

National Spotlight on Local Hero: Mr. Bill featured in Woman's World



We are thrilled to share that the June 2, 2025 edition of Woman's World magazine features a full-color article highlighting Bronson's very own Mr. Bill and The Children's Table Food Bank. This national recognition underscores the profound impact of our mission to combat food insecurity in rural Florida.

The article, titled "WWII Veteran Feeds Thousands from His Own Garden," chronicles Mr. Bill's inspiring journey from his service in World War II to founding The Children's Table. Motivated by a heartfelt desire to ensure no child goes hungry, Mr. Bill established the organization to provide fresh produce and essential food items to underserved communities. Today, The Children's Table distributes food across multiple counties, including Levy, Alachua, Marion, Citrus, Taylor, Suwannee, Dixie, Gilchrist, and Lafayette.



This feature not only honors Mr. Bill's dedication but also brings national attention to the pressing issue of food insecurity in our region. We invite our supporters to read the full article available through digital magazine platforms such as Magzter.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Woman's World for spotlighting our efforts and to our community for their unwavering support. Together, we continue to make strides toward a hunger-free future.

Rooted in Service: How Our Garden Feeds and Teaches

Our teaching garden in Williston continues to thrive, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and the enduring vision of Mr. Bill. Over the past year, this five-acre space has yielded more than 1,000 pounds of fresh vegetables—nutritious food that has gone directly to families who need it most. What began as a dream has become a living classroom, where people of all ages come to learn how to grow their own food and gain confidence in self-sufficiency. With ongoing support from the UF Master Gardeners and the commitment of local educators, we're expanding our free classes and inviting even more students, teachers, and community members to get their hands in the soil and experience the joy of growing. This garden isn't just feeding people—it's planting the seeds of knowledge and resilience across our region.



How You Can Help on the Farm

Our farm is growing more than just vegetables—we're growing community, and we need your help to keep it thriving! We're always looking for extra hands to assist with harvesting, especially during our "picking parties," where volunteers come together to gather fresh produce for families in need. If you'd like to join us, call Mr. Bill at 352-486-6525 for details on our next picking event. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for real-time updates and announcements. And if you're interested in learning how to grow your own veggies, come get your hands dirty with us! It's a fun and rewarding way to give back, learn new skills, and connect with others in the community.

Support Our Farm - Help Us Grow!

The Children's Table farm is more than a garden—it's a vital source of fresh food and hands-on education for families across rural Florida. But to keep planting, growing, and teaching, we need your support. Your donation helps us buy seeds, maintain equipment, and expand our outreach through free classes and community harvests. Every dollar makes a difference in the fight against hunger and in building food security for generations to come. To make a contribution, visit childrenstable.org or call us at 352-486-6525. Together, we can grow a stronger, healthier community.

Upcoming Food Distribution!



Volunteer Spotlight June 2025

Food Distribution SCHEDULE – June 2025 6/01/2025

352-721-5406 Volunteer Opportunities ask for Stacey - ChildrensTable.org Donate Today!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Make a positive impact: Volunteer Today! Call for info.	2 Volunteers Arrive: 8 AM MONDAYS 10 AM-12 PM 680 Thrasher Drive Bronson	3 	4	5 Volunteers Arrive: 8 AM 	6 Join our Bus for Mobile Food Distributions FRIDAYS 9:30 AM Hernando House of Power 7233 N. Lecanto Hwy, 11:00 AM Life Spring Church, 19460 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 11:45 AM Inglis Town Hall 135 Highway 40 W. "serves Yankee Town" 1:45 PM Otter Creek Town Hall 555 SW 2nd Avenue 	7 
8 Volunteer Today! Call for info.	9 Bronson 10 AM-12 PM 680 Thrasher Drive	10 	11 11:00 Lebanon Baptist Church Branford	12 Volunteers Arrive: 8 AM	13 10:00 <u>Archer</u> - Davis Center, 17500 SW Archer Rd, Archer, 11:30 <u>Williston</u> - Masonic Lodge 250 NW 6th Blvd. Highway 121 1:00 <u>Gainesville</u> - Countryside Baptist Church 10926 NW 39th Avenue	14 
15 NEED FOOD HELP?	16 Bronson 10 AM-12 PM 680 Thrasher Dr.	17 11am - Horseshoe 1:15 Steinhilch	18 FREE Gardening Class	19 Volunteers Arrive: 8 AM	20 9:30 AM Hernando House of Power 7233 N. Lecanto Hwy, 11:00 AM Life Spring Church, 19460 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 11:45 AM Inglis Town Hall 135 Highway 40 W. "serves Yankee Town" 1:45 PM Otter Creek Town Hall 555 SW 2nd Avenue	21
22 WE'RE HERE 4 YOU!	23 Bronson 10 AM-12 PM 680 Thrasher Drive	24	25 	26 Volunteers Arrive: 8 AM	27 10:00 <u>Archer</u> - Davis Center, 17500 SW Archer Rd, Archer, 11:30 <u>Williston</u> - Masonic Lodge 250 NW 6th Blvd. Highway 121 1:00 <u>Gainesville</u> - Countryside Baptist Church 10926 NW 39th Avenue	28 
29	30 Bronson 10 AM-12 PM					



Each Monday, we are blessed by the presence of Pastor Ken Curry, who faithfully begins our food distributions with a message of hope and encouragement. Pastor Ken has been volunteering with The Children's Table for nearly two years and has become a cherished part of our team. His warm smile, cheerful spirit, and unwavering willingness to help in any way needed make a lasting impact on everyone around him. Whether he's sharing the Good Word or lending a hand wherever it's needed, Pastor Ken is truly a cornerstone of our Monday operations. His steady presence uplifts both volunteers and those we serve, reminding us all of the power of kindness and faith in action. Thank you, Pastor Ken, for being amazing — we are so grateful for you!

Did You Know?

Poverty Statistics

- Overall Poverty Rate: As of 2023, approximately 17.2% of Levy County residents live below the poverty line, which is higher than both the state average of 12.6% and the national average of 12.4%. [Census Reporter](#)
- Child Poverty: In 2023, 32.8% of children in Levy County were living in poverty, indicating a significant impact on the younger population. [Data USA](#)
- Single Individuals: The poverty rate among single individuals in the county stands at 24.1%, reflecting the economic vulnerability of this demographic. [Welfare Info](#)

The United Way's ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) report indicates that in 2023, 52% of households in Levy County were below the ALICE threshold, meaning they earn above the federal poverty level but still struggle to afford basic necessities.

You Can Help!

Your donation makes an immediate difference. Every \$10 helps us feed an entire family with a week's worth of groceries. And thanks to our dedicated volunteers and community partnerships, we stretch every dollar to serve as many families as possible.

♥ Please consider donating today through our website: www.thechildrenstable.org/donate

Together, we can ensure that no child in our community goes hungry. Thank you for your support.

Your Donations Help Us - Help Our Community! Call, Visit our Website or mail your tax deductible donation to: P.O. Box 222 Bronson, FL 32621

