CONTENTS

Chairman’s/President’s Message ............................................. 3
Services .................................................................................... 4
Successes .................................................................................. 6
Partners ..................................................................................... 14
Financials .................................................................................. 20
Contacts .................................................................................... 21
Impact ........................................................................................ 22

OUR MISSION
The Florida Network values young people and therefore creates safe pathways to their future by building strong families and communities.

OUR VISION
Florida will be a safe place where all young people reach their full potential.

OUR CORE VALUES

Family: We are committed to keeping youth and families together and to strengthening family systems.

Quality: We are dedicated to ensuring the highest standards of practice within our programs and our organization.

Youth Development: We value young people as vital resources and partners in finding solutions. We cultivate a young person’s strengths and assets in all of our programs and services.

Safety and Support: We believe prevention and early intervention services are powerful, not only in keeping young people from committing crimes and families from being unsafe, but as catalysts for youth to realize their full potential and make a successful transition to adulthood.

We value the collective wisdom, energy and expertise that working together as member agencies affords us in striving toward our vision, adhering to our mission and reaching our common goals.

We believe the whole is always greater than the sum of the parts in making Florida a safer place for children and their families.
FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND THE PRESIDENT

There is nothing like coming off a successful year: It brings the clarity of purpose and optimism necessary to head into the next year and accomplish greater things. Therefore, it is our pleasure to present this Annual Report and to highlight many of the important efforts we have made this year.

In our daily work with troubled youth, families in crisis and communities with limited resources, we sometimes forget to sit back and recognize the impact of our work. So much of what is done by the Florida Network would seem thankless. We are attempting to help a population of at-risk teenagers society frequently ignores or misunderstands.

More to the point, circumstances often conspire against us, but we press on because the cause is worthy and the need great. This year, we established three priorities in order to take a big step forward for at-risk youth: enhance our core services, find new sources of funding and beef up our public outreach efforts.

On the first and second priorities, we were able to maintain our existing services because of the good relationships we have established within the executive and legislative branches, while also receiving a boost in funding by $1.3 million for a statewide respite program to be jointly administered by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the Florida Network.

What is more, we have expanded our Board of Directors, encouraging more agency participation through direct membership by agency leads, and a separate Executive Roundtable to help foster a spirit of open communication and collaboration among all stakeholders within the Florida Network.

Moreover, we have conducted customer service surveys to get a sense of what our agencies think about Florida Network services; we have added new agencies to our membership; we held our first conference in over a decade; and we convened training seminars on domestic sex trafficking of minors and took over the quality improvement process from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

All of these efforts enable us to address the manifold needs of our agencies and apply a more rigorous eye to what we do.

We could never accomplish these things without the efforts of the 31 agencies within the Florida Network and their relentless focus on results and excellence. We are also extremely grateful to the volunteer leaders, for without their work and tireless commitment we would be less successful. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Dominic Calabro, Chairman of the Board

Stacy Gromatski, President/CEO
**PROBATION RESPITE:**

The Florida Network shares the philosophy of the DJJ that providing young people who make poor choices the right services, at the right time and in the right place will result in stronger families, stronger communities and a stronger economy. The Florida Network in partnership with DJJ Probation provided a new service, the Probation Respite Program. Youth who have been screened and deemed appropriate and are currently on probation with adjudication withheld are eligible for these services. Shelters provide non-secure custody, care, treatment and supervision to these youth 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Services are coordinated with the youth’s assigned DJJ Probation Officer and other appropriate agencies as it relates to the youth’s needs identified during placement and the plan for the youth’s successful return home. Providing alternatives to secure detention through the Probation Respite Program will not only provide for public safety, but also avoid the costly and sometimes harmful entry of young people into the deep end of the system.

**SERVICES**

The Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc. is a not-for-profit statewide association representing 31 private nonprofit community agencies that operate 28 youth crisis shelters and provide non-residential services to runaway, truant, ungovernable and other troubled youth and their families. This population of children, defined as Children and Families in Need of Services (CINS/FINS), is not served elsewhere in our system, and the Florida Network agencies ensure that they do not “fall through the cracks.” For more than 35 years, the Florida Network member agencies have been providing these critical services to Florida’s youth and families with compelling success. Intervention services redirect troubled youth to keep them with their families and out of the expensive child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Research shows that time spent in custody harms most young people more than it helps. Intervention alternatives like these are far less costly to the state. Fortifying parents and kids with new ways to deal with problems and conflicts has proven to be successful in keeping kids out of the court system. The services provided by CINS/FINS programs include but are not limited to the following:

**OUTREACH** - Outreach services to youth, families and the community through public education about available services, presentations, brochures, website, etc.

