

THE Bottom Line

October 2004

Sensitivity Awareness Workshop, Inc. Partners with Chamber

The Chamber of Southwest Florida and the Sensitivity Awareness Workshop, Inc. have partnered to bring a life changing program to Southwest Florida.

According to the 2000 US Census, one in every five Americans has been diagnosed with some type of disability. Every day, all of us share our schools or workplace with someone that has a physical, mental or learning disability.

As the Southwest Florida region grows, how can we learn to better relate to people with disabilities? The Chamber of Southwest Florida has partnered with the Sensitivity Awareness Workshop, Inc. in a joint training effort to deliver this life changing program to Southwest Florida.

The Workshop is the work of Lisa and Ray Miller who live in Estero, Florida. The purpose of the Sensitivity Awareness Workshop is to educate individuals about people who have physical, mental or learning disabilities through a hands-on, interactive program. This Workshop offers organizations a comprehensive pro-

gram that fosters understanding and a sincere sense of compassion and empathy towards those with disabilities. The inspiration behind this program is the Miller's daughter, Rachal, who attends a Life Skills Program for exceptional students in the Lee County School District.

To date, thousands of people have experienced the Workshop. This includes elementary, middle and high school students and faculty, PTO's, 2004 Lee County School District Leadership Training & 2004 Summer

Institute and several programs within FGCU. The Chamber partnership will expand the scope of the Workshop and bring the program to higher education, local government and businesses throughout all of Southwest Florida.

A series of workshops will be held in Naples and Fort Myers. Cost of the workshop is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Price includes workshop materials and lunch.

For more information about the Workshops, including dates and locations, visit our website at www.chamber-swflorida.com or call (239) 278-4001.



Lisa Cronin Miller, President of Sensitivity Awareness Workshop, Inc., presenting to Skyline Elementary faculty and staff.

MAJOR INVESTORS

These new regional employers have made an extraordinary commitment of resources to the chamber's business building leadership mission.

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GENERAL INVESTORS

These new member companies are the life-blood of our organization!

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Leadership Lee County Recruiting for Spring 2005

The LLC Fall Class of 2004 has not yet had their kick-off retreat, but have already begun to work together as a team. In the aftermath of Hurricane Charley, Diana Picket's home suffered significant damage. Her classmates, who had not even had the opportunity to meet her yet, volunteered their time to help clear her lot of debris. With this selfless act before class has even begun, we can't wait to see what the class of Fall 2004 will accomplish!

We are now recruiting participants for the Spring 2005 Class of the Leadership Lee County Program. This unique program helps newcomers as well as long-term residents understand the dynamics of the Lee County community and its role in the region.

If you would like the opportunity to participate in the upcoming Spring 2005 class, please contact The Chamber at (239) 278-4001. Information about the program is available on the regional Chamber's internet web site at www.chamber-swflorida.com

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