



What's New at Chi Chi's

June 2019

Foundation Chief Executive Officer Cary Stiff to retire at the end of the year



Over the past four decades Cary has been an essential part of developing the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation's mission to prepare kids for success in the game life. She began as a volunteer in 1979, then joined the organization in 1984 serving in various roles over the years. Cary will work closely with CEO elect James Poulter, the current Chief Operations Officer as he transitions to his new position. James looks forward to leading our dedicated, caring and professional management team so that the transition is a smooth one for the Foundation's supporters, students, staff, volunteers, businesses and community partners. Cary says "I'll always be right here to support our work and the people who make these programs successful. I know our community will too."

"The personal sacrifices Cary has made throughout the years to take care of the children and the Foundation has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated."
~Chi Chi Rodriguez, Co-Founder pictured above with Cary in 1981



"No one remembers Chi Chi's without Cary and she has been an integral part of Chi Chi's impact on youth. She has earned the respect of everyone on our Board of Directors."

~Tom James, Chairman of the Board

CEO elect James Poulter, CEO Cary Stiff, Tom James and Director of Development Mallory Hubbard

"I feel fortunate to have worked with hundreds of individuals, families, businesses and community leaders from whom I learned so much. I'm always grateful to see many of them leave behind something special once they understand our mission. It has been my life's work and an honor to work beside a team that cares and for a community that gives back."

~Cary Stiff

Upcoming Events

Chi Chi Charity Classic
Saturday & Sunday, November 9th & 10th
Chi Chi Golf Club



Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom.

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Raymond James

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**Academy Executive
Committee**

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Carlos Guerrero
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Andrew Ingersoll
John Kobasic
Monica Kobasic
Brian Krostue
Jessica Majeski
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Ian Peterson
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**Program Spotlight: 8th Graders Graduate and
Higher Learning Scholarship Award**



Top: 8th grade class show off their diplomas following their ceremony; Middle: Linda Damsky and Scott Brown award the Higher Learning Scholarship to Kayla and Tony; Bottom: David and Tatyana stop for a photo walking into the ceremony

On May 28th, the Academy celebrated the graduation of our 8th grade class. During the evening festivities, the graduates spoke about their time at the Chi Chi Academy, diplomas were handed out, and family and friends gathered around eating cake and watching a photo slideshow showing students through their years here at Chi Chi's. This year's class will attend five different county high schools and six were accepted into a magnet program within their school.

Academy Executive Committee Members Scott Brown and Linda Damsky awarded a Higher Learning Scholarship to two very deserving students this year: Kayla and Tony. The scholarship application process requires the students to fill out an application, write a short essay, collect recommendation letters and interview with the Committee. The scholarship recipients receive up to \$4,000 for college or higher learning post-graduation.

Congratulations to our 8th grade class of 2019! We look forward to following your journeys through high school and beyond!



"When I started coming to Chi Chi's...I learned how to be more honest, respectful and responsible. With all of the help I received, I was able to make the C's I got before into A's and B's."
~Tony

Photos: Tony enjoying the bumper boats at Celebration Station for the student holiday party his 4th grade year and Tony with Chi Chi this past November



"This school has helped me come out of my shell, it has helped me be more social and find the good in myself and gain confidence. I'm going to take what I learned here and use it to reach my goals in life!" ~Kayla

Photos: Kayla at golf class with Coach Camille Surdi during her 5th grade year and Kayla with Chi Chi this past November

Did You Know...?

The Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation Board of Directors updated our mission and vision statements this year.

Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom

Vision: preparing students for success in the game of life