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FLORIDA NETWORK of youth and family services

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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. 0

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With each Annual Report, we strive to present to readers the accomplishments of the past year, as well as acknowledge the efforts of our special network of members. This year has presented a bittersweet opportunity to pay tribute to one of our own. There have been many people that have delivered on the promise we made to the state of Florida when we took on the responsibility of the statewide contract 17 years ago. The promise that we made was to be good stewards of tax payer dollars, to be accountable to positive outcomes for youth and families, and to continue to offer the very best in support to youth and families in crisis. There are many people that share the honor and responsibility for keeping our promise, and we are grateful to them all. There is one person though, who has served at the crux of all of those challenges bearing the daily burden of keeping it all together, Terry DeCerchio. Responsible for the management and monitoring of millions of public dollars, and influential over thousands upon thousands of families' lives, she would have you think she is just a small part of this tremendous responsibility to provide shelter, assessment, counseling, and diverse programming to Florida's families 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. In truth, we are hard-pressed to imagine doing it without her. She has been our voice of reason. She made tough decisions when we needed a clear path ahead, and there were no good choices available. Terry is fair, above all else, and her good judgement prevailed in times of stress, confusion, and sometimes anguish. Her retirement serves as a call to action for the rest of us, not just at the Florida Network, but all of us as Floridians, to pick up that daily burden of caring for one another, doing much, and asking for little as she has done for all of us these many years. With humble appreciation, we dedicate this annual report to you Terry, and we thank you for your leadership.



CONTENTS

From the Chairman and the President	6
Services	8
Program Training	10
SNAP	12
Impact	14
Outcome	18
Financials	19
Annual Conference	20
Мар	22

FROM THE CHAIRMAN & THE PRESIDENT

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Dear Friends,

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We are pleased and excited to offer our Annual Report for 2017-18. In the following pages we will highlight our accomplishments and contributions. The past year has been full of Network growth, statewide program development and overall system support and strengthening. We have done our best to highlight some of those individuals and we are grateful to have worked alongside incredible leaders and advocates enhancing the lives of youth and families throughout our state.

Accomplishments that we are most proud of over the past year include:

- The Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) program received \$3.6M in legislative funding, which helped expand our services. With 11 new SNAP sites, SNAP is fully operating in all of Florida's judicial circuits.
- An additional legislative success, was a result of our partnership with the Florida Juvenile Justice Association. Thanks to the support of Governor Scott, Secretary Daly and the legislature, we are able to provide direct care staff with a one-time retention bonus for direct care staff.
- Hurricane Irma hit our state in the fall of 2017 and yet our member agencies worked hard to not allow this disaster to impede services to the youth in our care. Member agency and Network staff did a fantastic job with preparation, communication and emergency response. They even sacrificed time with their own loved ones to ensure youth and shelter safety, and we feel more confident than ever for future natural disasters or emergencies.
- The Florida Network was honored to present at two national conferences, the 2018 Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) in Washington D.C. and the National Safe Place Network Conference. We were also represented at numerous other national and statewide conferences and meetings such as the Georgetown Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, the National Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative, the TaxWatch Center for Smart Justice and the Supreme Court Steering Committee for Families and Children in the Courts among many others.
- This past May, our Annual Meeting and Award Ceremony had record-breaking attendance. During the meeting, we heard from guest speakers including Dr. Leena Augimeri, the co-founder of SNAP, Senator Aaron Bean, Kurt Kelly, the CEO of the Florida Coalition for Children, Deputy Secretary David Fairbanks of DCF, among others. Most importantly, we honored 14 member agency and community service leaders who have shown exemplary service and dedication to Florida's youth and families. As always, this event allowed us to grow stronger as a family of agencies focused on our commitment and mission.

 We were successful in getting numerous editorials published covering issues such as the stigmas surrounding "troubled youth," domestic violence, suicide and human trafficking.



