

St. Lucie County Fire District News Release

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Local Organizations Team-Up to Supply Sneakers To 300 Young Children in Need

The second annual back-to-school event draws Lil' Feet from throughout the county

St. Lucie County, FL – This weekend hundreds of children will start the school year off right after they received a pair of free sneakers as part of the Lil Feet program. The children were all 5 years of age or younger and were chosen based on need, then entered into a lottery for the final selection.

This is the second time the St. Lucie County Fire District and the Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County, along with Roundtable St. Lucie County, teamed up to hold the sneaker giveaway. Both times they worked with Payless Shoesource in Ft. Pierce to hold the event. This year additional organizations participating in the event included Kids Connected by Design, Inc. and Riverside Bank, a division of TD Bank, NA.

“Participating in the Lil’ Feet Program with the St. Lucie County Fire District was warmly rewarding to those of us at Riverside/TD,” said Pat Alley, Executive Vice President Riverside/TD Bank. “Helping children is at the top of the list of helping others.”

Fundraising went on throughout the year. Donations from the public came in through firefighter boots displayed at each Riverside Bank in St. Lucie County.

A concert to benefit Lil Feet is planned for September 25, at Sunrise Theatre, Ft. Pierce. The event will be a fundraiser for both Lil’ Feet and the Lighthouse Foundation, a nonprofit being organized by State Farm Insurance agent Larry Lee. The concert will feature the Heartbeat Boyz, Los Mega Boyz and an assembled choir of 50 local students.

Donations for this year's Lil' Feet event came in from firefighters, as well as the Big Heart Brigade of the Treasure Coast, the Children's Services Council, Dr. Patrick Kelly, DVM with Kelly's Animal Hospital, the League of Women's Voters, Dr. Daniela Saadia, MD with Martin Memorial Neurology, Seacoast National Bank, Star & Shield Insurance, and Dr. Arvind Vakani, DMD, MS with Vakani Orthodontics.



SLCFD Paramedic William Crittenden measures the foot of Michael Carter as he prepares to find a new pair of sneakers for the upcoming school year. During the Lil' Feet event firefighters and other volunteers measured feet as hundreds of children received sneakers or school shoes.