

*Lake County  
Children's Services Council*



*Celebrating Fifteen Years  
of Investment In  
Our Future...  
Lake County's Children.*

# Making a difference in Lake County...

## *B.E. Thompson, Children's Services Council Chair, District 4*



Dear friends and colleagues:

*It has been an honor to serve again as chairperson for the Lake County Children's Services*

*Council.*

*I am fortunate to be surrounded by dedicated board members – all of whom are currently serving Lake County's children and families through professional, volunteer or philanthropic endeavors. Each of you inspires me to seek opportunities to continue serving our community.*

*During the past fiscal year, like many other "non-essential" governmental entities, we endured budget cuts. A staff position was eliminated and the duties were consolidated into a manager's position. Rebecca Foley-Kearney, who was already serving in the administrative support position, assumed the management duties effortlessly.*

*She was a natural choice for Children's Services Manager. This structural change ensures that our contracted agencies did not receive any funding reductions.*

*Maintaining our level of funding and service quality are top priorities of the CSC. Rebecca has done an outstanding job of managing the contracts to ensure that agencies are meeting their projected out-*

*comes and objectives efficiently and effectively.*

*As we prepare for another fiscal year, I know more difficult decisions regarding funding lie ahead. I contend that in difficult economic times, our contracted agencies will experience a greater demand for services.*

*Typically those demands will come from families who lack the financial resources to pay for them.*

*Agencies pursue many funding sources to support their mission. State and federal resources typically require these entities to demonstrate local support.*

*As local funding declines, so do state and federal subsidies. The unfortunate residual effect will be the abuse and neglect of children, homelessness, criminal activity and misuse of emergency health care services.*

*We all must take whatever steps necessary to ensure that local funding remains available for the continued support of our contracted direct service providers.*

*Any reduction to "non-essential" programs and services could have a detrimental, long-term impact on our quality of life.*

*Please seek opportunities to offer your support to the CSC and all agencies that provide services for children and families.*

*How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these. ~ George Washington Carver ~*

# Making a difference in Lake County...

## *Council Members Comments*

### *Julie Vandell, District 1*

*As a member of the CSC, I feel its very important in such a heavily populated county of retirement age men and women to consider and do everything possible for the youth in Lake County. I am so thankful Lake County has an established council and so many wonderful providers who year after year continue to serve our children here in Lake.*

### *Lorrie Simmons, District 1*

*CSC provides an opportunity for all Community Based organizations and Government agencies to collaborate to help meet the needs of our children in Lake County and surrounding area. This year CSC has taken the initiative to encourage new organizations to combine their efforts with existing organizations to effectively reach our children and families in need in our community.*

### *Charles Crane, District 2*

*I have been asked the question, "Why do you volunteer for the Children's Services Council?" The short answer is: Come to one of our monthly meetings. Listen to the voices of the professional and volunteers as they tell of the past activities and future plans for their organizations and children. Look at their bright smiles and shining eyes as they tell of the accomplishments of the children they serve. Come and meet the dedicated members of the Children's Services Board. They are all volunteers who will spend many hours each month working with these organizations, at times, getting involved with the activities and the children.*

*Then there is Rebecca Foley-Kearney, the Children's Services Manager, and Debbie Stivender, the Board of County Commissioners' representative to the CSC. Both of these ladies are highly dedicated to serving the children of Lake County.*

### *Barbara Howell, District 2*

*I was extremely impressed with my site visits to programs funded by the taxpayers of Lake County through the CSC. One of my visits took me to an elementary school where Jeppesen VisionQuest staff were conducting full vision screenings for kids referred through an initial screening. I was amazed to see the cooperation between school officials, parents, and the program. The results of an outside evaluation showed that 98% of the children given full screenings had vision problems severe enough to interfere with learning. The principal is thrilled with the program and attributes a substantial rise in FCAT scores to the corrected vision of the children.*

### *Linda Lewis, District 3*

*The Children's Services Council provides the funds for programs in the community that serve at-risk children and families. With the CSC there is a focus on the youth of our community. Our children know that someone cares as we work with other agencies so that we can, and do, make a difference. Over the years we have targeted issues that are relevant to our area and try to educate and/or change the problem. These include, but are not limited to, teen pregnancy, poverty, obesity and after-school program.*

# Making a difference in Lake County...

*I am pleased to be part of this arm of the County as a liaison to our children.*