**CENTRALIZED INTAKE** - Access to CINS/FINS programs is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The components of centralized intake include the screening for eligibility and intake assessment of the youth and family. When a child is screened and determined to be eligible, admission to either emergency shelter care or non-residential CINS/FINS services
will take place. If the initial screening reveals a history of a longstanding health, mental health or substance abuse condition, brief services will be offered until a referral to more appropriate services can be made. If the screening determines that the child is not eligible for CINS/FINS services, the referring individual will be given information regarding other community services that are more appropriate for his or her needs and/or encouraged to contact the child’s juvenile justice or child welfare contact person. All CINS/FINS agencies maintain interagency agreements with other community-based service providers to connect clients with desired services and provide an effective continuum of care.

The admission process provides eligible children and their families with the least restrictive services that are responsive to their individual needs. Once eligibility is determined and the youth is admitted to services, a complete psychosocial assessment is conducted of the child to determine his or her most immediate needs and presenting problems. The counselor develops a service plan that provides for individual, group and family counseling, as well as specialized services that may be needed from community schools, medical clinics, vocational or other programs.

**SHELTER SERVICES** - If it is not possible for the child to remain at home, he or she is admitted to the crisis shelter. Shelter services are intended to be short-term, are primarily voluntary and include meeting the basic needs of the child and providing services such as case management and counseling. The purpose of the shelter is to provide respite from volatile family situations, to offer a safe place for children on the street, to work with the family for the child’s safe return and to improve family relationships.

**NON-RESIDENTIAL SERVICES** - If the immediate crisis in the family can be handled and it is safe for the child to return to or remain at home, the family is offered non-residential counseling services. These services include but are not limited to crisis intervention and individual, group and/or family counseling. They are rendered to CINS/FINS clients in their homes, at established community locations or at the local agency’s offices.

**CASE/COURT MANAGEMENT** - All youth and families admitted for services receive case management services. These services include information gathering, supportive linking, advocacy, coordinating and monitoring services, case review and discharge planning. When the agency’s short-term services have resolved the family’s immediate crises, the family is connected with longer-term community services and encouraged to follow through in order to build upon the strengths identified while receiving CINS/FINS services.

**STAFF SECURE PLACEMENTS** - As a result of a CINS petition, the court may order the child to a longer stay in shelter, up to 120 days. There are 10 placements available statewide – one bed in each of 10 shelters – that have an additional youth care worker who provides one-on-one assistance and focuses on the child’s case plan. More intensive case management and counseling also occur.
Kelly came to SafePlace2B as a defiant teen whose parents could no longer deal with her destructive behavior. Both she and her parents needed a time out, lest their relationship deteriorate even further.

By taking her out of her home and bringing her into ours, Kelly got a respite that she would come to appreciate as a transformational moment in her young life.

“The day that I decided to change my behavior was after talking with Mr. David Cromer [a youth care worker] in the shelter,” recalls Kelly, now 16 and living back at home. “He was talking to me and told me that I am a smart person and I have the ability to do well in life, and that I shouldn’t throw that away. That was the day that I decided to grow up and stop being defiant and stop treating my parents in ways that they shouldn’t be treated.”

Coincidentally, Kelly had a similar impact on Cromer. A recent college graduate, he went to work at the shelter only as a part-time job. A career in social work was not on his radar. But his experiences at the St. Petersburg shelter motivated him to enroll at Florida State University and pursue a master’s degree in social work.

“When I was working with kids like Kelly, I would try to help them see they have control over their futures,” Cromer says. “Ironically, they in return helped me see that my future is in social work.”

Kelly’s care at SafePlace2B was arranged through the Juvenile Welfare Board Children’s Services Council of Pinellas County. The agency coordinates services for troubled children and their families with several shelters and treatment programs in the area.

