

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Florida Project Free Screening & Discussion June 8th

Voice For The Homeless, West Cape May Environmental Commission, The Branches Episcopal Outreach Center have joined with the Cape May Film Society to present a free screening of 'The Florida Project' on Friday, June 8th at 7pm. The film will be shown at West Cape May Borough Hall located at 732 Broadway in West Cape May. The Florida Project has won critical acclaim. Both the National Board of Review and American Film Institute have chosen it as one of the top 10 films of the year by. Directed by Sean Baker, written by Baker and Chris Bergoch, the film stars Willem Dafoe, Brooklynn Prince and Bria Vinaite. Dafoe was nominated for Best Supporting Actor at the Academy Awards and Golden Globe. The storyline follows a precocious young girl and her mother living on the social and economic margins in a budget hotel near Orlando, Florida in the shadow of Walt Disney World. The film is rated R.

Voice for the Homeless is a small group with two goals: 1. To support the Cape May County Freeholders in establishing a Homelessness Trust Fund 2. Thereafter, to be a voice for the Homeless in our county. They meet the first Thursday of every month to reflect upon and discuss issues related to homelessness in Cape May County, and take action, supporting and critiquing the Freeholders, promoting efficiency from social agencies, and supporting the work of Branches Episcopal Outreach Center. The Branches, located in the Village Shoppes in Rio Grande, is an outreach ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Stone Harbor, operating in collaboration with area churches and organizations. The center started with Coffee & Conversation two days a week several years ago. It has grown into a 6-day per week, multiple-activity outreach center, providing a safe, positive environment for the elderly, disabled, homeless, and individuals or families living in poverty. You can learn more at <http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org/>.

The Cape May Film Society often partners with other non-profits in Cape May Stage, the East Lynne Theater Company and the Cape May Forum, to present socially important and classic films. Their mission is to encourage the creation and appreciation of outstanding films in southern New Jersey. They hold an annual juried film festival that emphasizes creative works by New Jersey filmmakers and also conduct a week-long film camp for middle and high school students in which they learn by writing, shooting, and editing short films. You can visit their website at <http://newjstatefilmfestival.com>.

The West Cape May Environmental Commission often sponsors free movies with an environmental message. "We are please to partner with these nonprofits to bring this very moving film to the community," says Hilary Pritchard, chairman of the West Cape May Environmental Commission.

“This is an excellent opportunity for anyone in Cape May County to learn about the reality of families who are homeless,” explains Barbara Hoepp, retired social worker and volunteer homeless advocate in Cape May County. “This Matters.” she continues. A coffee hour and discussion with a panel of sponsors will follow the screening. Admission is a voluntary donation with all proceeds dedicated to aid the homeless in Cape May County. There is plenty of free parking and the building is handicap accessible.