



*Bringing Families Together
For A Bright Future.*

Board Report: Operations



The Cincinnati team celebrated the close of the year with a holiday gathering on November 24, 2025. The event brought together staff from all programs to enjoy food, games, prizes, and meaningful connection. It provided an opportunity to reflect on accomplishments from the past year while aligning on goals and priorities for the year ahead.

As we continue addressing critical staffing needs within the community, the Cincinnati office will participate in a job fair hosted by the University of Cincinnati in February. This event will support ongoing recruitment efforts for key roles.

We are pleased to announce that the Cincinnati office has been awarded \$10,000 in grant funding through the Ohio Children's Alliance for participation in the Behavioral Health Attribution Project. This funding supports our involvement in data collection efforts focused on tracking children's outcomes in services. In exchange, the team will submit weekly demographic data to contribute to statewide outcome analysis.

In our Day Treatment program, we are excited to recognize our newest team member, Elizabeth Gress, who recently achieved licensure as a Licensed Social Worker (LSW). Elizabeth will serve as a program therapist, supporting youth as they work toward positive behavioral and emotional change.

Program enrollment continues to grow as Elizabeth and Megan, our Clinical Director, processed referrals over the past month. Currently, 10 youth are enrolled in the program, with one classroom at full capacity and efforts underway to fill the second classroom.

The team is scheduled to complete Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) certification in February to further enhance safety and support within the program.

The Intensive Home-Based Treatment program (IHBT) continues to make a meaningful impact within the community. Currently staffed with one therapist, the program is serving five active cases. A key goal for the new year is to support the therapist in reaching full caseload capacity. Recruitment efforts remain ongoing to fill the second therapist position. Additionally, the team has received notice of an upcoming fidelity review scheduled for late February. Carol, the Clinical Manager, has been diligently preparing clinical documentation and supporting staff in readiness for the review.

The Home and Community-Based Services team continues to increase utilization and expand service delivery. Therapists are actively managing approximately 40 cases, providing in-home support to children and families throughout the community.



North Florida

We are excited to have our new Recruitment and Licensing Specialist, Taylor Whittington, on-board, a transition from our Case Management program. She is working hard on making plans for recruiting new treatment foster parents and building our program. Some of those plans include attending the local Farmers Market and Gyro Festival at the Greek Orthodox Church. We are also reaching out to some other organizations about setting up a recruitment table at their events. Taylor is going to be hanging recruitment flyers in local establishments and reaching out to local churches regarding presentations. We had a great conversation about meeting up with a large Catholic church in town, regarding our ability to provide a presentation and hopefully recruit some foster parents.

This year, Tallahassee Adoptions held its annual Home for the Holidays December finalizations on 12/19/2025. Four children were finalized, all of which found permanency within 12 months of shelter thanks to newcomer, Adoption Case Manager, Isabella Dabage, who completed all four children's adoptions in record time, having just completed preservice training herself in early October. In partnership with the Leon County court system, the courtroom was decorated with holiday decor, and the families had the opportunity to enjoy snacks and goodies served in the common area, as well as a photo op station, before heading into the courtroom for finalizations. The Animal Therapy Program also brought in three therapy support dogs as part of their courthouse therapy program for children in dependency.

The adoptions unit has finalized 48 children from Circuit 2 during the first half of the 2025-2026 fiscal year and a total of 92 children during the 2025 calendar year. When figuring adoption credits towards the goal of 85 finalizations for the fiscal year, the adoption unit is currently at 47 credits, over halfway to the goal as of December. Adoptions anticipates an additional 6 children to finalize from Circuit 2 in January, as well as another 6 in February for the Home is Where the Heart is celebration in partnership with the courts.

In November our offices recognized those that go above and beyond in our Lake City and Live Oak offices. We had our "Employee of the Year" award presented to Jasmine Billy, the "People's Choice" award presented to Melinda Davis, and the "Extra Mile" award presented to Marriah Byrd for Lake City, and Pam Watson for Live Oak. We recently promoted Aaron Dorch from FCC Supervisor to Assistant Program Director. Aaron started with us as an FSW and has worked his way up, we are so proud of all that he has accomplished. Ashley Corliss was also promoted to an FCC supervisor. Jasmine Billy is also taking on a new role as Provider Liaison helping to bridge the gap between services and families. This was a position that was created by PFSF in their quest to streamline contacts with providers and case management. PFSF also recognized our own Casey Gaouette, Program Director as their Camelot "Person of the Year". We are so unbelievably proud of her leadership and how hard she continues to work for her case management program.

