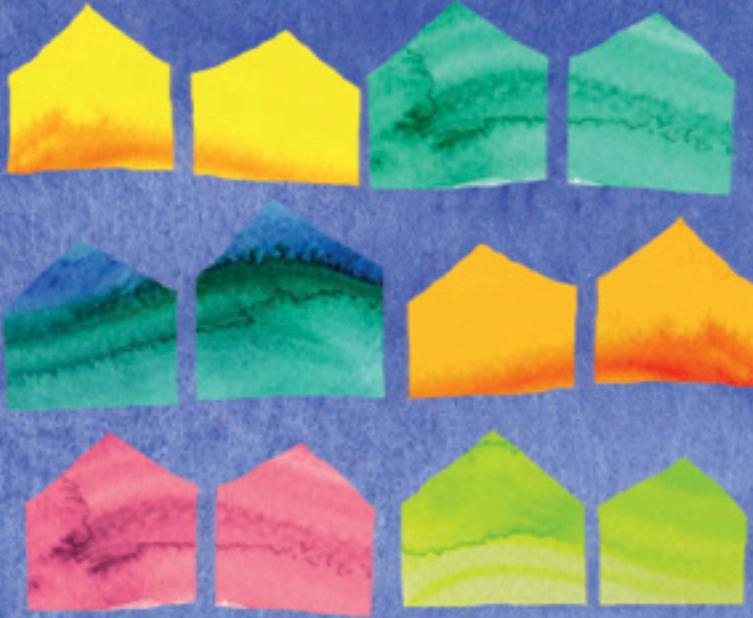




FLORIDA
NETWORK

of youth and family services



2013 ANNUAL REPORT
Annual Report

CONTACTS

Contacts

2850 Pablo Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32308
850.922.4324
850.921.1778 (fax)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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www.FloridaNetwork.org

TEAM

Stacy Gromatski
President and CEO
Stacy@floridanetwork.org
Brenda Barksdale
Assistant to the President
Brendab@floridanetwork.org
Keith Dean
Chief Financial Officer
Keith@floridanetwork.org
Terry DeCerchio
Director of Contract Operations
Terry@floridanetwork.org
Jessica Fansler
Contract Management Specialist
Jessica@floridanetwork.org
Kirk Hudson
Director of Information Management
Kirk@floridanetwork.org
John Robertson
Program Services Director
John@floridanetwork.org
Megan Smith
Statewide Respite Coordinator
Megan@floridanetwork.org
Keith Carr
Forefront, LLC
keithcarr@forefrontllc.net
Tom Popadak
Diversified Consultants
tompopadak@aol.com

FLORIDA NETWORK

of Youth and Family Services

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.

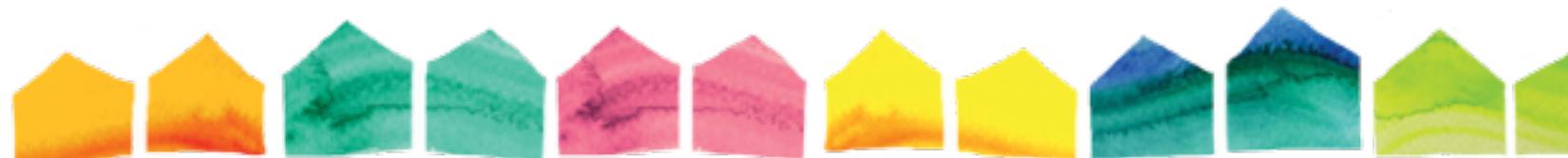
QUALITY: We are dedicated to ensuring the highest standards of practice within our programs and our organization.

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

Dear Friends,

It is our pleasure to share with you the Florida Network of Youth and Family Service's 2013 Annual Report. We are honored to highlight the great work that our members have accomplished over the past year. Through their commitment to build healthy families, over 20,000 youth were served across the state of Florida. In this report you will also find stories of two young people that our programs worked with - as the true measure of success is to be determined by each and every child and family served.

