

2007-2008 Annual Report



Providing a Voice for Lake County Children



Providing a Voice for Lake County Children

The Lake County Children's Services Council

The Lake County Children's Services Council is a 15 member advisory board to the Lake County Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The board consists of two members from each of the five BCC districts; three Members At-Large; one representative from the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF); one representative from the Lake County School Board (LCSB) and one non-voting BCC Liaison. All CSC members are appointed by the BCC to two-year terms with the exception of the BCC Liaison, the LCSB and DCF representatives who each hold one-year terms.

The CSC advises the BCC about children's issues in Lake County, assists with strategic planning for children and family services, supports local service providers through outreach projects, and provides a forum to exchange ideas and promote partnerships among the providers and citizens through regular monthly meetings. The CSC meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM Lake County Agricultural Center, 1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares, Florida.

The CSC also makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners about the use of County annual grant funding following the CSC Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation and review process.

The Lake County Children's Services Council is a division of the Lake County Department of Community Services under the Board of County Commissioners and acts as staff to the CSC supplying them, Lake County service providers and the community with support in areas that include:

- Resource and referral assistance to families needing services
- Resource sharing with Lake County's service providers and the community at-large
- A current, comprehensive directory of service providers
- Technical support to community agencies e.g., program development, fund-raising guidance, etc.
- Needs assessment/asset mapping activities
- Legislative updates and recommendations regarding children and families

Every child represents either a potential addition to the productive capacity and enlightened citizenship of that nation, or, if allowed to suffer from neglect, a potential addition to the destructive forces of a community.

~ Theodore Roosevelt ~

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B.E. Thompson, CSC Chair, District 4



Dear friends and colleagues:

The Lake County Children's Services Council is at the forefront of bringing Lake County's children's services providers together. Our purpose is to advise the County Commission on existing and emergent needs in the community, and serve as the primary resource for providers to network and forge collaborative partnerships to better serve our children and families.

This past year we endured more reductions in funding. We have learned to do more with less. Much of this can be attributed to the hard work and dedication of Rebecca Foley-Kearney, our dynamic children's services manager. Tough economic times require us to scrutinize our spending and ensure we are yielding a high return on the taxpayers' investment. Rebecca and our CSC members have monitored our contracted agencies to ensure they are meeting or exceeding their programmatic outcome requirements. Furthermore, several of our funded agencies have used the local resources to leverage state and federal funds in support of their programs. This has enabled our provider agencies to serve more children than local funding permits.

As another fiscal year approaches, we face even greater economic challenges. As our families suffer financial hardships, the demand for community-based services will continue to increase. As they have in the past, I know our provider agencies will do everything they can to meet these growing needs. Together, we will weather the storm. Brighter days lie ahead.

It is truly an honor to serve on the CSC. Our members are dedicated individuals who collectively bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table. I am inspired each day to improve the quality of life for Lake County's children – our future leaders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.E. Thompson".

A Message from the Children's Services Manager



As community partners, the CSC, the Board of County Commissioners along with non-profit organizations made great strides in ensuring the well-being of our children this past year. Once again by funding and assisting non-profit agencies, we served over 5,000 at-risk children and families in Lake County in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

The CSC Strategic Plan was finalized, outlining a Needs Priority List, which I invite you to read in this report. How these needs are being met is outlined by what programs are being funded.

The CSC documents, resource directory, newsletter, calendar and annual report, continue to be updated and utilized; keeping the community informed of activities, programs and resources that are available to meet their needs.

Collaboration is the key word. Children's Services is committed to promoting collaboration by continuing to grow the community outreach e-mail distribution list to share all information and opportunities relating to children.

As we face challenging economic times, I encourage you to stand fast in your commitment to children and their families. More than ever, they need our voices to ensure they receive the support needed for their safety and well-being.

There is still much work to be done, and we are dedicated to continue being the voice for Lake County's most valuable resource...our children.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Foley-Kearney".

If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much.

- Marian right Edelman -

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Council Members Comments

Julie Vandell, District 1

As the District #1 Leesburg representative, I feel it is very important in such a heavily populated County of retirees to prioritize and do everything possible for Lake County youth. I appreciate the fact Lake County has an established council that is committed to being a voice for the children, and for the wonderful providers who, despite economic hardship, continue to serve our children here in Lake.

