



# THE COMPASS CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR USF ST. PETERSBURG CAMPUS  
FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

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Dear friends,

It's the start of the fall semester and a new academic year, an exciting time at USF's St. Petersburg campus. Although the coronavirus epidemic continues to impact our lives in ways both big and small, we are so pleased to welcome our students, whether they are attending classes in person or working toward their degree in a virtual setting.

Our staff spent the summer months creating the safest possible environment for a return to campus. This includes installing more than 80 plexiglass shields at high-traffic locations, setting up hand sanitizer vending machines and delivering personal protective equipment to sites across campus. At the same time, our faculty have been working tirelessly to build flexible academic options for all students, including online and hybrid classes. And of course, we continue to host fun and engaging student life events, albeit virtually.

So far, thankfully, everything has been going well. I've been heartened to see the students on campus following CDC guidelines by staying six feet apart and wearing face coverings. I know it has been a challenging time for everyone and I appreciate the extra support so many of you have been providing to your student. Our mission is to provide all students with an excellent college experience and the services that will best support their academic, residential, social and wellness needs. I know that we can all get through this if we continue to work together.

Please remind your student to participate in the many virtual events that we offer. We are finding that; while different than in the past, it is a great way to connect with fellow students and to foster friendships that will last a lifetime. We recognize that some students may feel it more challenging to develop relationships with one another. Please encourage your student to reach out to us...we are here for them. We offer a variety of resources at USF's St. Petersburg campus, including mental health counseling and wellness programs. Please encourage your student to take advantage of these services if needed. If you have questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. My email address is [jacobdiaz@usf.edu](mailto:jacobdiaz@usf.edu). Take good care.

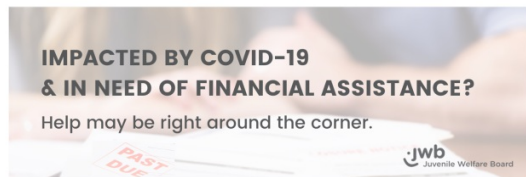
Regards,  
Jacob Diaz



### The Pinellas Community Foundation has funding to assist students and families in crisis.

If your student has a COVID-19 related income change (job loss, hours reduced, etc), they may be eligible for the COVID Cares program through 2-1-1. Calling 2-1-1 can be a lengthy process and it is suggested that you text – text COVIDCARES to 898211. <https://211tampabay.org/programs/COVID-cares/> has program details.

Households can receive up to \$5,000 to help with past due rent, mortgage, or utilities. The CARES programming is only for organizations and the funding is not eligible to be distributed to organizations for individual payments.



The Juvenile Welfare Board's Neighborhood Family Centers now have navigator support staff on site to help families apply for Pinellas COVID-CARES funds or to identify other resources. See the list below for a site near you.

#### CAP Neighborhood Family Center

401 East Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Mon thru Fri 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
Call David Archie at (727) 934-6881 Ext. 13 or (727) 459-9747

#### Clearwater Neighborhood Family Center

@ North Greenwood Resource Center  
1310 North Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33755  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Tues & Wed 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Call Terry Jones at (727) 442-5355 or Paula Kay at (727) 375-6876

#### GRAYDI Neighborhood Family Center

12601 Wilcox Road, Largo, FL 33774  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Tues & Thurs 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon  
Call Michelle McFarlane at (727) 595-1684 or (727) 902-7096

#### High Point Neighborhood Family Center

5812 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Clearwater, FL 33760  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Tues & Wed 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM; Fri 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Call Margo Adams-Reid at (727) 933-0730 Ext. 205 or (727) 251-3338

#### Lealman & Asian Neighborhood Family Center

4255 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Mon thru Fri 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM  
Call Donna McGill at (727) 528-7891 or (727) 520-9820

#### Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center

1003 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street North, Safety Harbor, FL 34695  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Tues thru Thurs 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
Call Janet Hooper at (727) 791-8255 or (727) 366-1334

#### Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center

2335 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY DUE TO COVID** – Mon, Wed & Fri 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

#### Family Center on Deafness

2335 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33773  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** Tues & Wed 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM; Fri 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Call Cindy Hebbeler at (727) 501-2323

#### InterCultural Advocacy Center | Hispanic Outreach Center

612 Franklin Street, Clearwater, FL 33756  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CALL FIRST DUE TO COVID** – Mon, Thurs & Fri 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Call Jocelyn Boland at (727) 445-9734 Ext. 211 or (727) 512-9464

To learn more visit [www.jwbpinellas.org/neighborhood-family-centers](http://www.jwbpinellas.org/neighborhood-family-centers)



## Articles For You

- [University of South Florida is America's fastest-rising university, according to U.S. News and World Report](#)
- [How the facilities department prepared for a return to campus](#)

## HELPFUL LINKS

### NEW STUDENT & FAMILY TOOLKIT

As you and your student transition into the University of South Florida- St. Petersburg, we know there will be a lot of questions and uncertainty. USF has developed this **New Student & Family Toolkit** to help guide you and your student through this transition. In this toolkit you can find updated information on USF's response to COVID-19, quick links to resources on campus, and information on how your student can get involved virtually.



### IMPORTANT DATES:

**October 31:** Fall last day to withdraw; no refund & no academic penalty

**November 2:** Spring registration for degree-seeking students begins

**November 11:** Veterans Day holiday; no classes & USF offices closed

**November 25:** Last day of Fall classes on campus

**November 26 & 27:** Thanksgiving holiday; no classes & USF offices closed

**November 30-December 4:** Test Free Week & Classes only online

**December 5- December 10:** Final exams week (online only)

**December 10:** Fall end of term