Some accomplishments that we are most proud of this past year include:

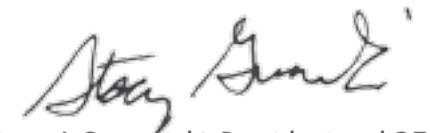
- Leadership and coordination of efforts related to the very real and complicated issue of human trafficking, specifically as it relates to domestic minor sex trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Florida.
- Partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice in supporting Secretary Walters in her Roadmap to System Excellence, which realigns resources to provide a balanced and proper system that focuses on prevention and diversion efforts.
- Developing and implementing a program for youth arrested for domestic violence, offering an alternative to juvenile detention and focusing on family needs.
- Executive and Legislative advocacy leading to an expansion of \$1.5 Million for services to 8 underserved counties that had little to no resources to support troubled youth and their families.
- The Board of Directors continued its efforts to have a diverse and engaged membership and to provide the best possible leadership to the organization. This 15 member board has representatives from the business community, law enforcement, media, governmental consulting, research and development, the NFL, community advocates, non-profit leaders and national leaders in children services.
- The Florida Network completed its first full cycle of Quality Improvement reviews with the help of an online reporting tool developed internally for use by QI reviewers, streamlining the process.
- The Florida Network implemented a new Learning Management System (Dizzy Baby), designed to deliver training through the network's website. Over 1600 webinars were completed by Florida Network member agencies through this system to assist in meeting training standards.
- We were successful in getting numerous editorials published covering such issues as human trafficking, truancy, LGBT homeless youth, and support for the DJJ Roadmap to Excellence.

The Florida Network and its member agencies achieve the great success that they do, based upon the vision and support of elected officials, state decision makers, leadership teams at each of the programs, and the tireless devotion of the individuals that provide direct services. It is with deep gratitude that we dedicate this report to them.

Keep the Faith!



Chris Dudley, Chairman of the Board



Stacy J. Gromatski, President and CEO



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STORY OF SUCCESS | TAMIKA

PART ONE

Tamika was brought to the shelter by the police one night after she ran away from home. Tamika lives with her grandmother who said that Tamika runs away “most nights of the week”. Her grandmother reports that Tamika’s mom had been in prison for 4 years. At the time her mother was incarcerated, her grandmother assumed custody of Tamika. Besides not coming home at night, Tamika brags about having numerous sexual partners and spends most of her time hanging out with a group of teens and young adults known to local law enforcement as a gang.

“Sheltering” Youth and Families in Crisis

Often youth and their families in crisis need to be sheltered from their troubles. When the challenges become too big to bear the frequent results are child abuse, academic failure, domestic violence, homelessness and juvenile delinquency. The Florida Network is a statewide association of organizations who exist to prevent such disastrous results and to provide “shelter from the storm.” These organizations are made up of caring professionals who provide numerous services such as community outreach, emergency triage and assessment, crisis shelter and family counseling.

CINS/FINS: Children and Families in Need of Services

Residential Services:

Florida Network shelters offer crisis intervention for families and a safe place to stay for youth 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of

the year. We work with families to reunify through counseling services offered by clinical professionals, a therapeutic environment, and coordination with local partners.

Counseling and Case Management:

Network members provide community based outpatient counseling services to youth and families who are experiencing conflict and instability in the home. This early intervention helps to facilitate communication between the youth and their parents or guardian, to deter destructive behavior before it’s too late.

CINS/FINS counseling programs are provided in communities where some of Florida’s most marginalized youth and families live. Individual, Family, and Group sessions are available to young people, parents, and guardians, free of charge. Programs utilize evidence-based approaches like Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Trauma-informed Care to help youth and families survive crisis and thrive beyond it.

STORY OF SUCCESS | TONY

PART ONE

Tony was brought to the shelter by his parents due to skipping school and not following rules at home. He often leaves home and does not return until late in the evening leading Tony’s parents to worry that he is using drugs and participating in illegal activity while he is out. Tony’s younger brother has been recently diagnosed with a severe illness with medical bills that require both his parents to work full time jobs and spend less time at home.

