

PRESS RELEASE

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Tax Collector Mike Fasano & Staff Raise \$2,672.89 to Help Stop Child Abuse in Pasco County

During the month of April, which was National Child Abuse Prevention Month, the *Pasco County Tax Collector's Office* partnered with *Pasco Kids First* to raise funds to fight child abuse in Pasco County. *Pasco Kids First* is a countywide program that assists law enforcement in determining whether or not children have been abused or neglected. For 25 years *Pasco Kids First* has been providing these needed services, offering help and support to countless families in crisis. *Pasco Kids First* works closely with other community agencies to assess the needs of children and families through early intervention and community education with the goal of promoting a healthy and nurturing family environment.

The five branches of the *Pasco County Tax Collectors Office* promoted the *Stop Child Abuse* specialty license plate and the "Prevent Child Abuse" voluntary charitable donation check-off throughout the month of April. The value of 16 specialty tags sold and cash donations collected equaled \$2,672.89.

"We are so grateful to the Tax Collector's Office for helping *Pasco Kids First* shine a light on the issue of child abuse and neglect by helping us focus the county's attention on April being Child Abuse Prevention Month," states **Rick Hess, Executive Director** of *Pasco Kids First*. "We know that we have more drivers in Pasco proudly displaying the "Stop Child Abuse" message on their newly purchased license plates as a result of the campaign that your office spearheaded and we couldn't be more appreciative. Thanks for your support in getting this crucial message out into the community."

"It has been an honor working with *Pasco Kids First* to raise funds that will be used to prevent child abuse in our community," **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**

states. “*Pasco Kids First* has a long track record of taking the lead in helping break the cycle of abuse. Thank you to every customer who invested in *Pasco Kids First* by making a donation or purchasing a license plate. Your financial support will go a long way towards changing the life of a child in a positive way.”

For more information about the services provided by *Pasco Kids First* please contact Becky Bennett, Director of Development at 727-835-7962 or visit www.pascokidsfirst.org For details about the charitable promotions sponsored by the *Pasco County Tax Collector’s Office* or any other services provided, please call Greg Giordano, Director of Customer Relations at 727-847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com