

Volunteer Opportunities

in January

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/>

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hello again! We've made it to a new year, and all things considered, we're looking forward to seeing what this year may have in store for us. I hope you had a good – if different – holiday season, and that you're healthy and re-energized moving into the New Year.

Practically, not much has changed with volunteering at FloCrit. The winter months and elevated case levels combine to encourage our caution, and though we will still schedule individual and small-group volunteer opportunities, we have decided to work directly with individuals/groups and not hold standing volunteer days for this period. If you are interested in coming in to help out (Baby Bucks inventory! Taking photos for our new Baby Bucks website!), please reach out to Theresa or Maggie and we'll work with you to set up a safe and secure time.

The other big reason we're starting back slowly with volunteers is because we are preparing to welcome students back to campus next Tuesday, January 19. Florence Crittenton High School will be starting a hybrid in-person/remote learning model for Quarter 3, and we want to make sure the transition back to campus is smooth and as free of distractions for our students as possible. We are looking forward to seeing our moms and kiddos again, and know that our campus has very good health safety measures in place to allow for the optimal scenario of in-person learning. Look for pictures for the "first" day of school on our Facebook and Instagram next week – they'll be sure to bring a smile to all our faces!

If last week is any indicator, 2021 will not be without its challenges. However, there is optimism in the air, and a light at the end of the tunnel. And this month, we want to hear from you: what's good in your life right now? How are you looking forward to this year? Our communities are what keep us going and keep us strong, and we hope you think of FloCrit as one of your communities moving into this new period.

Stay safe and healthy, and enjoy your time.

-Theresa and Maggie

Spotlight on: Learning Center



Last October FloCrit added a new academic support for our moms amidst the remote learning school year. Many students were facing the struggle of juggling online learning and caring for their children. The Learning Center provides a space for students to work while socially distant and the use of our ECE for their kiddos. Until now, the Learning Center has been housed in the FloCrit Services Board Room, and has been open 2-3 days per week. When students return to campus in the new hybrid learning model – expected January 19 – the Learning Center will move to the High School Gym, and overflow will be accommodated in the board room. We have seen a great impact with participating students.

Desta Tye-Channell the director of our Student Family and Support Programming explains the impact of the Learning Center.

“The Learning Center has become a quiet place with internet for mom’s that have a tough time finding both. It allows them a space where they can do school work while their child is in the Early Childhood Center. They have been able to improve quiz scores catch up on missed work and have some time to themselves. We are looking to continue providing this opportunity through the final transition on to campus – hopefully sometime in 2021.”

We are excited for the learning center to grow with participation and allow further support to our moms and their children!

Volunteers: Share your good news!

We are taking a bit of a different route this month and want to hear from **YOU!**

- What are you looking forward to in 2021?
- Have you begun a new habit or hobby that you are proud of?
- Any big news since we last saw you?



If you would like to participate, please email Maggie at mrusso@flocritco.org with all and any positivity for the New Year. We look forward to hearing from you!