Many of the Network’s CINS/FINS community counseling partners are minority operated and faith-based programs that are long-invested in the communities they serve, providing a trusted and welcoming culture of care.

Staff Secure:

Sometimes a higher level of supervision is necessary to help a youth stay safe and stable during a shelter stay. In these instances member agencies implement this Staff Secure model which provides for a one-to-one staff to youth ratio.

Physically Secure:

In rare circumstances, utilization of a physically secure program environment may be necessary. The Florida Network provides for this through contracted agreements with specialized Adolescent Mental Health Treatment Centers.

Juvenile Justice Respite Programs

Domestic Violence Respite:

This program serves as an alternative to secure detention for youth who are arrested and charged with a Domestic Violence Offense on a household member. The Network office coordinates statewide oversight, assistance and training to the member agencies to better support this population of youth.

Probation Respite:

This program provides a respite to youth who are at-risk of violating their probation due to instability in their home life, by encouraging them to make positive choices through the services offered at the member agencies.

STORY OF SUCCESS | TAMIKA

PART TWO

Tamika's grandmother fears that she does not have the ability to keep her granddaughter safe and feels as though she is following in the footsteps of her mother. Her grandmother has tried counseling several times and Tamika runs away before attending each scheduled session. She mentioned that she may need to turn Tamika over to the Department of Children and Families. Although she is skeptical as to what a shelter stay would do for her granddaughter, she was relieved to have a break from dealing with Tamika.

STORY OF SUCCESS | TONY

PART TWO

Tony has been at the shelter for 12 days and has been meeting regularly for individual counseling where he is setting goals and talking openly about his struggles dealing with his parents stress, absence, and his little brother's illness. He has just started to open up about his use of marijuana to make him "feel better" and sleep well.

Despite their hectic schedule, Tony's parents have made a strong effort to participate in Tony's progress through family counseling sessions and have also expressed their struggles with balancing Tony's needs with the needs of his younger brother.

Quality and Accountability

The Florida Network has received recognition by national organizations such as the American Bar Association, the Vera Institute of Justice, and the United States Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Delinquency and Prevention. These organizations have found the Network to be a best practice in the de-institutionalization of status offenders. As a result, several states have developed legislation and services to replicate the success of Florida's CINS/FINS programs.

We support all of our local providers through a quality improvement review process that evaluates organizational resilience and readiness to respond to the present and future needs of Florida's families. On-going training and technical assistance reflects our shared commitment to successful strategies grounded in results.

Being accountable to tax payers is always a priority of the Network. Both Florida Tax Watch and the Justice Research Center have found that these services save tax payers millions of dollars each year.

