



May 2010

# Volunteer

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

*Margaret Mead*



## Thank You, Thank you!

Communities In Schools of Miami and Dorothy M. Wallace COPE Center South would like to thank everyone who volunteered throughout the 2009-2010 school year. This year could only be described with one word - SUCCESS. Volunteers truly went above the call of duty and dedicated not only their time, but creativity coming up with their own projects and activities for COPE Students.

Thank you to the South Florida Preschool PTA and National Jewish Women Council for their continual support.

CIS would like to especially thank Ms. Webb, school Principal, for understanding the importance of volunteers and Ms. Hansen, Ms. Patterson, and Ms. Ames for their assistance with coordinating events.

We look forward to working with everyone next year!

## Just to Name a Few.....

- **A Time to be Creative!**

Volunteers helped ten students create their very own children's books.

- **Scholarships**

South Florida Preschool PTA awarded a \$500 Scholarship to a COPE Senior!

- **Volunteers Lend a Helping Hand**

Volunteers have been meeting with students to assist with all types of matters:

- A retired Social Worker meets with students to provide individual counseling sessions.

- Volunteer conducts Senior Mentor visits to help our Seniors plan for their futures!

- **Mother's Day Breakfast**

Sponsored by South Florida Preschool PTA

- **Stork's Nest!!!**

Without volunteers assistance and donations with the Stork's Nest, this event would not be possible.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact:

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## Scholarship Recipients

**Kenisha Shuman:** Recipient of a \$6,000 HCA Nursing Scholarship from Women of Tomorrow!

**Yamila Rodriguez:** Recipient of a \$500 South Florida Preschool PTA Scholarship! PTSA scholarship of \$600.



## CIS Volunteer of the Year

Every year CIS hosts a luncheon for volunteers. Staff members are asked to nominate a volunteer from their school for Volunteer of the Year. This year the chosen volunteer was COPE South Volunteer: Leah Bentolila. This is her nomination:

I would like to nominate Leah Bentolila for volunteer of the year. She started as a volunteer this year and was open to assisting the school in anyway possible. COPE Counselors identified a need for Seniors to have someone to work with them on college applications, scholarships, job training, and other career readiness assistance after losing their CAP Advisor. When proposed this idea, Leah gladly accepted the role as Senior Mentor and began meeting with students. Once a week she comes and works with COPE Seniors. She has helped students apply for scholarships, create resumes, and apply to college.

Leah has also gone above and beyond by helping find donations for several of COPE activities. She was able to get The Children's Exchange Consignment Store to donate three bags full of children's clothes for COPE's Stork's Nest. Referred Offerdahl's bagel who donated 30 bagels to the school's Wellness Day. And also donates her own items to the school.

She has been a pleasure to work with and great partner in helping motivate and lead out students to graduation

Wendy Pacheco with her  
CIS Mentor



**42 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE 393 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP STUDENTS TO STAY IN SCHOOL AND GRADUATE.**