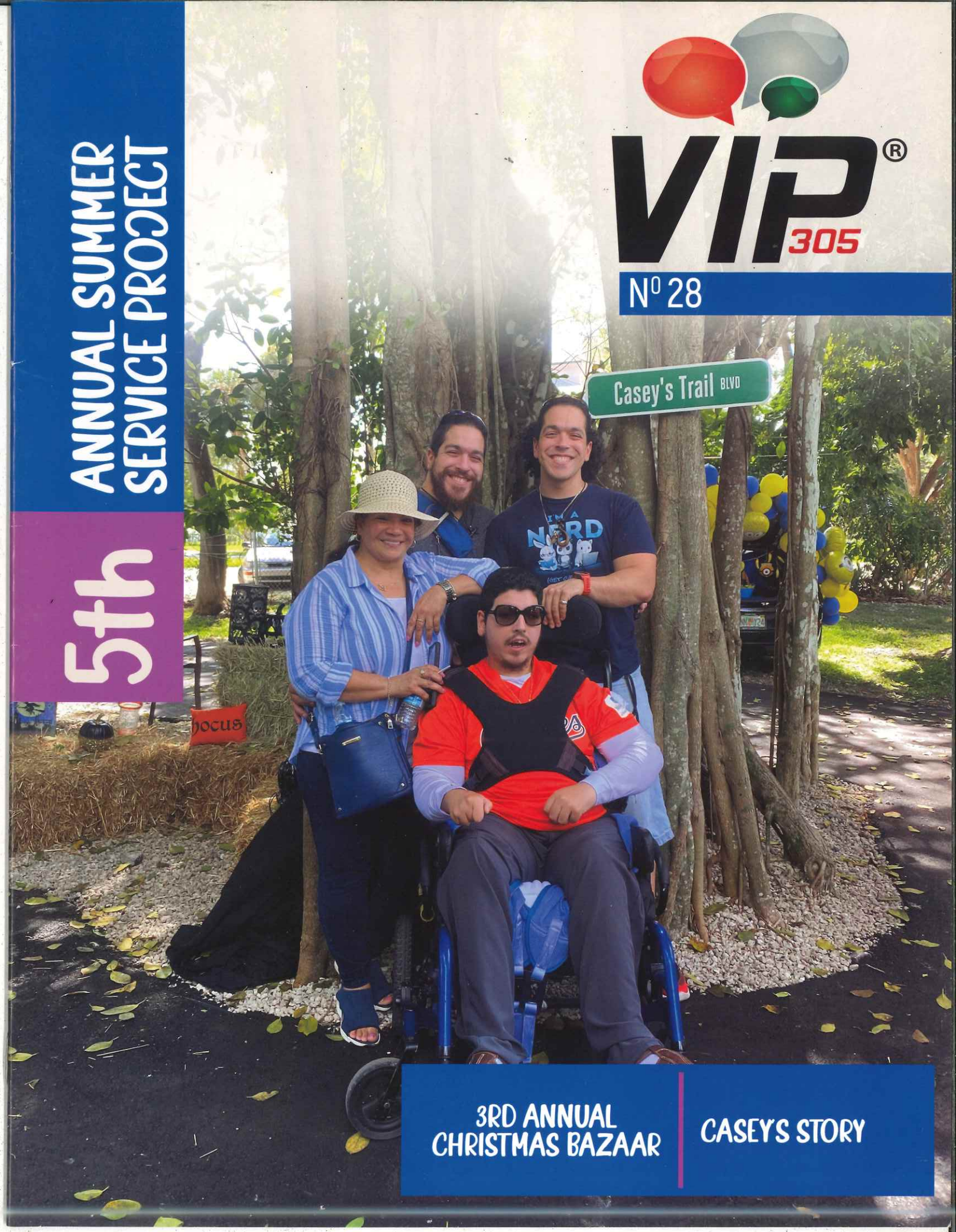
VIP 305

Nº 28

5th ANNUAL SUMMER SERVICE PROJECT



3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

CASEY'S STORY

5th Annual Summer Service Project

VIP® Summer SERVICE PROJECT

Very Important Purpose is hosting our 5th Annual Sleep-Away Summer Service Project for teens in Middle School and High School. We will be hosting our Summer Service Project for six weeks. Teens who participate will be able to serve their community in various ways throughout the week. Each teen will receive up to 100 hours of community service at the end of their stay.

- The teens will learn teamwork, communication skills and leadership skills.
- They will gain an appreciation of their everyday life while working and helping local organizations.
- They will participate in daily forums with invited guests that will encourage them to love themselves and others.
- They will have the opportunity to participate in various activities such as soccer, basketball, volleyball, Zumba, yoga, etc.
- They will be able to cook, bake, and participate in everyday routines.
- They will have the opportunity to participate in activities such as Talent Shows, Karaoke Night, Game Night, etc.



Throughout the week, students will work with different organizations like The Ronald McDonald House Charity, Foster Care Systems, Humane Society Of Greater Miami, Miami Rescue Mission, a Beach Clean-up, and more.

Our 2023 Summer Service Project Dates are as follows:
There will be 1 parent meeting held before camp starts (TBA).

