



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Greg Giordano (727) 847-8179

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***Pasco Tax Collector Mike Fasano
Designates April as the***

***PACE Center for Girls Charitable
Giving Month***

During the month of April the ***PACE Center for Girls*** will be the featured charitable giving organization at the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office. ***PACE*** is a nationally recognized non-residential program that features a balanced emphasis on academics and social services. The girls who attend ***PACE*** are middle and high-school-aged students, many of whom were at risk of dropping out of traditional school settings.

The ***PACE Center for Girls*** not only provides the education the students need to graduate high school, it also provides counseling, employment assistance and overall preparation for life beyond school. On average, the girls who enter ***PACE*** are 15 years of age, but may be as young as 11. Prior to their

enrollment at **PACE**, 80% of the girls were failing one or more of their classes. Upon completion of the **PACE** program, 86% of the girls were in school, higher education or employed.

“The **PACE Center for Girls** is open to girls ages 11-17 in Pasco County who are struggling to overcome trauma, school failure, family conflict, health concerns, and other difficult life situations,” states **Gail Armstrong, Executive Director**. “By offering a free academic and counseling program and focusing on each girl’s strengths, **PACE** helps girls create a brighter future. Please support these “at promise” young women by donating to **PACE** in April through the Pasco County Tax Collector’s Offices. Together we can believe in girls until they believe in themselves!”

“The **PACE Center for Girls** has made an impact on countless young women in our community,” states **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. “Many of the ladies enter the school with severe education, health and behavior challenges. During their enrollment the dedicated staff, and families who support their loved one, work to overcome these challenges. We are excited to feature the **PACE Center for Girls** as our charitable organization of the month. The good work the school does is evident in the success rate of those who graduate. I encourage our customers to stop by one of our five tax offices to help a young lady in our community overcome her life challenges.”

For more information regarding the **PACE Center for Girls** please visit the website www.pacecenter.org or contact Gail Armstrong at 727 -849-1901. For more information about the charitable giving programs and other services at the Pasco Tax Collector’s Office please visit www.pascotaxes.com or call **Greg Giordano, Director of Customer Relations** at 727-847-8179.

Your donation may forever change the life of a young girl.