Clay County held our annual Home for the Holidays event on 12/18/2025. At this event we had 4 children that found permanency and their adoptions were finalized. We were so excited to have Santa and Mrs. Clause in the courtroom for these hearings.





North Central Florida

This quarter has been a season of growth, resilience, and celebration for our STFC programs in Gainesville and Ocala. Both offices have worked tirelessly to strengthen clinical capacity, expand recruitment efforts, and create meaningful experiences for the children and families we serve.

In Gainesville, the program welcomed a new full-time therapist, bringing the team to two full-time clinicians and one PRN therapist. Plans are already underway to hire a third full-time therapist, which will further enhance our ability to provide specialized care. The clinical team successfully placed two new children into therapeutic foster homes and celebrated the reunification of two others with their families. At the time of this report, Gainesville is serving 13 children, contributing to a combined census of 30 across both Gainesville and Ocala.

Recruitment efforts have been equally encouraging. One home was licensed and welcomed a child within 30 days, a testament to the efficiency and dedication of our licensing team. Another home has completed training and is pending licensure, and we have three referrals from current STFC parents along with one outside inquiry from a prospective foster parent. A January recruitment event is scheduled, and the team is actively building a calendar of events for the first half of the year. By November, every foster parent had completed an initial or refresher training in Together Facing the Challenge, ensuring consistency in trauma-informed care.

Ocala mirrored this momentum with its own successes. The program currently operates with one full-time therapist and one PRN therapist and has placed three new children into therapeutic foster homes. One child transitioned from TFC to STFC, and another was transferred from an Ocala home to Gainesville, reflecting the flexibility and collaboration between both offices. Ocala is currently serving 17 children, reinforcing the combined strength of our regional STFC program.

The holiday season brought opportunities to celebrate and provide respite for our foster families. Both offices hosted festive holiday parties, offering three hours of care for children while foster parents enjoyed a well-deserved break. In Gainesville, four children attended, while Ocala welcomed nine. The children decorated cookies, played games, watched holiday movies, and received gifts donated by the War Horse HOG Chapter 5115. Each child had their photo taken and placed in a holiday frame, a keepsake to cherish. For those unable to attend, gifts were delivered to ensure no child was left out of the celebration.

As we look ahead, the Gainesville and Ocala STFC programs remain focused on expanding clinical capacity, strengthening recruitment, and continuing to provide exceptional care for children with complex needs. Every placement, every training, every holiday smile reflects the heart of our mission: to create safe, nurturing environments where children can heal, grow, and thrive.

From November through December, the Family Services Planning Team continued to make a significant impact in stabilizing families and preventing higher levels of care. During this period, the program served 83 open cases, including 10 new admissions, and completed 10 discharges, nine of which were successful. Only one discharge was unsuccessful due to a parent declining services, a reminder of the challenges we face and the importance of continued engagement.

In total, 88 children were staffed for FSPT during this reporting period. Of these, four children required admission to a Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Program (SIPP), while eight were successfully discharged from SIPP. Most notably, 82 of the 88 children staffed were successfully diverted from out-of-home care, achieving a 97% diversion rate, far exceeding our contractual goal of 65%. This outcome underscores the program's effectiveness in providing intensive support that keeps families together and children safe.

Purchase of Services (POS) funding played a critical role in these successes, allowing us to provide therapeutic services not covered by Medicaid or private insurance. This quarter, POS expenditures supported art, music, and tutoring services, with a pending referral for equine therapy. These interventions complement clinical care from community providers and ensure families receive comprehensive, individualized support.

Operationally, the team completed a successful LSF virtual contract audit on December 11 and 12, earning a perfect score of 100% with no corrective action plan required. During the exit interview, discussion centered on the current funding shortage for an open position still being covered by our FSPT Director, Donna Koncinsky. LSF confirmed they are actively working to secure funding to fill this role, which will strengthen continuity and capacity moving forward.

