

CENTRAL FLORIDA

GROW healthy kids, GROW healthy communities

www.GROWCentralFlorida.org

Our mission is to make a positive difference in children's lives by increasing opportunities for healthy living.

**CELEBRATING 6 YRS.
OF COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
2015-2021**



CELEBRATING 6 YEARS OF SERVICE

In 2009, our founder Colleen Gonzalez realized that not all schools could afford a school running program. Schools needed to have enough funds & volunteers to sustain programming and many schools lacked resources.

After establishing the running program and supporting several schools, Colleen founded GROW to provide support at low-resource schools throughout Central Florida.

Since 2015, GROW has expanded it's supports of other grass root efforts that foster children's health & overall well-being.

Please join us on our journey to help keep the good GROWing!



Run to GROW

26,896 Happy, Healthy & Strong Runners

In six years of service, we on average support 38 schools' with runners club per year. Although the COVID-19 pandemic threw us some hurdles, we have overcome challenges by supporting parents and coaches to make run club and running fun & engaging!

Scan to see the 202-2021 Run to GROW Finish Line



INSPIRING POSITIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN COPS & KIDS

Since 2018, we distributed 4,368 sports balls

Helping local kids foster trusted relationships with law enforcement is more important than ever. Through these sports balls given out by officers, kids are able to receive a resource to stay active while having fun & forming a positive bond with the police in their community. Thanks to the support of Academy Sports & Outdoors and the Orlando Police Dpt., we increased outreach from 9 agencies in 1 county to 28 agencies in 7 counties. This led to a 467% increase in distribution.

Due to the success of this program, our 2022 goal to generate donations for 2,800 sports balls to be given out during the summer.

Scan to see body cam and hear from officers about the importance of the outreach



G.R.O.W.
Central Florida
Inspiring Positive Interactions
Between Central Florida Cops & Kids
GROWCentralFlorida.org

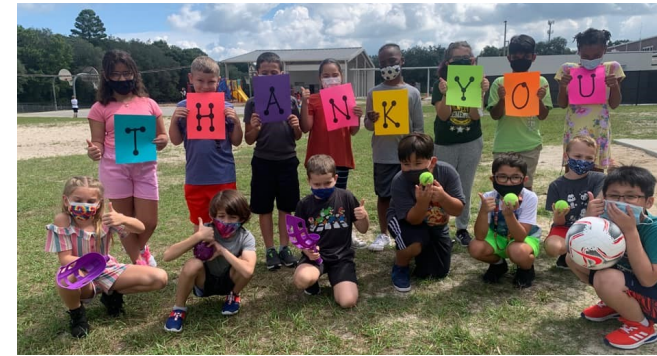


RECESS TOYS FOR TEACHERS 980 teachers have been supported in 6 yrs.

The pandemic created challenges for recess play. In most schools during the 2020-2021 school year, only one class in each grade per day could use the playground. This left students with walking the bus loops or participating in imaginative play on fields.

To help classes engage in physical activity, our outreach expanded from 6 schools & 144 teachers in 2019-2020 to 41 schools & 500 teachers in 2021 (347% increase). Overall since 2015 we have supported 980 teachers.

Scan to see the Sep 22, 2021 news report - Fox 35 Orlando



Since 2015, over 4,700 shoes have been distributed to children and teens in need **SHOES FOR STUDENTS IN NEED**



Each day school staff, social workers and school resource deputies encounter children in need of proper footwear that encourages physical activity. Thanks to our partners at Fleet Feet Orlando and community donations, we worked with 42 school partners in Orange & Seminole County.

During the 2020-2021 school year we distributed 1,244 shoes and socks to students. This was a 149% increase from the preceding school year.

PLAY SPACE REVITALIZATION Since 2015, 9 spaces have been revitalized



Sadly, not all playgrounds feel like happy play zones. Thanks to the Home Depot Foundation's support, GROW revitalized the playground at Lake Orienta Elementary in Altamonte Springs over the summer. Over 90 volunteers came together to transform the recess play space.



Scan to see this transformation & our community in action



THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 SPONSORS

2021 GROW Board:

Executive Director & Founder: Colleen Gonzalez

President: Kerri Segrest - Red Bug Elementary, Physical Education Teacher

Treasurer: Fritz Voltaire - Recovery House, Community Relations

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Directors:

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Lisa Di Leo Mercer - Wilson Elementary, Physical Education, Rollins

College Adjunct Professor of Education, Ed.D., Ed.S, M.Ed

Eric Shivers - Rudolph & Shivers, Certified Public Accountant

Melodie Griffin - Action for Healthy Kids, State Coordinator

Lenore Logsdon - Seminole Co. Public School, Principal

Karla Mendoza - Seminole County Sheriff's Office

Thank you community partners!

Your collaboration, camaraderie & support helps us GROW the good!

Orlando City Soccer Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation

Orlando Magic Foundation

FL Department of Health

Action for Healthy Kids

Seminole State College

Oranole Foundation

Sports 4 the Kids

University of

Central FL



Presenting - \$10,000 or more

Fleet Feet Orlando - Track Shack Youth Foundation
The Father's Table Foundation - Academy Sports & Outdoors

Platinum - \$5,000 or more

Winter Park Health Foundation - The Brenner Family - Good Sports

Gold Sponsor - \$2,500 or more

Wells Fargo - Enterprise Holdings Foundation - Home Depot Foundation - ASAP Systems
Adult Toy Storage - Smart Simple - Orlando City Soccer Foundation - The Orlando Magic

Silver Sponsor - \$1,000 or more

Adult Toy Storage - SunTrust - National Christian Foundation - Jinx-It - The Maxwell Family - Walmart
Rotary Club of Altamonte - KP Creates - Anonymous

Bronze Sponsor - \$500 or more

The Hearth Group - Sentry Management - Publix Charities

Special thanks to our volunteer photographers who capture the work of grassroots efforts:

Michael Padgett Miguel Cruz Ella Snyder Madison Koesler

GROW Central Florida is proud to be an **Action for Healthy Kids** Parent Ambassador. Learn more at **Action4HealthyKids.org**

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