## *Marva Turner, District 3*

*While The Children's Services Council does not offer direct services to our community, I continue to be overwhelmed with its capacity to support agencies throughout the Lake County community in improving the quality of life for our citizens. During the past year, council funding has continued to affect positive change in areas such as domestic violence intervention, early childhood education, health and physical fitness, single parent educational support, mentoring of children, and so many other areas. In addition, meeting attendees can look forward to being enlightened and learning from educational presentations at the monthly meetings.*

## *Michael Matulia, District 4, Vice Chair*

*The CSC is a valuable resource to our community that provides information, opportunities, and funding. The CSC is responsible for assisting many of the agencies in Lake County that serve the needy Children and their families with valuable resources and funding. The special outreach efforts for at-risk, abused and /or neglected children make our group important and necessary in our County. Lake County continues to have needs that are unmet by educational, federal and public agencies; we try to assist in filling this void.*

## *Lalinya Robertson, District 5*

*With the support of our Lake County Commissioner's and the Board of Directors of the CSC, many nonprofit agencies received funding to create awareness of*

*children's needs and support programs and projects that enhance our children's lives. More importantly, CSC offers invaluable resources to Lake County residents as to where to seek help, find mentorship, work in a collaborative effort to reach a common goal of protecting our most precious resource....our children.*

## *Christopher Watson, District 5*

*The Lake County Children's Services Council provides an invaluable voice to various individuals and organizations that support some of Lake County's most helpless citizens – its children. The CSC provides financial assistance to worthy causes through grants, supports them with community service and volunteerism, and showcases the incredible job Lake County does in this critical area of need.*

*To achieve the goal of an educated, healthy and vibrant youth, the CSC must continue its mission and work tirelessly with community partners to ensure that children in the county are well-equipped to enter adulthood. Supporting the CSC and their efforts will benefit all citizens in the short and long term.*

## *Trella Mott, At-Large*

*The CSC is the single greatest resource clearing house for all children's services in the county. The tremendous amount of positive networking that occurs between providers is beyond measure. I myself found my way to the CSC because of the group of students I once advocated for. I was able to serve them much better with the connections and information I obtained at meetings. I still learn new things at the meetings and as I am in the business of working with kids everyday, this information*

# Making a difference in Lake County...

is put to good work. The educational component of the meetings is as valuable as the resources that are provided.

The County Commissions should be very proud of the accomplishments that they have directly, and indirectly, impacted by providing the funding, which makes it possible for the providers to serve the thousands of children of Lake County. If the CSC ceased to exist I believe you would be severing a main artery to children's services for many and at the very least cutting a life line for all. Many of our most active members and grass roots providers got their start and momentum through our minimal funding process.

## Sandra Stura, At-Large

Funding by CSC provided the Early Learning Coalition of Lake County the means to serve 1,500 children. The Coalition met their CSC funding goal at the end of the 3rd Quarter. The Oct. 26th "Start With Art Day" was attended by 1,000 preschool children. Indeed, CSC and Early Learning Coalition should be recognized for its successful efforts to advance the education of Lake County preschool children.

## Jay Marshall, LCSB Representative

The Lake County CSC provides a highly valuable forum for all the local agencies serving children to meet and share their program of services and voice the needs of children. Services have been extended through the higher level of awareness that the commission provides by the regular meeting and the communication that occurs frequently. This is extremely important as we see the needs of children and families increase and the ser-

vices available to them much more challenged.

This is in addition to the direct benefit the many agencies receive from the financial grants that allow them to extend their services for beyond what would be possible without the funding.

## Darnell Stewart, DCF Representative

In addition to conducting and supporting children's activities, the CSC works diligently to ensure its members, as well as the community are equipped to face the changing issues and societal problems facing youth of today. I have personally found the Educational component of the board meetings very helpful as an avenue to services for children that might not have otherwise been known.

Each day as we deal with children, we are faced with new and more complex challenges and alone it is sometimes difficult to rise to the challenge.

I can truly say that the CSC is a group of caring and concerned individuals who provide a support base for other entities, who recognize the importance of every child and have worked diligently for and with all of the children of Lake County.

## Commissioner Debbie Stivender, Liaison

It has been my honor to serve with such a wonderful group of dedicated and passionate individuals who truly care for the children in Lake County.

I am very fortunate to be reappointed by the Chairman to be the liaison again this year. I look forward to continuing to work with the CSC to make Lake County a better place for all children.

# Making a difference in Lake County...

*Rebecca Foley-Kearney, Children's Services Manager*



As the CSC celebrates our fifteen-year anniversary; we celebrate what has been accomplished in that time. Under the leadership of the CSC, we have seen our funding budget grow from \$28,052.00 in 1992, to \$254,000.00 in 2006-2007. With this investment, we have made great strides toward improving the lives of children in Lake County by promoting our support of programs that address early intervention and prevention, as well as physical and inner fitness, nutritional education on reduction of childhood obesity, academic success, school dropout reduction and positive life choices.