June 12 - June 17
June 19 - June 24
June 26 - July 1
July 10 - July 15

July 17 - July 22
July 24 - July 29
July 31 - August 5

Summer Camp Price: $900.00 per student

Price Includes:

- Accommodation at our Homestead Cabin "El Escondite"
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner all full days
  Transportation to all facilities
- Shirt(s) that must be worn when out of the cabin

Casey's Story

Since I was a young girl I wanted three children. Three years after I got married I was blessed with my twin sons, Cory and Colby. They kept me busy, entertained, and I enjoyed each and every moment with them. By taking care of them, I learned that I could use both hands, at the same time to do what I needed to do to take care of them and our home. As the years passed, they were out of diapers, the bottle and starting Preschool, so I went back to work. But I felt incomplete, I longed, wanted, wished for my third child.

After seven years, I got pregnant again.

The pregnancy went extremely well and when the time came, my baby boy arrived healthy in every way, big and strong. Just before he turned one, a cyst was discovered over his spine. Surgery was scheduled. The doctor that performed the surgery was the top neurosurgeon in our state. The surgery was a complete success. And the doctor confirmed and verified that there was no connection to his spinal cord. Unfortunately during the recovery period in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, my son woke up before they expected him to, he moved his head and dislodged his breathing tube, the Doctor that responded to the alarm had no experience and by the time help arrived, my son had gone into a cardiac arrest, his brain was without oxygen for more than five minutes. We were in the hospital for over four weeks after that.

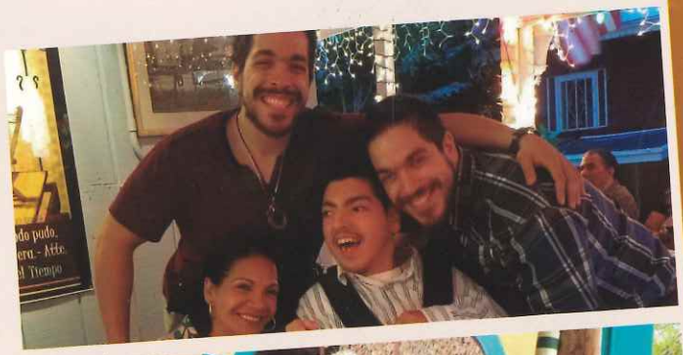
In January 2000 we moved to Florida. He started receiving all sorts of therapies, including Aquatic Therapy, Hypnotherapy and eventually, even Dolphin Human Therapy, where he got to swim with the dolphins and choose what activity to do in the water.My son said his first word at eight years old, he asked for his favorite toy, a ball.
The road has been difficult at times, full of ups and downs. Along the way, he, his older brothers and I have been to many places, have met a lot of kind strangers, made a lot of friends and experienced a lot of really wonderful adventures.

Three years before I got pregnant with my youngest child, I chose his name. It wasn't until many years later that I search the origin and meaning of his name, which is
Brave, watchful, with a fighting spirit and an easy smile and those that have been lucky enough to meet and get to know him soon learn that this is exactly who and what my Casey is.

He is now 24 years old. And those that make the effort soon realized he is a very bright, friendly, sometimes silly young man, that is able to understand and communicate in both English and Spanish. My Casey is a flirt, loves the outdoors, riding in the car, listening to music and hanging out with his order brothers and their friends.

For his brothers and I, Casey is our hero, our warrior, our encouragement. He was given to me twice, first when he was born and then when he survived the incident that caused his disability and for that I thank God each and every day.