SafePlace2B’s St. Petersburg and Clearwater shelters provide short-term residences to troubled or at-risk youth between the ages of 10 and 17. While in our care, youth are provided with individual and group counseling, life-skills education and recreational activities. Family counseling also is available while a youth is in SafePlace2B and can be continued through the family counseling office after leaving the shelter.

For Kelly, SafePlace2B lived up to its name, offering her a refuge that would help her see how her actions not only hurt her but others who loved her as well.

“Being here gives you a break from your family,” she says. “And that break turned out to be the best thing for her.”

Like many of the troubled teens who are brought to SafePlace2B, Kelly had problems with taking responsibility for her behavior. But through counseling and by living in a structured environment, she grew to understand that her actions bring consequences, and it’s up to her to determine if the latter are good or bad.

“If you do what you are supposed to do while here, then you earn privileges,” she says. “And that is how it is with families: Just follow the rules and do what you say you’re going to do and you get rewarded.”

While she has moved on from SafePlace2B, her stay here remains a meaningful and lasting memory. Now, Kelly wants to give back to help those who need a safe place to be, just as she did.

“I want to donate $500 to the shelter because I have a supportive family, a job and a car. I have the things I need to be successful and not all the kids here do. I want to help contribute to the kids who are at the shelter that may not have a lot of support like I do.”

SafePlace2B is a member of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc., a not-for-profit statewide association representing agencies that serve homeless, runaway and troubled youth ages 10 and older and their families.
YOUTH SHELTER PUTS A “STOP SIGN” IN TEEN’S ROAD TO RUIN
To a family with an out-of-control teen, the road to normalcy travels through mountainous passes and down hairpin curves with no guardrails. That’s how Alex’s family must have felt a couple years ago as they watched the teen veer out of control.

Depressed and acting out abusively toward his family, Alex had pushed his parents to their wits’ end. They had tried to handle their son’s behavior with parenting and understanding, but they were not equipped to handle an episode that Alex now describes as an emotional breakdown.

They Baker Acted him, setting in motion a mental health crisis that brought two agencies and public school officials together to help Alex and his family. Alex was first brought to The Centers, a mental health facility in Ocala, for evaluation, after which it referred him to Arnette House to undergo extensive therapy. Meanwhile, Marion County public school administrators were kept in the loop on his treatment and progress.

Arnette House, a 24-hour emergency youth shelter in Ocala, takes in children, ages 10-17, who seem to be careening down a dangerous pass and headed for the cliffs. They come here when there is almost nowhere else for them to go.

That was the case with Alex.

Adopted at age 4, Alex grew up with parents he has described as caring and supportive. Still, he had trust issues with family members and didn’t feel like he fit in at school.

“Like a lot of children we see here,” says Cheri H. Brandies, chief executive officer of Arnette House, “Alex was in distress. So was his family. While he was in our care, we provided them with a foundation upon which they could rebuild the family and make it whole again. His parents were thankful to have their son back.”

The road to redemption was paved with good intentions, with Arnette House staff providing Alex and his parents individual and family counseling during the youth’s 10-day stay in the shelter. With the family actively involved in counseling sessions, Alex turned the corner and headed down a smooth stretch of road as he left Arnette House.

“I got a lot of attention and help from the people at Arnette House,” says Alex, now 19 years old. “When I arrived at the emergency shelter, I was a wreck, totally out of control and depressed. I didn’t care what happened to me or anyone else. They helped me realize that I had a lot to live for.”

Alex didn’t leave us for good, though. He came back, not as a troubled kid but as young man with goodwill in his heart. In 2011, for his Eagle Scout project, Alex built new picnic tables for Arnette House, an act of gratitude that was recently surpassed by another thoughtful gesture. Alex invited his former counselor to his Eagle Scout ceremony, crediting the Arnette House staff member for helping him become a better person.

“I would hate to think what could have happened had I not come here,” says Alex. “I don’t want to even think about it.”

His parents don’t either.

Arnette House is a member of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc., a not-for-profit statewide association representing agencies that serve homeless, runaway and troubled youth ages 10 and older and their families.
Talithia lived in Panama City when she became ensnared in a human trafficking ring that took her out of state and away from the only support she knew. She was forced to work for no pay while living in fear of being abused. She sold magazines door to door for “bosses” who took every cent she made and, when she wasn’t working, confined her and other runaways to a cheap motel.

