

## Volunteer Opportunities

### in February

*We are still exercising caution and reserve when it comes to in-person volunteer opportunities. We always have ongoing projects and we can set up a time for you to help that accommodates your schedule and allows for social distancing. Email Theresa or Maggie to set that up.*

To learn more about our special COVID-19 procedures, please visit the Volunteer page on our website:

<https://flocritco.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

## Experiencing our “new normal”...

...well, as “normal” as anything can be called nowadays. A couple weeks ago, we welcomed moms back to campus for hybrid learning (more on that in the Spotlight on the next page), and though it isn’t all moms, nor all their kids, there is a little more life on campus these days and it’s really nice. We even started a new event called “Baby Bucks Bonanza,” to allow small groups of moms to shop in-person in the boutique for 30-minute periods once a month. The goal is that we can get the boutique cleaned up and re-organized by the summer. We’re committed to breaking this behemoth of a job into mini, accomplishable tasks, so if you’re interested in helping out, please reach out to Maggie to set up a time!

Other than the obvious, we don’t have a lot of updates this month, and if you spend time on any part of this newsletter, I hope it’s the fun spotlight and updates from your fellow volunteers on the next page. We enjoyed hearing from you so much that we’re committing to printing updates in every newsletter, so please keep sending them!

I hope you all continue to stay safe, warm, and healthy, and that you are finding fulfillment and hope in your lives. We’re happy to know you, and share the FloCrit community with you.

~Theresa & Maggie

## Spotlight on: In-person Learning



*Ginia Coors our wonderful Language Arts teacher with a new student Alexa.*

Beginning January 19<sup>th</sup> Florence Crittenton High School opened to a hybrid model of student learning. Our students are placed in a learning cohort with a rotating in-person schedule weekly. With a total of 111 enrolled, we have 55 students that have opted for in person learning. Our high school and ECE teachers are working so hard to ensure students and children are learning whether it be in person or remote. We are thrilled to have students back on campus even though things look a little different.

Our Early Childhood center has been open since September but now is bustling with more kiddos. MonaLisa Martinez the director of our Early Childhood Center, reflects on the impact of students back on

campus. ***"As I walked the campus on the first day back, I heard the sound of children laughing, crying, playing, and it was the best feeling ever. My heart felt warm again. We are all so happy to have our children back in the classroom."***

A student Kaysea, reflects on her time at FloCrit. ***"High school should be the "best years of our life," but some of us teen moms did not experience this! Florence has drastically changed the way we look at ourselves; now, we are accepted for who we are, just as we are because of the loving sanctuary environment. Emmett, almost 3 and Autistic, is flourishing in his classroom! The clinic focuses on our physical and mental health, the FCS rewards us and our babies with "mommy" essentials. Coming back to Florence has been the best decision ever. I am rising from the ashes and soaring with potential!"***



*Kaysea and Ginia!*

## Sharing some good news!

In last month's newsletter we asked you all for a bit of good news for the New Year or something you accomplished since we last saw you! We received a variety of responses and are glad to share some with you this month. We are hoping 2021 is a better year for us all.

**Donna and Vince:** Each day we toast our health, safety, and good fortune at breakfast over coffee and at dinner over wine. It's helpful to remember all we have to be grateful for during this time of uncertainty. Our thoughts go out to those who are suffering, struggling, or sick.

**Lynne:** I have a hobby that has kept me busy and has helped people with what we need to do during this pandemic. My hobby is making artisan soaps. I make handmade soaps using nice oils such as olive, coconut, castor, along with shea butter, essential and fragrance oils. They make great gifts for friends and family. I have lemongrass, sandalwood patchouli, lemon verbena, jasmine, and others. I make a wide variety of soaps and can create a certain scent that people want. I've had lots of fun experimenting with color and scents. *Lynne is selling her soaps, too! If you'd like to be connected with her, reach out to us.*

**Charlotte:** Any big news since we last saw you? I graduated from College in May of 2020 with my BS in Human Services, specializing in business administration. :)