



BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE CHILDREN

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Letter from *Ana Valladares*, Council Chair



“...enhancing our children’s ability to succeed, to provide for their safety and education, keeping them safe from risky behaviors and violence is the best possible way to ensure a happier future for them and for all.”

In the famous 1897 letter to the Sun of New York, 8-year-old Virginia posed the question: “Is there a Santa Claus?” The response by the editor: “Yes, Virginia. There is a Santa Claus,” was as much a reassurance to a concerned child as a caution against the “skepticism of a skeptical age”. It is easy to become skeptical about many things at a time when Broward County residents are suffering through record unemployment rates, plummeting property values and a general sense of uncertainty about their future. Yet, it is especially during these times that our community must rally to reaffirm the positive values that continue to make this a great place to call home and raise our children.

We must not surrender to the skepticism that would have us reject all “government agencies and institutions”. As we embark on our tenth year of existence, the Children’s Services Council of Broward County proves, time and again, why it is an example of “government that works”. The theme of this report says it all: “By the People for the Children; Accountable and Transparent; a Positive Return on Investment.” The CSC was born of the will of Broward County voters who, in September of 2000, chose to tax themselves to ensure that in good and bad times there would always be funding dedicated to improving children’s lives and, by extension, everyone’s future. The CSC only funds those agencies and services that are proven to work and deliver positive results; and it consistently engages with other community stakeholders to identify gaps in services that, if not addressed, only create larger and more expensive problems.

I have had the honor of serving on the CSC for the past nine years, including as Chair for the past two. Joined on the Council by some of the finest leaders in our community,

I couldn’t be prouder of the accomplishments of this organization as we continue to lead, advocate and provide resources even in these difficult economic times.

Moving into a new home built to Silver LEED standards in October 2009, provided the CSC with significant administrative savings as well as serving as a model, to the children and families of Broward, of environmental responsibility. What’s more, soon after opening, the CSC new facility became an important community hub: it served as a location where children and families received immunizations from the H1N1 virus; in the aftermath of the horrific earthquake in Haiti, it served as the headquarters of the Broward Haiti Relief Task Force; in April we hosted an Earth Day community-wide fair that attracted hundreds of children and families who were treated to useful resources and bike helmet giveaways. Our new training labs are abuzz on a daily basis with capacity building and other trainings to the child serving agencies that increase their ability to deliver on their mission. And that is very gratifying because, at the end of the day we measure our success by the success of our funded partners.

From the capacity building support evidenced by the introduction of the Results Based Accountability model to the implementation of internal monitoring processes that emphasize efficiency, this past year has been a banner one. This, despite an 11% drop in property values and a significant reduction in administrative costs. All the while, CSC staff succeeded in maintaining the highest levels of service even garnering a “Best Place to Work” recognition.

It’s true: these are changing times and as in other similar times in history, like that of little Virginia, it is easy to succumb to fear and uncertainty. Yet certain we must be: enhancing our children’s ability to succeed, to provide for their safety and education, keeping them safe from risky behaviors and violence is the best possible way to ensure a happier future for them and for all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ana M. Valladares".

Ana M. Valladares | *Governor Appointee*

Council Members Comments



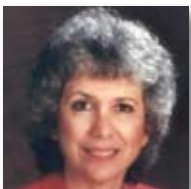
Emilio Benitez | *Vice Chair*
Governor Appointee

As an advocate for children's issues for over a decade and as President/CEO of ChildNet, I am constantly reminded of the importance of the Children's Services Council role in ensuring that the interests of children and youth, especially the most vulnerable, are always safeguarded.



Mariza Cobb | *Secretary*
Governor Appointee

As a member of the Children's Services Council and Co-Chair of the Special Needs Advisory Committee, I have come to appreciate the pivotal role we play in improving the lives of all children. I am particularly proud of the accomplishments we have made to strengthen and expand inclusion and support programs which empower our children with special needs and their families.



Sue Gunzburger
Broward County Mayor

At a time when transparency and accountability are essential in regaining the public's trust in government, I am pleased that the Children's Services Council consistently delivers on its good governance and its insistence on outcomes from funded agencies. Year after year, Broward County voters can easily see how their investment in the CSC is reaping returns in the number of children and families who benefit from the leadership, advocacy and resources the CSC provides.



Robin Bartleman
School Board of Broward County

The School Board and the Children's Services Council share a commitment to the children and families of Broward to provide the best possible environment for all children to succeed. That is why I am proud of the work we have done to reduce youth violence and bullying, including cyber-bullying and the continued work we are doing on behalf of children with special needs.



Judge Martin R. Dishowitz
Judicial Member

The Children's Services Council is a key partner in helping prevent the abuse, neglect and abandonment of Broward's children. Our Family Strengthening programs keep families together and improve parenting skills. This has resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number of children in our dependency court system.



Nancy L. Merolla
Circuit 17 Administrator, Department of Children and Families

As Circuit Administrator for the Florida Department of Children and Families for Broward County, I am proud to be a member of the Council which allows me the opportunity to work closely with our community and our providers. The partnerships and collaboration created continue to fund the most outstanding programs and services for our children and their families!



Samuel F. Morrison
Governor Appointee

The Children's Services Council continues to provide essential leadership in fostering capacity building and providing state of the art tools so child serving agencies can deliver on their mission efficiently and cost-effectively.



James F. Notter
Superintendent,
Broward County Schools

Partnering with the CSC gives the School Board the ability to reach students and families that might otherwise fall through the cracks. A great example is the 21st Century Community Learning Centers collaboration, allowing high school students to strengthen their connection to their school and community. Fostering student pride in their school and engaging them positively with their peers and teachers is a win-win for them, their schools and the entire community.



Terry Santini
Governor Appointee

As a member of the Children's Services Council and as Chair of its Finance Committee, I can truly appreciate the CSC's ability to maximize results, even as revenues decline. This benefits the children and families of Broward at a time when they most need it, while positioning the CSC to expand on its mission once the economy recovers.



Dr. Paula Thaqi
Director, Broward County Health Department

The CSC continues to address important public health issues like access to health-care through the KidCare Outreach program and unintentional injury through the Drowning Prevention program. The focus on evidence based interventions and outcomes allows us to utilize limited resources in the most effective and efficient way.

Letter from *Cindy Arenberg Seltzer*, President/CEO



“You proved once again that we operate in partnership with the community. Together, and only together, can we impact the future of our children and community.”

Our world is full of choices. Some we celebrate, others we may regret. After nine years, the decision by the voters of Broward County to create a Children’s Services Council is one I hope the citizens of Broward County can be proud of and celebrate. Even in these uncertain times, you can remain confident that the needs of Broward’s children will be met by a Council and staff dedicated to ensuring that every child is able to realize their potential, their hopes and their dreams supported by a nurturing family and community.

You’ve placed your trust in us by allowing the CSC to be an integral part of Broward County. We’ve responded to that confidence by working in an accountable and transparent manner. Our superior financial reporting has earned a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada each year since we’ve been in existence.

Every CSC funded program is subject to rigorous programmatic and administrative monitoring to ensure that the desired outcomes are being achieved and that the money invested is being spent properly. But we’re more than just a funder. Our professional staff knows what it’s like to run programs and brings that experience to bear by working with agencies across Broward to help them achieve their goals and missions; because when they succeed, children succeed, and therefore, we succeed.