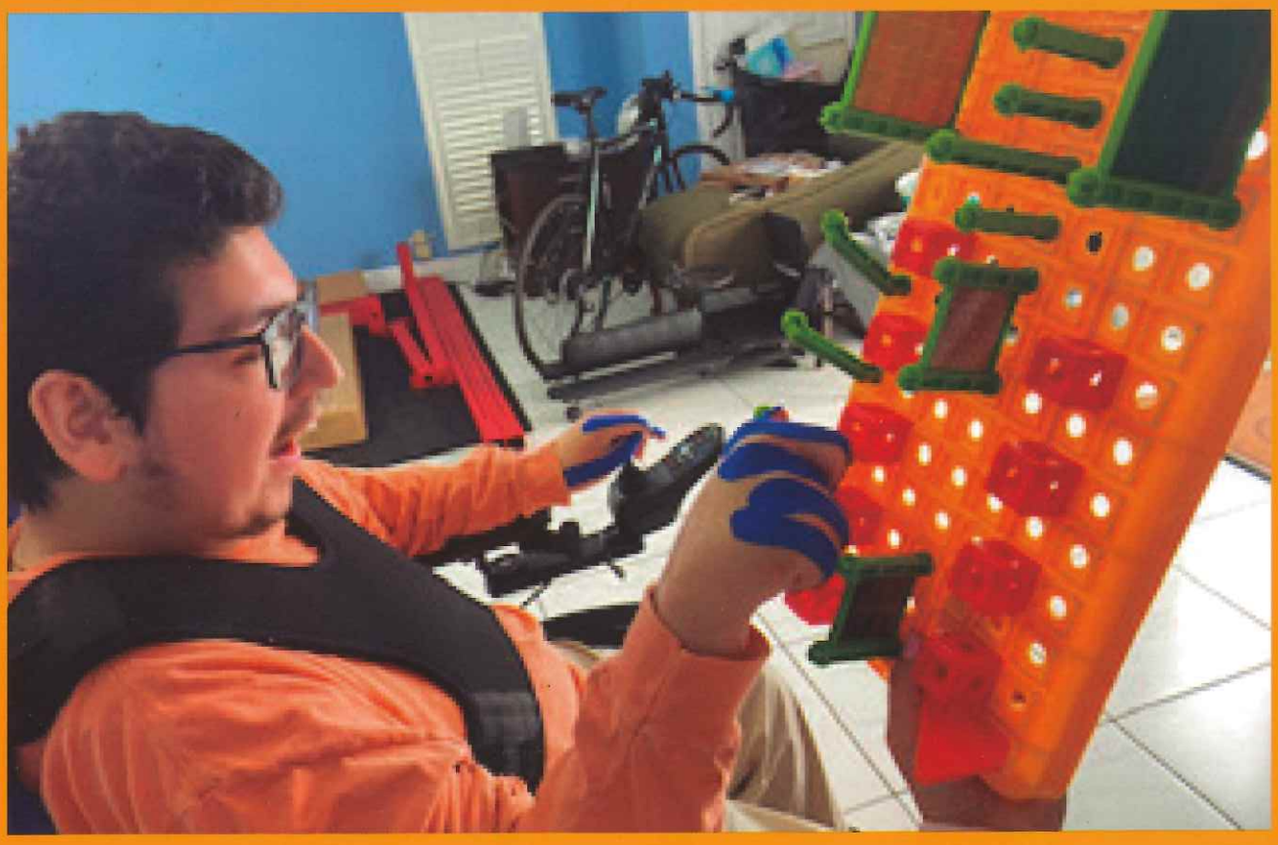






Minnie Lopez | Occupational Therapist

I am so blessed to know and to work with Casey Pellicer!! Since Casey was two, I have had the blessings of his beautiful smile and infectious laugh!! Casey has captured my heart over and over again!! I have had the pleasure to go with him to see the dolphins. We have done aquatic activities in his pool!! He is always such a blast!! Of course, he also loves sports. We play modified baseball, basketball, balloon tennis catch/throw with lighted balls or sensory balls. Casey also really enjoys games like connect four and tic-tac-toe. Besides sports, Casey also enjoys many different hobbies. He loves to paint! He has created many masterpieces!! Many of his paintings have been given to those who he loves!! He also enjoys making music whether it's on the drums or using a special Star Wars saxophone that his brother gave him. Besides music, Casey really gets a kick out of anything that makes sound effects!! They make him laugh so hard!! He also thinks bubbles are a blast as well!! We often have bubble parties with parachute games!! Casey is so blessed to have such a caring, kind and courageous Mom!! She is his biggest cheerleader!! He also has twin brothers that are a double blessing!! They often spend time with him!! Casey makes friends wherever he goes!!! Casey, you will always have a friend in me!!! I , along with your beautiful family, love you to infinity and beyond!!



CCNN LIVE

NOMINATED FOR 7 NATAS AWARDS

Article written by
Christopher Columbus High School

We are proud to announce that CCNN Live was nominated for 7 National Student Production Emmy Awards.

The Foundation of The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) today announced the nominees for the 2022 National Student Production Awards. Nominees were selected from high school student entries across the country in 25 programming and craft categories.

Non-Fiction - Short Form
Invasive: An Environmental Epidemic, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Emilio Boutros, Jordan Perez, Alexis Vivanco, Anthony Martinez, Massimo Del Rio, Michael Martinez, Andrew Falconi, Andrew Ordieres, Manuel Fraga, Juan Carlos Chaoui, Sebastian Broche, Lucas Figueroa
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisor

Arts/Entertainment/Cultural Affairs
Mikey's Tips, Tricks, and Hacks, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Jordan Perez, Andrew Ordieres, Emilio Boutros, Michael Novo
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisors

Sports Story or Segment
Mind, Body, Sport, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Lucas Delgado, Lucas Figueroa, Juan Carlos Chaoui, Emanuel Naccarato, Ryan Santos
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisors

Public Service Announcement (PSA)
Be Kind to Your Mind , Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Manuel Fraga, Thomas Pozo, Andrew Falconi, Alexis Vivanco, Emilio Boutros, Matthew Quesada, Andrew Ahrendt, Thomas Zarut, Juan Carlos Chaoui
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisora

Director
S.O.S. Cuba, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Lucas Figueroa
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisors

Editor
Invasive: An Environmental Epidemic, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Lucas Figueroa
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, Advisors

Talent - News or Sports
Anthony Martinez Talent Reel, Christopher Columbus High School (Suncoast Chapter)

Anthony Martinez
Omar Delgado, Christina Insua, AdvisorsT









Junior Paws with a Purpose

Very Important Purpose partnered with Heel 2 Heal Therapy Dogs, a volunteer group of dedicated therapy dog handlers and their dogs on a mission of sharing smiles and joy, to provide testing and certification to our volunteers who wish to be involved in volunteer animal - assisted activities such as visiting hospitals, special need centers, schools, nursing homes, airports, etc. The partnership with Heel 2 Heal has felt as an extremely rewarding one and we are so hopeful to our dog parents to see what they, as well as their dogs are able to do within our community!







