

Alexis Buchanan

Keep Nassau Beautiful Board Member

### Short Biography

I am a 27-year-old entrepreneur, student, and mom to a 3 year old girl named Elliana. I graduated in 2013 as the Star Student of my high school in Baxley, Georgia. Soon after I excitedly began college for general studies in Statesboro, Georgia. I was unsure which career path I would take, but for as long as I could remember I knew I wanted to help “save the world”.

In 2014 I decided to move to Florida to be closer to my mom (and the beach). Here I held several jobs including dog grooming assistant and kennel tech, server, sous chef, apprentice as an outboard motor mechanic. I finally landed on upholstery for the longer term. I loved the way it combined art and creativity with mathematics (my best subject) and design. While learning to be a seamstress I was introduced to the skilled trade of carpet binding and was amazed by this form of reuse and repair and how it could reduce landfill waste and excessive manufacturing.

A few years later I was blessed with a beautiful daughter and stayed home with her for 2 years. By 2020 I was eager to return to school to pursue architecture & construction design, to use my love of math and art to build a more sustainable future.

While attending school and working part time, I was inspired to do more for my family and the world. I decided to start a carpet binding business, Creative Edge, to meet the unique flooring needs of home and business owners and address the issue of carpet waste in the community.

I am proud to offer customers an alternative way to decorate and maintain their homes with creative flooring solutions that are better for the planet and their wallet. I help customers repurpose their leftover carpet remnants into custom area rugs and throw rugs, and can even repair, resize, or modify existing rugs. I cut the carpet or rugs to the desired shape and size, or remove damage as necessary, then use a heavy-duty sewing machine to sew on a durable border for an elegant, finished edge that won't fray or unravel.

I love making a difference through my small business, and through involvement in community service organizations. I am the leader of a new club, Rotaract Nassau (part of Rotary of Amelia Island Sunrise). Our focus has been on recycling, particularly inspiring and educating our community about the do's and don'ts of local recycling. We are creating funny and sharable short form videos to promote on social media, in hopes that we raise Nassau County's recycling rates and decrease contamination levels.

I also participated in this year's Early Act program, teaching elementary students all about service. This year the focus was on recycling, and I was happy to be chosen to lead the education and activities. It was a huge success.

I am also a member of the GFWC Junior Women's Club of Fernandina Beach. We focus on advocating and fundraising for local causes such as Micah's Place, Gracie's Kitchen, and we fund several scholarships for high school graduates. I've also volunteered at several Keep Nassau Beautiful events and can't wait to participate in more. Creative Edge recently applied to Adopt-a-Road, and Rotaract Nassau has applied to Adopt-A-Spot. I am eager to continue to make a positive impact in our community and in the world.