March Update!

Project LIFT Fort Pierce officially launched services on February 21st, with 10 young men. Five of those young men are in our daytime Career Rising Program, and are on site from approximately 9 a.m. - 2p.m. Then, those young men are transported home and the next group of five are picked up at school for our after-school program, from 2:30-5:30.

The boys are learning welding and construction, and we will be adding boat building/marine trades very soon. The young men are doing great and enjoying learning carpentry skills while repairing/upgrading the program site. This allows them to take pride in the work they are doing, and to truly see the fruits of their labor and the potential for career opportunities in the trades! Every young man is also receiving individual and group therapy and substance abuse treatment, as well as Life Skills instruction.

There is a current waiting list of 26, from community partners and a Fort Pierce juvenile police officer. We are brainstorming ways to serve more youth as quickly as possible. The young men in this inaugural group have a great deal of trauma, violence, and adjudication in their past. However, they are excited to learn a trade and are showing up daily, eager to learn and work! Project LIFT is incredibly grateful to Impact 100 ST. Lucie for giving us this opportunity to reach a population that is in tremendous need of innovative solutions to violence and intergenerational poverty.