WE PROVIDE

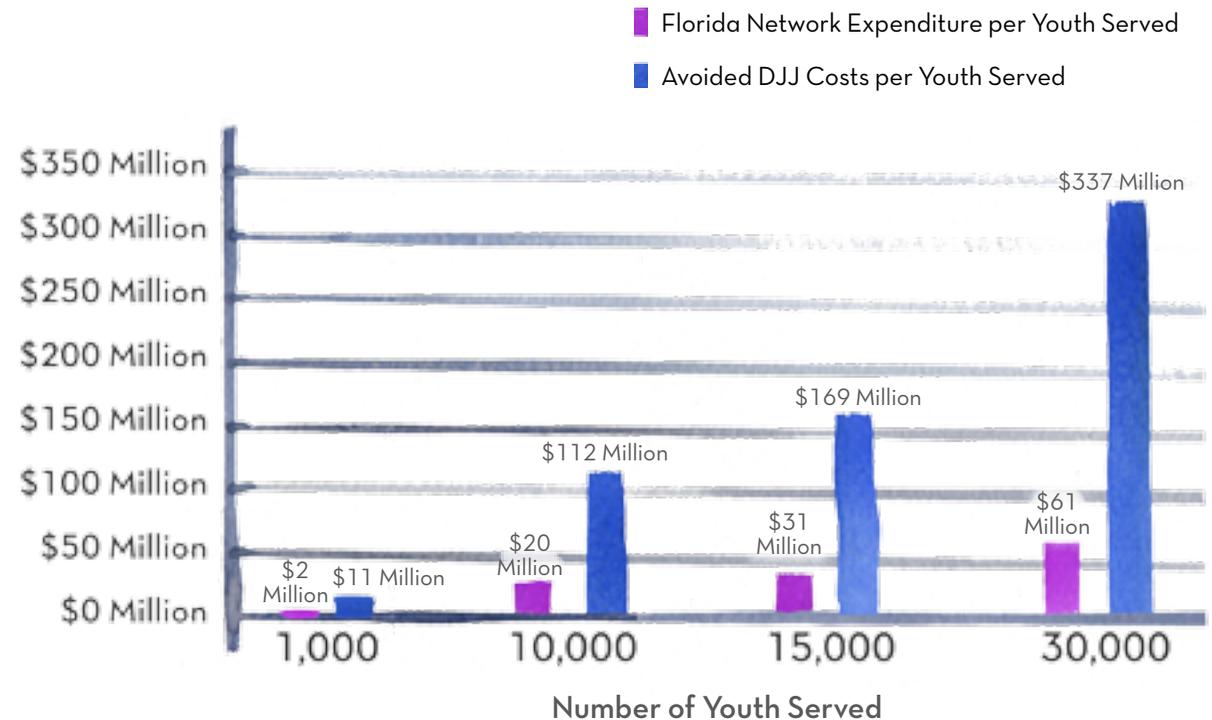
31 Private Nonprofit
Community Agencies

28 Youth Crisis Shelters

24 Hours a Day

7 Days a Week

**FLORIDA NETWORK EXPENDITURES
Compared to Justice System Costs Avoided**



STORY OF SUCCESS | TAMIKA

PART THREE

With the help of the CINS/FINS program, Tamika's grandmother requested a case staffing committee to help her stop Tamika's dangerous behavior. Due to her young age and high-risk behaviors Tamika was confronted with the possibilities of being court-ordered to a physically-secure program, or even being taken into the custody of the state. Tamika agreed to a 30 day stay at the shelter to try to avoid either of those possibilities. Her grandmother said, "It's a start."



STORY OF SUCCESS | TONY

PART THREE

Since his admission to the shelter, Tony had gotten along well with the other kids and the staff, and he went to school every day with little complaint. Tony's teachers noticed the improvement in his school attendance and his grades. After much discussion with their counselor, Tony's parents agreed that he would benefit from an extended stay at the shelter while they made arrangements for him to stay with his grandparents for the rest of the school year. Tony's grandparents were more than willing to help out so the tired parents could focus on Mikey's treatment and illness. With the help of their case manager, Tony's parents found a counselor to continue working with Tony around his drug use and his concerns about his brother's illness.





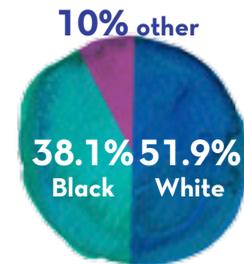
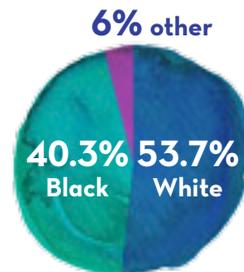
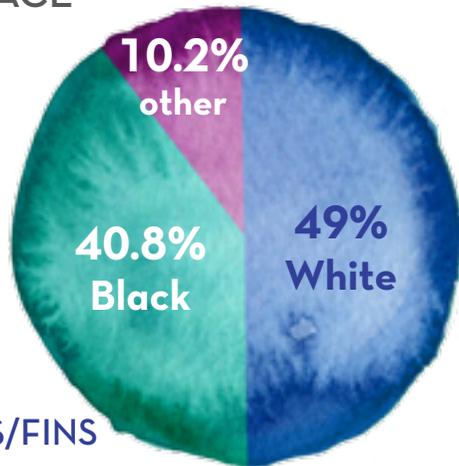
YOUTH SERVED
15,136

