



TOGETHERNESS

AT CENTER OF HOPE • QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

CenterofHopeFL.org | CenterofHope@fssnf.org

Center of Hope at Emmett Reed | 1093 W. 6th Street | Jacksonville, FL, 32209 | 904-265-6787



In this newsletter you can expect:

Celebration of Parent Graduates
page 2

Recipe of the Quarter
page 3

Parent of the Quarter
page 2

Local Business Spotlight
page 5

And more!

Here's what happened in the last quarter and what's to come!

Welcome to 2026 at the Center of Hope at Emmett Reed! It was a busy end of year for all of us, from fun fall festivals and celebrating the holidays. As we start a new year, we invite you to join your friends, family and

community in health, wealth and connection.

Hope to see you soon!

Jada Hunter
Executive Director

Thank you to our sponsors



Congratulations to our Parent Cooperative Group



We proudly celebrate the graduates of our newest **Parenthood Cooperative!** This dedicated group completed essential trainings including Hot Car Safety, Safe Sleep, Safe Feeding, Signs of Abuse and Neglect, and First Aid/CPR, sponsored by CWEEN. In September, participants also earned Postpartum Support International’s certification on Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders (PMADs), funded by the

Healthy Start Coalition of Duval County, Inc., and completed the Stress Relief Toolkit through Healthy Start—reaching 129 community members in the 32209 area. Through compassion, education, and connection, the Parenthood Cooperative is bridging the gap for parents and caregivers, supporting families during pregnancy and early parenting across the 32209 and 32206 communities.

Hope and Healing Circles: She Rises Graduates

We are so happy about our She Rises: Hope and Healing Circles graduates! This year, moms, grandmothers, and caregivers came together in finding joy, setting boundaries and thriving in strengths. This was a village of caregivers raising children with goals of cultivating healthy, whole, and resilient families. Topics included, The Released Woman, The Renewed Woman, The Reclaimed Woman, The Restored Woman and the Roaring Woman. We salute you, graduates!



She Rises - Gratitude Graduation with Dr. Selena Webster-Bass (Northwestern Behavioral Services/Voices Institute)

Parent of the Quarter Angela Williams

We are proud to honor Angela Williams as our Parent of the Quarter! A long-time resident of the 32209 area for over 20 years, Angela’s journey has been one of resilience and renewal. After facing burnout, Angela took the courageous step of starting over and was referred to the Center of Hope for support. Since then, she has become an extraordinary leader in our community, touching countless lives through her involvement.

Angela started by participating in several of our programs, including Parent Cafe, Mommy and Babies, Co-Op, Yoga, Hope and Healing, Leadership Academy, Financial Literacy, The Boss Up Series, and Labor of Love. She also joined the PAC Leadership Team, demonstrating a passion for both personal growth and supporting others.

Now, Angela’s focus is on helping families in 32209 create new beginnings through our Threads of Resilience clothing closet. When families walk through the door, they are greeted with warmth and a smile, and Angela is there to assist them in finding clothing for their families and new careers.





Mobile Medical brings health services to you

Starting Friday, Jan. 23, at Center of Hope, Restoring Health Mobile Medical brings trusted, professional adult healthcare directly to the Center of Hope. Don't wait to take care of your health - call 904-265-6787 to make your appointment today!



Building a healthier 32209 with Blue Zones Project

The Center of Hope is proud to be a participating organization with Blue Zones, supporting healthier lifestyles across the 32209 community.

Through our 4-Week Challenge, Health Fairs, Yoga classes, and Youth Summits, we're putting Blue Zones principles into action—promoting movement, connection, purpose, and overall well-being for residents of all ages. Together, we're helping build a healthier, more hopeful 32209.

Featured Recipe Sautéed Mustard & Collard Greens

The Center of Hope's Labor of Love Garden recently celebrated a successful harvest of fresh mustard and collard greens! Under the leadership of our garden leader Sylvia, and with the dedication of garden ambassadors Portia and Gerrad, this harvest reflects the care, teamwork, and love poured into nourishing our community.



Ingredients

- 1 bunch mustard greens, washed and chopped
- 1 bunch collard greens, washed and chopped
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- ½ small onion, sliced
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- Optional: a splash of lemon juice or apple cider vinegar

Directions

1. Heat olive oil in a large pan over medium heat.
2. Add onion and sauté until soft, about 3–4 minutes.
3. Stir in garlic and cook for 30 seconds until fragrant.
4. Add mustard and collard greens, tossing gently as they wilt.
5. Season with salt and pepper, cover, and cook for 5–8 minutes until tender.
6. Finish with a splash of lemon juice or vinegar for brightness. Serve warm.

This healthy, comforting dish is a wonderful way to enjoy the fresh harvest from our Labor of Love Garden.

Harvest of Hope 2025

Our 2nd Annual Harvest of Hope brought the 32209 community together for a heartfelt seasonal harvest meal and Thanksgiving celebration. Hosted by our Unity and Faith Council and Parent Advisory Council, in collaboration with Preacher Dawson's Blitz, the event was a beautiful reminder of the power of faith, family, and community. Together, we shared a meal, expressed gratitude, and strengthened connections with neighbors we proudly serve in the 32209 community.



I came for the meal, but I left with so much more.

The clothes were a huge help, the gift card eased financial stress, and being prayed for gave me peace. **Harvest of Hope Fest truly lived up to its name.**

Harvest of Hope Fest parent attendee

Business Spotlight

Son'ya Wilcher, The Chillax Zone



I am Son'ya Wilcher the founder of Chillax Entertainment, which began as a giant game rental company and has grown into a community-focused enrichment experience. Through partnership with The Center of Hope, The Chillax Zone was created, where children are engaged in games, art, and enrichment activities while parents participate in community classes. Growing up in the same type of community I now serve has shaped my commitment to this work. My passion lies in creating accessible opportunities for children and families through community-based programs that encourage growth, creativity, and positive change. If interested in utilizing Chillax, please email chilandreloxjax@gmail.com or call 813-702-3766.

Jolly Jamboree 2025

The fifth annual Jolly Jamboree celebrated the holiday season with more than 400 of our 32209 friends and family members, joining in games, a gingerbread decorating contest, giveaways and raffles, Christmas carols, music, fun in the snow and even photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Each year is more and more fun and we love enjoying this time of year with you.



My kids were so excited when they got home.
I hadn't seen them that happy in a long time.

**The Center of Hope really
blessed our family.**

Jolly Jamboree parent attendee



Thanks to Santa and Mrs. Claus and
our photo volunteer!

Pink Party: Boots on the Ground

The third annual Pink Party saw 160 people come together for an energetic night of sharing education, myth-busting, resources, dancing and more, all in the effort to give breast cancer the boot!



BECOME A HOPE BUILDER!



Center of Hope is currently looking for **volunteers to support their Hope Builder programs and upcoming events for 2026**. There are many options for you to be part of the Center of Hope team! Use your phone to scan the QR code, or [use the link at CenterofHopeFL.org](#) to fill out the volunteer interest form.

To contact the Center of Hope team, please **call 904-265-6787** or email centerofhope@fssnf.org.