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WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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WREC MEMBER NEWSLETTER

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Vincent HOUSE

"Recovery through Work."

WREC Works To Improve Mental Health In Our Communities!

With over 200 in attendance, a groundbreaking ceremony for the new **Vincent House Pasco** was held on June 24th. This groundbreaking is a culmination of years of work and partnerships to build mental health capacity in our communities. It all started with a request from Members and a survey by the **United Way** that showed our area lacked necessary mental health services.

WREC developed a coalition of partners to focus on mental health and find a program that would not only help people recover, but allow them to lead meaningful lives. We found that program at Vincent House in Pinellas County.



At Vincent House, they follow the **Clubhouse Model** which is an evidence-based practice that started at **Fountain House** in New York City in the late 40's. The Clubhouse Model is built upon the belief that all members can recover from mental illness and lead full and successful lives in the community. Clubhouses are a restorative community that believe in the power of work and relationship building



Dignitaries in attendance for this historic groundbreaking ceremony included: Congressman Gus Bilirakis, Senator Wilton Simpson, Representative Ardian Zika, Pasco Sheriff Chris Nocco, Pinellas-Pasco Public Defender Bob Dillinger, Pinellas-Pasco States Attorney Bernie McCabe, Property Appraiser Gary Joiner, Clerk of the Circuit Court Paula O'Neil, and Pasco County Administrator Dan Biles, among others.

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WREC WORKS TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITIES!

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as an integral part of one's recovery.

Vincent House is organized to help Clubhouse members develop the skills needed to be successful in their recovery. They do this through the *Work Ordered Day* which parallels typical working hours, giving members the opportunity to work side by side with the staff in the overall operation of the Clubhouse. This allows them to build the skills needed in everyday life.

Vincent House helps its members return to school and paid-work through a Career Development program. Members of Vincent House have earned over seven million dollars in real wages since they opened in 2004.

They offer their members a unique opportunity to meet their goals at their own pace, while most importantly, maintaining strong and meaningful relationships that believe in and promote HOPE.

When it opens in *July of 2020*, Vincent House Pasco will be able to serve approximately 75 people a day. Vincent House Pasco (opening in 2020) and Hernando (opened in 2017) would not have been possible without the dedication of community leaders.



THANK YOU to the Following:

Senator Wilton Simpson for securing one million dollars in funding from the State of Florida. Pasco County for donating 10 acres of land and dedicating a Community Development Block Grant to the program. These efforts along with Sheriff Chris Nocco, Pasco/Pinellas Public Defender Bob Dillinger, Representative Amber Mariano, Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative's Billy E. Brown and David Lambert, and the many agencies and community partners, took our dream and made it a reality.



COOPERATIVE REWARDS



SMART THERMOSTAT PILOT

The "Cooperative Rewards" Smart Thermostat Pilot has been completed. A special "Thank You" to all of our Members who participated in this important project.

Last summer, Seminole Electric Cooperative (WREC's power supplier) began enrollment for the Cooperative Rewards Smart Thermostat Pilot. Cooperative Rewards ran from August 2018 until May 2019. WREC had over 380 Members participating in the pilot program.

Throughout this program, Seminole collected data from the thirty-eight thermostat control events. Seminole is now conducting a study to determine the full benefits of a programmable Wi-Fi enabled smart thermostat program and

to determine whether a system-wide program is warranted in the future. If the program is determined to be a cost-effective way to save energy when demand is at its highest, Members will again be invited to participate.

Members who participated in the entire pilot program have received a total of \$80.00 in incentives for their enrollment and participation. As an additional thank you, Seminole will be holding a drawing for two \$250.00 Visa cards on August 9. Members who participated fully in each event are eligible to win. If you are a chosen winner, you will be contacted by a Member Services Representative to receive your \$250.00 Visa card.



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To Report An Inoperative Or Malfunctioning Street Light,

please call your local Cooperative Office, **OR**, you may also log on to www.wrec.net and click on the **Repair Street Light** button, then complete and submit the **Street Light Repair Request Form**, or you can download the **SmartHub app** and request a street light repair.

Your Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Corporate Office in Dade City to conduct the business of the Cooperative and its subsidiaries.

LEGAL NOTICE: *Operation Round-Up* is a Registered Trade Name for **WRECares**. 100% of all contributions are available for disbursement. Registration #SC-02353. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free from within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State. 1-800-435-7352.