After escaping the grip of the human traffickers, Talithia found help with services in Panama City and Ocala that coordinated care for her. Sent to Ocala, she found comfort and support at Arnette House, a 24-hour emergency youth shelter for children, ages 10-17, who are runaways, lockouts, homeless, truant or experiencing parent/child conflict. Arnette House provides a healthy and supportive living environment that meets basic needs, such as food and shelter, and assists troubled teens with becoming self-sufficient.

At 18, Talithia was not eligible to stay at Arnette House Emergency Shelter, so she was placed in our Independent Living Program for 18-24 year olds. She was provided an apartment for three months, with the Marion County Homeless Council stepping in to cover the rent.

The program, which was designed to help young adults get back on their feet, has since been discontinued due to a lack of funding.

With a roof over her head, Talithia tried to put her life back together. Helping her do just that was Denise Paradis, coordinator of the transitional and independent living programs at Arnette House.

“She came here with literally only the shirt on her back,” says Paradis, who has assisted hundreds of teens and young men and women in the nearly 15 years she’s been with Arnette House. “She was the first victim of human trafficking we had ever seen here; however, we have had several since that time. We did what we could to help her with returning to society as a young woman with a chance to be self-sufficient.”

Paradis and other Arnette House staff members were able to track down Talithia’s birth certificate so she could get a new Social Security card and a Florida driver’s license. Her former “bosses” had kept her only forms of ID.

Talithia’s three months in our independent living program went by quickly, and at the end of her stay here she returned to Panama City to hopefully start anew. How her story played out we may never know.

“We are a temporary solution to what can be a long-term struggle,” said Paradis. “Our goal is to bring a sense of stability and direction to juveniles and young adults who have had neither in their lives. But at some point, they leave us to re-enter the world outside of our doors. We can only hope we’ve helped prepare them mentally and emotionally for the challenges they will face.”

Arnette House is a member of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc., a not-for-profit statewide association representing agencies that serve homeless, runaway and troubled youth ages 10 and older and their families.
viCtim oF human traFFiCking
Finds a saFe haven & helP
FOR THREE AGENCIES IN CENTRAL FLORIDA, DISTANCE IS A KEY TO SUCCESS

What does a youth shelter do with a troubled kid who runs away from it? Send the juvenile to another facility and yet another, keeping him or her from becoming too comfortable with the staff or surrounding area. Familiarity, Heather Prince realized, isn’t necessarily a good thing for kids with drug or behavioral problems. Once they get settled in, they are likely to bolt or get into trouble. So she suggested moving them among a group of shelters separated by distance but not disconnected from each other’s resources.

“We work very well together. It’s a great collaboration of services,” says Prince, referring to the partnership she helped form among three youth facilities in Central Florida. For a few years now, the Stewart Marchman Act’s BEACH (Bringing Enrichment And Children’s Home) House in Daytona Beach, where Prince works as director of juvenile justice programming, Orange County Youth and Family Services in Orlando and Boys Towns of Central Florida in Oviedo have been shuttling youths from one place to another as part of their treatment.

“To them, an out-of-town placement feels like a punishment more than an in-town placement,” says Prince. “It’s a better consequence for them and their behaviors.”

Dr. Tracy Salem, program director at Orange County Youth and Family Services, says the rotation scheme has proven to be effective. “Say a youth came to Orange County from the BEACH House. The youth doesn’t know the staff and the kids, so they’re more willing to participate in the program. By the time the youth is more comfortable, the program transfers them to another shelter. The three programs share paperwork with each other and monitor the youth’s progress.”

The partnership not only helps the kids, it provides a wealth of knowledge for the three agencies. The shelters host trainings, and the three programs peer review each other, as well as recommend each other to families, based on their needs. This collaboration helps identify best practices to enhance services.

Because each agency is different, the youths and their families are exposed to a variety of services and treatment practices.

“Each agency collaborates with the other programs in order to appropriately provide services to the families,” explains Salem.

Prince says the rotation can be crucial in cases where children would be better off with less parental contact.

“Sometimes moms and dads enable,” she says. “They’re kind of coddling them. Sending children somewhere else makes them have to deal with the situation. As much as we have to deal with the kids, we also have to deal with the parents. Sometimes some separation does both of them good.”

The sharing arrangement, Prince says, has been effective. “I suggest that other agencies in the state do the same thing.”

