



## **RotaWheels helps homeless families with transportation support**

Since November of 2010, *the Rotary Club of Casselberry* in Florida has established a fund, managed by *the Family in Transition (FIT)* program of the Seminole County Public Schools in Florida, for the purpose of providing bus passes and gas cards to families-in-transition for their transportation needs. This joint program between the Club and FIT is **RotaWheels**.

For children in homeless families, or families-in-transition, one of the greatest urgent needs is the ability to get to emergency medical care and medical appointments; tutoring sessions; part-time jobs; school activities including sports; etc. Also to help the parents to get to shelters and to organizations to receive assistance; to schools so to interact with teachers and counselors; to find jobs; and to get to jobs as well as to keep jobs, when they don't have access to transportation. These transportation needs had been grossly unmet for the lack of funds. **RotaWheels** has been established to help reach this unmet need and work towards the stability of homeless families.

*The Rotary Club of Casselberry* is part of the world-wide non-profit organization, Rotary International, dedicated to community services locally and internationally. The Club has designated **RotaWheels** to be the primary beneficiary of funds raised for its primary fund-raiser, the World's Festival 2011 event [www.RotaryFestival.org](http://www.RotaryFestival.org) on March 5, 2011. The envisioned next growth of **RotaWheels** is the inclusion of a multitude of Rotary Clubs in Seminole County as partners.

The *Family in Transition (FIT)* is a Seminole County Public School program established in 2003 to protect the rights of homeless students under the McKinney Vento Federal Law. This program provides services to help stabilize homeless student's education and remove barriers so that the students can succeed in school. FIT also collaborates with the community to implement programming that will help to stabilize the family. Since the implementation of the program it has identified and served over 6,000 homeless students in Seminole County.

For more information, please contact



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[www.scps.k12.fl.us/title1/Home/FamiliesinTransition.aspx](http://www.scps.k12.fl.us/title1/Home/FamiliesinTransition.aspx)



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