Amid these achievements, the team also found time to celebrate the season together. A lovely Thanksgiving luncheon was hosted at the Gainesville office, followed by a festive Christmas gathering at Franco's, a historic local restaurant. The evening included a fun gift exchange and camaraderie that reflected the strong sense of teamwork and shared purpose that defines FSPT.



Clearwater & Tampa

The holiday season reminded us of the extraordinary power of community and compassion. For the children in our Clearwater Specialized Therapeutic Foster Care program, this time of year can often feel uncertain, but thanks to the generosity of our partners and the dedication of our team, it became a season of joy and belonging.

Plato Academy in Clearwater played a pivotal role in making this possible. Their staff went above and beyond by creating personalized gift lists for each child in our program. These weren't just generic gifts, they were thoughtful, tailored to each child's wishes, and delivered with care. The result was magical: children who faced unimaginable challenges were able to experience the simple joy of receiving something chosen just for them.

Toyota of Clearwater joined this effort with equal enthusiasm, ensuring that not only our children but also the children of our foster parents received gifts. Their generosity extended beyond expectation, reinforcing the deep community connections that sustained our mission. These partnerships are more than acts of kindness, they are lifelines that remind our children they are seen, valued, and loved.

Adding to this spirit of giving, Santa's Angels, a local non-profit based in Indian Rocks, delivered two boxes of toys collected from families in the community. These contributions brought an extra layer of holiday cheer, and we are deeply grateful for their commitment to making a difference. Of course, none of this would have been possible without our foster parents, who worked tirelessly to organize celebrations and create warm, festive homes for the children in their care.

The generosity didn't end with Christmas. On January 2, 2026, our new Targeted Case Manager partnered with One Simple Wish, an online agency dedicated to granting wishes for children in foster care. Through this collaboration, we fulfilled a special request for one of our teens who was difficult to shop for during the holidays, a \$100 gift card that gave them the freedom to choose something meaningful. This partnership opens the door to ongoing opportunities, allowing us to grant wishes not only during holidays but also as motivational rewards or for special occasions throughout the year.

The holiday season also brought challenges that tested our team's resilience and commitment. On the evening before Christmas Eve, we received an urgent call: two siblings from Brevard County needed immediate placement after leaving their previous home without warning. It was after 9 p.m., and the situation was critical. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our foster parents, we were able to place both children in loving homes that same night. Despite the abrupt transition, these families worked together to ensure the siblings experienced a joyful Christmas. Today, the children continue to see each other, multiple times a week, a testament to the strength of collaboration and the unwavering dedication of our foster families.

As we reflect on these moments, we are proud to share that Clearwater's STFC program continues to thrive. Three children have stabilized enough to transition to adoptive homes, where they will continue their journey of healing and growth. These successes are not just milestones, they are life-changing outcomes that speak to the heart of our mission: creating stability, permanency, and hope for the children we serve.

The Tampa STFC program continues to grow steadily, reflecting both the strength of our team and the trust placed in us by the community. In the past month alone, we welcomed five new admissions, a milestone that not only expands our census but also strengthens our ability to serve children who need specialized care. This growth has had a positive impact on program revenue, ensuring we can sustain and enhance the services that make a difference in these children's lives.

December was a season of generosity and celebration. Our long-standing partner, Mymatrixx, continued their cherished tradition of hosting an Angel Tree for our youth. Through their efforts, every child received gifts from their personal wish lists, thoughtful items that brought joy and a sense

of belonging during the holidays. Adding to this spirit of giving, we were thrilled to welcome a new donor, Team Elite ATS, Inc. Their contributions amplified the holiday magic, creating moments of happiness that will be remembered long after the season ended. Seeing the smiles on the faces of our children and foster families was a powerful reminder of why we do this work.

To bring everyone together, we hosted a Christmas party at the start of December for our foster parents and youth. It was more than a celebration, it was a chance to connect, share laughter, and create lasting memories. The room was filled with warmth and gratitude, a reflection of the strong relationships that define our program and the community that supports it.

