



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Greg Giordano (727) 847-8179

Date: February 21, 2022

Pasco Tax Collector Offices Will be Accepting Donations for Fostering Change Foster Closet in March

During the month of March, the five **Pasco County Tax Collector's Offices** will be accepting donations on behalf of **Fostering Change Foster Closet**, a non-profit program created to provide children who are quickly removed from their homes and put into foster care to pick up needed clothing, personal care supplies and even food. Based in Pasco County, **Fostering Change Foster Closet** offers help to any child who has entered foster care and were unable to bring even the most basic of personal care needs from their home at the time of removal. Their foster parents accompany them to the **Fostering Change Foster Closet** and assist in picking out items of need.

"Fostering Change Foster Closet is proud to be the first, and only at the time of this release, 24/7 children's foster closet," comments founder **George Agovino**. "We want to minimize the time it takes for a foster child to be placed with a loving foster family. However, if that family doesn't have all the items needed to care for that child, like a crib or

other such items, that child can't be placed with a family until they have all these items. Child Protective Services has 24-hour access to our facility, and we are also available just about any time to meet with foster families at our closet.”

It is estimated that in the Suncoast Region over 3,900 children are removed from their homes each year and placed into foster care. This is a large portion of the over 6,000 children who enter foster care in the West Central Florida region. Most children stay in foster care for about 13 months until they are reunited with their families or put into permanent placement with a new family. The **Fostering Change Foster Closet** helps bridge the gap in clothing and supplies for the children during their stay in foster care.

“I have long supported funding services for organizations that provide foster care for the most vulnerable children in our community,” comments **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. “Through no fault of their own these children are removed from their family and placed into foster care settings that are unknown to them and with people they have never met. The caring staff of the **Fostering Change Foster Closet** does its best to make this transition as normal as possible for these children who have gone through traumatic events, often since their earliest years. We are more than pleased to support **Fostering Change Foster Closet** during the month of March. Please stop by one of our five offices in Pasco and donate to this important cause.”

For more details regarding this charitable promotion, or services provided by the *Pasco County Tax Collector's Office*, please contact **Greg Giordano, Assistant Tax Collector** at 727-847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com For more information about **Fostering Care Foster Closet** please visit <https://fosteringchangecloset.com/> or contact **George Agovino, Founder & Director** at (813) 421-1958.

###