



October 11, 2024

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## We Are #FloridaStrong as Milton Recovery Begins

We hope you and your loved ones are safe following Hurricane Milton. As families and emergency crews survey heavy damage along some areas of the Gulf Coast and across Florida, our CFHLA team sends our thoughts and prayers to our neighbors impacted by this deadly storm.

The Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association and our partners stand ready to support the families and business owners impacted by Hurricane Milton.

Some hotels in Central Florida reduced rates and waived pet fees to help families who needed safe places to shelter during challenging circumstances. Other hotels housed emergency response teams and utility crews, while they worked to save lives and to help families begin to make repairs or rebuild.

The damage is severe in some areas of our state, but Floridians know how to recover from these disasters. We have a long track record of working together to rebuild lives, homes and communities after the strongest storms. We will do it again, and we will prevail. CFHLA and our tourism and hotel partners will be here in the coming months to help. Together, we will remain #FloridaStrong.

If your business that has been impacted by Hurricane Milton, we strongly encourage you to self-report any physical and economic damage caused by this Hurricane. Survey responses will allow the state to expedite Hurricane Milton recovery efforts by gathering data and assessing the needs of impacted businesses.

### **[Business Damage Assessment Survey](#)**

Additionally, FloridaCommerce has activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program, making \$50 million available for businesses impacted by Hurricane Milton.

Florida small business owners in need of assistance are encouraged to apply for the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program.

### **[Emergency Business Loan Program](#)**

Lastly, please visit the [CFHLA Emergency Preparedness Page](#) on our website for the latest information on resources and recovery efforts after Hurricane Milton. The page includes links to resources from several counties and cities in Central Florida.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management is also providing statewide updates on storm recovery efforts and available resources on its website, [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org).

Here is a list of organizations who are accepting disaster relief donations:

## **Florida**

Tampa Bay:

- [Tampa Bay | Central Florida | American Red Cross](#)
- [Tampa Bay Rapid Response Fund | Community Foundation Tampa Bay \(cftampabay.org\)](#)
- [Mercy Chefs](#)

Central Florida:

- [Central Florida | American Red Cross](#)
- [The Florida Disaster Fund](#)
- [The Salvation Army](#)
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida](#)

State-Wide:

- [Donate Now - Southwest Florida | American Red Cross](#)
- [Donate to the Florida Disaster Fund - Volunteer Florida](#)



[Click Here for Hurricane Recovery Resources](#)

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### **CFHLA Partners Donate 6,000 Items in Cares Professional Clothing Drive to Help Local Students**

We are thrilled to announce the results of our [CFHLA](#) Cares Professional Clothing Drive. This past Monday, our team distributed 6,000 professional clothing items to [Orange County Public Schools](#), [Osceola County Public Schools](#) and [Seminole County Public Schools](#). This amount is **nearly triple to last year's Cares professional clothing drive.**

These gently used men's business suits and jackets; women's professional dresses and business suits; belts, purses, ties and other accessories will soon be donated to Central Florida students in need, who have limited resources and are preparing for job interviews and new careers.

Kathleen Wright is Administrator of the Partners in Education Program at [The Foundation for Orange County Public Schools](#). Wright says, "These donated clothes

will make a huge difference for the future of our students. Many cannot afford to buy three or four business suits for interviews or to start a new job. Showing up looking great will give them a strong boost in confidence and help them to be successful."

On behalf of our entire CFHLA team, thank you to all of our partners for coming together in such a huge way to improve these students' lives and to help give back to our Central Florida community again.



[More Photos From Cares Clothing Drive](#)

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**Get Ready to Bid in the Halloween Golf Online Auction**



# HALLOWEEN GOLF ONLINE AUCTION

**OPENS: TUESDAY, OCT 15TH AT 9:00AM**  
**CLOSES: TUESDAY, OCT 22ND AT 9:00PM**

## ITEM HIGHLIGHTS



For more information contact [faith.moore@cfhla.org](mailto:faith.moore@cfhla.org)

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**Register Now for the Jumpstart Session for 2025 Sponsorships and Be Seen in the New Year!**



# JUMPSTART SESSION FOR SPONSORSHIPS

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29  
8:30AM - 9:30AM**

**CFHLA OFFICE: 6675 WESTWOOD BLVD,  
SUITE 210, ORLANDO, FL 32821**

**You are invited to attend this informational session  
to review all 2025 sponsorship opportunities.**



**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

**LIMIT 2 ATTENDEES PER COMPANY.**

**2025 SPONSORSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASING BEGINNING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS.**

**For more information, please contact Kim Gordon at [kim.gordon@cfhla.org](mailto:kim.gordon@cfhla.org) or 407-313-5040.**

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**CFHLA Partners In Action - Wekiva HS Students Spin Pizzas and Learn Lessons at Domino's**

Students at the [Wekiva High School Academy of Culinary Arts](#) made a recent field trip to [Domino's Pizza](#) for a day filled with perfecting pizza creations, teamwork, and learning.

The visit was part of [Orange County Public Schools](#) Hospitality Program, which partners with local hotels, resorts, and restaurants in our area to showcase the various careers available within the tourism and hospitality Industry.

Students learned how to prepare a variety of pizzas. Store managers taught them the most effective ways to operate a pizza store. They also discovered why they need to understand profit and loss statements. Participants also watched Domino's workers compete in a fastest pizza making contest!

CFHLA would like to thank Domino's Pizza for their strong commitment in being an outstanding Partner in Action and for making a positive difference in our community.







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**NEW TO THE CITY, NOT TO PLANTS.**

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
OCTOBER MEMBERS OF THE MONTH**



**Candace Raines**

[Wyndham and Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area](#)



**Earl Roach**

[A&E Hospitality Solutions](#)

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**For more information on upcoming events, or to register, just click on the button below.**

- [CFHLA Executive Committee Meeting \(10/15/2024\)](#)
- [CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee \(10/16/2024\)](#)
- [2024 HR Seminar #3 - Lodging Registration \(10/17/2024\)](#)
- [2024 HR Seminar #3 - Allied Registration \(10/17/2024\)](#)
- [CFHLA Housekeeping Council Meeting \(10/17/2024\)](#)
- [CFHLA Housekeeping Council Meeting \(10/17/2024\)](#)
- [CFHLA I-Drive/LBV Area General Managers Reception \(10/22/2024\)](#)
- [CFHLA I-Drive/LBV Area General Managers Reception \(10/22/2024\)](#)
- [CPTED Training Seminar - October 23rd \(10/23/2024\)](#)

[Click Here to View Upcoming  
CFHLA Meetings & Events](#)

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## **JOB OPENINGS**

Check out the latest hospitality employment opportunities in Central Florida.

[VIEW JOB POSTINGS](#)

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## **CONNECT WITH CFHLA**



[WWW.CFHLA.ORG](http://WWW.CFHLA.ORG)

## About CFHLA

[6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821](#)

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.