

# PRESS RELEASE



## **Punta Gorda Local, Wendy Atkinson, Named Woman of Distinction, Florida Home Builders Association**

### **For Immediate Release:**

The Florida Home Builders Association honored Wendy Atkinson of Crossroads Hope Academy as the 2018 Woman of Distinction, a recognition awarded by over 8,000 FHBA members across the state. Selected by a council of industry leaders, the award is presented to a woman member who exhibits best practices, expertise, and exceptional leadership qualities.

Atkinson will be presented the award on Saturday, October 6, 2018, during the FHBA Fall Leadership Conference at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Atkinson, in her capacity with Crossroads Hope Academy, a non-profit foster home for teenage boys, has been instrumental in raising funds and coordinating efforts with members of her local builders association, Charlotte DeSoto Building Industry Association (CDBIA), to help remodel the Academy's camp. As a direct result of Atkinson's involvement with the CDBIA and her mentorship, children in the Academy have entered the construction workforce.

Atkinson's impact on the building industry goes beyond students and bleeds into her community. As a member, committee chair, and Associate Vice President for CDBIA and FHBA, Atkinson utilizes her leadership to break down barriers between the business community and schools; encouraging business leaders to attend a local technical college to understand courses offered and engage with students.

"We strive to emphasize the outstanding successes and innovations of woman builders and trade partners. Wendy's can-do spirit and compassion sets her apart from many," said Rusty Payton, FHBA CEO/Chief Lobbyist. "Her passion to serve as the voice for students, construction workforce, and the building industry is commendable."

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Established in 1949, the Florida Home Builders Association is affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and Florida's local/regional homebuilder associations. FHBA, along with its affiliates, work to create the best possible economic and regulatory environment for members to succeed.

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