The past few months have been filled with meaningful connections, celebrations, and remarkable stories of resilience and commitment within our Tampa Foster Home Management Services program. On November 1, two of our staff attended the HCFPA Fall Festival at New Life Village, joining foster families for a day of fellowship and fun. This event was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen relationships and show our ongoing support for the families who open their hearts and homes to children in need.

As the holiday season approached, our team continued to engage with the community. On December 14, staff participated in the Stuff Your Stocking and Holiday event at Water Works Park, spreading cheer and connecting with families during this festive time. Just days earlier, on December 9, we hosted our annual Christmas party at The Regent, a celebration that brought joy and laughter to our foster families. The event was made possible through the generosity of TrueCandor Behavioral Health, who sponsored the party, and through the heartfelt contributions of two doctors at Moffitt Cancer Center, who donated gifts for every child. Their kindness ensured that the holiday season was truly special for our families.

Beyond these celebrations, the heart of our work lies in the stories of the children and families we serve. The Grill/Rorer family exemplified this commitment by working closely with the biological parents of two siblings placed in their home. Their collaboration and dedication led to a successful reunification on December 16, just in time for the children to spend Christmas with their family. Meanwhile, the Hernandez foster home demonstrated extraordinary flexibility and compassion by stepping outside their usual profile of ages 0–3 to welcome a five-year-old who had disrupted from a non-Camelot home earlier in December. This placement has gone exceptionally well, and with the child now free for adoption, the Hernandez family is strongly considering making her a permanent part of their family.

Our McDuffie family also deserves recognition for their unwavering commitment. They have cared for two siblings for over a year, and in November, they achieved a major milestone by fully potty training the three-year-old, who had developmental delays. Their efforts didn't stop there, they have been working closely with the boys' prospective adoptive family to ensure a smooth transition. Thanks to this collaboration, the siblings are expected to move into their adoptive home in January, marking the beginning of a new chapter filled with hope and stability.

Our Independent Living Services (ILS) program continues to serve as a vital bridge for youth and young adults ages 13–23 who are in or transitioning out of foster care. In partnership with the Children's Network of Hillsborough County, our team begins engagement as early as age 13, guiding youth through personalized milestones that build confidence, stability, and independence. From life skills training and mentorship to housing navigation and post-18 supports like Extended Foster Care (EFC), Aftercare, and PESS, our program is designed to turn preparation into lifelong progress.

This past quarter, the impact of these efforts was evident. We supported 165 youth ages 13–15 in early engagement, 151 youth ages 16–17 in formal transition planning, and continued services for 65 young adults in EFC, 36 in PESS, and 12 in Aftercare. These numbers reflect not just participation, but meaningful progress toward independence.

Our community collaborations remain strong. We deepened partnerships with Statewide Youth Councils, Healthy Teen Network, and THHI, while expanding workforce pathways through CareerSource and event-based recruitment supports. These connections ensure that our youth have access to resources and opportunities that prepare them for success beyond foster care.

Behind these numbers are stories that inspire. Trevor, age 17, earned his driver's license through Keys 2 Independence, a milestone that opens doors to school, employment, and long-term independence. Calera, age 18, featured in our January ILS Calendar, is balancing work and school while pursuing her dream of becoming a travel nurse. Her resilience and determination highlight the power of mentorship and supportive relationships in helping youth achieve stability and thrive. These stories remind us that positive youth development and consistent adult support are not extras, they are essential drivers of successful transitions.

Looking ahead, January programming will reinforce a holistic, youth-centered approach through life skills workshops, housing readiness sessions, financial coaching, mentorship onboarding, employment exposure, and leadership opportunities. Initiatives like Opportunity Passport financial coaching, virtual housing meetings, and Empower! Mentor Orientation will continue to equip youth with the tools they need to succeed. Our commitment remains clear: to provide stability, mentorship, and opportunity so that every young person we serve can build a future filled with possibility.

As we reflect on the close of the year, the Family Reunification and Preservation Services program continues to demonstrate its profound impact on families in crisis. Between November 1 and December 31, the program served 83 open cases, including 10 new admissions, and celebrated 18 families successfully completing services. These families not only achieved stability but also maintained it, there were no returns to care or new referrals for any family that completed services within the last 30 days, six months, or even one year. This outcome speaks volumes about the strength of our interventions and the resilience of the families we serve.

