



Angels Against Abuse
June 13, 2023

Angels Against Abuse met on June 13, 2023, at the Pasadena Community Church Life Enrichment Center at 8:30 am. President, Sandy Kearney, welcomed everyone and reminded us of the Child Advocacy Expo will be August 24, 2023, at the Pinellas Realtor Organization on Ulmerton Road. This is a great networking opportunity for various agencies. Don't forget to register for the Expo.

Allen Yergovich announced the Mad Hatter Tea Party (Unbirthday Party) will be August 6, 2023, from 2 – 4 pm at the Coliseum. They expect approximately three hundred underserved children and their families in Pinellas County. The event is sponsored by the Sunshine City Kiwanis Club.

Representatives of the various agencies brought us up to date on their activities for the past month.

Byron Pressley of Friends of the Children reported he has fifty-three children on the roster. He thanked the Angels for their assistance. He is currently looking for a male mentor for the children.

Lisa Perry of Better Together said they partner with churches. They place children from families in crisis in homes temporarily.

Dena Hernandez of Pace Center helps girls from 11 – 17 years of age now in education. They are working on a career and college fair.

Linda Thielmann of Healthy Start works with families with substance abuse.

Damia Kelly of Boley Center reported they have broken ground on a new house in Whispering Pines. They also work with Destination Theater with a group who participates in plays and sets.

Kelly Johnson of the Sheriff's office introduced Samantha Taylor who talked about the transition to DCF. They are working on linking families with services specific to their needs.

FSS prepared a flyer talking about a new statute that allows for parental right reinstatement for those whose rights were terminated. After going through the reinstatement, a mother and daughter were reunited. There will be an Exhibition of Arts and Talent on June 22nd from 6 to 8 pm.

The Angel Center is doing well thanks to Ashley Tominus. FSS is incredibly pleased with us.

Rebecca Pearl, singer, song writer and poet recited her poem "I am Woman."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Valerie Rankin
Recording **Secretary**