Hurricane Ian Donation Drive

In September 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall in Florida and areas were extremely affected by the hurricane, as many lost their homes, cars, and devastatingly enough - lives were lost. In an effort to help, Very Important Purpose hosted a Hurricane Relief Donation Drive, and was able to collect more donations than we could ever think possible from our amazing community. We collected donations through a designated time, rented a U HAUL and our VIP Staff, as well as volunteers and families joined us to personally drive to Everglades City and distribute donations collected to families and shelters. We will continue to pray for the communities affected and do our part to help.













Beck College Prep Interview

BECK COLLEGE PREP



At VIP 305 Miami, we are very interested in the people who play a major role in helping us. We establish connections and knowledge as we give them a space to tell us the part they play in our community. We had the opportunity of meeting with Amuni Beck, head of Beck College Prep, an institution that offers tutoring for teens for the SAT and ACT as they build from scratch the necessary key values and factors that are needed, so they can go to their dream higher education. Our VIP Staff learned that Beck College Prep in particular works with each individual and creates a tailor-made learning process so they can feel confident in getting the results needed for their long awaited college admission.

The interview was enriched by the interesting narrative Amuni gave when talking about her process with creating Beck College Prep. She was interested in the legal field at a young age. But the steps towards that career path were kind of distant from where she wanted to be. Nevertheless, the tutoring choice often presents itself as one that Miss Beck always happens to pick. So she decided to make a career out of it, and a very successful one at that. Her intuition, just as her tutoring talents, was on point. Thus, she ended up creating Beck College Prep, a place where she guides the young by helping them get the scores that they want and deserve for the SAT and ACT!

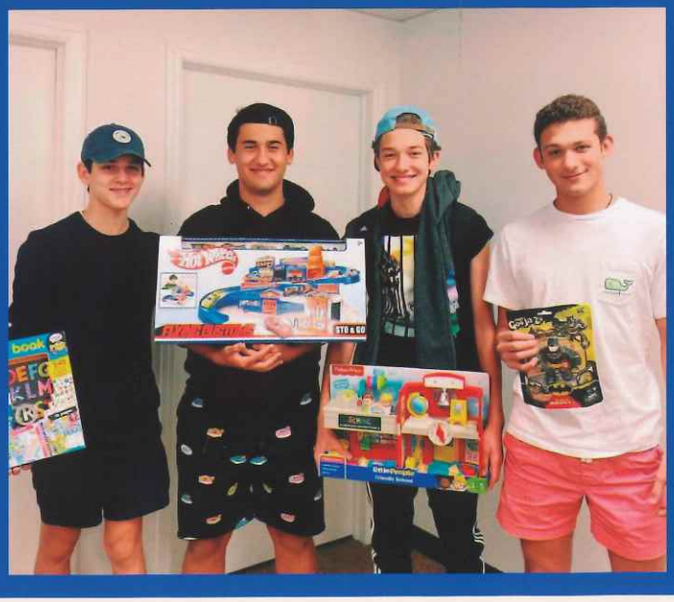
As you can imagine the conversation was joyful, charming and informative. One point that stood out from the interview was the importance of community service hours awarded by schools. As VIP 305, we pride ourselves with the community service that we offer, for we believe that to help means to receive both love and support. Miss Amuni told us that it can also give college points, via a recommendation letter (in this case from VIP305) that will be taken into consideration when the college decides to accept a student. So Both VIP305 and Beck College Prep seem to be the perfect places where young people can be sure to learn, to give and to ensure their future. The only thing that needs to be done is just to help others and receive their love in the process!

Toy Drive with Beck College Prep

Special thanks to Beck College Prep, their students and our volunteers for assisting our nonprofit organization, Very Important Purpose in collecting so many toys for our Christmas Toy Drive! To be a part of our next Toy Drive, visit us on our instagram @VIP305Miami and sign up for the event(s) throughout the second week of December.







Camper Spotlight



Mother of Camper Yiadenis Ojeda

Allowing my son to participate in the overnight week-long service project summer camp was not an easy decision. However, after participating in many of the activities VIP305 has to offer and meeting the founder of VIP305 and her family throughout the whole year, it made my decision much easier. This nonprofit family-built organization is a blessing for our families and our children. How could I say no to having my son learn how to be independent, do acts of kindness for families of sick children, help the homeless, clean the environment, socialize with others his age, and decrease his use of electronic devices for a week without him even realizing, just to name a few? Yessika and Amy take care of the children just like if they were their own. It's a wonderful place and an unforgettable experience for your children.