By funding and working with the agencies that provide these programs, we served over 6,000 at-risk children and families in Lake County in 2006-2007 fiscal year.

Two important objectives: 1) to increase awareness of activities, services and opportunities for children in Lake County; 2) increase the awareness of programs scheduled to engage Lake County Children in activities, services and opportunities throughout the year were accomplished in the following ways. The Lake County Children's Services Resource Directory underwent a major renovation by updating all the agency information, and putting it in a more user-friendly format. A bi-monthly newsletter was introduced to share lo-

cal, state and international child related issues, articles and information. A monthly calendar was implemented to inform the community of events and meetings throughout the county that benefit children. These publications are available on the CSC website, from the office of Children's Services and at county libraries across Lake County.

A Social Services Needs Gap Analysis Focus Group was held in 2007, with one segment concentrating on children and families. The priorities of these needs were determined by the participation and input of agencies and organizations that serve children and families every day in our county. Listed as High Priority, Level 1 were Healthcare Services for children, After School/Weekend programs for children/youth, substance abuse/mental health and foster care homes. The CSC is committed to closing these gaps by working closely with the resources that are available in Lake County.

In 2007-2008 fiscal year, we are committed to continue our education of the community to children's issues, while at the same time, create awareness of the resources available to combat these issues. We will finalize our Strategic Plan, which will show us the areas where funding is most needed, guide us in our funding decision, and focus us on what we need to accomplish in the coming year.

In closing, I thank our Lake County Board of County Commissioners for their continued support in funding these much needed programs. With the commitment of the BCC, local agencies and the CSC, we can truly make a difference in the future, Lake County's Children.

*Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.*

*~ Sitting Bull ~*



## Children in Florida

4,003,290 children live in Florida  
688,812 are poor

- A child in Florida is abused or neglected every 4 minutes.
- A child in Florida is born into poverty every 15 minutes.
- A child in Florida dies before his or her first birthday every 6 hours.
- A child or teen in Florida is killed by gunfire every 3 days.

### Florida Ranks:\*

- 17<sup>th</sup> among states in the percent of babies born to mothers who received early prenatal care.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> among states in the percent of children who are poor.
  - 32<sup>nd</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.
  - 33<sup>rd</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
  - 43<sup>rd</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.
- [\*1<sup>st</sup> represents the best state for children and 51<sup>st</sup> represents the worst state for children in the country]

### Child Poverty in Florida

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	688,812 (17.7 %)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	100,031
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$303

### Child Health in Florida

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	664,000 (15.7%)
Number of children enrolled in the State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	419,707
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	1,536,407
Children as percent of total Medicaid enrollment	54.1%
Medicaid expenditures on children as percent of total Medicaid expenditures	24.8%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	11.5%

### Child Hunger in Florida

Number of children who receive food stamps	480,179
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	48%
Number of children in School Lunch Program	1,518,103
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children)	371,368

### Child Welfare in Florida

Number of children who were victims of abuse and neglect	138,499
Number of children in foster care	30,677
Number of children adopted from foster care	2,786
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	125,456

## Florida

Population 2005	Total	White	Black	Other
Total Population	17,918,227	14,516,061	2,921,114	481,052
Number of Children Under Age 18	4,042,432	2,997,889	896,872	147,671
Age 0-4	1,070,205	784,394	245,626	40,185
Age 5-9	1,101,454	824,218	237,631	39,605
Age 10-14	1,163,265	862,097	258,487	42,681
Age 15-17	707,508	527,180	155,128	25,200
Age 18-19	1,169,362	867,108	260,196	42,058
Age 20-24	1,146,706	854,383	251,917	40,406

Birth Indicators 2005	Total	White	Nonwhite
Number of Births	226,219	166,181	59,608
Number of Hispanic Births	63,757		
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.6	11.4	17.3
Births to Mothers with No High School Diploma or GED	47,339	33,911	13,374
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-17	21.8	18.1	32.5
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-19	41.9	36.7	56.5
Births to Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy	21,687	18,741	2,923
Infant Mortality Rate	7.2	5.3	12.5
Number of Infant Deaths	1,626	882	743
Number of Hispanic Infant Deaths	373		

Health and Well-Being 2005	Total
Child Deaths Age 1-14	688
Violent Deaths	332
Teen Deaths Age 15-19	876
Violent Deaths	693
Deaths Age 20-24	1,280
Violent Deaths	966
Dissolutions of Marriage with Minor Children Affected	31,118
Minimum Number of Children Affected	50,641
Initial Reports of Maltreatment Closed (2005/06)	162,815
No Indication	72,696
Some Indication	45,513
Verified	32,911