At the CSC, we pride ourselves on strategic planning and collaboration and they have become the hallmark of our work. As the economy struggled, we did everything possible to ensure that funding decisions reflected our core mission of providing the children and families of Broward with the highest standards of services. We also recognize the importance of responding rapidly to the most challenging situations. In January 2010, following the devastating earthquake in Haiti and the ensuing influx of displaced refugees, we helped convene the Broward Haiti Relief Task Force, to ensure the delivery of effective and non-duplicated services in our community.

Several staff members have received accolades ranging from presenting at national symposia to being recognized as a national “Angel of Adoption.” I am proud of these individual achievements but not surprised, because every day I am reminded of our staff’s dedication to the improvement of the lives of the children of Broward County.

Meanwhile, it’s no secret that the 2010 legislative session was amongst the most challenging ones ever for the eight CSC’s across Florida. I was personally gratified by the outpouring of support we received from providers, parents and caregivers alike. You proved once again that we operate in partnership with the community. Together, and only together, can we impact the future of our children and community.

We envision a brighter future *for all children*. That is why I encourage you to read through the many success stories highlighted in this annual report: from new ways to engage children, teachers and parents with Positive Behavior Support, to the safe and enriching out of school time programs funded throughout the county; from providing families with the tools and resources needed to succeed and stay together, to helping youth who have committed minor offenses have a second chance to get back on the right track; from the opportunities for children and youth with special needs to live full and satisfying lives, to helping youth aging out of the foster care system get a solid foothold into productive adulthood, and more.

We welcome your involvement and participation in our efforts to support Broward’s children. How can you become connected? It’s easy: Visit our website, www.cscbroward.org, watch our television show, Future First: Focus on Broward’s Children, follow us on Facebook and join our mailing list to receive updated information on trainings, our latest quarterly newsletter and information on other ongoing initiatives, like our yearly Earth Day community event. You’ll find there are so many different ways to get involved – from mentoring a child, to joining a food drive, to supporting efforts to combat bullying. We partner with Volunteer Broward to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities at child serving agencies and I encourage you to visit their website, www.volunteerbroward.org to learn more. By the people, for the children... together, we’re paving the way for a brighter future!

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer | *President/CEO*



CSC Management Team

From Left to Right:

Monti Larsen | *COO*

Michael Preslo | *Director of Finance*

Sandra Bernard-Bastien | *Director PAOD*

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer | *President/CEO*

Audrey Stang | *Director PS*

Sue Gallagher | *Director RAP*

Karen Swartzbaugh | *CPO*

Terry Brennan | *Director IT*



Choose Peace/Stop Violence

While thousands of Broward youth excel in academics, athletics and community service, we have also witnessed too many incidents of youth violence, some grabbing national headlines. To reduce the incidence of all forms of youth violence, including bullying, in May 2010, the Children's Services Council partnered with the Broward County Children's Services Board and Broward County Schools to host a county-wide summit. Almost 200 policy makers, community leaders, and youth met to learn what factors cause youth violence and what works to promote positive youth behavior.

Participants met in geographical groups (east, west, central, north, south) to identify and commit to action steps to reduce violence. At the Summit, the CHOOSE PEACE/STOP VIOLENCE campaign was launched in partnership with Project Bridge.

In addition, 2-1-1 Broward launched TeenSpace – a website with information and resources for youth and families. Visit it on www.teenspace211.org.



Hundreds Celebrate Earth Day at CSC Community Fair

Over 300 people participated in the Children's Services Council of Broward County's (CSC) celebration of Earth Day dubbed: **"Going Green – Banking on Our Future"**. Held on April 24, the event was also a way to introduce the community to the CSC's eco-friendly building. Children and adults had the opportunity to participate in a scavenger hunt where they learned tips on preserving the environment, interacted with live animals and plants and got their faces painted. They also received bicycle helmets, reading and coloring books, healthy snacks and toys. Many were also treated to an interactive concert by Lanny "Earthman" Smith.

Exhibitors included the Seminole Okalee, ASP, Audubon Society, Sawgrass Nature Center, FPL, Kids Ecology Corps, YMCA, North Broward Academy of Excellence, Broward Energy Partnership, ARC Electronics Recycling Services, Women and the Everglades, Creative Green Arts, Broward County Transit, the Epilepsy Foundation who distributed the bike helmets, and Youth Environment Action, who distributed seedlings. The Beat 103.5 provided musical entertainment and the Salvation Army was on hand to receive donations.

"I thought it was an absolutely wonderful thing the CSC did for the community," said Donna Grossfeld, a visitor to the fair, in a telephone message to the CSC. *"I was with my daughter, a fourth grade teacher who got an immense amount of information and our friend's son, who got a bicycle helmet. I just want to say: thank you!"*

Broward Children's Strategic Plan Adopts New Planning Process



The Broward County Children's Strategic Planning Committees adopted Results Based Accountability (RBA) to improve the quality of life of Broward's children and families. RBA is a data-driven, efficient, community planning process that circumvents turf issues and gets partners from talk to action in less than an hour. Mark Friedman, developer of RBA, provided training and coaching to community leaders and partners throughout the year.

RBA begins with identifying the result the community wishes to achieve (i.e., all youth successfully transition to adulthood), measuring how well we are doing using specific data sets (i.e., graduation rate, youth employment rate), the story behind the data, partners who can help and what works including evidence based programs and local expertise. Based on Friedman's work, 16 Children's Strategic Plan committees have developed "Turn the Curve" reports across the child serving continuum – from birth to young adulthood. The committees are sharing their work with a newly constituted Children's Strategic Plan Advisory Board of local policy makers to multiply the efforts to improve the quality of life for Broward's children and families and increase our ability to communicate the results being achieved.

The Children's Services Council is very excited about the RBA model because it aligns so well with our guiding principles **By the People, For the Children; Accountable and Transparent; and a Positive Return on Investment.**

Community Partnerships



Broward Haiti Relief Task Force

In the afternoon of January 12, 2010, a major earthquake struck the city and surrounding areas of Port Au Prince, Haiti. Because Broward County is home to the 2nd largest Haitian immigrant community in the United States, it was inevitable that the reverberations from that tragic event would be felt locally. Recognizing that the most effective way to provide relief was by coordinating efforts, a broad spectrum of corporate, non-profit, government and faith-based organizations and individuals

quickly convened at the Children's Services Council (CSC) building in late January and created the Broward Haiti Relief Task Force (BHRTF).

Organized in subcommittees, the BHRTF and its members were soon responsible for coordinating efforts to benefit Haitians who arrived in the aftermath of the earthquake, and their families whose resources were strained by the sudden influx of affected family members.

The BHRTF, whose work continues in the aftermath of additional weather and disease emergencies that have affected Haiti in the months following the earthquake, was recognized as a best practice model of relief operation by political leaders and various national and international organizations.

CSC Training - Making a Difference

As you'll see in the pages of this Annual Report, the Children's Services Council (CSC) is much more than a funder. We partner with agencies across Broward County to ensure they are functioning at optimum levels. That's why we offer relevant, affordable trainings to children's services providers across the county. These trainings are available to all agencies serving children and families, not just ones funded by the CSC. Improved service delivery and increased organizational capacity are some of the benefits that participants receive from CSC sponsored trainings.