Camper Giovany Ojeda

I first heard about VIP305 last summer when I was looking for volunteer opportunities. I signed up to be an ambassador at my school and I participated in many activities throughout the year. I really liked participating at El Escondite, the VIP305 headquarters. It is a one-of-a-kind place plus I got to help out my community. When my mom finally let me do the summer camp, I was so happy. My favorite activity was when we made a new bunny cage. Even though I am very shy, I was able to make new friends. We did lots of community work, but we were also able to enjoy ourselves with many activities during our non-working hours. Such as, playing foosball, watching movies, enjoying the pool, playing football and volleyball. We even played Monopoly and card games.



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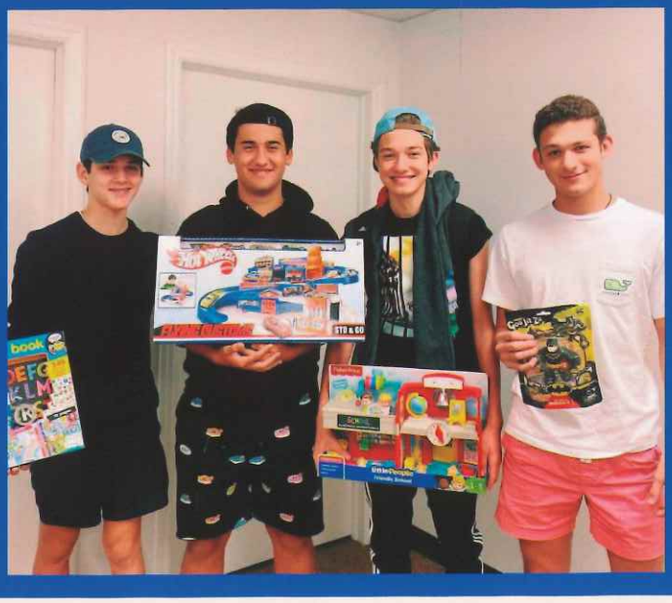
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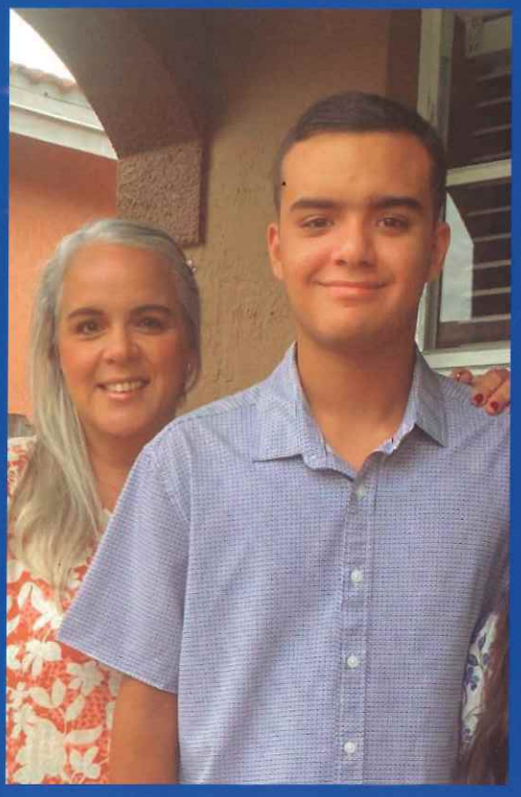


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2nd Annual Trunk or Treat



- Very Important Purpose held our 2nd Annual VIP Trunk or Treat on October 29th at our Homestead Foundation. We invited families and special guests from nonprofit organizations to walk around "trick or treating" at each car's trunk, receiving candy, taking photos with decorated cars, and most importantly having a safe and fun Halloween celebration. We were so excited to have hosted the event and appreciate all of our volunteers who participated!









Christmas Bazaar

VIP305Miami held our 2nd Annual VIP Christmas Bazaar on December 11th & December 12th 2021. The event was held at our foundation and was a great success! Vendors were invited to participate in the event to help promote their small business. Support our small local businesses by following vendors who participated

VENDORS

@dosfrijolesyuncubano
@islanddesigns_
@cocobejewelzz
@cucusdelights
@_prettyinpinkshop_
@fiethings
@jolegadesigns
@shop_ps_boutique
@fusioncbdproducts

@i_flan_you
@bertoskitchen
@scentfullsoaps
@scottbeautyshop
@islandessences _creations
@gomeztradez
@sweet.on.u
@madeofstars_miami
@jadares_apparel

@miami.chains
@coquito305
@selfworth.movement
@_mydevinekitchen
@zoeandj.jewlery
@soytranquilitycandles
@dorisblingandbeauti
@wreaths_by_isabel
@eternalsoulbytania

@mylifelocket.thinkgoodness
@dogmombakery
@goodvibecrafts3
@bestofmeby_g
@essenzaswim
@onestopinteriors
@hippiewithacam
@coquitobybori













