



voicesforchildren  
of Broward County

# Capes & Courage

## **SOARING FOR CHILDREN GALA**



04.18.26 | The Venue

*Auction Donations*

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Dear Friend,

On behalf of **Voices for Children of Broward County (Voices)**, I invite you to join us as a silent auction donor for our Annual Soaring for Children Gala, **Capes & Courage**.

This milestone event will take place on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at The Venue in Fort Lauderdale and marks **15** years of impact for **Voices**. Inspired by the courage it takes to show up for children during moments of uncertainty and transition, Capes & Courage honors the everyday heroes who quietly step in to provide stability and support for children in foster care. For one evening, the venue will be transformed to reflect strength, resilience, and the community that stands behind children when it matters most.

Throughout the year, we see what this kind of courage looks like up close. It looks like ensuring a child can stay focused in school during a placement change. It looks like stepping in quickly to meet essential needs so a transition feels less overwhelming. It looks like creating opportunities for normalcy that remind children they are supported and not navigating these moments alone. These are the quiet acts that help strengthen the safety net surrounding children in foster care, and they are made possible through community support.

The silent auction is a key part of the evening, generating excitement while directly advancing **Voices'** mission. **We invite you to donate an item or experience, whether it is a unique opportunity, a special experience, or a valued service.** Each contribution helps bring the **Capes & Courage** story to life and plays a meaningful role in supporting the children we serve.

As a silent auction donor, your name or business will be recognized in the online auction catalog, pre-auction outreach, and signage throughout the evening. Your support will also be showcased to more than **250** guests and extended beyond the gala through our mobile bidding platform, reaching a broad and engaged audience across South Florida and beyond.

Since 2011, **Voices** has worked alongside the child welfare system to help meet essential needs, support stability, and create moments of connection for children in foster care. As we celebrate **15** years of impact, your support helps ensure we can continue stepping in when children need it most.

If you are able to contribute to the silent auction, please complete the enclosed commitment form and return it by **March 31, 2026**. We are happy to coordinate pickup for local donations.

Thank you for being part of a community that shows up with heart, purpose, and courage.

**Together, we rise. Together, we soar.**



Erica Herman  
President & CEO



## Why Support Voices for Children of Broward County?

The statistics are staggering, but your support makes it possible for **Voices for Children of Broward County (Voices)** to step in when children in foster care need stability, support, and moments of normalcy.

Each year in Broward County, more than **1,200** children live in foster care at some point, and nearly **1,800** children spend time in care over a 12-month period. The average age of a child in foster care is approximately **8** years old, with most placements occurring due to neglect, followed by **parental substance use and domestic abuse**.

For many children, foster care includes repeated transitions. Approximately **1/3** of children experience **two** or more placement changes, disrupting routines, relationships, and a sense of safety. These disruptions often extend into the classroom, where school changes and gaps in learning create additional barriers to success.

Nationally, only about **half** of youth in foster care graduate from high school on time, and fewer than **10%** enroll in college, with just **3 to 4%** earning a college degree. Frequent moves, trauma, and limited access to enrichment and academic support contribute to these outcomes.

Beyond academics, many children in foster care have **limited** access to everyday childhood experiences most children take for granted, such as participating in sports, attending birthday parties, joining clubs, or enjoying outings with peers. These missed opportunities for normalcy can affect confidence, connection, and long-term educational engagement.

In South Florida, children face additional risks. The region is recognized as a human trafficking **hotspot**, with trafficking cases among the highest in the state. A significant portion of those exploited are minors, reflecting the heightened vulnerability of children and youth who have experienced abuse, neglect, or instability.

For **15** years, **Voices** has worked to strengthen the safety net surrounding children in foster care by providing access to resources and enrichment, ensuring children have opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive, and helping remove barriers to education. Through advocacy, essential support, and experiences that promote stability and normalcy, Voices helps change outcomes for children across our community.

## Community of Support

**Voices** is always ready to step in when children in foster care need support most. Thanks to philanthropic support, we are able to provide case management, advocacy, educational assistance, essential resources, and opportunities for normalcy at no cost to the children we serve.

Over the past **15** years, this purpose-driven work has been made possible through the dedication of our board, donors, volunteers, and a multidisciplinary team of experts who work every day to strengthen the safety net surrounding children in foster care.

This year's **Capes & Courage** Gala celebrates **15** years of impact and honors the everyday heroes who quietly show up for children year after year. Your auction donation helps ensure this work continues by meeting critical needs, supporting educational success, and creating moments of stability and normalcy for children in foster care.

**100% of event proceeds support programs and services for children in foster care.**





## Capes & Courage

Join us for Voices for Children's Annual Soaring for Children Gala, **Capes & Courage**, on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at The Venue in Fort Lauderdale.

Inspired by the courage it takes to show up for children during moments of uncertainty and transition, **Capes & Courage** honors the everyday heroes who quietly step in when children in foster care need support most. For one evening, The Venue will be transformed into a space that reflects strength, resilience, and hope, celebrating the community that stands behind children when it matters most.

As we mark **15** years of impact, this milestone event reflects the power of collective action and the lasting difference made when a community comes together with purpose. Your support will be showcased to more than **250** guests as we come together to advance Voices mission and strengthen the safety net for children in foster care.

Together, we gather not only to celebrate, but to reaffirm a shared commitment to ensuring children in foster care feel supported, stable, and able to be kids.

## Luxury Silent Auction

Your support will be a key element of the evening, generating excitement and bringing the **Capes & Courage** story to life. Your generosity helps fuel the momentum of the night and strengthens the safety net surrounding children in foster care.

A curated selection of one-of-a-kind items and experiences will be featured in the silent auction, offering guests the opportunity to bid on travel, dining, entertainment, experiences, and specialty packages.

Our silent auction reaches beyond the guests at the gala to our mailing list of more than **7,000** friends and supporters who have supported **Voices** in the past. Our easy-to-use, mobile bidding system provides a great platform to showcase your brand and extend to buyers throughout South Florida and beyond.

These bidders are motivated, savvy, and enjoy the finer things in life, while also loving the opportunity to support a great cause.

We invite you to partner with **Voices** by donating an auction item or experience. Simply complete the form on the following page or contact our team to discuss your donation.

**We appreciate you.**  
**The children we serve appreciate you.**  
**Thank you.**





# Auction Form

*Capes & Courage*  
**SOARING FOR CHILDREN GALA**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name for Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

(EXACTLY how you wish it to appear in print)

☐ I prefer to donate anonymously.

## Auction Item Description:

Please tell us about your donation. Please be sure to include specific information regarding the terms and conditions associated with your gift, including blackout and expiration dates. Logos, photos and/or brochures detailing your donation are greatly appreciated; both electronic form for our signage, and printed copies that we can send auction winners. Send or email to addresses below.

☐ Gift Certificate or item included

☐ Voices' team to make gift certificate for you  
(please be sure to include all the details)

Estimated Value of Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Next Steps

Mail item(s) to:  
Voices for Children of Broward County  
401 E. Las Olas Blvd., Ste 130-301  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Drop-off item(s):  
To schedule a time, please contact [carhsea@voicesbroward.org](mailto:carhsea@voicesbroward.org) or 954-367-9185  
to drop off at our Administrative Office in Lauderdale Lakes

Email the form and electronic gift certificate(s) to: [carhsea@voicesbroward.org](mailto:carhsea@voicesbroward.org)

\*Donated item(s) may be used at a future event. Voices for Children of Broward County is a licensed and registered non-profit organization with the Tax ID: 45-1964037.