- In April, the Florida Network partnered with
- the Children's Campaign for its "Made in Florida 100% for Kids Campaign." Network staff attended the press conference and publicly addressed the unmet needs of children in Florida.
- We increased diversity among our staff as well as welcomed new Networkers to help us learn, grow and better the lives of Florida's youth.

Through our network of community leaders, agencies and shelters and our many selfless, hardworking staff and volunteers, the Network was able to accomplish a great deal this year. We cannot wait to see what the upcoming year holds and we are truly thankful for everyone's endless support and effort, it does not go unnoticed.

Stacy Gromatski

Sheriff Don Eslinger

President and CEO

Board Chairman



SERVICES

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"Sheltering" Youth and Families in Crisis

Often youth and families in crisis need shelter from their troubles. When the challenges become overwhelming 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.

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 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, through this intervention youth are encouraged to make positive choices through the services offered at the member agencies.

Family Youth Respite Aftercare (FYRAC)

Family Youth Respite Aftercare (FYRAC) Services are designed to serve youth and their families in the community setting who have been referred by the Department of Juvenile Justice and arrested for a Domestic Violence (DV) offense on a household member. Youth who are on probation, regardless of adjudication status are eligible as well. The goal of this program is to work with the youth and family to address the pattern of behavior that has lead the youth to make unhealthy decisions that resulted in a delinquency referral.

Neighborhood Partners

The Florida Network of Youth and Family Services is proud of all our members who are dedicated to serving youth in crisis. Neighborhood partners are a unique and special group of organizations who provide important community based services to high need areas across the state. The impact on the youth they serve transcends the circumstances from which these youths come from.

SNAP in Schools

SNAP for Schools is based on the Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) Program and is delivered to students ages 6-11, focusing on developing SNAP skills to promote a positive change in behavior. The 13-week in-class program covers topics such as managing anger, handling group/ peer pressure and dealing with bullying. The program also offers classroom interventions for all students who will benefit from the universal skills learned in the SNAP classroom sessions.

Intensive Case Management

Intensive Case Management provides long term (6-9 months) support to families in need who have youth struggling with truancy related issues. Families are referred for services through a court order or case staffing within their circuit. Case managers work closely with the family on a weekly basis to provide support and implement solutions using a strength based approach.



2018 SNAP LEAD Training

PROGRAM TRAINING

The Florida Network is committed to our through supportive and valuable trainings. Two popular trainings that debuted last year were back by popular demand; Caring, Committed and Hardcore Retreat for middle management and the 2nd Annual Clinicians Recharge. These trainings focus on bringing staff together from different agencies across the state who experience similar challenges and learn together through innovative techniques and current research for serving vulnerable youth.

For the third year in a row we have offered the Managing Aggressive Behavior (MAB) train the trainer certifications. It has allowed agencies the opportunity to provide on the

spot training(s) for direct care and clinical member agencies and their dedicated staff staff. They learn successful techniques for dealing with aggressive behaviors; 80% of the curriculum focuses on verbal, non-physical intervention techniques. To date, 18 of the 28 shelter sites around the state have a certified MAB trainer at their facilities. We will continue to hold trainer certifications so agencies and staff have access to this vital training.

> The Florida Network has continued to support our member agency staff by becoming a Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Provider this year. We have been able to provide CEUs for many of our events like the Annual Clinicians Recharge and we look forward to providing those credits for additional training events going forward.



This past year the Florida Network provided instructor led trainings/webinars for approximately **300 participants** and **2,375** hours to our member agency staff members. training hours. Additionally, our Florida Network SNAP Facilitator Trainers, Lauren and Brandi conducted five (5) SNAP Facilitator trainings for 60 participants and 2400 training hours and a SNAP lead training event for **25 participants** and **500 training hours.**

All combined the Florida Network totaled approximately 5,275 instructor led training

Photos, Left: Clinicians Recharge, May 2018 Above: Quality Improvement Committee (QIC), Summer 2018 Below: Florida Network Neighborhood Partners





SNAP

"Keep Problems Small"

This is the goal of the early-intervention program, Stop Now And Plan (SNAP) administered by the Florida Network and delivered locally, by our member agencies. Together, we are reaching families in need earlier than ever before, and with remarkable success.

