sulphur Springs Family Support. Families can also go to the Sulphur Springs Resource Center Mon. – Thurs. For more information call (813) 915-7101.

**Teen Leadership Council:** Devereux Kids also provides educational support to youth ages 13-18 who are members of Devereux's Youth Spring Into Action (YSIA). This teen-led program provides opportunities for leadership development, exposure to college and career shadowing, community service projects and scholastic achievement. In addition, similar to the family support program, a Youth and Family Success meeting is held for each teen to identify and assist them with their future goals.

*"The best part of YSIA is that each teenager wants to help each other succeed . . . with the school work . . . with the community work . . . so that the whole teen leadership group rises to their full potential."*

**FRANTZLY HYPOLITE**  
Youth Facilitator

YSIA participates annually in events such as the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade, Relay for Life, college tours and Children's Week in Tallahassee.

Devereux Kids is funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, with additional support provided by the Conn Memorial Foundation, Tampa Bay Lightning and private donors.

## RESIDENTS WORK TOGETHER FOR THE SULPHUR SPRINGS COMMUNITY



Bonnie Smitterman and Eryka Marshall at the holiday party of the Resident and Safety Work Group

SSNOP is a collaborative community initiative focused on building a brighter future together in Sulphur Springs. A key part of SSNOP is the activity and leadership of the Resident and Safety Work Group.

The group is chaired by Delois Sheppard, a long-time Sulphur Springs resident and Eryka Marshall, an eager volunteer who wants to help the community, is Vice-Chair. The Resident and Safety Work Group meets once a month and has adopted these goals:

*"The program brings together the family's natural supports and providers helping them achieve their individual goals to improve overall family functioning, so that their children can thrive."*

**KIMBERLY MILLER**  
Devereux Kids Program Manager

# Healthy Eating... A New Year's Resolution for Many Families in Sulphur Springs

The Veggie Van — A Mobile Market Place and Bucket Gardens are available in Sulphur Springs and many residents are enjoying the benefits of access to more food choices and healthy eating.

**The Veggie Van — A Mobile Market Place:** The Veggie Van comes to Sulphur Springs every two weeks, stopping in the afternoon at the Sulphur Springs Resource Center and the Sulphur Springs K-8 Community School. The Veggie Van offers bags of food filled with a variety of seasonal fruits and vegetables, such as apples, oranges, zucchini, peppers and sweet potatoes. The cost is \$1 per bag, which is an incredible value. There is a two bag limit per family.

On the average, 25 to 35 families have been visiting the Veggie Van and more families are encouraged to give it a try. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Roman at 813-229-9622.

**Bucket Garden Kit:** Families who are participating in the Healthy Home Kit program, which is provided by Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, are also receiving a Bucket Garden Kit. The Bucket Garden Kit is quite unique. It consists of a portable earth-box on wheels that is self-watering and it contains soil, tools and seeds for planting. Follow-up visits are also included to see how the garden is growing.

Saima Qadree notes "It is much more than a bucket! With the Bucket Garden Kit comes access to health and nutrition services, cooking classes and more." For more information and to learn qualifying requirements, please contact Saima Qadree, chair of the SSNOP Health and Nutrition Work Group, at 813-924-7563.

Both of these programs are provided by the Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA with support from many generous funders.



Residents getting their Bucket Garden Kit

cont. from front

- Recruit more residents to join the work group
- Develop a resident training and leadership program
- Promote awareness of all SSNOP programs
- Partner with police and other resident groups to develop and implement a neighborhood safety plan

Eryka Marshall noted, "The safety of the entire Sulphur Springs community and the safety of kids after school are very

important issues." Eryka explained that another important goal of the work group is to get the word out about the Sulphur Springs SSNOP programs. "We want the residents to know about the many opportunities we have in Sulphur Springs and encourage everyone to visit [www.ssnop.org](http://www.ssnop.org).

If residents are interested in learning more about the Resident and Safety Work Group, please contact Executive Director Curt McKay at 813-297-1792 or [curt@ssnop.org](mailto:curt@ssnop.org).