The Stewart-Marchman-Act BEACH House, Orange County Youth and Family Services and Boys Town of Central Florida are members of The Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc., a not-for-profit statewide association representing agencies that serve homeless, runaway and troubled youth ages 10 and older and their families.
SuccesSes

In Their Own Words

Read how Florida Network of Youth and Family Services provider agencies change lives every day.
“The CINS/FINS program makes the services of YCC available to all families of our community, regardless of economic or social standing. The care provided for kids and families is reflective of the needs across all segments of the population. Crises, in the lives of young people and families are similar and are not exclusively dependent upon zip code, financial standing, blue collar/white collar, race or ethnicity. Through our membership in the Florida Network, YCC offers hope to all young people and families.”
– Greg Steele, Youth Crisis Center

“Every year as the legislature begins its budget exercise, we consider the services that would be lost in our community, the families that would receive no services and the children who would be at risk if our funding were to be reduced. And every year, through the efforts and leadership of the Florida Network, those services have remained intact.”
– Tom Desio, Lutheran Services Florida Southwest

“CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services has been a proud member of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services over 30 years. We greatly value our relationship with the Florida Network because of the strong family and youth advocacy, high standards of service and the available support from other Florida Network agencies throughout the state.”
– CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services, Inc.

“The Florida Network provides clear direction and support by providing relevant training, funding opportunities, innovative programming and technical support, thus making the individual program feel a vital and integral part of a larger and dynamic organization.”
– Martin Bird, Orange County Youth & Family Services

“For many, many years, we have truly appreciated the tremendous expertise, guidance and assistance of the Florida Network. Being a provider for and a member of this amazing statewide association strongly reinforces Brevard County’s various communities, Crosswinds’ integrity as an organization and its high quality services for children and families in need.”
– Jan Lokay, Crosswinds Youth Services

“The solid links that bind all the Florida Network agencies together are our core values of developing young people, strengthening families and building better communities.”
– Jane L Harper, Family Resources Inc.
“I have always appreciated the team spirit of the Florida Network staff. Whenever we have had a challenge arise, they have been responsive to helping us solve the issue, together and in partnership. They truly understand the needs of our children and our communities. They realize the importance of having strong, reliable community agencies providing services to families that need our support.”

– Stephen Bardy, Children’s Home Society

“It’s not often you find an agency so dedicated to caring for thousands of youth/families and at the same time immensely committed to the overall success of agencies under its purview. Yet, that is the uniqueness of the Florida Network. Their commitment to service goes far beyond the clients served by the agencies but takes into consideration the uniqueness of the agencies themselves. We are proud and honored to be a part of The Network.”

– Rosby Glover, Mt. Bethel Human Services

“The Florida Keys Children’s Shelter is a healthy, vibrant and effective organization today, largely because of our long-standing partnership with the Florida Network. We provide stronger, more impactful services because of the excellent training, professional development, quality improvement initiatives and statewide focus on accountability provided by the Florida Network.”

– Kathy Tuell, Florida Keys Children’s Shelter, Inc.

“The Florida Network continues to provide essential guidance and assistance as we strive to improve our services to the youth and families whom we serve. Their leadership helps to ensure that we are on the cutting edge of meeting the community’s needs.”

– Steve Blumenthal, Anchorage Children’s Homes

“Through the support Arnette House receives from Florida Network of Youth and Families, we have had the opportunity to build positive relationships with numerous community partners. The CINS/FINS case staffings involve our local school officials, law enforcement officers, mental health providers and Department of Juvenile Justice probation officers. Thanks to the Florida Network’s financial support, we provide residential and non-residential services to at-risk youth allowing us to reach out to families in need in our community.”

– Cheri Brandes, Arnette House

“CHS values the many years of partnership with the Florida Network. The Florida Network has strong integrity and is dedicated to addressing current issues and concerns with Florida’s youth. The Florida Network’s support gives CHS an excellent opportunity to reach out to our local community agencies to best serve our youth.”

– Suzanne Gluhareff and Martha Fitzpatrick, Children’s Home Society Osceola

“Having the opportunity to work with the Florida Network has been such an amazing experience. Aside from the tremendous support, innovation and tenacity the Florida Network offers Hillsborough County Children’s Services and network agencies, the impact of the organization can be also be felt by partner agencies in our community. The focus and plans of the Florida Network are regularly discussed at local Juvenile Justice Meetings, and the leadership of the Florida Network has helped to further strengthen the value of the CINS/FINS programs in the community, which has led to more successful outreach and partnership efforts.”