	#	%	#	%	#	%
Births to Unwed Mothers	96,895	42.8	60,665	36.5	36,101	60.6
Births to Unwed Mothers Under Age 20	21,159	9.4	12,797	7.7	8,333	14.0
Births to Unwed Mothers Age 20 and Over	75,729	33.5	47,864	28.8	27,765	46.6
Births to Mothers Under Age 20	24,582	10.9	15,816	9.5	8,729	14.6
Births Receiving Early Prenatal Care	158,516	78.5	120,787	80.8	37,527	72.2
Low Birthweight Births	19,802	8.8	12,221	7.4	7,546	12.7

Juvenile Justice 2005/06	Total	White	Black
Delinquency Cases Received	150,104	82,049	63,760
Youths Referred for Delinquency	94,228	54,963	36,631
Delinquency Cases Transferred to Adult Court	3,628	1,433	2,078
Youths Transferred to Adult Court	2,814	1,111	1,608
Delinquency Cases Committed	10,445	4,850	5,337
Youths Committed	8,300	3,902	4,182

Education 2005/06	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
Public Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12[full count])	2,669,565	1,273,565	624,494	624,539
Students Enrolled in Classes for English Language Learners	223,935	12,628	29,244	170,454
Students Enrolled in Exceptional Education Programs	521,385	272,387	120,223	103,664
Students Eligible to Participate in Free/Reduced Lunch	1,226,533	340,855	433,025	394,330
Number of Disciplinary Actions				
Corporal Punishments	5,485	3,793	1,281	294
In-School Suspensions	269,657	107,671	94,887	57,958
Out-of-School Suspensions	238,615	86,983	100,575	43,074
Placement in Alternative Education Settings	7,049	3,045	2,628	1,152
Number of Non-Promotions	175,799	63,741	60,998	44,366
Number of Dropouts	53,770	18,797	17,362	15,681
Graduation Rate	71.0			
Private School Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12)	350,287			
Families Registered in Home Education Programs	36,149			
Children Registered in Home Education Programs	52,613			

# Children's Statistics...Lake County

## Lake

Population 2005	Total	White	Black	Other
Total Population	263,017	236,764	22,384	3,869
Number of Children Under Age 18	52,808	44,494	7,083	1,231
Age 0-4	13,550	11,218	1,984	348
Age 5-9	14,600	12,397	1,876	327
Age 10-14	15,510	13,146	2,016	348
Age 15-17	9,148	7,733	1,207	208
Age 18-19	14,245	12,042	1,880	323
Age 20-24	11,620	9,745	1,596	279

### Health and Well-Being 2005

	Total
Child Deaths Age 1-14	9
Violent Deaths	3
Teen Deaths Age 15-19	12
Violent Deaths	12
Deaths Age 20-24	21
Violent Deaths	10
Dissolutions of Marriage with Minor Children Affected	348
Minimum Number of Children Affected	617
Initial Reports of Maltreatment Closed (2005/06)	2,790
No Indication	1,047
Scene Indication	821
Verified	669

### Birth Indicators 2005

	Total	White	Nonwhite
Number of Births	3,223	2,679	541
Number of Hispanic Births	684		
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.1	11.2	20.4
Births to Mothers with No High School Diploma or GED	777	640	136
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-17	26.9	23.7	44.5
Teen Birth Rate Age 18-19	57.2	52.5	81.8
Births to Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy	467	425	42
Infant Mortality Rate	8.1	6.7	14.8
Number of Infant Deaths	26	18	8
Number of Hispanic Infant Deaths	2		

	#	%	#	%	#	%
Births to Unwed Mothers	1,314	40.8	987	36.8	326	60.3
Births to Unwed Mothers Under Age 20	347	10.8	263	9.8	83	15.3
Births to Unwed Mothers Age 20 and Over	967	30.0	724	27.0	243	44.9
Births to Mothers Under Age 20	410	12.7	318	11.9	91	16.8
Births Receiving Early Prenatal Care	2,360	79.4	2,001	80.7	359	73.3
Low Birthweight Births	254	7.9	175	6.5	78	14.4

### Juvenile Justice 2005/06

	Total	White	Black
Delinquency Cases Received	2,201	1,383	801
Youths Referred for Delinquency	1,494	967	513
Delinquency Cases Transferred to Adult Court	38	11	27
Youths Transferred to Adult Court	29	10	19
Delinquency Cases Committed	218	121	95
Youths Committed	186	104	80