During FY 2009 - 10, nearly 2,000 attendees participated in 123 trainings sessions which were promoted on the Broward Training Collaborative website. New and exciting trainings were launched during this period. These include, Disability Etiquette 101, Working with Defiant Youth, Results Based Accountability, Creating Effective Youth Advisory Councils, Managing a Multi Generational Workforce, and more.

For more information, please visit the Broward Training Collaborative website at: training.cscbroward.org



The Prosperity Campaign

Here in Broward, the Children's Services Council (CSC) leads the way in promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) as an important vehicle to lift working families out of poverty. In the midst of the current economic crisis, it has become even more important to ensure our diverse community is aware of this benefit. Since our involvement with EITC began in 2002, over \$140 million additional dollars have reached Broward residents. The entire community benefits from drawing down these funds, as low income families have money to put into the local economy.

In 2008, the EITC outreach efforts were incorporated into a broader Prosperity Campaign. As such, EITC is only a piece of the puzzle. The Prosperity Campaign encompasses raising awareness for all safety net resources available, including free income tax preparation at nearly 20 CSC-funded Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites as well as promoting free and reduced health insurance for children through KidCare in partnership with the Department of Health, and helping distribute Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) vouchers, better known as Food Stamps, in partnership with the Department of Children and Families.

To address the systemic issues that cause Florida families to live at or near poverty levels, the CSC also promotes policies that support the financial stability and well-being of all Floridians. As a founding member of the Florida Prosperity Partnership, we collaborate with more than one hundred partner organizations state-wide. Together, we prepared more than half a **million** free tax returns resulting in refunds to Floridians of half a **billion** dollars, as well as impacted legislation that discourages predatory lending practices.



Immunization Collaboration

In another example of community collaboration, the Children's Services Council (CSC) was asked by the Broward County Health Department to participate as a host site in a countywide immunization drive against an outbreak of the H1N1 virus, often referred to as the Swine Flu. In December 2009, less than two months after the opening of our new building, dozens of children and families received their H1N1 and general influenza vaccines at the CSC on four days over a period of four weeks.

Positive Behavior Support in Action

We have all been witnesses of... or participants in situations where a toddler or young child simply appears to be out of control. When these episodes happen on a regular or recurring basis in a child care setting, the response might be to expel these children and/or tag them as “problem child”. The concept of Positive Behavior Support (PBS) challenges that approach and refocuses teachers and caregivers on what is best for the child. PBS is a collaboration between child care providers, teachers, parents, young children, Family Central, the Early Learning Coalition and the Children’s Services Council (CSC) to promote children’s positive social and emotional development.



A comprehensive and inclusive approach, PBS fosters a child’s social/emotional development, and positively impacts the teacher, the classroom, the child and the home. A child’s social/emotional health and well being has been shown to be one of the best indicators for a child’s success in school and in life. **Using several evidence-based practices, the program builds teacher capacity to effectively interact with the child and provide developmentally-appropriate materials and experiences that will nurture the child’s social/emotional growth.** It teaches the child skills to clearly and appropriately express feelings and needs and interact more appropriately with peers and adults. PBS also helps parents communicate with their child and create a safe, nurturing home environment. A year after its

inception, we are happy to report that 15 child care centers, 159 teachers, 162 parents who participated in parenting support groups and 1,630 children have been positively impacted by PBS.

After program start-up and intensive training, a total of 6,554 hours of technical assistance, training and coaching were provided. Feedback from directors and teachers after their participation in the program has been overwhelmingly positive. There have been demonstrated increases in the ability of PBS schools to improve the social-emotional environment. In addition, Family Central was selected to coordinate a PBS Leadership Team.

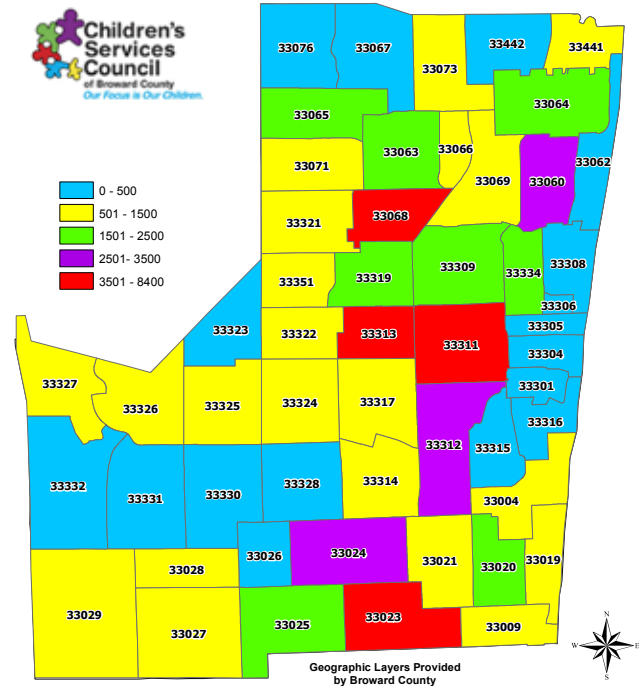
PBS Outcomes

1,630 children served in PBS centers

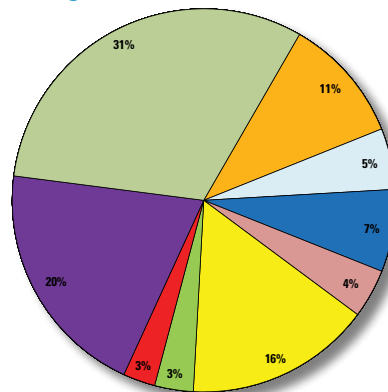
Staff retention improved from 7.5% turnover to **under 1%**

Number of children expelled decreased from 4% to **0%**

Children & Families Served by CSC by Zip Code



Percentage of Numbers of Children & Families Served by Program Area



- Delinquency Prevention & Diversion - 11%
- Family Strengthening - 5%
- Juvenile Assessment Center - 7%
- Maternal & Child Health - 4%
- Out of School Time - 16%
- Special Needs & Behavioral Health - 3%
- Physical Health - 3%
- School Readiness & Literacy - 20%
- Swim Central Drowning Prevention - 31%

NOTE: CSC also funds school health services at 85 high need schools with a total student body of 99,000.

MOST (Maximizing Out of School Time)



Loretta is a mother of two who has been struggling to hold on to her job through the current economy. Were it not for the L.A. Lee FamilyYMCA summer camp, where she takes her children when they are out of school, things would be even more difficult: *"This camp helps me maintain employment, without this camp I do not know what I would do in terms of child care during work."*

To most working parents, nothing is more important than knowing that their children are safe and happy when they are in aftercare or summer time programs. To the Children's Services Council (CSC) that is just the beginning. As the funder of MOST (Maximizing Out of School Time) programs like the

YMCA's, the CSC ensures not only that participating children are in a safe and nurturing environment, but that their lives are enriched by engaging academic and fitness activities provided by caring and qualified adults. In these challenging times, finding and keeping a job can only be more difficult without appropriate child care.