"I really felt like this program worked really well with these problems I have. Now I know how to solve them! Thanks, SNAP."

- SNAP Youth from Family Resources

Developed by the Child Development Institute in Toronto, Canada, and funded by the FL Department of Juvenile Justice, this program reaches youth ages 6-11 struggling to



communicate their emotions and effectively cope with the daily pressures of school and family life. SNAP is an evidence-based program, founded on a cognitive behavioral model that features client-centered, strengths-based, and genderspecific strategies to teach children and parents a common language to negotiate their emotions and behaviors in a safe, affirming manner that reinforces a healthy family dynamic.

"SNAP has allowed me, as a parent, and my son to stay calm while in the heat of the moment. He has also been able to remain more positive, even if he is having a hard time at school, or home even. I feel that this has been extremely helpful so far with the change of behaviors I am seeing with my son."

- CDS Parent

Photos, Left: SNAP Facilitator Training Central Region, 2017 Right, top: SNAP LEAD Training, Summer 2018 Right, bottom: SNAP Facilitator Training North Region, 2017 Family communication can break down under the stress of economic hardship, family displacement, addictions, and so many other factors that leave children suffering from anxiety, anger, and stress that results in extreme behaviors, and potentially criminal involvement. Founded in research, SNAP focuses on youth in the "middle years" of development to motivate change and teach self-control. This program is offered in two formats;

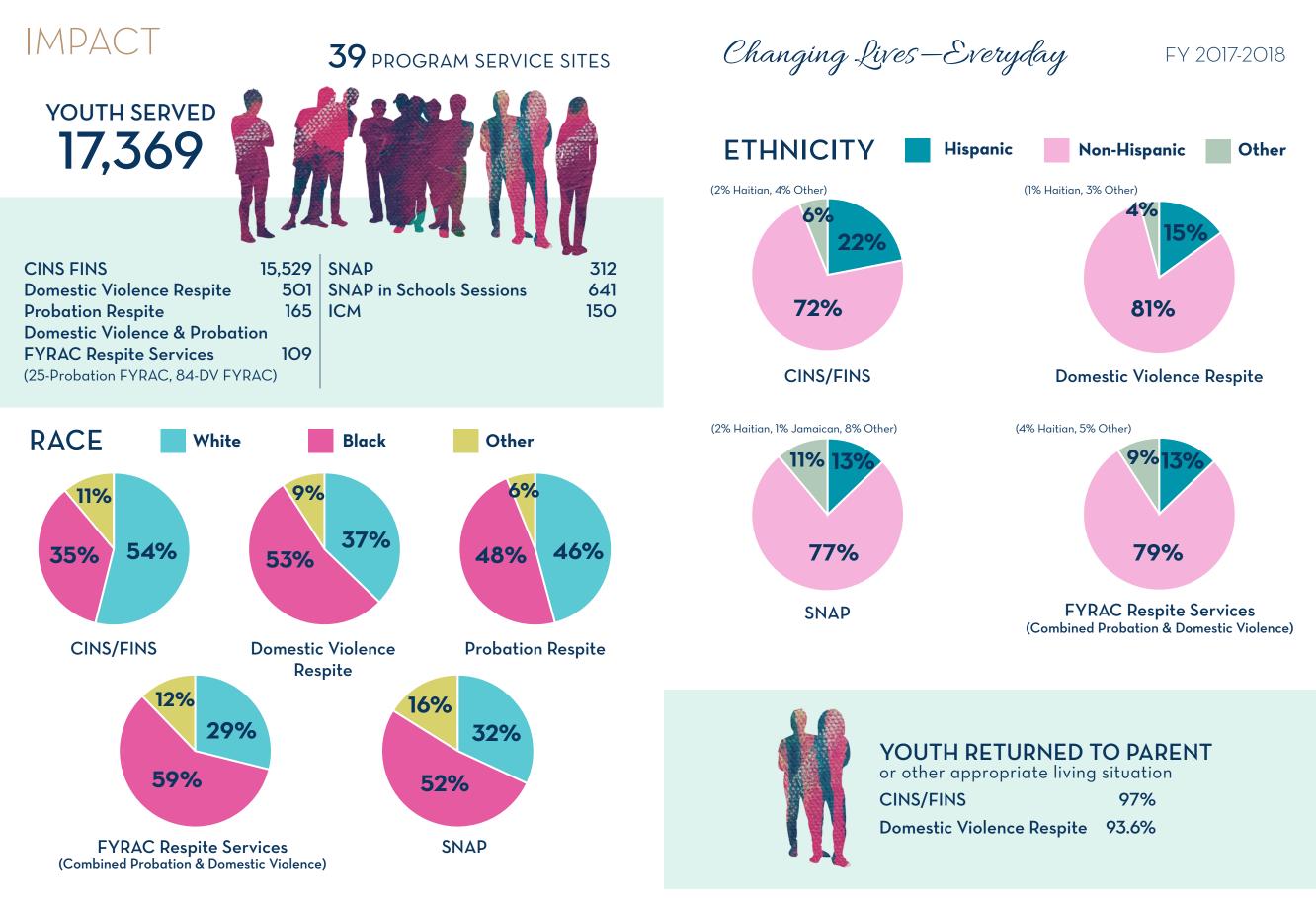
- SNAP weekly sessions- This 13 week program features simultaneous groups for the referred child, the parents, and a sibling supervision group. In addition to eliminating the need for child care, these groups also provide a meal each session to further reduce practical barriers to participation.
- SNAP-IN-SCHOOLS- This program model is offered in elementary schools in a classroom setting with the cooperation of the teachers and school administration. Students learn new skills which they can immediately apply to resolving conflict in all areas of the school experience.