### Education 2005/06

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
Public Student Enrollments (Pre-K to 12 [fall count])	38,058	24,990	6,011	5,491
Students Enrolled in Classes for English Language Learners	2,270	115	71	1,943
Students Enrolled in Exceptional Education Programs	6,795	4,559	1,219	818
Students Eligible to Participate in Free/Reduced Lunch	15,932	7,393	4,151	3,697
Number of Disciplinary Actions				
Corporal Punishments	30	25	5	0
In-School Suspensions	2,248	1,126	590	453
Out-of-School Suspensions	4,109	2,129	1,348	521
Placement in Alternative Education Settings	166	78	58	28
Number of Non-Promotions	1,755	950	387	354
Number of Dropouts	652	393	112	125
Graduation Rate	70.1			
Private School Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12)	4,486			
Families Registered in Home Education Programs	763			
Children Registered in Home Education Programs	1,081			

# Outcome of Funded Children's Programs...



As a direct result of the Lake County Children's Service Council funding, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake and Sumter Counties was able to provide the "FIT" Program to over 200 youth in Lake County.

The "FIT" project addressed the nutrition education and physical activity needs of a high-risk population, BGC members who were deemed overweight. Each youth participated in a minimum of one physical activity each day they attended and were introduced to a minimum of five different recreational activities during the grant period. These activities included basketball, flag football, physical fitness drills (i.e., jump rope, jumping jacks, hopping) in addition to swimming, bowling and roller skating, to name a few.

Nutrition classes were conducted throughout the year where pre and post tests were given to determine the increase in nutritional knowledge each participant gained. The older youth were involved in cooking classes that taught participants to evaluate the nutritional value of various foods and develop a well balanced meal.

In addition to the nutrition classes and physical activities, the youth were instructed on good sportsmanship and leadership. The Teens participated in the NIKE Swoosh Club which enabled them to lead activities, referee and coach the younger youth.

Thanks to the funding the Lake County Children's Services Council provided, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake and Sumter Counties was able to leverage dollars to raise the full amount needed to provide this much needed program in both of the Boys & Girls Club Units.

~ Beth Work, Chief Professional Officer ~

**\$25,000.00 Children Served: 200**



Central Florida YMCA

Youth Achievers Performing Arts Program was collaboration with a local elementary school and the Golden Triangle YMCA. Fifty African American children learned about the history, theory and practice of African American dancing. During the school year, the children met with YMCA staff after school three days a week. A professional choreographer was also involved to expose the children to the wonderful world of dance.

Tonya Martin, Family Services Director of the YMCA stated, "The parents love the program! By providing dance to children and explaining it's origin and history, each child became passionate toward dance. In fact, most of them hated to miss a single class."

In addition to learning dance, each child was able to perform his/her newly learned talent at local community events. One in particular caught the attention of Rhythm and Blues artist, Shirley Murdock. Impressed with the children, Ms. Murdock allowed them to perform with her at a performance in Orlando.

~ Tom Breck, Director ~

**\$14,040.00 Children Served: 50**



This past year the Pregnancy Care Center has been able to provide parenting classes for more than 450 parents due to funding through the CSC.

Class locations ranged from Leesburg to Lake County Correction Facility.

The feedback that we got from many of these parents showed they had learned much from the 12 week class. Some of them

# Outcome of Funded Children's Programs...

have continued to accept other services through the Pregnancy Care Center even months after their classes were done.

The funding we received allowed us to reach many parents whose children are at risk. It is our feeling that, with the knowledge and support these parents receive from the parenting classes, this will help reduce the number of child abuse cases in the future and give them tools to use for a healthier family life.

~ Wanda Kohn, Executive Director ~

**\$21,362.00**

**Children Served: 40**



The Lake County Children's Services Council has partnered with the Coalition to provide innovative

programs that normally would not be available to many parents and children in our area.

For the 2007-2008 Program Year (October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007), we were awarded a \$25,000 grant from the CSC to assist in funding the Big Blue Bus Program. This program is specifically designed to be used as a mobile resource for early childhood providers in Lake County. It is a portable classroom full of literacy activities, computers, curriculum and other educational resources. The bus travels throughout the community to reach children in family child care homes, licensed and registered, as well as private, public and faith-based child care facilities.

As a result of the combined state funds and the CSC grant, we were able to enhance the educational experiences of 1,034 children, parents and providers during 254 visits to child care facilities and 26 community events.