In addition to serving over 13,000 economically disadvantaged children in FY 2009 - 10, MOST programs served approximately 2,300 children with special needs or behavioral health challenges. *"Had we known that the CSC provided services like the United Cerebral Palsy's Bright Horizons aftercare program for our daughter, we would have left Pennsylvania years ago because nothing like this program exists where we used to live,"* says Michael, the father of a child with developmental disabilities.

MOST programs provide services that support children's academic, social and physical development while strengthening their relationships with adults and peers within the context of their family, school and community. The entire community greatly benefits from safe, high quality programs that keep children and youth engaged while out of school. It is well documented that children who engage in negative or at-risk behaviors, typically do between the hours of 2-6 p.m.

In FY 2009 - 10, the CSC funded 28 MOST providers at 118 locations throughout Broward, including public schools, community centers, churches and parks. Soaring economic conditions have made it difficult for many families to afford aftercare and summer camps, so some providers increased scholarship opportunities and even waived fees for children whose parents became unemployed, resulting in an increase of over 1,188 children over

the previous year. It's worth noting that even as we had to reduce funding, specific budgets for MOST programs preserved full-time staff. Another example of the community coming together to raise safe, happy and culturally enriched children with the help of trained, committed professionals!

MOST Outcomes General Population/Economically Disadvantaged

- 100% of the children remained safe.
- 96% of children maintained or improved their homework completion.
- 88% of children improved basic reading skills.
- 87% of children improved basic math skills.
- 84% of children demonstrated improved social skills and interactions with peers and adults.

MOST Outcomes Special Needs

- 100% of children remained safe.
- 92% of children maintained or improved physical functioning (i.e., gross and/or fine motor skills).
- 88% of children maintained or improved their reading and language development.
- 87% of children maintained or improved social and adaptive behavioral functioning or daily living skills.

Family Strenghtening

“I was mad all the time, and sometimes I let my temper get the best of me,” says Rhonda. *“They worked really hard with my child and I noticed the improvement not only in him, but in me, too. I learned what I could do better for both of us without resorting to yelling or hitting.”* By receiving the support she needed, Rhonda found satisfaction in knowing she could raise her child in a safe, loving home.

Meanwhile, Marisol, the sole wage earner in her household, is really happy about the support she is getting for her family: *“The counselor was great. I really loved her,”* she says. She was also grateful to have someone bilingual work with her family: *“My fiancé and my mother speak better Spanish than English, so they were better able to understand the information he gave us so we can do the things we need to do to keep our family safe and together.”*

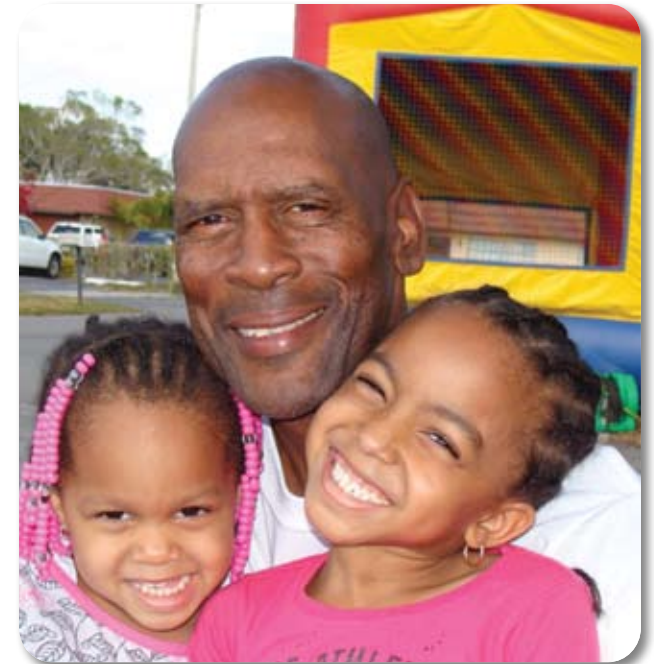


These are examples of the Children’s Services Council (CSC) funded Family Strengthening programs, delivered in FY 2009-10 through 15 provider agencies that focus on stemming child maltreatment before it occurs or escalates. Providers like BoysTown, who have helped Rhonda and Children’s Harbor, where Marisol and her family have gotten support.

Family Strengthening programs deliver on this goal by preventing child abuse and neglect and keeping children in their homes when feasible and safe; by providing parents with the tools necessary to manage family life and teach them appropriate and nurturing parenting skills; by providing family therapy and stress management support as well as help in navigating often complex social service systems; and by providing families with needed resources or information on how to get them.

Fifteen funded provider agencies served over 4,200 at-risk and high-risk families in Broward — an increase of almost 1,000 families from the previous year. Families are typically referred by school counselors or law enforcement agencies for services in their homes and at convenient times.

As the old adage says, *an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure*. Every time a family is kept together; every time a young parent is afforded the tools to succeed as a caregiver; every time a child is raised in a loving, nurturing home, we have not only helped that child, parent and family have an opportunity to thrive... we have also made a contribution to the entire community, with positive ramifications that can never be fully measured.



Family Strenghtening Outcomes

- 99%** of parents who completed the program reported satisfaction with program intervention.
- 97%** of families improved family functioning.
- 94%** of parents maintained and/or decreased their experienced level of parenting stress.
- 75%** of parents reported parenting attitudes/behavior consistent with decreased risk of child abuse and neglect.

New DAY (New Diversion Alternatives for Youth)



"As I sat in the back of the police car I was crying because I thought that I had ruined my dream of becoming a police officer." This was Adam shortly after being arrested for trespassing. There was a time when a teen's minor run-in with the law may have been resolved by calling in the youth's parents, maybe getting a stern "talking to", and an opportunity to apologize and continue being a kid with the promise of a successful life ahead. The current reality in Broward, as in much of the State, is that once a youth is arrested and admitted into the juvenile justice system, he or she is likely to be entrapped in it for the rest of their lives.



To prevent the vicious cycle of arrest, imprisonment and re-arrest, the Children's Services Council (CSC) funds New Diversion Alternatives for Youth (New DAY). Serving youth referred by the State Attorney's Office, New DAY reduces the number of youth in the juvenile justice system by offering them a chance to turn things around before they are trapped in the delinquency system.

Adam was among the approximately 1,500 young people who benefited in FY 2009 - 10, *"A month after being arrested, as a result of being referred to New DAY, I met my counselor from the BSO Community Justice Program. He helped me get in a program with an officer from the Coral Springs Police Department. As mentors, they taught me not just that I should hang with the right crowd but also to always stay positive."*

An important feature of New DAY is that it is not just about the perpetrator. It is also very much about the victim. An integral part of the success of the program is providing restitution to the victim and the community. This provides opportunities for the

victim of the crime to share how, in Adam's words, *"the bad decisions you make affect other people."*

Program components include community service, individual, group and family counseling, supervision of academic progress and enrichment activities that provide youth with pro-social alternatives.

