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# Brevard Family Partnership

*A Community Based Care Agency*

## Board Report



December 6, 2018

Valerie Holmes, PhD(c), Executive Director

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I am pleased to report that BFP has entered into a partnership with Brevard Public Schools to support foster home recruitment efforts. Information about becoming a foster parent is being sent out electronically through Peach jar. Peach jar is a marketing channel used to reach parents of school aged children by delivering school approved digital flyers directly to their email inbox. Flyers have also been posted to the school's website to increase visibility. I met with Mike Cadore, Associate Provost, about doing something similar with Easter Florida State University.

In partnership with IMPOWER, a movie premier of Instant Family for foster and adoptive parents was held on 12/1 at the Oaks Movie Theatre. Staff were on site with information about recruitment. The movie is attracting attention to the foster care system, inquiries to the recruiters have increased. The most recent orientation session held in the north part of the County was one of the most highly attended sessions since inception. BFP sponsored another statewide Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) forum held on 12/5 at the Ascension Catholic Church. The focus of the event was teen recruitment. There were attendees from across the state and nationally. Terry Harrak, a QPI Youth Engagement Coordinator from DC presented about how to get youth involved in these efforts. BFP held a Thanksgiving luncheon for foster parents hosted by Ascension Catholic Church on 11/17. The next holiday event is the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakfast with Santa, hosted by Eau Gallie Baptist Church, scheduled for 12/15. This event is for all children in foster care that includes breakfast, pictures with Santa, arts and crafts, decorating and a photo booth.

The Brevard Youth Leadership Council is planning to visit all the Brevard County group homes and meet with staff. This is an opportunity to provide observations and feedback on service delivery, develop group home minimum standards and help refine processes. Sarah Greenblatt, Youth Thrive consultant from The Center for the Study of Social Policy, attended the last meeting and held a group discussion about increased normalcy opportunities within group home settings.

BFP Employee Appreciation Week has been scheduled for 12/10-12/14. This is always a fun time for staff to de-stress and includes a holiday breakfast, potluck, scavenger hunt, and holiday gift exchange.

The Together in Partnership (TIP) resolution was approved for an additional three years at the Brevard County Commissioners Meeting on 12/4. TIP, required by F.S. 39.001, will now extend through December of 2021. The forum will continue to serve as the Community Alliance and Children's Advisory Council. TIP helped define the priorities of BFP during its formation and has continued to serve as a vehicle to drive initiatives forward through a collaborative group of key stakeholders.

A meeting regarding the Children's Services Council was held on 12/5. Administration and management have shifted from the United Way to the Space Coast Health Foundation. Put Brevard Kids First was formed as a Political Committee with the purpose of communicating with the voting public on this important issue. Co-Chairs Jeff Kiel and Kathryn Rudloff, lead a coalition of community supporters and child-welfare activists. The entities plan to present the issue to the County Commissioners by March 2019 to eventually go to referendum in 2020. The first year it is anticipated that \$7.6 million will be available to support the strategic priorities. Funds would be distributed through a competitive procurement process.

A new behavioral health inpatient facility, Palm Point, has opened in Titusville. The facility will offer a Crisis Services Stabilization Unit for children and adults. The leadership team at the Family of Agencies will be meeting on 1/15 to review the full continuum of service delivery.

The managing entity, Central Florida Cares, submitted a planning grant last year for Brevard County for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant Program. The Reinvestment Grant Program was created to provide funding to plan, implement, or expand initiatives that increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal and juvenile justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults and juveniles who have a mental illness, substance use disorder, or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, and who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal or juvenile justice systems. Last year many stakeholders participated in the application process and the application came in second. The grant is being resubmitted through a collaboration and BFP and CARES are participating in the process.

The next Rally In Tally has been scheduled for February 4 and 5. BFP is continuing to engage the provider network and groups homes in the planning for both the Post Waiver environment and FFPSA. A draft Title IV E State Plan has been released that includes provisions for both. CBCs have expressed interest in having input into the plan, in helping to frame questions and have dialogue throughout the plan amendment process. The FFSPA full listing of approved Evidenced Based Practices has not yet been released. The main objectives in planning for the Post Waiver environment include expanding the Title IV-E Footprint through the Guardianship Assistance Program, Extended Foster Care, Title IV-E Candidacy and FFPSA Candidacy Implementation. There have been statewide discussions on two types of candidacy. The child welfare policy manual points to an investigation as the starting point for assessing traditional candidacy. FFPSA candidacy discusses long term guardianship and post adoption cases without reference to an investigation. One of the significant questions that the state is seeking clarification on is whether all safe/high risk, and safe/very high risk can be included as candidates. The Office of Child Welfare has proposed the below agenda items in the funding request for FY 2019/2020. The LBR for FY 2019-20 has been submitted and can be viewed on the Florida Fiscal Portal:

<http://floridafiscalportal.state.fl.us/Document.aspx?ID=18129&DocType=PDF>

<b>Issues Impacting CBCs Directly</b>	
<b>Issue</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Foster Home Cost of Living Adjustment	\$657,150
2. Maintenance Adoption Subsidies (Growth)	\$29,224,435
3. Risk Pool Funding for the CBC Lead Agencies	\$5,000,000
4. Restoration of CBC nonrecurring core funding for safety management services	\$8,087,040
5. Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) Annualization – CBC Licensing staff who start last quarter of FY 2018-19 (\$10,988,637 - \$2,747,159 recurring from FY 2018-19)	\$8,241,478
6. IV-E Extended Foster Care - Annualization	\$3,842,839
7. Human Trafficking - Excess spent over the \$3 million CSEC appropriation (SEC OCA)	\$3,610,214
8. CAPTA – increased grant award	\$4,145,947 Rec TF \$1,000,000 nonrecurring
9. Path Forward Funding/GAP	\$ 24,018,196
10. Specialized Treatment Programs for Dually Served Pilot – extended a 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	\$1,357,647
11. Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies’ Increased Cost of Insurance	\$3,748,449
12. Title IV-E Guardianship Assistance Program Payments	\$8,076,214
13. Adoptive and Foster Home Recruitment and Support Services	\$5,461,050
14. Evidence-Based Enhanced Behavioral Health and Parenting Outpatient Services for Parents in the child welfare system	\$6,114,346
15. Replace unfunded CW training	\$656,040
<b>Issues Impacting Children and Families Directly</b>	
<b>Issue</b>	<b>Amount</b>
16. Cycle of Accountability – Child Welfare Results-Oriented Accountability	\$2,322,933
17. Nonrelative Caregiver Program (Growth and Restore)	\$3,550,023
18. Kinship Navigator Grant – funding for one quarter (July – Sept 2019)	\$216,539
19. Expansion of Family Finders – to address permanency of relative and fictive kin placements; includes assessment of current programs	\$223,500
20. Shared Client Funding Pilot for Child Placement and Services (Funding for Placement Services among DCF, DJJ, and APD)	\$4,825,506
21. Expand service provision – recommendations of Service Array Workgroup (MATCH)	\$320,070

Respectfully Submitted,  
Valerie Holmes PhD(c)  
Executive Director