



## From Your Friends at CFBHN - Thanksgiving 2024



As is traditional,  
every year in

America, we pause for a moment to be thankful. It is a time to reflect, recharge and reset before the final rush of the holiday season and the approach of the New Year.

We often gather with friends and family. Or we reach out to those in need in our local communities and provide help and support.

Whether your day is filled with carving the traditional turkey, feasting in front of the television on one of the most watched football days of the year, or spending your day celebrating in your own unique way - we wish you a truly special occasion.

My wish is you will still find ways to connect to those who mean the most to you and remember those no longer with you. As always - stay safe.

In observance of this holiday our offices will be closed **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, November 27, 28, and 29.**

Should you need assistance our provider network stands ready to assist you. Do not hesitate to contact them. To find a CFBHN provider please use this link for our [Service Locator](#).

*Should you need further assistance, please phone our office at 813-740-4811. During closures, after business hours, on weekends and holidays, you may select the option to speak to someone immediately and you will be transferred to the 2-1-1 line of the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay.*



*a personal note from*  
**Alan Davidson**  
President & CEO

***As John F. Kennedy said so eloquently "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."***



### History of Thanksgiving in America

Thanksgiving, or Thanksgiving Day, is a **public holiday** celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November in the **United States**. It originated as a **harvest festival** but has been celebrated nationally on and off since 1789, after a proclamation by **George Washington**. And it has been celebrated as a **federal holiday** every year since 1863, when, during the **American Civil War**, President **Abraham Lincoln** proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens," to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. Together with **Christmas** and the **New Year**, Thanksgiving is a part of the broader **holiday season**.

The event that Americans commonly call the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the **Pilgrims** after their first harvest in the **New World** in 1621. This feast lasted three days, and as accounted by attendee **Edward Winslow**. It was attended by 90 **Native Americans** and 53 Pilgrims. The **New England** colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "thanksgivings" - **days of prayer** thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought.