Our team's commitment to meeting families where they are was evident throughout the holiday season. In November, we provided food and essential items to six families, and in December, that number doubled to twelve. Additionally, 48 families received holiday baskets filled with trinkets,

blankets, and clothing, small gestures that brought warmth and joy during a time that can be especially challenging for those in transition. These acts of care remind us that reunification is not just about restoring family connections; it's about restoring hope.

Behind these successes is a team working tirelessly to ensure engagement and accuracy in every interaction. Clinical Supervisors have been onboarding and training new staff, fostering cohesion and morale even as they navigate challenges. A new Clinical Supervisor for Team 2 is actively training, and retention strategies introduced in December, including peer support for new hires and recognition initiatives, are already strengthening team culture. Staff also came together to celebrate the season at a holiday party hosted at the Clearwater office, reinforcing the sense of unity that drives our work.

Of course, challenges remain. Engagement continues to be a priority, particularly when families are difficult to reach or show patterns of cancellations and no-shows. Our staff persistently uses FSFN and elevates communication with case managers to overcome these barriers. The need for a therapist in Pasco County remains pressing, and we are actively pursuing solutions to fill this gap. In December, our leadership team, including Program Director Charlotte Easterling, Clinical Supervisor Elizabeth Diaz, and our CEO Mike DiBrizzi, delivered an oral presentation to Family Support Services advocating for the continuation of FFT-CW services in Pinellas and Pasco counties. We await the scoring and decision, scheduled for January 12, with optimism and confidence in the strength of our proposal.

During November and December, the Child Protection Team (CPT) continued to focus on strengthening multidisciplinary collaboration, addressing system barriers, and preparing for upcoming training initiatives. In December, CPT leadership met with DCF leadership to discuss barriers impacting CPI referrals for consultation, particularly delays in children being seen for physical injury reports, and to identify opportunities to improve timeliness and assessment processes. The CPT Team Coordinator and Lead Medical APRN also met with the DCF MDT Coordinator Team to enhance MDT coordination and scheduling. As a result, CPT will begin providing weekly communication to MDT coordinators outlining findings for children seen in office to facilitate timelier staffing's and reduce delays. Discussion also included improving points of contact for cases requiring specialized coordination such as institutional investigations and law enforcement involvement. In November, CPT Team Coordinator met with the USF pre-service training team to schedule training for the incoming classes of investigators in January. Internally, the CPT team also collaborated on expanding community outreach efforts including behavioral health providers to support children with mental injury concerns and therapeutic needs. Looking ahead, CPT anticipates additional training and outreach in the new year, including collaboration with the State Attorney's Office on physical abuse assessments, injury identification and medical interpretation, as well as educational opportunities for community providers servicing medically complex children to further strengthen understanding and coordinated care. This team has also faced some obstacles in the last couple of months with some concerns raised about how certain staff are doing forensic interviews. Instead of shying away from feedback and growth, the new Team Coordinator, Monique Love, embraced it and partnered with DOH on a coaching plan to continue to improve for the children we serve. Monique has jumped into leadership of the team with both feet and is always the first to arrive at the office and the last to

leave the office. She has been an amazing addition to this team and will be the boost they need to get them to that next level! Lastly, the team was able to celebrate their holidays with an Italian dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange.



Additionally, in an effort to keep the children they serve at the forefront of their holiday season, the team did a social media ask for items to fill their clothing closet and bookshelves.

November was an exciting and busy month for the Hillsborough Adoption Support Program as they prepared for National Adoption Day at Busch Gardens!



This year, over 50 children in Hillsborough County were adopted, and the team ensured each child had a custom goodie bag and family picture frame from the Camelot team! The program also remained busy by attending other community events such as HCFPA's Fall Carnival, Heart Gallery's Adoptive Parent Training Panel Night, and the Children's Home Network's Adoptive/Foster Parent Training Panel Night. Sitting on the panel of these events allows the team to showcase what they do as well as give great advice/pointers to newly trained adoptive families. All this community outreach has led to a continuous flow of referrals; even through the holiday breaks! The team will likely almost double their contract measure of bringing in new families to the program by the end of the fiscal year. With limited community events in the month of December for the team, it allowed time for the Adoption Support Program to slow down and reflect on 2025. The program has had wonderful staff additions to the team this year, and this was celebrated with a team lunch and Secret Santa exchange.