– Danielle Husband, Hillsborough County Children’s Services
“Without the assistance of the Florida Network, the Center for Family and Child Enrichment-CINS/FINS program would not be able to achieve our goal of an array of services for children and families, which meet the unique needs of our culturally diverse community. Our program is aimed at empowering troubled families and children through supportive endeavors that seek to not only ‘treat them’, but also teach them ways to solve their own problems.”
– Sylvia Williams, Center for Family and Child Enrichment

“Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours’, (TEET) mission is to empower, educate, enhance and improve the quality of life for our students through weekly counseling, case management and mentoring. The Florida Network makes this possible by supporting us financially and giving us the opportunity to serve a larger population of at-risk youth in the community. The Florida Network advocates for our youth and provides us with resources to better serve them.”
– Teresa Clove, THAISE Educational and Exposure Tours, Inc.

“It isn’t unusual, especially in these hard economic times, for children to leave home for college only to return when their job prospects are uncertain. Sometimes adult children experience the breakup of a marriage and return to their parents’ homes this time with a few more belongings. However, we who are in the trenches serving runaway, homeless and other youth in crisis know that the reality for teenagers we serve can often mean they have no place to truly call ‘home’!”
– George Magrill, Youth and Family Alternatives

“The Network is an invaluable resource for our agency as it provides advocacy, support, and leadership in many ways. It is evident that the Network leadership and staff understand firsthand the realities involved in operating our programs. Stacey and her staff work extremely well with DJJ and state legislators to bridge the potential gap between local agencies and state government. Actually, there is little, if any, gap between what we do and how well state-level leaders understand what we do thanks to the efforts of the Network.”
– John Halcomb, Sarasota YMCA

“The Florida Network of Youth and Family Services has provided excellent support to CCYS this past year, especially when it has come to our agency increasing services in counties that were significantly impacted by budget cuts five years ago. The Florida Network assisted us in getting back into these counties, so we could provide much needed counseling to youth and their families.”
– Kevin Priest, Capital City Youth Services
“The Network and their staff have been instrumental in not only supporting our CINS/FINS program, but also identifying opportunities to expand and fund new initiatives for children and families.”
– Greg Zbylut, Boys Town Central Florida

“I consider the Florida Network as an imperative part of our team here at Lutheran Services Florida Southeast. They are always quick to respond to any of our immediate needs, from assisting us in constantly evaluating and improving our quality of services to the youth, families and communities that we serve to providing the best training that I’ve ever received in 27 years in social services on topics that are timely and relevant. They are also tremendous advocates for the needs of those we serve. Their technical support and provisions for resources are also invaluable. We love the Florida Network!”
– Dianne Bates, Lutheran Services Florida Southeast

“In order to truly understand the value of the Florida Network, you would have to have a conversation with De Sandra. She would tell you that because of the Network, she was able to call her case manager on a Sunday evening after a heated argument with her mother that prompted her to run away. She would also tell you that she is very happy to know that in her case manager she has found someone who has her best interest in mind no matter the situation she may find herself in. As a provider of the CINS/FINS program, I can attest that this program allows us to give our clients an exceptional level of service and to consistently go above and beyond.”
– Marie Sanches, Urban League of Palm Beach County

“The Florida Network is a robust organization, yet it is able to showcase the valued contribution and performance of a small agency like Bethel Community Foundation, Inc.”
– James Myles, Bethel Community Foundation

“The Florida Network provides our agency with the training, guidance and support to effectively provide mental health to our youth and families. At LifeChange Family Counseling Services, we provide individual, group and family focused counseling, but the Network connects us to other community-based mental health services and referrals to other programs.”
– T’Lana Russell, Wayman Development Corporation, Inc.

