



RIVER OAK CENTER

Recovery-focused education for students struggling with substance use

SPRING 2019

FLORIDA RECOVERY schools



THE PLAYERS

River Oak Center is extremely proud to partner with THE PLAYERS Championship and Jacksonville Magazine!

As a grateful beneficiary of the tour's generosity, River Oak Center was featured in Jacksonville Magazine's Ultimate Guide. Please check it out and share the issue and our contact information with any high school student struggling with substance use.

JACKSONVILLE MAGAZINE'S

ULTIMATE GUIDE

2018 CHAMP WEBB SIMPSON

THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

MARCH 12-17
TPC SAWGRASS
PONTE VEDRA BEACH

- Northeast Florida's favorite springtime tradition arrives early this year

THE PLAYERS

OPTUM | Morgan Stanley | Grant Thornton

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FLORIDA RECOVERY SCHOOLS

P.O. BOX 590956 • JACKSONVILLE, FL 32255 • (904) 864-6463 • WWW.FLORIDARECOVERYSCHOOLS.ORG

River Oak Center offers students ages 14-19, an opportunity to grow academically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually by integrating the principles of recovery into daily education M-F 8-2pm.

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, formed by parents and addiction experts within the Jacksonville community, acknowledging the therapeutic need for a school, dedicated to supporting teens who are recovering from addiction and co-occurring disorders. Our team brings together experts in the fields of education and recovery to provide an environment of encouragement and support. Our vision is to support a safe and sober learning environment for students in the community who are ready to commit both academically and therapeutically. If you feel your student may have a need, or you wish to support Florida Recovery Schools, please visit www.floridarecoveryschools.org

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Recovery-focused Education

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How can you help?

No student has ever been turned away from River Oak Center for financial reasons. However, we rely completely on generous donations from around the Jacksonville community. Please hit the link below to donate, and share this request with any others you think might be in a position to help us.

[Click here to Donate](#)

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Student Ambassadors Repping River Oak

On February 28th two of our student ambassadors Olivia and Key'shaune and our lead counselor Kathie Howlett, met with State Representative Tracie Davis at her office in Jacksonville.

For our students, it was their first time meeting a member of government. Rep. Davis asked the students How do you like school? What would you like to do when you finish high school? What has the school done for you?

Olivia stated that she was so overwhelmed at her former school that she had "dropped out" at 13. But now that she is at River Oak, she feels less stress and really appreciates that if something is going on in her life that the staff takes time to talk with her about it. "They don't just tell you to go back to work." She said that it has really had a great impact on her recovery. In fact, her goal is to go

to college and enter into the medical field.

Key'shaune told Rep. Davis that since coming to River Oak he has stopped smoking [marijuana], and he did that because he made a commitment to Mr. Dan that he would. He said "if I had not come to River Oak I would have already quit school." He kept getting into trouble and was just not doing well. "Now that I am at River Oak I don't have to worry about following so many rules I can just focus on my work, it is really chill[sic]."

Rep Davis was so happy to meet with the students and asked if they would be willing to come to Tallahassee later in March and meet with others to tell about their experiences and the benefits of attending River Oak. She invited them to come on to the floor of the House and be introduced to all of the members. The students were very excited and readily agreed. Ms. Davis autographed one of her cards for each student and told them that she was very proud of them and the work that they were doing. And that she looked forward to working with them to help spread the word about River Oak Center.



Our Local Hero Dan

If you know Dan Renaud at all, you know he doesn't toot his own horn. However, The Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club and The Ponte Vedra Recorder have recognized his contributions and we would be remiss if we didn't share. On Feb. 7th, the 27th annual Local Heroes Awards honored local citizens who make a difference in our community. We are grateful to Dr. Tom Hilton for nominating Dan, and to the PV Rotary for recognizing the importance of what we do at River Oak Center. Dan has made a significant impact by providing alternative educational programs for local youth struggling with substance abuse.



Pictured with Dan are Vickie Cavey, PVB Rotary President and Jonathan Blauvelt, Public Relations Chair

Sober Facts

The students who have attended, or are attending, our program report an average sobriety rate of 68.7%. In addition, based on recent authoritative studies, those attending recovery high schools show:

- **Decreased truancy,**
- **Increased school participation, and**
- **Decreased recidivism with the justice system.**

Some recovery resources

- **Florida Conference of Young People in AA**
- **to locate an AA meeting**
- **to find an NA meeting**
- **Smart Recovery**
- **to find a Celebrate Recovery meeting**
- **to find information about colleges that offer recovery support programs on campus**
- **National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) for Teens**

Partnership *Many thanks to our partners!*