~ Lesha Coffield, Executive Director ~

**\$25,000.00**

**Children Served: 300**



CSC's funding for 06-07 helped dozens of children within Haven services. Haven works with child victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. We focus on counseling with these children in an effort to stop the cycle of violence and assist them in the emotional recovery of the trauma that they have experienced. Children in Haven services not only are exposed to a safe, healthy, supportive environment, they also are able to meet other children that have been exposed to Domestic Violence. For these children, knowing that they are not the only ones is an extremely therapeutic way of helping them towards the road of healthy relationships and overall healing.

~ Kelly Smallridge, Executive Director ~

**\$25,000.00**

**Children Served: 200**

**JVQ**

*Keeping CHILDREN in*

In 2006/2007, the grant JVQ received from the Lake County CSC made it possible for 100 Pre-K students to receive comprehensive eye examinations and new eyeglasses, if needed. 18% of the children examined required corrective eyeglasses, and many identified as having vision conditions that warrant further examination in the future.

For the children that received eye examinations and eyeglasses through this program, learning will take on a whole new meaning. From letters, to shapes, to puzzles - clear vision means a much greater chance for a successful academic experience. When a child can see the alphabet clearly, reading is soon to follow. And as we all know, reading is the key to endless possibilities.

~ Nancy Jeppesen, Executive Director ~

**\$10,000.00**

**Children Served: 250**

# Outcome of Funded Children's Programs...



Through the years, Lady Lake Police Department has reached out to assist other agencies who have children in need with our Annual Children's Holiday Program. In

2006, the funding provided by the CSC assisted over 2,000 Lake County children through agencies such as LifeStream Behavioral Center – Academy program and day program, Lake County Children's Services Council, Children's Foundation of Lake County, Early Learning Coalition of Lake County, Boys & Girls Club of Lake & Sumter, Lady Lake Library, Lady Lake Soccer Club, Guardian Ad Litem, Children's Advocacy Center of Lake & Sumter Counties, The Haven, Lake-Sumter Emergency Medical Services, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Golden Triangle YMCA, American Legion Post #347, First Baptist Leesburg, Little Blessings Christian Child Care Center, The Villages Elementary School, First Baptist Church of Lady Lake area fire departments and the pediatric wings of area hospitals.

~ Chief Ed Nathanson ~

**\$25,000.00**      **Children Served: 1,500**



86 children participated in the CSC funded Creative Arts Play Therapy Program at Lake Sumter Children's

Advocacy Center. Each child participated in a 10 week group focusing on processing the trauma associated with their physical and/or sexual abuse.

By the end of their group sessions, over 96% of the children exhibited improved self esteem, a reduction in aggressive behaviors, and an increase in positive interactions with others. Each child also developed a Safety

Plan to be utilized in the event that the child found themselves in an abusive situation.

~ Diane Piszczek, Executive Director ~

**\$25,000.00**      **Children Served: 18**



During fiscal year 2006-2007, up to 20 single parents participated in Ca-

reer/Advising activities, and screened for eligibility under the Single Parent Project; up to 18 low-income single parents received assistance with books, and/or supplies in order to begin or continue their postsecondary education.

94% of participants maintained at least the minimum GPA (grade point average) 2.0. The average GPA for participants for the year was 3.22. 94% of single parents participating in this Single Parent Program successfully completed the courses/training that is funded through the Lake County Services Council.

~ Auren Alvelo, Program Director ~

**\$ 5,000.00**      **Children Served: 60**



The Leesburg Center for the Arts worked cooperatively with the Boys

and Girls Club of Lake and Sumter Counties to expose economically disadvantaged and at-risk children from Lake County in grades three through eight to Cultural Arts. The program included an on-site art project with every student at the Boys and Girls Club. From those projects, 30 students were identified as being artistically disposed and were provided extensive training in the arts throughout the school year. These students had opportunities to exhibit their work alongside professional artists from around the country throughout the year in the gallery of the Center for the Arts.

# Outcome of Funded Children's Programs...

In addition to the program within the grant, the Center for the Arts was able to provide additional opportunities for all of the children at the club to attend our Summer Art Institute through funding from the Leesburg Sunset Rotary Club. Selected artwork from this program was also displayed as part of our Student Art Exhibit over the summer months.

~ Amy Griffin, Executive Director ~

**\$11,084.00**      **Children Served: 200**



LifeStream Behavioral Center received a \$25,000 grant from the Lake County Children's Services Council, which leveraged an additional \$446,250 in state and federal child care block grant funding in support of income eligible (working poor families). As a result, Child Care Choice Services was able to provide 40,278 days of care, or year around subsidized child care services for 161.75 children

~ Sherry Olszanski, Executive Director ~

**\$25,000.00**      **Children Served: 3,000**



The Stuckey Kids After School Enrichment program had another successful year thanks to funding provided by the CSC.