CINS/FINS: 14,859
 Probation Respite: 210
 Domestic Violence Respite: 67

GENDER

Program Type	Male	Female
CINS/FINS	53.3%	46.7%
Probation Respite	61.2%	38.8%
Domestic Violence Respite	58.1%	41.9%

RACE



AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY



Residential:	12.7 days
Non-Residential:	105.5 days
Probation Respite:	14.0 days
Domestic Violence Respite:	8.1 days

RISK FACTORS OF YOUTH SERVED

Face Challenges at School	87.0%
Experiencing Family Conflict and Instability	95.9%
Engaging in Risky Behaviors	74.1%
Have Peer Relationships Putting Them at Further Risk	83.8%

ETHNICITY

Program Type	Hispanic
CINS/FINS	18%
Probation Respite	15.7%
Domestic Violence Respite	10.4%

YOUTH RETURNED TO PARENT or other appropriate living situation



CINS/FINS	91%
Probataion Respite	78%
Domestic Violence Respite	78%

AVERAGE AGE AT INTAKE



Program Type	Age (Yrs.)
CINS/FINS	14.12
Probation Respite	15.43
Domestic Violence Respite	15.06

21,787 CALLS FOR HELP



COUNSELING AND CASE MANAGEMENT

Delivered to **8,975** Youth and their Families

SAFE SHELTER & BRIEF RESPITE PROVIDED to

5,902 Teens and their Families



CONDUCTED
2,760
OUTREACH EVENTS
Across the State



PROVIDED
80,177
TOTAL CARE DAYS

COMPLETED SERVICES

- Residential: 92%
- Non-Residential: 95%
- Probation Respite: 90%
- Domestic Violence Respite: 89%



CRIME-FREE SIX MONTHS AFTER SERVICES

Residential: 87% Non-Residential: 95%

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

DJJ Contract

State	\$29,280,041
Federal	\$ 750,000
Nongovernmental	\$ 297,979

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$30,328,020

5% Revenue Spent on Training, Monitoring & Administration





A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Mary Jane Martinez

The Florida Network of Youth and Family Services honored Mrs. Mary Jane Martinez this past year for her hard work and efforts in raising awareness for Florida's most vulnerable youth. Mrs. Martinez served as Florida's First Lady from 1987-1991, during her husband's term as Governor. She made a name for herself through her tireless promotion of worthy causes around the State of Florida.

Mrs. Martinez became involved with the Florida Network when it was a lean operation, but her influence, dedication, and advocacy lead to 17 runaway and crisis shelters throughout the state. She formed and served as chairman of the Network foundation board and through her efforts created a toll-free hotline for runaway youth.

Our celebration took place at the top of Florida's Capitol. Governor Rick Scott, his wife Ann, and many other top advocates for Florida's children were in attendance to honor the tireless efforts of Mrs. Mary Jane Martinez. Shortly after the reception, Hillsborough County held a ceremony to name their girls' shelter the Mary Jane Martinez Cottage.

On behalf of the Florida Network staff and agencies, we would like to thank Mary Jane Martinez for her driving efforts to make Florida a safer place for youth and families.