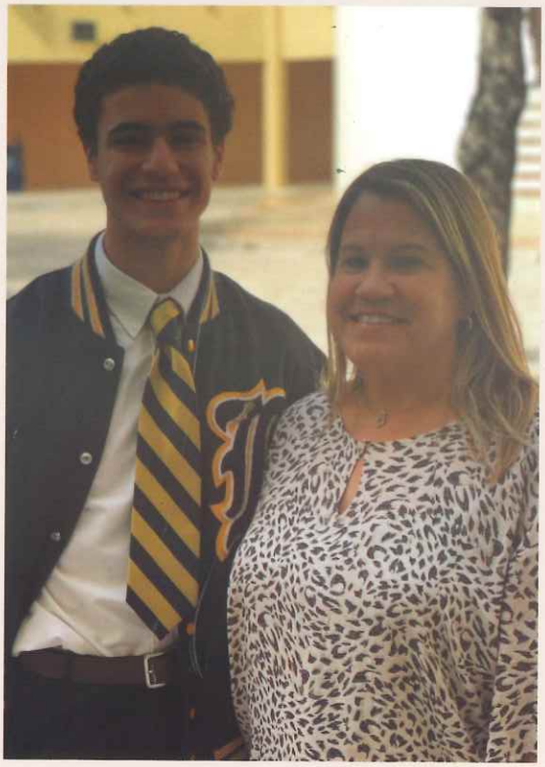




Belen Jesuit Ambassador & Moderator Connect Club

Laura Varela

VIP Connect Club Moderator



Being the club moderator for VIP Connect at Belen Jesuit School, has allowed me the opportunity to work with amazing people on campus and throughout the community to help service those in need. Our club president, Diego Hamud, has an intense drive and passion to service and lend a helping hand whenever possible. While working together we have made connections with organizations in Miami to plan service projects allowing students to engage in activities in various capacities throughout our community. Recently, we had the opportunity to participate in a Trunk or Treat Event with VIP 305 which brought together many for a day of family fun. To see the joy in the faces of the parents of these amazing children with special needs, truly filled my heart with so much happiness.The parents dressed up in costumes alongside their children to collect candy, enjoy a train ride and so much more. It was really exciting to see the students decorate their cars and give out candy as the children walked by. Through the VIP Connect Club, I have had the opportunity to give back to the community that has given so much to me. In the words of Aesop, " any act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Diego Hamud

VIP Connect Club Ambassador

This organization has been a part of my life for the past couple of years, helping set up events, working with a great group of people, and creating a better environment for our community through service. At first, it was difficult trying to open up the club at Belen due to the fact that I had limited assistance in setting up the club. However, Mrs. Varela and I have succeeded and now have the support of many Wolverines who signed up for the club. It meant a lot to me that we could finally bring our organization to Belen after so long because of how it has impacted me.

Mrs. Varela and I are going to make sure that Belen students will be motivated to serve others the way we were, helping them grow into even better young men by their works. I've let my members know ahead of time that they could not be in the club if they do not want to help, and that is a stance that I will keep throughout the year in order to push for an actual group of kids who want to make a change. I am very grateful for Very Important Purpose for giving me a new outlook on my life and teaching me to be thankful to God for being fortunate enough to spread our cause to others.







A Fiery Competition: Doral's Finest.

DORAL ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Doral Academy Preparatory has an outstanding reputation overall. This can be shown in the numerous competitions that they take part in from arts, to law, to programming, exceeding the expectation of the challenges. This time, we share with you a little glimpse at the 36th Annual UCF High School Programming Tournament and the mock trial Florida circuit competition. The first competition tests the capacities of the young programmers, as they need to fix all coding problems they can. The participation is ferocious, and hard, having 84 teams compete at said event. Doral made an outstanding performance, having the honor of putting their name on the 3rd, 6th, 11th, and 12th at UFC Programming Tournament. At mock trial Florida circuit competition, Doral was not left behind at all, being a competition counting with the expertise of the future lawyers in an outside the courtroom. Doral won the 7th overall and 3rd best attorney of the competition





ARCHBISHOP COLEMAN CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL

CC

Primum Regnum Dei

Ice Cream Exchange!

On September 14th, Archbishop Coleman Carroll shared a special day with the transfer students of the school. They posted the exchange so we can see how wonderful of a day it was. This is an effort to bring the experience of the school to all who want to be a part of the journey of Coleman Carrol as it shows values such as companionship, friendship and openness.







A space to listen. to love and drop Somme sick rimes!

At Saint John Neumann Catholic School, the 3rd grades drop some massive tunes, as they had lots of fun worshiping and loving the father. The "Abraham rap" they called it, or just another expression of love and care.







Trick or treating: Campus style!

In part of the Halloween celebration, The Juniors from Immaculata - La Salle had an amazing on- campus trick or treating to welcome little ones from St. James Catholic School, Holy Family Catholic School and St. Mary Cathedral School. The vibes were tremendous as the costumes, from Superman to obi-wan, and the laughs filled the environment with a lot of joy! The little ones were in tune with the energetic event as they shared sweets and friendship throughout the campus.



BELEN GALA SUCCESS

The 1854 Belen Gala was a huge success! Over a thousand members of the Belen community came together for an evening of fun and camaraderie to raise funds for the Financial Assistance Program. Over $350,000 in net proceeds were raised thanks to the gala sponsors, underwriters, attendees, auction participants, and generous donations.