In the end, the community is safer by keeping minor youth offenders from becoming hardened criminals and better off financially by avoiding the burden of high incarceration costs. Furthermore, allowing these youth to have no criminal record helps them achieve the kinds of dreams Adam can still pursue: *"I have grown a great connection with the Broward Sheriff's Office and the Coral Springs Police Department and am confident that I will be successful in fulfilling my dream of becoming a law enforcement officer. As I look back on my experience I feel very lucky to have been given a second chance. To other young people I say: Don't let a broken road stop you from going through it."*

New DAY Outcomes

- 93%** of youth had no re-offenses 12 months after program completion.
- 89%** of youth successfully completed the program.
- 89%** of youth increased their level of protective factors and decreased risk factors.

Youth FORCE (Friends, Opportunities, Resources, Counseling and Education).

Middle school years are a time of great transition for young people: physically, emotionally and developmentally. It is a critical time to reinforce positive choices and good decision-making. Juvens is a 14-year-old boy who participates in the Minority Development and Empowerment, Inc. Youth FORCE (Friends, Opportunities, Resources, Counseling and Education) program. He has learned that doing “fun things” doesn’t have to mean doing things that are destructive to himself and his community: *“The program helped me in a lot of ways. I made a lot of friends through this program. I changed by coming here. My favorite subject is math. At first, I did not know how to do math, but one of the Youth FORCE staff helped me and now I love doing math. I have a lot of fun in the program playing football which keeps me out of the streets. I was a ‘bad kid,’ but now the program has changed me. Without this program, I may have never changed so much—I love this program.”*

Most experts agree that students in middle school today are a critical group to reach when it comes to preventing risky behaviors such as drug use, teen pregnancy and engaging in criminal activities. No longer “innocent” but extremely vulnerable to peer pressure and a need for acceptance, youth have few alternatives that allow them to feel good about themselves while engaging in positive behaviors. That is why the Children’s Services Council (CSC) funds Youth FORCE.

Serving over 1,800 mostly middle-school students at 18 sites throughout the county in FY 2009-10, **Youth FORCE programs encourage pro-social, interpersonal communication, academic achievement, and cultural enrichment activities that foster a love of the arts. They also offer individual counseling and case management, and engage the youth in community service activities.** The program helps youth understand the difference between positive and



negative behaviors and offer clear alternatives for success in life.

Chelson, an 8th grader from Pompano Beach Middle School, (“Home of the Bengals,” he says with obvious pride), also attends MDEI’s Youth FORCE after school program. *“The first time I came here, I didn’t know anybody, but over the years I started to know people. Also, I see that the counselors really care for the students. They help kids with their homework and take care of kids that are hurting. Youth FORCE has helped me learn how I can achieve my career goal to be a lawyer and the counselors told me step-by-step of how to achieve this. The Youth FORCE Program has also taught me the goals I can accomplish in high school. If I graduate high school with very good grades, I could get into a good college. My favorite subject is math and I have improved academically with the help of the teachers at the school and in the Youth FORCE Program.”*

With only 74% of Broward students graduating, it’s safe to say that investing on a young man or woman aspiring to get good grades so as to become a lawyer some day, provides our community an excellent return on investment.



Youth FORCE Outcomes

- 100%** of youth did not experience any unplanned pregnancies.
- 99%** of youth did not use alcohol or drugs.
- 86%** of youth increased school protective factors and decreased risk factors.
- 73%** of youth decreased risk behaviors.

21st Century Community Learning Centers



Educators, parents and caregivers, know that there are crossroads along the way of all high school youth where they will have to make choices: they hope the good will outnumber the bad. Studies and experience show that if a student has a compelling reason to be in school, to participate and interact in a positive way so as to achieve specific goals, half the battle is won. That is why, since 2007, Broward County School District has contracted with the Children's Services Council (CSC) for the operation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLCs) at targeted high schools.

Created as part of the "No Child Left Behind Act," 21st CCLCs maximize the quality of afterschool programs for students residing in low-income areas and/or attending low-performing schools. They provide expanded academic enrichment opportunities for teens by giving opportunities for students and their families to continue to learn new skills and discover new abilities after the school day has ended.

The enthusiasm developed during the afterschool hours can help during the school day as well. Jenny, for instance, was in trouble in school and was about to be suspended. She knew that suspension would mean she couldn't return to campus to participate in Dance Elements — one of the enrichment parts of the afterschool program. She especially didn't want to miss performing at Parent Night. Fortunately for Jenny, her Assistant Principal and 21st CCLC coordinator gave her another chance. "I want to do

better. Please give me another chance and I promise I will not give you any trouble. Please, I love to dance - don't take that away from me!" The coordinator smiles every time she tells that story. "I use the afterschool program to keep the students in line. They love to be here!"

Successful afterschool programs foster attachment to the school, which in turn helps a student develop a broader attachment to the community. As is well documented, most youth crime and risky behaviors occur between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m., when youth are out of school and without adult supervision. By keeping youth engaged in productive activities, after school programs help decrease youth crime rates.

In 2009, CSC began managing a total of 6 sites, targeting high school students in grades 9 through 12 at Blanche Ely, Coconut Creek, Dillard, Hallandale, Northeast and Stranahan High Schools.

CSC funded 21st CCLC's offer:

- **Structured academic and support services that foster positive youth and family development,**
- **Opportunities for articulated and comprehensive educational outreach to students,**
- **Cultural and recreational afterschool activities that empower and help students meet/exceed state accountability standards and graduation rates,**
- **Enrichment activities to increase school attendance, reduce drug/alcohol abuse, teen violence, and teen pregnancy.**

The students are the 21st CCLC's most enthusiastic advocates. Here is what some had to say:

"The 21st Century Afterschool program is a good program that every student should come to every day because it has helped me a lot!"

"I love this program and I love the fact that our teacher speaks our language and knows our culture!"



"More students should have an opportunity to join the afterschool program. Then the school might be able to move up in its school grade and receive more resources!"

21st Century Outcomes

- 88% of students who regularly participated in activities improved classroom behavior.
- 87% of parents participating in the Center activities reported them to be beneficial, enjoyable, and of high quality.
- 84% of students who regularly attended academic enhancement programs improved performance on the FCAT.
- 83% of students participating in the Center activities reported them to be beneficial, enjoyable, and of high quality.

Future Prep, Transition to Independent Living

Daniel is a former foster youth who suffers from Attention Deficit Disorder and finds it very difficult to focus. Daniel recently received help paying for a rental apartment from Broward Housing Solutions and case management services as part of Wilson Gardens, an independent living program managed by Henderson Mental Health. *“Because of the help, I was able to focus on getting my GED. I am really proud of that because I had tried three times before and failed. I was working 40 hours a week as a bus boy and taking medications that were making me really tired. Now I don’t have to work so many hours and can start thinking about how to get the kind of education I need to make something of my life.”*

Every year in Broward, approximately 150 youth find themselves in similar circumstances as they age out of the foster and relative care systems and are expected to make it on their own. If only financial independence and psychological maturity were magically attained by simply turning 18! That, of course, is unlikely even for youth who have all the advantages of a safe and nurturing home life. With no support mechanisms in place, foster care youth have traditionally become prey to the worst life has to offer: poverty, homelessness, victimization, criminal involvement, incarceration, lack of education, unemployment, mental health problems, substance abuse, and early pregnancy.