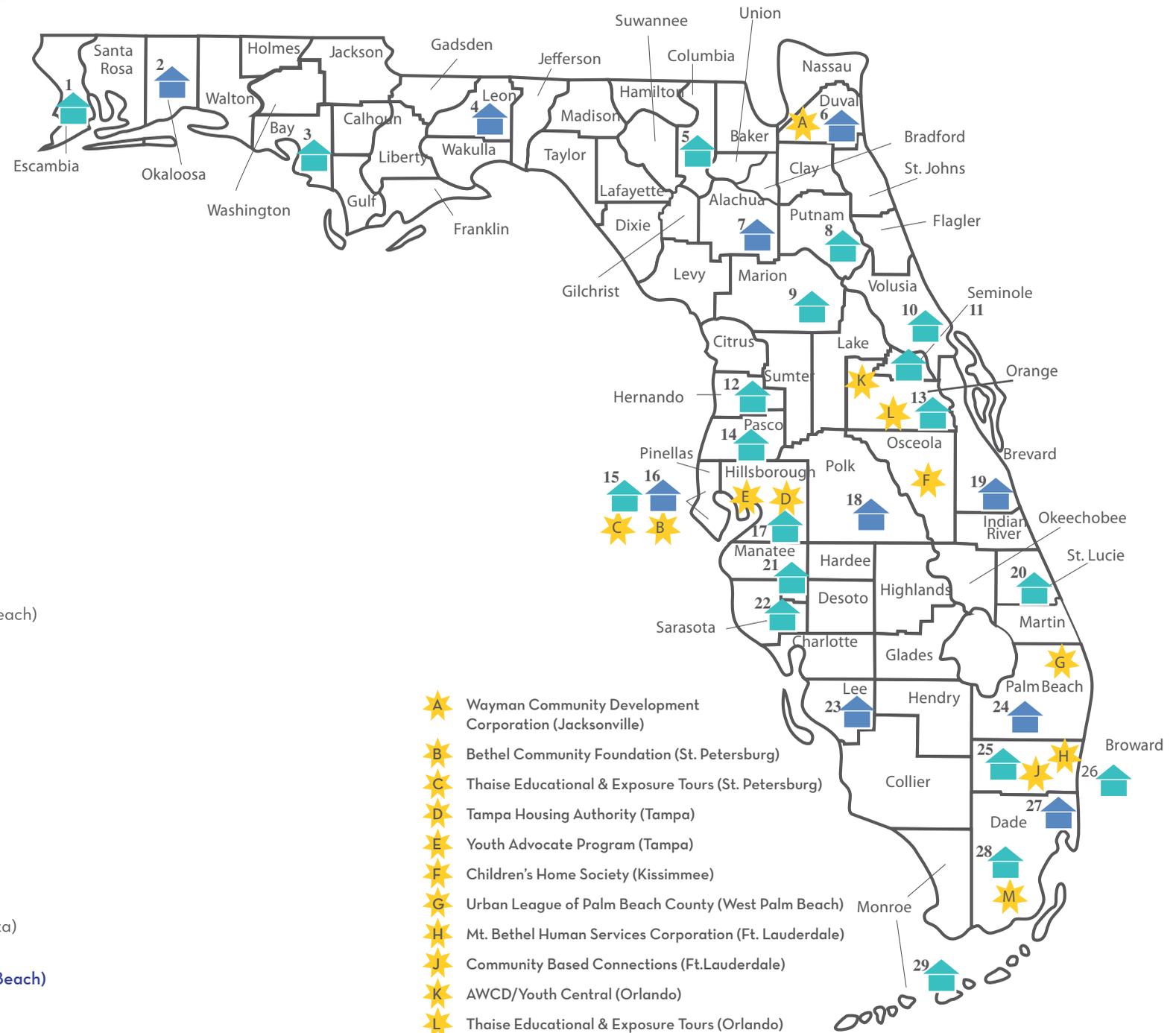
FLORIDA NETWORK

of youth and family services

FLORIDA NETWORK PROGRAMS

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 Central Florida, Inc. (Oviedo)
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)**
20. Children's Home Society, Wave C.R.E.S.T. (Ft. Pierce)
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. Chrysalis Health, Crescent House, Boys only, DV only (Broward)
27. **Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Central Dade (Miami)**
28. Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Homestead/South Dade (Miami)
29. Florida Keys Children's Shelter (Tavernier)

*Staff Secure Shelters



- 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)
 - J** Community Based Connections (Ft. Lauderdale)
 - K** AWCD/Youth Central (Orlando)
 - L** Thaise Educational & Exposure Tours (Orlando)
 - M** Center for Family & Child Enrichment (Miami)
- ★ Nonresidential
 🏠 🏠 Full Service Agencies





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