“The Florida Network’s relentless advocating for our youth makes them valuable.”
– Heather Prince, Stewart Marchman-ACT Behavioral Healthcare

“The Florida Network allows our agency to serve kids who currently are in need of services and have not penetrated the juvenile justice system. Their funding provides for our agency needs. What is the value of the Florida Network services to your agency? The answer is everything!”
– Felicia Wells, Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.
“Florida Network support allows us to serve our communities’ youth who need help staying on a healthy path. Valuable training provided through the Network gives our staff tools to keep kids safe, help them learn better anger management, improve communication with their families and interact positively in our communities.”
– Beth Deck, Lutheran Services Florida Northwest

“The Florida Network has afforded the Tampa Housing Authority the opportunity to reconnect with various community partners, such as the Hillsborough County School District and many other valuable agencies within the county. More importantly, we are able to strengthen and enhance our presence in the homes and lives of our residents. Thank you, Florida Network, for your commitment to the lives and betterment of youth and their families.”
– Linda Sessions, Tampa Housing Authority

“Youth Central/AWCD is proud to be a member of the FNYFS! We are happy to partner to change the lives of children and families. Together we are making a difference!”
– Frank Thompson, AWCD Youth Central

“Florida Network is a strong organization of shelters throughout the state that allows young men and women to seek the safety of professional assistance when they find themselves and/or their families in need of prevention services to deal with a crisis that potentially could erupt into negative behavior and cause intervention of the juvenile justice court system. The Network encourages high levels of training for staff to ensure appropriate care for all youth who are placed in the shelters.”
– Mary Andrews, Miami Bridge Youth and Family Services

“The Florida Network brings a richness and value to the array of services Children’s Home Society provides on the Treasure Coast. In addition to Dependency Case Management and Adoptions, our WaveCREST Runaway Shelter, truancy services and other outreach components enable us to work with children and their families in a preventive manner and keep them out of the juvenile justice and dependency systems. Florida Network enables us to help families prior to it escalating to more problematic situations.”
– Jan Swink, Children’s Home Society, Treasure Coast

“Community Based Connections, Inc. seeks to make the likelihood of success far greater than the probability of delinquency for Broward’s most troubled teens. Support from the Florida Network provides valuable resources for us to create these natural paths to success for troubled children in their natural living environments.”
– Brian C. Johnson, Community Based Connections
Support and Revenue

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Summary of Audit Report: There are no exceptions on the audit of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc. for the period ending June 30, 2012. The audit was conducted by Law, Redd & Crona, P.A. located in Tallahassee, Florida and complies with the single audit act. A copy of the audit report is available upon request.
CONTENTS

Florida Network of Youth and Family Services

2850 Pablo Avenue | Tallahassee, FL 32308 | 850-922-4324 | Fax 850-921-1778

Board of Directors

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Tim Center, Esq., Vice President
Maggie Bowles, Secretary
Chris Dudley, Treasurer
Terry DeCerchio, Director of Contract Operations
Sheriff Don Eslinger
Vicki Lopez Lukis
Matthew Meadows

Jim Sewell
Camilla Sims-Stambaugh, Ed. D.
Laurie Jackson
Samuel Morley
Tracy Salem Ph.D., Ex Officio
Jim Pearce, Ex Officio
Brian C. Johnson, Ex Officio

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Brenda Barksdale, Assistant to the President
Keith Dean, Chief Financial Officer
Terry DeCerchio, Director of Contract Operations
Jessica Fansler, Contract Management Specialist
Kirk Hudson, Director of Information Management
John Robertson, Program Services Director
Vicki Harris, Receptionist

Information by County

Alachua
Baker
Bay
Bradford
Brevard
Broward
Calhoun
Charlotte
Citrus
Clay
Collier
Columbia
Desoto
Dixie
Duval
Escambia
Flagler
Franklin
Gadsden
Gilchrist
Glades
Gulf
Hamilton
Hardee
Hendry
Hernando
Highlands
Hillsborough
Holmes
Indian River
Jackson
Jefferson
Lafayette
Lake
Lee
Leon
Levy
Liberty
Madison
Manatee
Marion
Martin
Miami-Dade
Monroe
Nassau
Okaloosa
Okeechobee
Orange
Osceola
Palm Beach
Pasco
Pinellas
Polk
Putnam
Santa Rosa
Sarasota
Seminole
St. Johns
St. Lucie
Sumter
Suwannee
Taylor
Union
Volusia
Wakulla
Walton
Washington

Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc. | Annual Report 2012
## IMPACT