This is why, since 2004, the Children’s Services Council (CSC) has participated in the community’s efforts to provide a system of care through the funding of Future Prep. These programs provide educational support, counseling, life skill instruction, community linkage and case management for these youth designed to meet their needs. In some instances, as in Daniel’s case, the primary need is housing. In others it is job training or just someone to call in a moment of crisis or when in need of advice.



In FY 2009-10, Future Prep once again served approximately 300 youth through HANDY, Camelot Community Care, Dan Marino Foundation and Henderson Mental Health. In addition, much has gone into providing employability skills to many Future Prep youth through the CSC funded Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP, see p.15)

Future Prep has achieved a high level of success because key players in the community have been willing to partner to make it work. The Jim Moran Foundation, for instance, has been instrumental in the expansion of the program, contributing \$340,000 annually since 2007 to support youth transitioning towards independence. In the case of Daniel and the other young adults served in FY 2009-10, this program helped them transition successfully to independence.

A roof over their heads, opportunities to get an education and job training, a support system that will provide advice and counseling when needed... these are basic safety nets most 18-year-olds take for granted. Through Future Prep, they are also part of the system of care that allows young men and women aging out of the foster and relative care system to have a shot at success.



Future Prep Outcomes

- 93% of youth attained basic employability skills.
- 92% of youth did not obtain any law violations.
- 91% of youth did not experience any unplanned pregnancies.
- 82% of youth engaged in activities that will help them to attain a recognized academic or vocational credential, or employment.
- 72% of youth improved pro-social functioning.

Summer Youth Employment Program



It used to be a rite of passage: a summer job that provided youth opportunities to hone basic life skills and start building a resume. Now, with a youth unemployment rate hovering at around 50%, finding summer employment has become more a lesson in playing the lottery than a given for many youth, especially disadvantaged ones. That is why, since 2005, the Children's Services Council (CSC) has funded the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for youth 16-18 years-old, administered by WorkForce One. *"My experience with this program was life changing,"* says Evelyn, who is planning on going to college. *"Not only have I really enjoyed this experience, but I now have two savings accounts."*

Other participants provide similar enthusiastic feedback: *"The (SYEP) was a savior for me... it gave me the opportunity to attain funds to help pay for my school needs and it also gave me a taste of independence so that I can better figure out what I want*

out of life and how to reach my goals." Or, *"It taught me the benefits of a job, how to interact with people and how to build a resume that will help me find better jobs in the future."*

SYEP can only be as successful as employers' involvement allows. This is why their satisfaction is an integral part of the program. Typical responses from corporate, non-profit and government agencies that participate reflect the wholehearted support expressed by an employer: *"The youth that were assigned to my site this year were some of the best young people that I have ever had the pleasure of working with. I truly hope that the program continues!"*

Another employer, a Broward County Library site manager, had this to say: *"We were very impressed at how SYEP participants discovered that many of the books returned were supposed to go to a different library. This discovery saved the library a substantial amount of money!"*

SYEP funds 30 hours of hands-on work per week over an eight week summer period. The enormous demand for this program is reflected by the over 4,000 applications in FY 2009-10 for 700 openings with 49 employers at 214 work sites. Although the program is open to all youth, preference is given to youth aging out of the foster care system, youth with behavioral challenges and youth with developmental disabilities. **Why is SYEP important to the entire community? Because when young people are working, being productive and learning valuable skills they are less likely to engage in risky or delinquent behaviors that negatively impact the entire community.** So we are not only bettering their odds at becoming responsible, productive adults, but we are also creating a safer and more attractive environment for all to live, work and raise families. And that makes for a pretty good payoff.

SYEP Outcomes

- 100%** of the SYEP participants did not experience a serious injury, abuse, or arrest report.
- 98%** of SYEP participants completed the subsidized work experience.
- 97%** of SYEP participants surveyed indicated satisfaction with the program.
- 96%** of SYEP employers surveyed indicated satisfaction with the program support and youth employee(s).
- 93%** of the SYEP participants demonstrated proficiency in employability and job retention skills.

LIFT (Learning Independence through Focused Transition)



Since 2004, the Children's Services Council (CSC) has played a leadership role in creating a coordinated system of care for children and youth with special needs. A critical component has been helping youth with physical and/or developmental challenges achieve the skills necessary to live independent lives. When it comes to getting a job, a key component in acquiring a sense of self-worth and dignity, youth with special needs face obstacles few others can imagine. Jakeem, for example, a recent high school graduate, is gainfully employed today because of the Children's Services Council (CSC) funded **Learning Independence through Focused Transition (LIFT)**, an afterschool program that in FY 2009-10 served over 300 16-21 year-olds with developmental disabilities.

Introduced in 2007, the program is delivered by staff with United Cerebral Palsy, ARC, the Center for Hearing and Communication and theYMCA.

As Jakeem tells it: *"I was a Teen Club (CSC funded LIFT program) member at Boyd Anderson High*

School and the skills I mastered are incredible. I started looking for employment in March 2008 with no success. I heard about UCP and the after-school program during my senior year through the ESE department. I asked everybody who I needed to talk to get information about this wonderful program. It was the LIFT coordinator and she was the key to getting me involved.

I went to see her every day, learning very valuable life skills that gave me the confidence to start looking again for a paying job. I asked her, 'What do I need to do to get in the summer internship program?' She told me there were only a few positions available but I was so determined to get one that I did. It was a job with JC Penney's where I learned more skills in the processing department, including providing customer service, processing new items,

pricing, bagging, stocking and handling returns. But most importantly, I appreciate the work ethics I have learned through this program. It's a dream come true for me that is opening many doors of opportunities for me. I went from no self-esteem to self advocate."

As in most instances related to youth employment, demand far outstrips the ability to provide adequate resources. Broward County schools are home to about 30,000 youth with disabilities, many of whom could benefit from programs like LIFT; however, only about 300 get to participate.

Yet, as youth like Jakeem gain the skills and experiences they need to transition to gainful employment, the entire community benefits because of their ability to become independent, responsible adults, able to offer their expertise and enthusiasm for the betterment of all.



LIFT Outcomes

- 86% of youth improved daily living skills and acquired new skills.
- 73% of youth improved skills in conversation, functional literacy, phone skills, and problem solving activities.
- 71% of youth identified ways to improve behavior, form friendships and demonstrate improved behavior in the community.
- 61% of youth improved employability skills.

STEPS (Supported Training Employment Program)



The summer of 2010 had started off poorly for Jonathan, a youth with special needs in the Children's Services Council of Broward (CSC) funded Supported Training Employment Program for Youth with Special Needs (STEPS). While a STEPS intern at LongHorn Steakhouse, Jonathan, who had been in foster care and aged out when he turned 18, became homeless. Upon learning of his circumstances, several individuals and agencies came to his aid. Dennis, the restaurant manager, recognized the quality of Jonathan's work and offered to hire him beyond the summer internship. He also provided space for Jonathan's belongings, bought him clothing, and assisted him with apartment hunt-

ing. Dennis soon became not only Jonathan's mentor, but his best friend, as well. Angela, the Director of Summer STEPS for the Dan Marino Foundation, worked with the Center for Hearing and Communication and the CSC funded Future Prep (see p.14), to find appropriate housing and other services. With Jonathan's referral to Future Prep, he was provided a Life Coach to help him with his finances, living arrangements, education, transportation, and to ensure his continued success at work and in his transition to adulthood. Now, that's what we call a *system of care!*

The mission of the CSC is centered on the idea that local needs are met by collaborative efforts, based on proven best practices that provide the highest rate of successful outcomes. STEPS is an example of our community coming together to provide youth with special needs opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have.

