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Adopt-A-Family is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization established in 1983. Our mission is to strengthen families with children in their efforts to achieve stability and self-sufficiency by providing access to all-encompassing services.



Newsletter

FALL 2026

The Gen2 Education Partnership

In 2025, Adopt-A-Family expanded its commitment to the children we serve by launching the Gen2 Education Partnership (Gen2), an initiative designed to ensure that every single child living on our campus has an education advocate in their corner.

For decades, Adopt-A-Family has supported students through core programs like Project Grow and the Youth Success Program, but not every resident child participates in these structured afterschool programs. Gen2 fills that gap by connecting every child with an Education Coordinator who collaborates with families, case managers, schools, and community agencies to ensure each child has access to opportunities to help them thrive.

The Education Coordinator assesses every resident child to determine their academic and social needs. Gen2 has engaged with all 188 children currently living on our campus, and the Education Coordinator has facilitated over 350 individual meetings centered around the following objectives:

- Helping preschoolers enroll in quality programs focused on school readiness.
- Facilitating neuropsychological testing and helping families establish IEPs (Individualized Education Programs).
- Coordinating and funding individual tutoring when additional academic support is needed.
- Guiding families through applications for magnet programs, Choice schools, scholarships, and private schools.
- Connecting high school students with college, trade school, and other post-graduation opportunities.



Seven resident students graduated from high school in 2026. With the support and guidance of Gen2, six out of the seven students are continuing their education through college, trade school, and specialized adult learning programs. The seventh continues to work with Gen2 and a partner agency while planning his next steps.

Gen2 is an investment in the next generation and a promise that no child's needs or potential will be overlooked. Whether we're watching Project Grow students discover the

joy of reading, seeing Youth Success Program teens collaborate on a project, or supporting a family as they learn to be their child's advocate, education remains a powerful source of hope at Adopt-A-Family. We send our gratitude to the donors and partners who generously brought this vision to life.



Project Grow Summer Camp



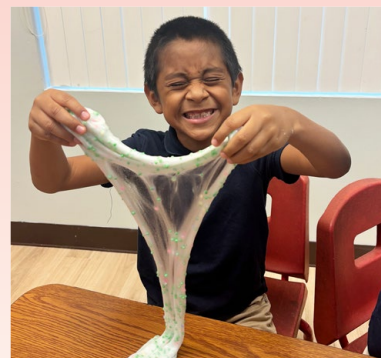
Project Grow's seven-week summer camp provided nonstop opportunities for children to learn, explore, build new skills, and make core memories.

In the classroom, campers worked on literacy with AmeriCorps volunteers, developed their social-emotional skills with Occupational Therapy intern Michael Phan, and experimented with wacky science projects. These lessons were complemented by stimulating field trips to places like the Norton Museum of Art, the Cox Science Center, and Manatee Lagoon. At the YMCA of the Palm Beaches, campers participated in swimming lessons, gaining confidence in an important life skill.



Campers also had time to enjoy being kids during trips to Calypso Bay Waterpark, the roller-skating rink, and the bowling alley. The summer ended on a high note with the annual talent show, followed by a party on the Project Grow turf featuring a bounce house and water games.

These quintessential summer experiences were made possible by our generous supporters, partners, and volunteers. Thanks to you, our children had an unforgettable summer.



Funder Spotlight: BallenIsles Charities Foundation



AAF's Gloriene Claudio-King on a recent shopping trip.

The BallenIsles Charities Foundation enabled Adopt-A-Family to launch the School Readiness Program with a grant in 2014, and the Foundation has generously supported the initiative ever since.

Students experiencing homelessness change schools frequently, and they often lose belongings as they move from place to place. The School Readiness Program was designed to ensure that students from Pre-K through high school are equipped with everything they need to successfully re-enter school as their family gets back on their feet.

Through the program, families meet their case manager at Walmart, where each student can select \$125 worth of school uniforms, undergarments, hygiene items, and supplies.

Grant funding also allows the Homeless Resource Center to maintain a uniform closet that families can access throughout the year.

We are grateful to the BallenIsles Charities Foundation for providing our students with the tools they need for a fresh start in the classroom.

GL Homes Provides Uniforms for 170 Students

For the past several years, GL Homes has supported Adopt-A-Family through initiatives that make a meaningful difference in the lives of the families we serve. Their support has ranged from a leadership seminar for residents to hot breakfast delivery to financial support for our programs.

Most recently, GL Homes helped students prepare for the new school year by funding the purchase of new uniform shirts, pants, and brand-name sneakers.

On July 27, GL Homes team members visited our Program REACH shelter to personally distribute the items. An additional shipment was delivered to our Lake Worth headquarters for our Back-to-School Kickoff (page 3).

Having new clothes and shoes for the first day of school can make a significant impact on a student's outlook on the new year.



Speaking about GL Homes' generosity on WPBF, AAF CEO Matt Constantine said, "There's so much instability going on, so to be able to start the school year off with everything you need is a huge relief for the parents and the kids."

Back-to-School Kickoff



A little rain was no match for Adopt-A-Family's second annual Back-to-School Kickoff!

Held in our Lake Worth administrative office due to thunderstorms, the event gave families the opportunity to gather uniforms, backpacks, and supplies for the upcoming school year. In addition, 17 of our community partners were on-site to share information about their services for families and students. When the skies cleared, families were able to enjoy dinner, ice cream, raffles, and play time on the Project Grow turf.