The Watsco Center at the University of Miami was transformed and decked out in disco glam. Everything from the dance floor to the decor on the tables to the digital signage showcased Belen and honored our tradition of excellence. Guests enjoyed delicious food, Bacardi drinks and danced the night away to music by Tropics Entertainment.

"It goes without saying, we've come a long way since the brave Jesuits made the tumultuous journey to Miami and the humble beginnings of our school when we first arrived in 1961," said Fr. Willie, S.J. '87. "In no small way should it be overlooked that the success of Belen is because of our community - our amazing alumni, supportive parents, great faculty and staff, and, of course, our dedicated students. I have no doubt that with your continued support, Belen will indeed last forever."

Planning the gala is done over the course of several months under the direction of Rebeca Lowell, Event Coordinator. During that time, there have been many parents, friends, and benefactors who have been working with the school's Advancement Office to make sure our Gala is successful. In particular, thanks to this year's Gala Chairs Claudia Navarro and Patty Paredes; Auction Chairs Alina León, Cary Falero, Monica Antún, Patty Franyie, and Karla Handal; Program Book Chairs Teresita Caraballo, Alejandra Gentzschein, and Christina Gómez-Pina and alumnus Raúl Rodríguez '95 whose vision reimagined this arena for this special evening. Without their tireless efforts, the gala would not have been possible.

"I'm grateful to the army of volunteers that helped to make the 1854 Belen Gala so incredibly special," said Rebeca Lowell, Event Coordinator. "We are already envisioning next year's gala. Stay tuned for more information before the end of the school year."















FLORIDA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Reading Under the Stars with our Grandparents

Florida Christian School has many events that stand out for their originality and reach as students can take part in the various activities of the school. The elementary students got to enjoy Reading Under The Stars with their grandparents for Grandparents Day. In this case, we talk about putting together the perfect team, the abuelos, abuelas and their grandchildren. The event was sweet, loving and fun. There were drama skits and lots for cookies! The important part is to show how wonderful the activities of the school can truly be, bringing together the children with their abuelas and abuelos.









conchita ESPINOSA ACADEMY

The K4 students at Conchita Espinosa Academy learning about their senses! They did a series of activities to call on their five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch.

From blind-touching different items to describe how they felt (soft, cold, smooth, squishy, etc), to trying various snacks and using different words to articulate how they tasted (crunchy, sweet, salty, etc), to feeling the ooziness of whipped cream, it was a beautiful and hands-on morning of learning and experiencing new sensations!









School Sport Page



The football team of Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll won first place in their Conference. Head Coach Zagales was named coach of the year and several players made the All-Conference Team. **Go bulldogs!**



The crew team of Belen Jesuit High School



The Christopher Columbus Olympic Lifters Club



The swimming team of Immaculata- La Salle High School competed at the FHSAA Regional Meet where some qualified for the state championship. **Go Royals!**



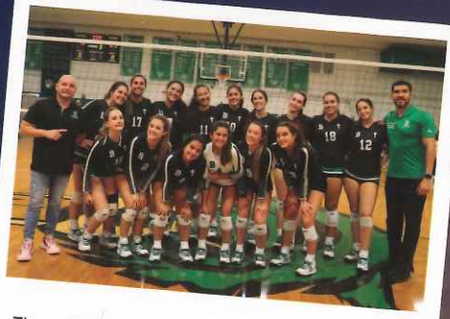
The cross country team at Our Lady of Lourdes won second place at Regionals. **Go Bobcats!**



The PACE High School Cheerleading Team



The football team of Coral Reef High School.



The volleyball team of Saint Brendan High School

An Artistic View of the Past

The young talented students at Miami Arts Studio have always exceeded in many artistic forms. From dancing, to singing and drawing, these capable youngsters express themselves without any restrictions! This time, we have the opportunity to show you a glimpse of art looked through the eyes of history. We look at the Hispanic heritage as we congratulate Xanthe Teijeiro, Olivia Sardinas, Valentina Rodriguez, Michael Roces, Madison Soto and Nicole Silah who were selected for the Hispanic Heritage Competition at MDCPS Gallery. Here are some of their beautiful works:







Epiphany Queens and kings!

On October 12th, The Columbus Olympics had their new champions. We give you a quick inside of the students at Epiphany Catholic School. Many young and fiery names are displayed in golden, silver and bronze medals. Truly a remarkable day for Epiphany!

GOLD

Journalism - Andres Pereira, Angie Codeso, Mia Pesant , Luca Driusi
English - Emi Bazo
Math - Veronica Aguilar
Theology - Gloria Rodriguez

SILVER

English - Aubrey Negret
Math - Camila Sanchez
Math - Nick Fernandez
Science - Albert LaTour
Theology - Joey Renfrow
PE - Jianna Bustamante
General Skills - Brooke Pennie, Dani Querejeta, Isa Diaz, Camila Arango
Art - Alexis Garcia

BRONZE

History - Daniela Bonet
History - Rene Ruiz
Theology - Kaitlyn Cabral
Science - Olivia Croquet
PE - Lily Martinez
STEM - Lucy Lista, Chris Toffoli , Nicky Scardina and Ava Coscuella