Charles Crane, District 2

Educate, Educate, Educate. Improve, Improve, Improve. Motivate, Motivate, Motivate. This is what the Children's Service Council is about.

With the help of all of the volunteers and providers, I feel we are doing a great job.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this great organization.

Barbara Howell, District 2

Lake County cares about children. The fifteen-member Children's Services Council provides a forum for focused discussion on the needs of children in the County. It helps support services to at-risk, abused and neglected children through funding recommendations to the County Commission and through fostering interagency coordination to maximize existing human and fiscal resources. I am proud to represent District 2, South Lake County, on this council.

Linda Lewis, District 3

As an advocate for children, it is my pleasure to serve on the CSC. We have a dedicated team with diverse perspectives, which makes us unique. I am proud of the accomplishments we have made in the past few years.

With the dollars from the County, we have seen programs expand and more children served. Our biggest asset comes from Rebecca Foley-Kearney, who does so much. Our meetings are informative, providing the opportunity for networking between the agencies and organizations resulting in collaboration to meet the needs of our children. As the needs of the County change, I foresee many areas of concern for our children. Hopefully we can be the soft shoulder to fall on.

Debbie Thomas, District 3

Our children are the future and our responsibility to educate, protect, and encourage. It is an honor and

privilege to be on the Board of the Lake County Children's Services Council. To be a part of the decision-making process as to where and how dollars can best be distributed among those organizations helping our children, and then monitoring those organizations are indeed tasks I take very seriously. The Children's Services Council brings together an incredible group of providers from all around Lake County who are amazingly resourceful in accomplishing their missions and helping others accomplish theirs. I invite everyone to come to a board meeting and discover the positive goals, activities, and accomplishments for Lake County's children."

Michael Matulia, District 4

The Lake County CSC provides valuable programs and assistance to local agencies serving the needs of our children in Lake County. The CSC provides awareness of the unmet needs of our children to our citizens and the County Commission through regular meetings, workshops and participation in many events conducted by our local agencies.

Many of the agencies that receive funding from the CSC, through the grant program, would not be able to provide these much needed services. It is imperative that the Lake County Commissioners and you, the tax payer, continue to support the CSC.

Sandra Stura, District 5

The Lake County Services Council has been a needed vocal voice this past year for the children of Lake County. The Council advises the Board of County Commissioners of our County's children's issues- health care, child protection, early learning, etc.

Our monthly meetings have focused on strategic planning for children, support of local services through attendance/assistance at functions, and creating a forum to exchange ideas and create partnerships. This collaboration/referral at meetings has allowed families needing service to not be forgotten!

I have been in awe of the resources and volunteer manpower available in Lake County. I have been so proud of the organizations willing to partner to serve our community. Lake County Services Council will never abandon addressing and solving the needs of Lake County children.

Lorrie Simmons, District 5

Lake County Children's Services Council has such a

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vital role in this County and neighboring communities, by providing resources and information to children, their families, and agencies in the local area.

The LCCSC is a vital liaison between families and County government that can speak on behalf of our most vital resources.

Lalenyia Robertson, At-Large

It has been my pleasure serving on the LCCSC for many years and playing an integral part in the distribution of needed funding for agencies that serve Lake County's children. The exchange of information, collaborative efforts and the wealth of knowledge nonprofit representatives bring to the monthly board meetings has enabled agencies to augment services to Lake County's at-risk children and provide invaluable resource information for families.

The board members are an eclectic group of people who have provided insight, guidance and illustrated to the community that the LCCSC and the BCC are good stewards of funding dollars.

The LCCSC continues to work at increasing support and creating more awareness of children's issues. Through their competitive grant process, they work with local agencies to reach their goals in enhancing services for child prevention and intervention.

Trella Mott, At-Large

The Lake County Children's Services Council is the voice of Lake County's children. This honorable and diverse group of professionals and volunteers have a broad range of expertise and experience that represent the children of Lake County socially, physically, emotionally, and cognitively.

The needs of our children are constantly changing with global and political trends, the economy, technology, work availability, etc. The CSC addresses these issues with current data brought forth and is then implemented in the CSC Action plan.

