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## St. Lucie Clerk employees build 300-plant garden for women's shelter

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Single mothers living at M.I.S.S. Inc.'s Port St. Lucie housing facility now have a sustainable garden, thanks to the generosity of deputy clerks at the St. Lucie County Clerk's office. *CONTRIBUTED BY JOSEPH ABREU*

FORT PIERCE — Single mothers living at M.I.S.S. Inc.'s Port St. Lucie housing facility now have a sustainable garden, thanks to the generosity of deputy clerks at the St. Lucie County Clerk's office.

The employees adopted the local non-profit, donating \$1,400 and volunteering a collective 120 hours to plant and build the garden.

More than 300 vegetables, fruits and herbs were planted in the 20 foot by 20 foot garden at the Sammy's Landing housing facility.



“The garden is the perfect way to make a lasting, sustainable impact on the health of the residents of M.I.S.S.,” said Joe Smith, St. Lucie County Clerk Smith. “I’m very proud of our professionals for not only donating to a great cause, but also for doing the heavy lifting to create a better tomorrow for those in need.”

After the garden was completed, M.I.S.S.’s executive director Schonna Green revealed a large sign in the center of the garden naming it after the Clerk’s office.

Last year, the deputy clerks helped beautify Sammy’s Landing by painting all its residential buildings.

The paint was underwritten by an \$800 donation by the deputy clerks. M.I.S.S. provides housing and support services to low-income single female heads of household.



Their mission is to meet the needs of disadvantaged families by empowering single mothers to gain self-sufficiency.

Other charities benefiting from the Clerk's charitable giving this year include Project Rock South and the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Shop with a Cop.

The funds donated to the 501(c)3 organizations are raised through employee activities. To learn more about the Clerk's charitable giving, visit [www.stlucieclerk.com](http://www.stlucieclerk.com).

For more information about M.I.S.S of the Treasure Coast, visit <https://www.missinc.org/>