The program also observed more adoption finalizations this month in person and has noticed many of our families clinically stabilize to where they are traveling out of state or overseas for the holidays!

In continuing Hillsborough Case Management's focus on permanency for the month of November, 21 children's cases successfully closed (13 with adoption, 7 in home with a parent, and 1 child with permanent guardianship). For the month of December, the team has closed 9 children so far with adoption, permanent guardianship, or in home with a parent, as well as reunified 3 children! While continuing this momentum the team is continuing to focus on quality and ensuring that they are giving themselves credit for the work being done through documentation! This includes new ways of holding leadership meetings and an internal training curriculum that is taking everyone "Back to Basics" with different topics throughout the upcoming months. In November, staff joined the Adoption Support Program, and other community partners from the county, for National Adoption Day held at Busch Gardens; where 10 Camelot CMO children were solidified with their forever families.

Staff wise, we had 5 individuals successfully complete Preservice Cycle #2 (photo on next page) and celebrated at a "Graduation" on 12/12!



We also welcomed a new Assistant Director to the team in the month of December, Jenelle Allen. She brings a wealth of experience in quality outcomes for case management, and we are excited to see how she helps this team continue to grow! To celebrate the holidays, a Christmas Party was held on 12/12 that included snacks, games, and an ugly sweater contest! In addition, the team did Secret Santa and enjoyed getting gifts for one another. Throughout the month there were additional "Fun Fridays" to include Christmas pajama day, wear red/green day, as well as leaderships' doors being decorated to celebrate the season! During a leadership meeting in December, the team expressed that they feel more solidified as a team now than they ever have. This is largely due to the hard work the Program Director, Nicole Anderson has done pushing the leadership team to work as a unified group. The depth of personalities on the team brings unlimited perspectives which have the potential to help the team work more cohesively for their families.



Central Florida: Orange, Osceola, Seminole & Brevard

For the Central Florida Case Management Team, both Orange East and Orange West continue to operate at approximately a 50% staffing ratio. Despite this significant workforce limitation, the team has maintained service continuity, met critical case milestones, and prioritized child safety and permanency outcomes. Supervisors and case managers have demonstrated flexibility and resilience by managing increased caseloads while maintaining compliance with statutory requirements and quality standards.

Even with reduced staffing levels, the department has continued to successfully achieve permanency for children and families. Orange East achieved permanency outcome of 66.66% and Orange West achieved permanency at 53%. Through focused case planning, strong supervisory oversight, and collaboration with community partners, cases have progressed toward reunification, guardianship, or adoption when appropriate. These outcomes reflect the dedication and professionalism of staff who remain committed to timely permanency despite operational challenges.

In recognition of staff efforts and to support morale, a Christmas Party was sponsored by Commission 127. This event provided an opportunity to acknowledge staff dedication, celebrate teamwork, and reinforce appreciation during a demanding period. The support from Commission 127 was instrumental in creating a positive and uplifting experience for staff and is sincerely appreciated.

The Central Florida Adoption Team has had a busy two months filled with community activities! The leadership was invited to speak at a presentation given by the Bank of New York, which highlighted adoption. Leadership provided information on our mission and ways people can get involved. Not only were there staff from the local branch of the bank, but offices located in Pennsylvania and New York were also in attendance virtually. Central Florida Adoptions hosted four separate National Adoption Day celebrations in Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties (pictures below). The theme for the Tri-County area this year was "Worth the Wait" and it truly was for all our families. Within the four celebrations, there were 40 children adopted into their forever families, ranging in ages from 6 months to 17 years old. Our Camelot adoption teams went above and beyond in ensuring each area's NAD celebration was a success with detailed decorations, great food and amazing speakers! An Osceola Adoption Attorney who has been finalizing children in the county for many, many years said this year's National Adoption Day was the best ever! Finally, since being awarded the adoptions contract for Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties in July of 2025, Camelot and the lead agency (Family Partnerships of Central Florida) have been working together to incorporate pieces of each area's processes for adoption into what was already being done in Brevard County. This has been a large undertaking and has definitely come with bumps in the road. We have successfully come up with a unified system for each step and are now working in a unified format. This will definitely help streamlining achieving permanency through adoption and resolve some bottlenecking areas.