Thanks to the funding and support of the FL legislature, in 2017-2018, both of these programs expanded from 4 to 10 judicial circuits across the state. We are proud to administer the SNAP program through facilitating the training, fiscal management, and program fidelity while our member agencies deliver these programs locally. Our goal is to bring these tools for self-control and emotional regulation to every judicial circuit in the state. "After completing the 13-week SNAP program, I can now see a light at the end of the tunnel! I have learned to gauge and foresee outbursts. Those lessons have proven to be invaluable to me as a mother."

- Mother of SNAP boy.







ANNUAL REPORT 2018

IMPACT

FY 2017-2018

RISK FACTORS OF YOUTH SERVED

Changing Lives-Everyday

Face Challenges at School	68%
Experiencing Family Conflict and Instability	60%
Engaging in Risky School Behaviors	48%
Have Peer Relationships Putting Them at Further Risk	47%



AVERAGE AGE AT INTAKE

Program Type	Age (Yrs.)
CINS/FINS	13.2
Domestic Violence Respite	14.8
FYRAC Respite Services (Combined Probation and DV)	15.6
SNAP	8.7

GENDER

Program Type	Male	Female	Trans-Fem	ale, Trans-Male, GNC, or Other
CINS/FINS	55%	44%	1%	
Domestic Violence Respite	58%	41%	1%	
FYRAC Respite Services (Combined Probation and DV)	74%	26%	0%	



AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

Residential:	14.3	days
Non-Residential:	106.5	days
Domestic Violence Respite:	9.4	days



RESULTS



COUNSELING AND CASE MANAGEMENT Delivered to 10,665 Youth and their Families

SAFE SHELTER & BRIEF RESPITE PROVIDED to 4,852 Teens and their Families

CONDUCTED 2,751 OUTREACH EVENTS Across the State

PROVIDED 77,394 TOTAL CARE DAYS

COMPLETED SERVICES

Residential:	92%
Non-Residential:	97%
Domestic Violence Respite:	86.4%

CRIME-FREE SIX MONTHS AFTER SERVICES

Residential:

Non-Residential: 97%

CRIME-FREE ONE YEAR AFTER SERVICES

86%

80%

Residential:

18

Non-Residential: 94%

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

REVENUE

DJJ Contract	
CINS/FINS	\$ 33,610,292
Title IVE	\$ 749,576
Respite	\$ 1,346,422
SNAP	\$ 1,155,352
Nongovernmental	\$ 425,198

TOTAL REVENUE

EXPENSES

DJJ Funds	\$ 36,861,642
Nongovernmental	\$ 425,198

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$37,286,840

\$ 37,286,840

94% Direct Services 6% Revenue Spent on Training, Monitoring & Administration

FINANCIALS

Please note: The above audited financials are from 2016-17. Audited financials from 2017-18 will be available March 1, 2019.

ANNUAL MEETING

Fourteen individuals and organizations were recognized on May 31 for outstanding contributions in the service of Florida's children who are at risk of falling into the delinquency and child welfare systems. The services provided by the member agencies and shelters of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services play a critical role in the fight against youth homelessness, truancy, sex trafficking of Florida's children and other critical issues that threaten Florida's families.

The recognitions were presented at the Florida Network Annual Awards Luncheon at the Omni Amelia Island as part of the Florida Network's annual meeting, which was held May 30 through June 1. Leaders and agencies that have embodied the vision and core values of the Florida Network were eligible to receive an award at the event. Among the award winners was Senator Rob Bradley, receiving the Chairman's Leadership Award.

"Today and always, we are proud to honor leaders and agencies that work every day to change the lives of Florida's youth, build stronger families and improve our communities," said Florida Network President and CEO Stacy Gromatski at the awards ceremony. "For the past 40 years, we have been continually amazed by the remarkable work and dedication of these youth services executives, volunteers, staff, leaders and board members throughout Florida and are excited to recognize their accomplishments."





The 2018 Florida Network Annual Awards winners are:

AGENCY OF THE YEAR 2018 Oasis Youth Shelter (Fort Myers)

AGENCY OF THE YEAR 2018 Tampa Housing Authority (Tampa)

NETWORK EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR 2018 Felicia Wells Youth Advocate Program (Tampa)

PROGRAM OF THE YEAR 2018 Stop Now and Plan, Orange County Youth & Family Services (Orlando)

OUTSTANDING PROGRAM LEADERSHIP 2018 Shad Renick, Sarasota YMCA (Sarasota)

YOUTH CARE WORKER OF THE YEAR 2018 Erick Scott, Lutheran Services of Florida Oasis Youth Shelter (Fort Myers)

> NURSE OF THE YEAR 2018 Tracy Scott, Miami Bridge (Miami)

OUTSTANDING COUNSELOR 2018 Dainara Acevedo, Tampa Housing Authority (Tampa)

OUTSTANDING COUNSELOR 2018 Diana Davila, Lutheran Services of Florida Lippman Youth Shelter (Broward)

NETWORKER OF THE YEAR 2018 Jesse Jordan, Family Resources (Manatee and Pinellas County)

PRESIDENT'S AWARD 2018 Miami Bridge (Miami)

CHAIRMAN'S LEADERSHIP AWARD 2018 Senator Rob Bradley (Duval and Clay County)

> YOUTH RESILIENCE AWARD 2018 Haley, CCYS (Tallahassee)

> YOUTH RESILIENCE AWARD 2018 Casiy, Orange County Youth & Family Services (Orlando)