We were able to provide homework help and tutoring, a nutritious meal, recreation and field trips. Participation by the kids has been great, they look forward to the program and would love to meet five days a week if we could. The program is known in the South Lake County area as a quality program. We are continuing to receive support from clubs and organizations in this area.

~ Sheryl Williams, Founder ~

**\$23,574.00**      **Children Served: 50**



As a result of CSC's generous donation, Take Stock In Children was able to purchase 4 scholarships for low-income students. We will not be able to measure the true outcome of this program until these students graduate from college, but we do know that it will be a great benefit to our community to have four well educated citizens who can give back to others. Thanks for the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child.

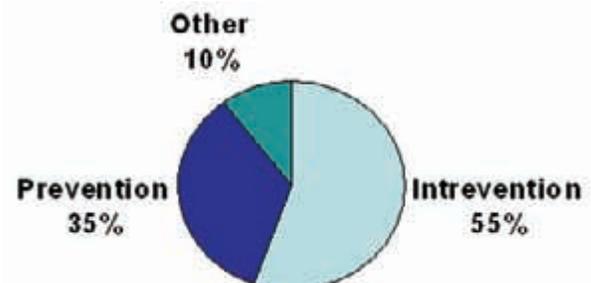
~ Marlene O'Toole, Program Manager ~

**\$10,683.00**      **Children Served: 4**

**Total 2006-2007 Funded \$254,000.00**

**Total Number of Kids Served 6,232**

## CONTRACTED PROGRAMS BUDGET



The overall poverty rate in Lake County is 10%, with 21% of children living below the poverty level compared with 5% of persons older than 65 (U.S. Census, American Fact Finder). Poverty rates of single mothers with children are especially high (49.9% for those with children under age 5 and 36.9% for those with children under the age of 18). Forty-seven percent of the households received Social Security.

# Client Comments...

## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF LAKE & SUMTER**

*I thought it was a good influence because we learned about how much fruits and food to eat to keep a balanced diet. -Mary*

*It was a good influence because we learned a lot about fruits and vegetables. I was able to ask all of the questions I wanted. I also liked the part when I drew pictures of different fruits and food groups. - Chloe*

*It taught me a lot about myself. I learned about fire safety and nutrition. I also learned about food and the good things I need to eat. It was so fun! - Xena*

## **EARLY LEARNING COALITION**

*I think my children and myself as their teacher benefit greatly in many ways from this program.*

*- Kathy Huidobro, KidQuest Preschool*

*Dear Ms. Nelly, thank you so much for sharing the Big Blue Bus with us. We look forward to your visits each month. The children learn something new each time you come visit. Having the bus come out to visit us has helped improve the verbal skills of one of my students. He could not sound out the letter B and after two visits from the Big Blue Bus he can now pronounce the name of the bus without trouble. He gets so excited when I tell him that the bus is coming out to visit. His parents see this improvement and are so happy.*

## **JEPPESON VISIONQUEST**

*Thank you so much for coming to Spring Lake Elementary. My son got new glasses from you. He is so happy he can see so much better. We are in financial hardship so this was such a blessing for us. Thank you, thank you, thank you! – from Mom Renee*

*Thank you very much for these much needed gifts to my son, an eye exam and a pair of new glasses. He is feeling better about going to class and his teachers expressed interest in new glasses to improve on his vision to improve his performance in their classes. You have made a great investment in his future. - from Mom Connie*

*I wanted to thank you and your team for all that you have done. A pair of glasses might not seem like much to some people, but my kids were so delighted when they put them on that they literally shouted "I CAN*

*SEE....!! I CAN SEE....!!". Thank you all so much for your gift of sight. - From Erin, Whitney and John*

## **PREGNANCY CARE CENTER**

*I'm more patient, understanding towards my children. My children are listening more and better than what they were before I started the class. Sarah*

*This class taught me ways to discipline my children without yelling. How to listen to my child when they are talking. What she's trying to say might be important. I really enjoyed the class. Scott*

*This class has helped me as a husband and a father. My biggest change so far is I've gone from playing with my kids when I get to see them to actually talking and connecting with them. Dan*

*Taught me how to deal with situations with a positive attitude, to practice what you teach your children. To have patience and not to be hypocritical. Cathy*

*Helped me realize what my parent's were lacking and showed me the right way to raise children. Ashley*

## **STUCKEY'S KIDS**

*This program has meant the world to me and my boys. With my husband in prison it's just me to provide. I can't afford the field trips and other things offered by the school, but this program offers many of the same things and my kids do not have to miss out. - Elizabeth F.*