Managed by United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) and the Dan Marino Foundation, STEPS is a summer internship program that began in 2006 with 40 youth employed at 12 sites and has grown to 113 youth employed at 30 sites. On-site job coaches, at a ratio of 1-4 interns, are an integral part of the program's success, as they help navigate the process for both youth and employers.

Wyndham properties manager Tyler Warner said it best recently when explaining why his company is an enthusiastic partner in the STEPS program: *"We are very proud of the way the program benefits these young people, but the truth is the benefit is really ours. Without even knowing it, these youth help raise our morale, improve processes, and create a sense of self-awareness. These are kids who come because they want to work, not because they have to and it shows in everything they do."*



Who wins with programs like STEPS? Just about everyone! Young men and women with special health needs who have a chance to work and learn life-long skills, their families who often share in the pride of their accomplishments, and the employers, who invariably give the program high marks as a morale booster for their staff and appreciate the opportunity to do something positive for the community where they do business.

STEPS Outcomes

93% of participants improved job duty skills.

86% of participants improved behavior skills.

Accountable & Transparent



General Fund

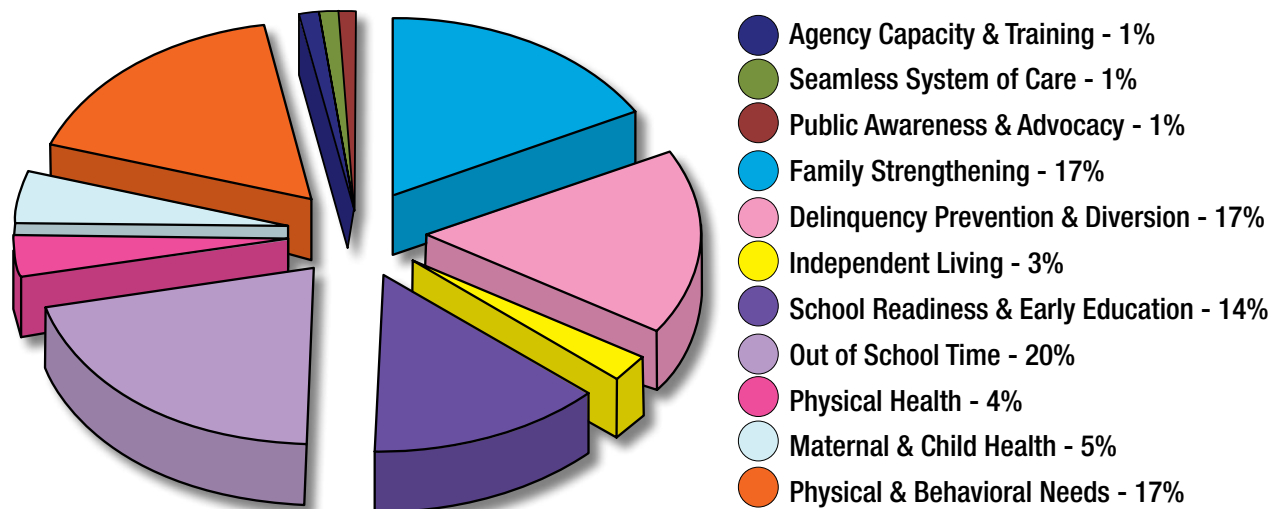
Revenues:	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2009 Actual
Property Taxes	\$ 60,094,059	\$ 59,990,448
Interest	280,194	153,990
Grant Income	716,381	519,151
Miscellaneous	189,015	41,380
Total Revenues	\$ 61,279,649**	\$ 60,704,969

Expenditures:	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2009 Actual
Program Services	\$ 55,519,276	\$ 56,816,808
Program Administration	2,822,353	2,925,618
General Administration	2,079,761	2,150,066
Capital Outlay	768,421	28,666
Non-Operating Expenditures	1,809,844	10,492,175*
Total Expenditures	\$ 62,999,655**	\$ 72,413,333

* Includes expenditures for purchase of new building

** Discrepancies between revenues and expenditures are due to anticipated use of Fund balance

Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget for Program Services by Goal



Funded Agencies

Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc.
 After School Programs
 Ann Storck Center
 Bayview Center for Mental Health, Inc.
 Boys & Girls Club
 Broward Children's Center
 Broward County Health Department
 Broward County Parks & Recreation
 Broward County Public Library
 Broward Regional Health Planning Council
 Broward Sheriff's Office, Juvenile Assessment Center
 Camelot Community Care, Inc.
 Center for Hearing and Communication Inc.
 Children's Harbor, Inc.
 Children's Home Society of Florida
 Intercoastal Division
 City of Deerfield Beach*
 City of Hollywood*
 City of Lauderdale Lakes*
 City of Miramar*
 City of Pompano Beach w/Partner CD 4 Youth*
 City of West Park*
 Community After School
 Community Leadership Consulting
 Cool Kids Learn
 Dan Marino Foundation, Inc.
 Early Learning Coalition of Broward County
 Family Central, Inc.
 Father Flanagan's Boys Town Florida, Inc
 First Baptist Church Piney Grove
 First Call for Help, Inc.
 First Church of the Open Bible
 Friends of Children, Youth and Families, Inc.
 Ft. Lauderdale Housing Authority
 Gerena & Associates
 Gialogic Productions - Forever Family
 Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, Inc.

HANDY - Helping Abused, Neglected, Disadvantaged Youth, Inc.
 Harmony Development Center, Inc.
 Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition
 Henderson Mental Health Center, Inc.
 Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.
 Institute for Family Centered Services, Inc.
 Jewish Adoption and Foster Care Options, Inc.
 Kids In Distress, Inc.
 Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.
 Memorial Healthcare System
 Miami Children's Hospital
 Million Meals Committee
 Minority Development & Empowerment, Inc.
 Mount Olive Development Corporation
 New Hope World Outreach
 Providence Management Corporation of Florida, Inc.
 Senior Volunteer Services
 Smith Community Mental Health
 Soref JCC
 South Cluster Children Services
 Sunshine After School
 The Sheriff of Broward County, Florida
 The Starting Place, Inc.
 United Cerebral Palsy of Broward County, Inc.
 Urban League of Broward County, Inc.
 Volunteer Broward, Inc.
 WorkForce One
 YMCA - Young Men's Christian Association of Broward County, Florida, Inc.

