

Reginale Durandisse, Founder & CEO For The Children

Reginale “Reggie” Durandisse is a passionate advocate and spokeswoman for children and their families in the City of Lake Worth and Palm Beach County. In 1999, after her previous employer closed a non-profit in Lake Worth providing child care support, Reggie decided to fulfill her vision of offering continued after-school activities that would keep children in school, off the streets, and out of trouble.

With only \$250 dollars, a dream and a handful of supporters, Reggie founded For The Children Inc. The organization initially served 25 elementary school children in a single location, but has since expanded to four sites that provide tutoring, homework assistance, computer training, mentoring, conflict resolution, music, dance and field trips to more than 400 children from age 3-18. For The Children also offers family support services including mental health counseling, health education, and case management.

Reggie has received recognition for her work, including the South Conference Women’s Missionary Society Award and the Dr. Martin Luther King Leadership Award, Inspire Award by Thisdaughter.com. She is involved with the Lake Worth Kiwanis, the Palm Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition, and is an Academic Advisor Committee member and Diversity Equity Committee member for the Palm Beach County School District.

Throughout the years, Reggie has developed strong community support for her dedication and tireless efforts to help minority children and families in Lake Worth. She is an admired businesswoman, widely respected for the success of For The Children and the quality system of child care the agency provides.

A native of Haiti, Reggie founded the Haitian Citizen United Taskforce in 2002 to empower other Haitian-Americans and immigrants with information about naturalization, voter registration, and get-out-to-vote efforts. The Taskforce also convenes public forums with elected officials at the local, state and federal level. Reggie currently serves as vice president of the board of directors.

In 2003, she founded “Tribune,” a one-hour Saturday afternoon radio program that focuses on school issues and explains how parents can get involved in the education of their children. Guests on the show are interviewed in English, Creole and Spanish. Reggie also participates in Tele Ibo, a television program that covers physical and mental health issues, and access to community resources. The show is available both online and on Comcast channel 232 in Palm Beach County.