### 2011 - 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

**Youth Served**

- **Total Youth Served**: 14,847

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Non-Residential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Non-Residential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Non-Residential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Non-Residential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Length of Stay</td>
<td>11.7 days</td>
<td>109.9 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed Services</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime-Free Six Months After Services</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Returned to a Parent or Other Living</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc. | Annual Report 2012*
RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- A recent study by the Justice Research Center estimated that Florida Network early interventions **saved the state nearly $160 million**.
- The study supports the conclusion that the Florida Network provides services for clients with similar risks and needs to youth in Florida Department of Juvenile Justice diversion, probation and residential commitment programs.
- Florida Network cost to provide services per youth: **$2,043**; cost to state if youth had entered juvenile justice system: **$38,500**.
- Florida Network community-based agencies are of critical value to their local communities by the funding they leverage through federal, state, community based care, children's services councils, foundations and local contracts for services.

STATISTICS

- Percentage of youth crime-free six months after services: **91%**
- Total days of care provided by the Florida Network agencies: **76,471**
- Percentage of youth served in high-crime zip codes: **66% Served / 68% Admits**
- Total funding received for DJJ services: **$28,622,349**
- Risks Factors for Youth served: **82% School Problems; 91% Family Problems; 71% Risky Behavior; 80% Peer factors**

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Revenue spent on direct services: **96%**; revenue spent on administration, training and monitoring of services: **4%**
- Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) report stated that the Florida Network contract management structure provides consistency, accountability, flexibility and expertise.
- First program created as a public-private partnership and has continued to be a model of success for over 35 years.
- Value Florida Network brings to provider agencies: infrastructure support; consistency of programming; monitoring and accountability; training; advocacy; and statewide stakeholder support – all in a cost-effective manner.

AGE AT INTAKE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 &amp; Under</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1073</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1778</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2402</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2676</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>2151</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1399</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CINS/FINS Emergency Shelters

1. Lutheran Services of Florida, Currie House (Pensacola)
2. Lutheran Services of Florida, Hope House (Crestview)
3. Anchorage Children’s Home, Hidle House (Panama City)
4. Capital City Youth Services, Some Place Else (Tallahassee)
5. CDS Behavioral, Interface Northwest (Lake City)
6. Youth Crisis Center (Jacksonville)
7. CDS Behavioral, Interface Central (Gainesville)
8. CDS Behavioral, Interface East (Palatka)
9. Arnette House (Ocala)
10. Stewart Marchman Behavioral Healthcare, Beach House (Daytona Beach)
11. Boys Town of Central Florida (Sanford)
12. Youth & Family Alternatives, New Beginnings (Brooksville)
13. Orange County Youth & Family Services (Orlando)
14. Youth & Family Alternatives, RAP House (New Port Richey)
15. Family Resources, SafePlace2B (St. Petersburg)
16. Family Resources, SafePlace2B (Clearwater)
17. Hillsborough County Children’s Services, Haven Poe (Tampa)
18. Youth & Family Alternatives, George W. Harris (Bartow)
19. Crosswinds Youth Services, Crosswinds (Cocoa)
21. Family Resources, SafePlace2B (Bradenton)
22. YMCA Children, Youth and Family Services, Sarasota YMCA (Sarasota)
23. Lutheran Services of Florida, Oasis Youth Shelter (Ft. Myers)
24. Children’s Home Society, Safe Harbor Runaway Shelter (West Palm Beach)
25. Lutheran Services of Florida, Lippman Youth Shelter (Oakland Park)
26. Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Central Dade (Miami)
27. Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Homestead/South Dade (Miami)
28. Florida Keys Children’s Shelter (Tavernier)

*Staff Secure Shelters

CINS/FINS Counseling Services

A. Wayman Community Development Corporation (Jacksonville)
B. Bethel Community Foundation (St. Petersburg)
C. Thaise Educational & Exposure Tours (St. Petersburg)
D. Tampa Housing Authority (Tampa)
E. Youth Advocate Program (Tampa)
F. Children’s Home Society (Kissimmee)
G. Urban League of Palm Beach County (West Palm Beach)
H. Mt. Bethel Human Services Corporation (Ft. Lauderdale)
I. Community Based Connections (Ft. Lauderdale)
J. AWCD/Youth Central (Orlando)
K. Thaise Educational & Exposure Tours (Orlando)
L. Center for Family & Child Enrichment (Miami)