*I love our program and don't like to miss it. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Jo give us good meals and help us with our homework. When I had trouble with Math, Mrs. Howard helped me to understand. I feel more comfortable asking her questions than I do in my regular class. - Tiquanna A.*

*The Stuckey Program has meant so much to me. I am attending Lake Sumter College this year. Mrs. Williams took us to visit Bethune-Cookman College and that visit gave us an idea what college was like. When she invited guest who talked about their careers it made me want something better than what my mother and grandmother had. I am the first in my family to attend college. In the afternoons I still come to the program to help the other kids. - Amber Y.*

# Highlights @ a glance...



## **Peanut Butter POP October 2007**

During the month of October, Peanut Butter P.O.P. will bring awareness to the community about the problem of hunger. On National Make-A-Difference Day, culminating with 4-Her's to head up peanut butter food drives at local Publix Supermarkets.



## **Lake Idamere Boundless Playground Dedication December 2006**

A park that assures that children of all abilities will be able to play in a safe area created to meet their special needs.



## **World's Greatest Baby Shower - April 2007**

Showers for new or expectant Mom & Dads. Where you will learn how to take care of yourself and your new-born child. See a Maturity Fashion Show, win prizes, and receive information and items geared toward Mothers-to-be and child care.



## **Kids Day America/ International - May 2007**

Free Fingerprinting conducted by Ident-A-Kid; Fire Safety tips provided by the Fire Department; Free Spinal, Vision, Dental & Hearing Screenings. Free blood pressure, cholesterol and body fat screenings. Free balloons, snacks, giveaways, and prize drawing every half-hour!

Learn about disease prevention, child safety and environmental awareness.



## **Boot Scootin' Bicycle Rodeo July 2007**

Bikes will be presented to pre-determined foster children. Younger children will attend the late morning session and older children will attend the early afternoon session. Children will be given a new bike and helmet, and taught bike safety and riding tips by law enforcement officers.



## **Back-To-School Safety Fair - July 2007**

Video I.D. for Children; Back-to-School Immunizations; Safety Displays & Demos; Child Seat Safety Checkpoint; Bicycle Rodeo; No-Zone Trailer ; Air Care Team...and More!



## **Child Protection Mini- Conference - May 2007**

Speakers: Michael Dorn, Executive Director & Founder Safe Havens International and Dr. Dennis Parker, Mesa High School Coach, Co-Creator of Changing Lives Character Curriculum



## **Early Learning Coalition of Lake County's PVK Birthday Party - September 2007**

Children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of fun activities, including art and science. There will also be some free early learning materials and books available for the children and parents to take home.



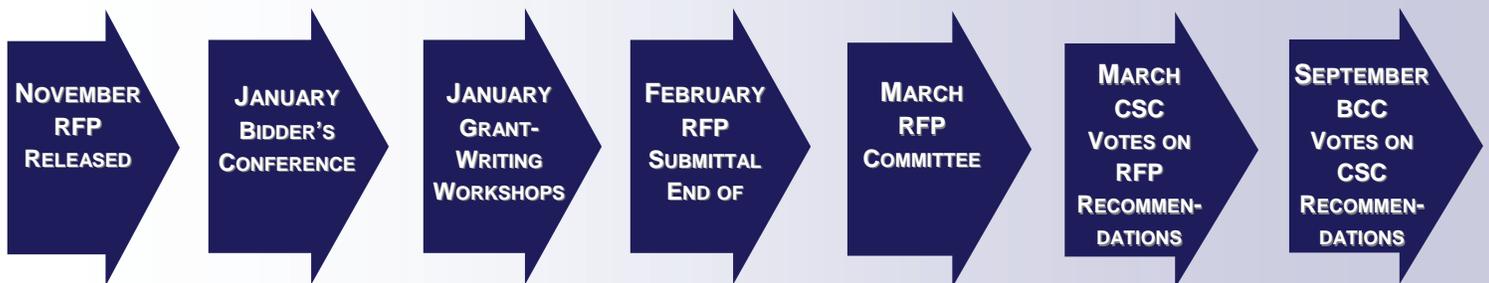
## **Kid's Fest September 2007 Central Florida's Largest Child Safety Fair**

# Mission Statement

To improve our quality of life in Lake County by providing coordination and funding for prevention and intervention programs for children, youth and families through collaborative, community-based services.

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## LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) PROCESS



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Learn more about CSC's activities, funding & resource directory @  
[www.lakecountyfl.gov/csc](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov/csc)