Coral Reef



"Coral Reef Barracudas wide receiver Abraham Mole (2) runs with the football for a touchdown against the Braddock Bulldogs during the first quarter of the GMAC Independent Championship game at Tropical Park Stadium in Miami, Florida, Friday, November 11, 2022" Sam Navarro: Special for the Miami Herald





Results are in. Divine Savior volleyball standout voted Dade High School Athlete of the Week

By Jordan McPherson on Miami Herald

"Divine Savior volleyball's Carola Rodriguez is the Miami-Dade High School Athlete of the Week, as voted on by readers in our weekly poll. Rodriguez, a senior outside hitter,totaled 21 kills and 13 digs to lead the Sharks to a four-set win over Hollywood Chaminade-Madonna in a Region 4-3A semifinal. Divine Savior's playoff run ended one match later though when they were swept by Westminster Christian in the regional final. Rodriguez finished the season with 235 kills, 60 aces and 284 digs over 90 sets played. About 6,000 people voted in this week's poll, with Rodriguez receiving 83 percent of the votes. Palmer Trinity golfer Remi Bacardi, St. Brendan cross-country runner Emma Hencock, Krop football's Julius Pascal and Miami Northwestern football's Taron Dickens rounded out this week's participants."

Sofy & ME

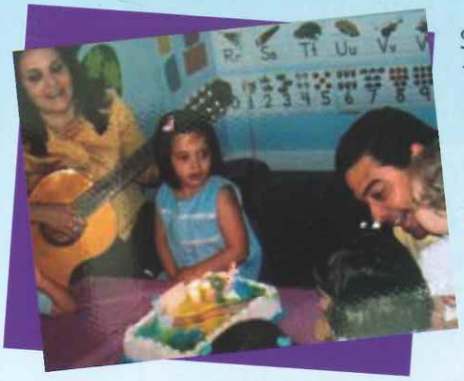


Sofia was born on a November 28th, on Thanksgiving day. Her story began when I realized I was pregnant with my first baby. Although nobody told me she was going to be a special baby, I had been dreaming about it since months before. I used to pray for God to give me strength to be a good mother and to give me something I could handle.

She was a beautiful, lovely baby girl, sweet and tender with these big, dark green eyes that were able to see everything in this amazing world.



At the hospital the doctors said "Your baby has Down Syndrome Condition", and at that moment I realized my life had changed completely. A new world began, new life, new challenges, one that nobody could understand, unless you personally go through a situation like this. Sofy was the most adorable toddler. She was very smart, healthy, fast to learn and grow. I dedicated my life to her. I had to made big sacrifices in my professional life, because I didn't have any help to continue working at the level I used to. I cried, I laughed , and felt so many different emotions every single day. Sofia came to the world to teach me how to be a better person, a better human being. Down Syndrome Condition is the most frequently occurring chromosomal disorder, where the 21st chromosome is copied three times, this leads to some intellectual and developmental delays. According to statistics approximately 6000 babies are born in the United States each year with this disability. 3.6 million babies are born in USA every year.



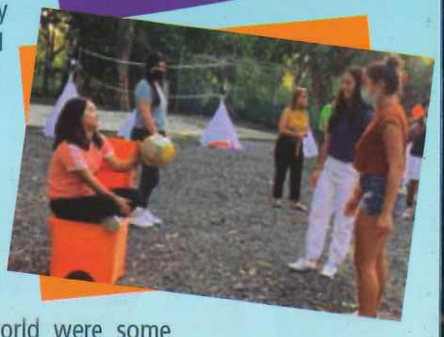
Sofy has been an inspiration for me to help other moms who have the same circumstances and to empower our community with children and adults with Special Needs .She is an inspiration to create new programs for the Down Syndrome Population and their families, and to work in an organization that facilitates free therapies for new babies with this condition. Since day one I decided to be a very active mom looking for baby and me programs, massages, music therapies, arts session, dance, swimming etc. . ; everything that could help Sofy grow and be part of an inclusive world. That's is how I started participating in the Very Important Purpose Foundation . It's not always easy but with the love of God everything is possible !



Life continues, with Sofy and her 2 wonderful sisters who came to make me a very happy and busy mom. She was developing as a lovely girl. We met wonderful people, but the process with the schools, the fighting against any rejection received, segregation felt, etc. was also part of our lives. She was a good reader , dancer , singer. She has always being busy with the great activities and programs that organizations, foundations and many programs that thankfully this country has for our Down Syndrome Community. 21 years have already passed since Sofia was born, our mission continues.



Sofy Grew as beautiful, cute teenager, she had to surpass many hard and happy situations. I always think in the future and wish with all my heart that she can be as independent as possible, to be able to live in a world were some compassion is needed. We love her the way she is, with her most pure heart. For any parent with a child with special needs, I just can tell you that miracles happen. Everything is possible with love and persistency . It's a long road but we can do it together. Thank you VIP foundation for always working to make acceptance in the young adult community. Your programs are teaching so many people that we can all be friends.





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July 22nd - Adventure of the Seas
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July 29th - Harmony of the Seas
7 night Eastern Caribbean
St. Kitts / St. Thomas / Cococay

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Special Thanks to Angela for organizing this amaizing trip!



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