Note:

Some Headquarter locations are non-site specific and serve clients county-wide

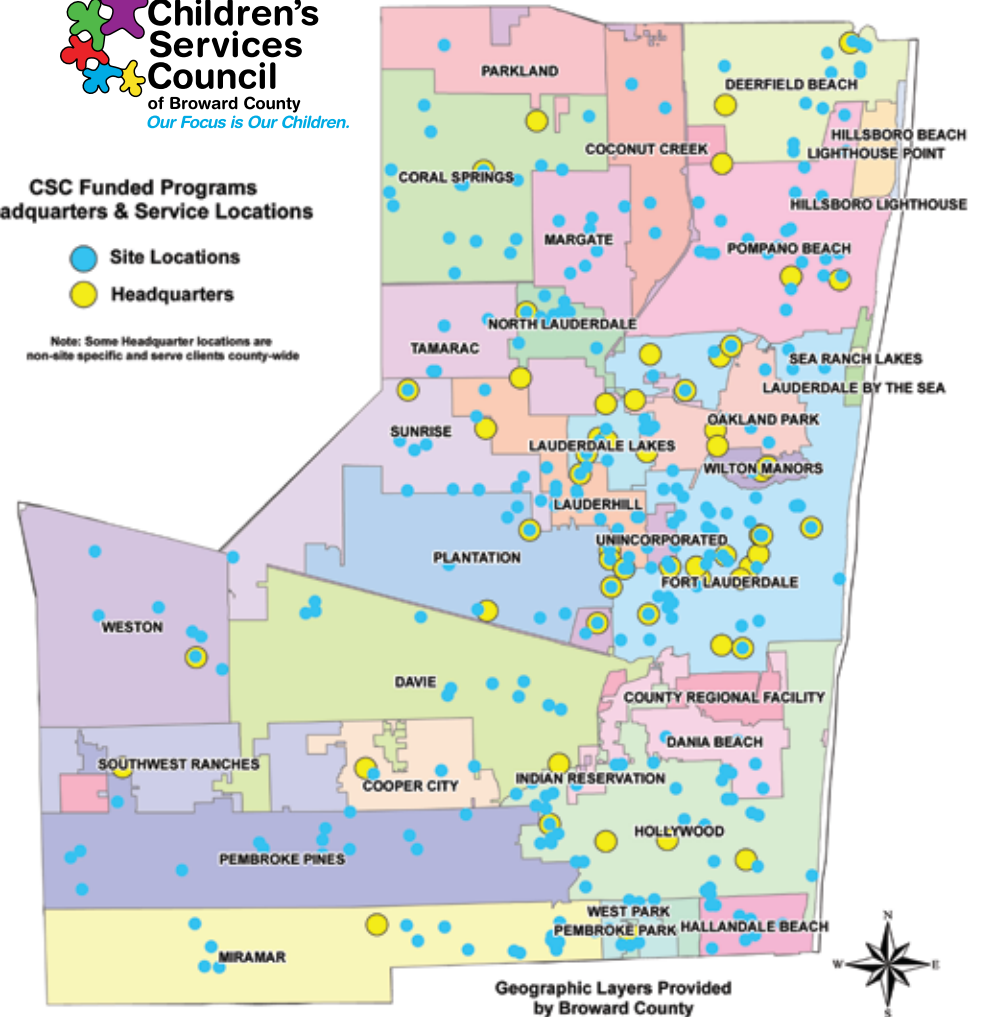
**The Council maximizes your dollars by partnering with several cities to provide after school and summer programs for as many children as possible.*



CSC Funded Programs Headquarters & Service Locations

- Site Locations
- Headquarters

Note: Some Headquarter locations are non-site specific and serve clients county-wide



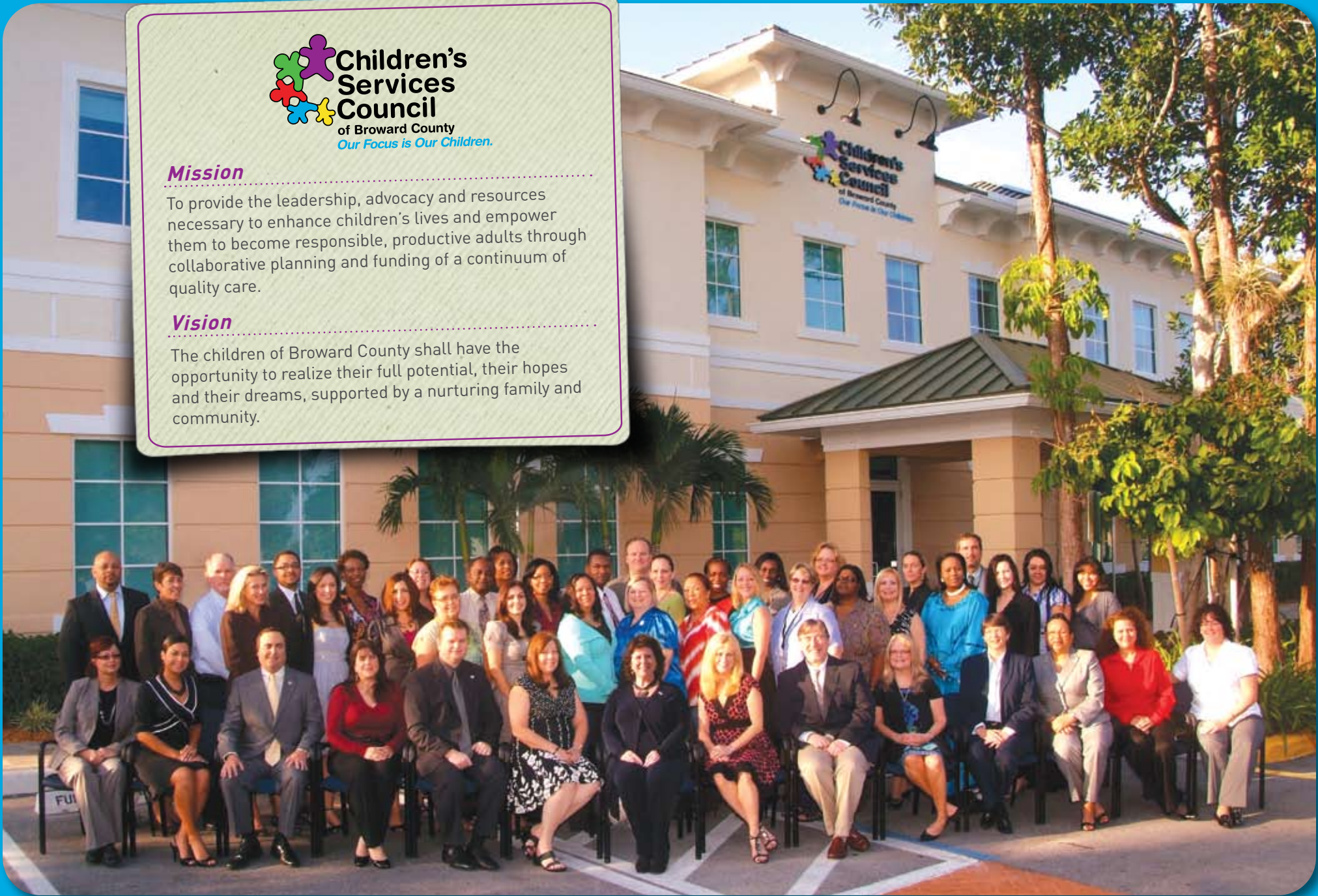


Mission

To provide the leadership, advocacy and resources necessary to enhance children's lives and empower them to become responsible, productive adults through collaborative planning and funding of a continuum of quality care.

Vision

The children of Broward County shall have the opportunity to realize their full potential, their hopes and their dreams, supported by a nurturing family and community.



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