

# THE FLORIDA MESSENGER

Official newsletter of Phoenix House Florida



## Program Spotlight

### THE DEREK JETER CENTER

Did you know that baseball great, Derek Jeter has donated over 1 million dollars to Phoenix House Florida for over 10 years? Through his Turn 2 Foundation Derek has helped thousands of teens across the country. The Derek Jeter Center Adolescent Program at Phoenix House Florida provides outpatient care for teens 13 and older.

Services at the Derek Jeter Center include:  
**INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT FOR TEENS**

- Three hours, three days per week in a group setting with additional one-on-one support

Day and evening times available

#### OUTPATIENT PROGRAM FOR TEENS

- Individual sessions and up to four group sessions per week



#### *In this month's issue:*

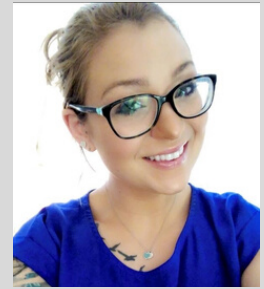
- HIGHLIGHTING THE DEREK JETER CENTER
- STAFF SPOTLIGHT
- HR CORNER
- FUN IN THE PROGRAMS

## Staff Spotlight

KORTNEY PLOSKI , OUTPATIENT CASE MANAGER

Kortney Ploski is a counselor/case manager at our Brandon Outpatient working in the mental health, substance abuse & case management fields over 5 years. Kortney has a BS degree from University of South Florida and is currently in her last year of Grad School at Nova Southeastern University to be a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and an honorary member of the International Honors Society in Psychology.

Kortney has lived here in the Tampa area her entire life and enjoys playing soccer and horseback riding in her spare time. Kortney found inspiration to become a counselor and continue in the field from what a former boss once told her "this field needs someone like you that has the heart behind the work." It's amazing the quality of work and ideas one can produce when you have the heart to help people. We are so happy to have Kortney on our



"I became a counselor because my passion in life is to help people and I have the heart for it."

## HR Corner

BY ELIZABETH ROLON, HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR

Did you know?

That we have these amazing jobs available...today?!

- Mobile Assessor
- Clinical Technician
- Licensed Counselor
- Director of Finance
- Compliance Manager

To apply, please go here:  
<https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/List/5010/Phoenix-Programs-of-Florida-Inc>

Staff fun!

The staff in Brandon had fun celebrating Halloween with lunch and a costume contest. It was a great day and a chance to take a little time to enjoy the holiday and each other's company. And with Thanksgiving right around the corner, we are looking forward to another day filled with fun and fellowship at both locations!



## *Donate today!*

GIVING TUESDAY IS DECEMBER 3RD

#GIVING  
TUESDAY

Last year, over 1,500 patients and their families worked towards transforming their lives and recovering from the disease of addiction at Phoenix House Florida. Despite the proven importance of completing treatment, many of our clients have insurance which covers only part of their prescribed treatment. These patients often lack the resources to pay the remainder themselves. Others have no insurance or plans with a high deductible payment they can't afford.

The Patient Assistance Fund was created to help clients start or complete their treatment and move closer to leading a healthy life. Your support will help even more people experience their personal strengths and live a healthier, more purposeful life in recovery.

GivingTuesday is on December 3, and is a global giving movement that harnesses the collective power of a unique blend of partners to transform how people think about, talk about, and participate in the giving season. GivingTuesday demonstrates how every act of generosity counts, and that they mean even more when we give together.

Phoenix House Florida is joining the GivingTuesday Movement to raise money for the Phoenix House Florida Patient Assistance Fund making substance use treatment available for those in need in our local communities and throughout the state of Florida.

There are three ways to donate:

1. [Phoenixhouse.org/florida](https://phoenixhouse.org/florida)
2. Text to donate
3. Scan the QR code



Text GIVINGTUESDAYPHFL  
to 44-321 now to donate

## *Fun in the programs*

### BALLOON RELEASE AND FAMILY DAY

The women's program in Citra has regular visitation every Saturday from 1-4pm and Family day the last weekend of each month. When there is a special holiday during that month, we try to go all out, doing little things the entire month. In that spirit, a special event was held to celebrate Halloween with a door decorating contest where the winners were treated to pizza as well as a cake to celebrate that month's birthdays. The Family day included a bounce house, food truck, soft ball, face painting, coloring table, snow cones, lots of food, and dessert table.

Following the special weekend, the program held a very therapeutic event, a balloon release. The dove balloon release was a way of "letting the hurtful things go", and gaining the strength to overcome addiction, and succeed at life once again.

The ladies found meaning in writing their feelings and things that have caused hurt in their past on the wings of the dove's and releasing it into the atmosphere.

It was an inspiring day!