We send a heartfelt thank-you to the many supporters who contributed to this spectacular event: Alton Town Center; Bank of America; Barclay Philanthropic Club; Beverley Wharton; BRIDGES at Highland; Caleb and Savannah Bennett; Center for Child Counseling; Freshwater & Son's Electric; Gardens Presbyterian Church; Gathered by Faith; GL Homes; GOLDLAW; Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies; Highland Elementary School; Highland Pre-K Head Start; Humana Healthy Horizons; Jet Aviation; Lake Worth Community High School; Lake Worth Middle School; Lake Worth Beach City Library; Level Up Fitness; Little Smiles; the Kravis Center; McKinney-Vento Program of the School District of Palm Beach County; Melissa Tauber; Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections; Palm Springs Community Middle School; Publix District 18; Safe Kids; School District of Palm Beach County Early Childhood Education; Serhant Real Estate; Ta Ta For Now; Tequisha and Kersti Myles; Town of Palm Beach United Way; TJX; and Unity of Jupiter Church.

Grant Award From TJX



The TJX Foundation has been a dedicated agency partner since 2015. They provide critical grant funding for our Housing Stabilization Program, which helps families avoid homelessness through emergency rental assistance and case management.

In July, a team of TJX employees hand-delivered the 2026 grant award to our campus. They also brought new school supplies and spent time with Project Grow summer campers, cheering them on (and even participating!) in their annual talent show.

We are grateful for the TJX Foundation's longstanding partnership and hands-on investment in the families we serve. Their support helps keep families housed while giving children the resources and encouragement they need to thrive.

Staff Sidebar: Project Grow

This recurring column allows our community to gain insight into agency operations through the unique perspective of our dedicated staff members.

Project Grow is Adopt-A-Family's afterschool and summer program for elementary school students who have experienced homelessness or housing insecurity. Through homework assistance, one-on-one tutoring, mental health counseling, social-emotional learning, enrichment activities, field trips, and recreation on our turf field and playground, Project Grow helps students overcome the academic, social, and emotional challenges that can accompany instability and trauma.

We are proud to introduce you to the team behind Project Grow – a dynamic group of educators who have served our students for a combined 58 years. Every day, these professionals make a lasting impact by creating a safe, supportive environment where children can learn, grow, and thrive.



Daron Morse, 20 years
Director of Youth Educational Programs

"Over the years, multiple kids have told me that Project Grow feels like a second home. That is exactly what we want for kids who may not have had a stable place to call home before. They know that they are loved and cared for here."



Shacunya McFadden, 2 years
Assistant Director of Youth Educational Programs

"I will always cherish the memory of my first Santa Shoppe. Seeing the students' excitement as they selected gifts for family members, made crafts, and took pictures with Santa made the experience truly special. It was heartwarming to see how much joy they had in giving to the people they love."



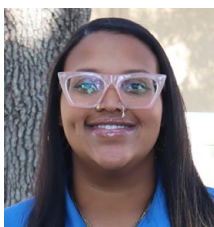
Evan Schoenly, 11 years
Classroom Leader: 4th and 5th Grade

"My main career goal was to work somewhere where I could help people from my area. As a native Lake Worth, I'm proud to help kids in my community."



Viola Scott, 22 years
Classroom Leader: 2nd and 3rd Grade

"Seeing my students move from one grade to the next is truly a wonderful thing. I've had the privilege of witnessing some of my students graduate college, and seeing them complete the race is truly amazing."



Briahna Odom, 3 years
Classroom Leader: Kindergarten and 1st Grade

"I think Project Grow is at the heart of Adopt-A-Family's mission. While families are rebuilding stability, we give their children a safe place where they can simply be kids. We are not just teaching academics; we are teaching them how to communicate, problem-solve, handle emotions, and treat others. I think that plays a powerful role in supporting the entire family."

Upcoming Holiday Events

Trunk or Treat

Spooky season is almost upon us, and families from our Lake Worth campus will celebrate at our annual Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 23. Clad in costumes, attendees enjoy trick-or-treating at decorated car trunks in the safety of our parking lot, a bounce house, face painting, and a photo booth. To support or volunteer, contact Jessy Paredes at jparedes@aafpbc.org.



Santa Shoppe

One of our oldest agency traditions, Santa Shoppe is a magical holiday event that will take place in West Palm Beach on Saturday, December 12, which gives children the opportunity to "shop" for and wrap gifts for their parents and siblings. In addition, each child gets a photo and personalized gift from Santa and Mrs. Claus! To volunteer or purchase gifts from children's wish lists, contact Jessy Paredes at santashoppe@aafpbc.org.



Thanksgiving Assistance

Donations of food and financial support allow us to assemble baskets filled with everything our clients need to prepare a warm Thanksgiving meal.

Contact: Jessy Paredes at
jparedes@aafpbc.org.

Holiday Adopter Program

Donors "adopt" a family for the holiday season by providing gift cards and presents from the household's wish lists.

Contact: Michele Lutas at
holidayadopter@aafpbc.org.

Gift Giving Event

Donations stock a "shop" where parents served by the Homeless Resource Center can select gifts for their children. Volunteer elves wrap them on-site.

Contact: Lisa Raymond at
lraymond@aafpbc.org.

Check Out Our Annual Report



The 2025 fiscal year featured expanded educational programming, record-setting special events, and a rapid response to the rising number of local families in need of assistance. We are grateful to every volunteer, supporter, community partner, client, and board member who helped make the year a success. It is an honor to partner with you to serve local families in need of a helping hand.

Scan the QR code to explore the report!



YES!

I would like to make a difference in the lives of families who are experiencing homelessness by contributing the following:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Donor's Choice \$ _____

Checks can be sent to Adopt-A-Family in the enclosed envelope or you can give online by visiting www.aafpbc.org/donate or by scanning the QR code.

Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



FALL 2026

- ☐ Check Enclosed
- ☐ Visa
- ☐ Mastercard
- ☐ Amex

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

CVV _____

Signature _____