



Brevard Family Partnership

A Community Based Care Agency

Board Report



February 27, 2014

Patricia Nellius-Guthrie, CEO

Narrative Report

I would like to welcome our two (2) new Board members, Reverend Dan Walker and Ms. Paula Creed-Smith. I look forward to the opportunity of working in partnership with them to advance the mission and vision of BFP. Additionally Mr. Eric Smith was approved by the Brevard County Board of County Commissioner's to serve as a County Appointee to the BFP Board as Vice Chair.

I am pleased to announce and recognize Ms. Brenda Smith, one of our foster parents, has won the FCC Foster Parent of the year award. Brenda has been a foster parent in Brevard since 2006. Brenda will be present at our Board meeting to receive her award.

I am pleased to announce that Trenton Miller has won the FCC youth of the year award. Trenton will be present at the Board meeting to receive his award. The Board has had an opportunity to meet with Trenton in the recent past and hear his story firsthand. BFP is proud of his contributions and leadership role.

As members are aware BFP distributed a Faith Based Initiative grant several years ago. This was a three (3) year grant for an agency to spearhead and sustain a local Faith Based initiative. Catholic Charities was the recipient of this grant and has done an outstanding job building the foundation and capacity. Ms. Beverly Lampley will be present at the BFP Board meeting to receive an award from the Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council. Beverly is currently employed at the Child Advocacy Center. We are grateful for her commitment and dedication.

Our 2013 Leadership Team will join the Board to be recognized on February 27th. The team has served for the past 18 months and has contributed a great deal of time and effort during their service. Some of the accomplishments of the 2013 team include:

- Planning and providing leadership of the annual employee appreciation week
- Assessing and responding to the annual employee satisfaction survey
- Conducting the nomination process for the Employee of the year Linda Marshall Leading Light Recipient and Peer recognition awards
- Planning the annual holiday gathering and quarterly staff events

The 2013 LT members to be recognized include:

- Rachel Bjornsted
- Ada Diequez
- Colleen Fleming
- Osha Goodwin
- LaChrista Jones
- Tracy Little
- Jessica Miles
- Ken Teague
- Nellie Warner

I am pleased to announce that Colleen Fleming, the BFP South Care Center Manager has been selected to receive the Linda Marshall Leading Light Award this year. This is the BFP employee of the year award. Colleen has been with BFP since inception and serves as the South Care Center Care Manager. Colleen has demonstrated strong leadership skills, a collaborative spirit and is always ready and willing to serve.

As we embark on a new calendar year there are many key priorities to focus upon with legislative agenda items being critical. Legislative Committees have been in session and BFP has been monitoring and participating in the activities as both the House and Senate have alluded to bills they are crafting that will be surfacing in the near future that are intended to reform the child welfare system as we know it today. On Monday February 3rd Dixie, Jerry Sansom and I had the opportunity to meet with Senator Altman in Tallahassee to share our priorities and needs with him. He was very receptive. Senator Altman serves on the Children, Families and Elder Affairs Committee which is one of the committees drafting child welfare reform legislation. On February 11, 2014 Lee Kaywork from Jacksonville and I had the opportunity to testify at the Healthy Families Committee to share how the service delivery system is designed and to provide a contextual framework of the environment in which we operate as the committee plans to craft new legislation surrounding the child welfare system. The House Healthy Families Committee also indicated they are working on Child Welfare Reform legislation. On Friday February 14th the CBC's were informed the Senate will be releasing a draft of their Bill on Monday February 17, 2014 at which time we will be reviewing the content. This draft Bill has been released and reviewed. Members will be briefed at the upcoming Board meeting.

The CMA negotiations process with Impower has concluded. The posting of intent to award was made on Tuesday February 18, 2014. Members have received a draft of the Memorandum Of Understanding to review in order to begin the transition process. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment of Devereux Florida and CHS over the past 10 years and look forward to continuing our partnership as we move forward. I have drafted a letter to both CMA agencies as well as to our foster parents to inform them of the impending transition.

The National Wraparound Conference and the National Center for Innovation and Excellence launch event are approaching quickly. Please make attendance at the NCIE launch a priority. We have leaders from over 32 states and 4 countries committed to attend the conference and a VIP group of both local and national leaders who will be present on Wednesday March 12th at 6:00 PM for the launch of NCIE.

On Monday March 3rd-5th I will be attending the Center for the Study of Social Policy Youth Thrive Exemplary Initiatives Event along with Ashley Carraro, Director of Child and Family Services and Joseph Cordero, IL youth where we will be presenting our Trauma Informed Care-Positive Youth Development Youth Thrive Framework.

The Eckerd Walk of Fame will be held on March 8, 2014 at the Radisson Resort Convention Center 8701 Astronaut Blvd., Cape Canaveral from 6:00 PM-9:00 PM. Any members wishing to attend should contact Geo Ropert to confirm. I am pleased to announce that Ms. Brooke Deratany Goldfarb is a nominee for the Children's Hero award. Congratulations Brooke!

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Nellius
Chief Executive Officer