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## Tri-County Community Resource Center opportunities abound

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**CHIEFLAND** – Individuals and families are reminded of ongoing as well as new opportunities at the Tri-County Community Resource Center, 15 N. Main St. (U.S. Highway 19) in Chiefland.

The Tri-County Community Resource Center is in Chiefland, however it is here to help everyone in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties.

The mission of the TCCRC is to enhance the community's ability to protect and nurture children by building, maintaining and constantly improving a network of family support services.

Its vision is to be a recognized leader in protecting children and strengthening families through innovative, evidence-based practices and highly effective, engaged employees and community partners.

The Core Principles are:

- To provide a safe environment for all children;
- To make prevention of child abuse and neglect a community priority;
- To individualize services to meet the needs of children and families;
- To respect the inherent dignity of children and families with permanency in mind;
- To recognize that more can be done with communities and families as partners
- To respect the diversity of all children and families in the community;
- To commit to accountability using outcomes to measure performance and improve practice; and
- To maintain children in their own homes whenever safely possible.

The TCCRC is normally open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visitors are invited to call the Resource Center before visiting because hours may change due to volunteer staffing.

People who are interested in volunteering to help at the TCCRC can visit or call the Resource Center.

The telephone number for the TCCRC is 352-507-4000. Beverly Goodman is the TCCRC manager.

Here are the events and offerings in February at the TCCRC.

- The TCCRC offers free notary services every Monday, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (some limitations apply; other days available by appointment).
- In February, United Way's free VITA Tax Prep service returns to TCCRC. Call 2-1-1 or 352-334-4636 to schedule an appointment.
- TCCRC is now offering free Homework Help for students in grades 2-6 (see attached flyer). Call 352-507-4000 for additional details.
- Registrations are currently being accepted for UF/IFAS adult cooking classes, which return to the TCCRC in March. Participants learn in a hands-on environment, then receive free groceries to make weekly recipes at home!
- This year's first family "take-out" style dinner is scheduled for **Thursday, Feb. 21. Families will receive free dinner, a board game, information that encourages weekly family meal time, and nutrition education.** A sign-up sheet is available at the TCCRC; quantities are limited; therefore, **pre-registration is required.**
- In March, the TCCRC will host a Money Matters financial literacy workshop with Bishop James Dixon; participants will learn about budgeting, credit management, saving and more.