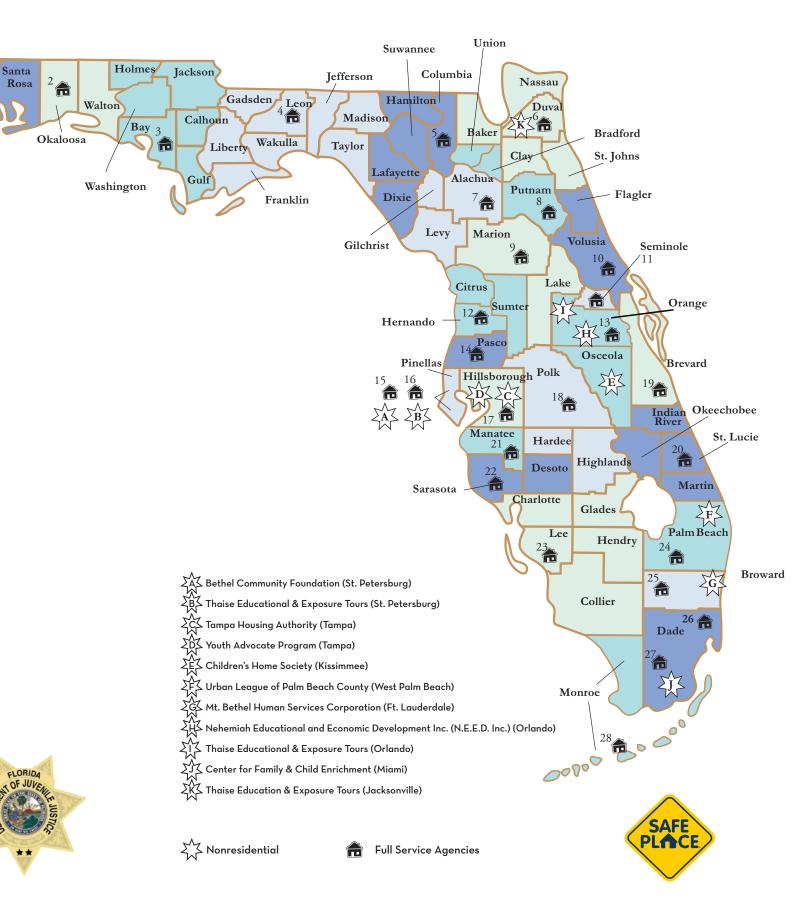
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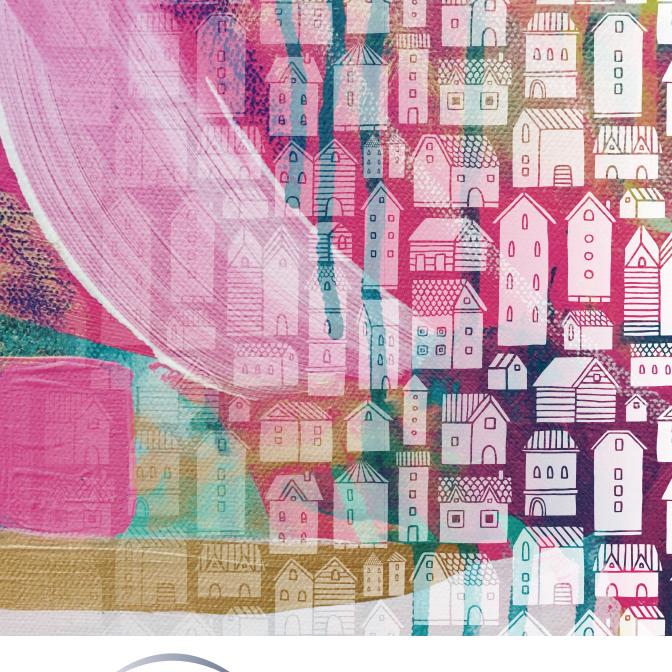


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FLORIDA NETWORK PROGRAMS 2017-2018

- 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. 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









Sponsored by the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, Inc. and the State of Florida, Department of Juvenile Justice.

www.FloridaNetwork.org

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