Southeast Florida: Stuart, Treasure Coast, Palm Beach & Broward

The Child Protection Team has been busy the last quarter with reviewing 2,837 abuse reports with 100% compliance. The team completed 310 assessments: 48 Forensic Interviews, 123 Medical evaluations, 11 medical consultations, and 128 Specialized Interviews.

In Therapeutic Foster Care, we continue to expand our foster parent inventory through active participation in multiple recruitment events. In the Treasure Coast region, three therapeutic foster home files are currently in development and are expected to be submitted by February. Additionally, two traditional foster home licensing files have already been submitted to the lead agency, with approval anticipated within the next two weeks, and three additional traditional home files are planned for submission by February.

We brought Natasha Rankin on board as a Licensing Specialist for the Palm Beach location and Georgian Douglas in our Broward location. They both come with many years of experience in licensing and a passion for recruiting new foster parents. Recruitment and placement are the primary focus of the programs as we continue to participate in a variety of recruitment/retention activities. We kick off our first Pressley Ridge class of the new year on January 12th and each location has a minimum of 3 families registered.

The month of December saw a lot of excitement for the Holidays! We had community members that we called "Secret Santa's" step in and sponsor each of our foster children and our clients in our Independent Living Program. We also had our annual Toy Drive at Renegades Western Bar and Grill in West Palm Beach and the Special Needs Group collected toys as well. Thanks to all of our generous donors all of our "Camelot kiddos" had a magical holiday.

Currently in our Broward County New Day program, the therapists are two clients away from full caseloads. The program went through their annual programmatic review in December, and although we do not have the official written report, verbal feedback was positive and ensured that the funder (CSC) is very happy with the services they are seeing the clients receive.

The Independent Living program in Broward continues to be fiscally sound and operations are consistent. As this program continues to see high referral numbers, and we are serving one of our highest caseloads ever at 139 clients, we continue to recruit for another Life Coach through funding from our BBHC contract. The youth that participate in this program continue to show growth in skills and to produce positive outcomes.



Southwest Florida: Port Charlotte, Ft. Myers & Naples

The last two months have been full of Holiday cheer for our families and staff. Some of the highlights from November include receiving 40 turkey dinners that we were able to pass out of our families in the south (Hendry, Glades, and Collier Counties) for Thanksgiving. On November 21, we held National Adoption Day in Collier County with 11 children's adoptions finalized. The children were given balloon animals, have their faces painted, and take pictures with the judge while enjoying some refreshments.

We then moved quickly into Christmas mode where we received gifts from A Step Above Resale. They put a giving tree up and were able to get gifts donated for every one of our kiddos in our Family Support Services Program located in our Fort Myers Office. Then on to our Annual Foster Parent Christmas Party that was held on December 13th at the Moose Lodge in Charlotte County where our licensed foster parents could come and bring the kiddos in their homes and enjoy brunch and gifts for the kids. Thank you to Children's Network of SWFL and Fostering Success for supplying gifts to all of the children we serve in the case management programs.

Our licensing team had 2 more new homes license in December bringing our total to 8 homes for the Fiscal year. We have 4 more that are almost licensed and others we are still working on.

On December 15th one of the local churches in Naples made brunch for our South team. The team came to work in their pajamas and played games after the monthly lunch and learn.

Staffing levels continue to remain stable with only 3 vacancies in the 5 offices (1 licensing counselor, 1 Family Support Worker, and 1 Quality Assurance Specialist).

And last but not least, one of our licensed foster parents' (who is a medical foster home) severely disabled child turn 18 recently and the home was coming up for relicensing. The foster parents did not have guardianship of this now adult to be able to sign off on the documents for him. Our Program Director, Melissa London, was able to use all of the resources she could in Charlotte County to learn the process, assist in getting the family legal aid, and asking the dependency judge to hear the case (which should have been on a different judges docket) and we were able to get this home through relicensing timely before 2 medically needy children in her home disrupted for the holidays.