The CSC also keeps our community and the agencies that serve it updated with educational presentations, with opportunities to network encouraging collaboration of services so as to avoid duplication of services.

Ralph Smith, At-Large

It's a privilege to be a part of such a passionate group whose main desire is to improve the lives and opportunities of all the children of Lake County. While much of our focus may be for at risk children, all children and

citizens benefit from the work of this group. While my many other responsibilities preclude me from being as involved as some, the medium of my radio show (Lake County Roundtable on WLBE-790AM) is a medium where issues regarding the work of the CSC and any organization they may deem worthy are always welcome to inform our listeners and assist in any worthwhile cause. Thank you for the opportunity of being a part of this wonderful organization

Jay Marshall, LCSB Representative

As a public educator for more than 4 decades, I know that quality education programs depend on community agencies and support services for children and families. Lake County's Children's Services Council provides a very important function for coordinating and enhancing programs that help children and families. Being a member of the council is professionally valuable for me to help guide families and other educators to the support program available in the Lake County Community. The Council is also an important forum for discussing approaches that can stretch available resources to get maximum benefit.

Darnell Stewart, DCF Representative

One of the "Guiding Principles" of the Department of Children and Families is Community Partnerships. The Children's Services Council (CSC) afforded me the opportunity to have worked in partnership with various individuals from several community agencies throughout the County.

Although it is a time when many are faced with financial shortfalls, service to children and families remains a focus of this dynamic group of individuals. Many give of personal time and resources to ensure that community issues and concerns continue to be addressed in Lake County.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served another year on the board of the Children's Services Council.

Commissioner Jimmy Conner, LCBCC Liaison

Since becoming the Commission liaison to the Children's Services Council, I have studied their budget and been very impressed with the services you have been able to maintain especially considering the substantial budget cuts you incurred last fiscal year. The CSC has their priorities in the right order.

The programs you are overseeing are needed and very valuable to the people we are serving. Thank you for your service to the citizens of Lake County.

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Florida

Birth Indicators 2006	Total	White	Nonwhite
Number of Births	237,166	174,147	62,697
Number of Hispanic Births	70,094		
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.9	11.7	17.8
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-17	23.0	19.0	34.4
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-19	43.5	38.4	57.8
Birth Rate Age 20-24	108.2	102.1	125.0
Infant Mortality Rate	7.2	5.6	11.8
Number of Infant Deaths	1,713	974	737
Number of Hispanic Infant Deaths	399		
Births to Mothers with No High School Diploma or GED	49,859	36,272	13,531
Births to Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy	22,231	19,246	2,965
Births to Mothers with Prenatal WIC Participation	104,361	69,068	35,173
Births with Medicaid as Delivery Payment Source	103,323	67,157	36,057
Births to Mothers who Intend to Breastfeed	182,645	138,975	43,434
Births to Unwed Mothers	105,770	44.6	67,305 38.6 38,341 61.2
Births to Unwed Mothers Under Age 20	22,489	9.5	13,795 7.9 8,670 13.8
Births to Unwed Mothers Age 20 and Over	83,275	35.1	53,507 30.7 29,669 47.3
Births to Mothers Under Age 20	25,860	10.9	16,813 9.7 9,016 14.4
Births Receiving Early Prenatal Care	165,076	76.8	125,770 79.0 39,181 70.4
Low Birthweight Births	20,714	8.7	12,848 7.4 7,845 12.5

Population 2006	Total	White	Black	Other
Total Population	18,349,132	14,842,047	3,004,854	502,231
Number of Children Under Age 18	4,113,765	3,049,174	912,184	152,407
Age 0-4	1,092,995	800,253	251,020	41,722
Age 5-9	1,124,542	839,134	244,225	41,183
Age 10-14	1,174,398	872,220	258,796	43,382
Age 15-17	721,830	537,567	158,143	26,120
Age 15-19	1,192,460	883,671	265,200	43,589
Age 20-24	1,176,112	875,447	258,607	42,058

Health and Well-Being 2006	Total	%	#	%	#	%
Child Deaths Age 1-14	699					
Violent Deaths	319					
Teen Deaths Age 15-19	829					
Violent Deaths	662					
Deaths Age 20-24	1,447					
Violent Deaths	1,121					
Dissolutions of Marriage with Minor Children Affected	31,814					
Minimum Number of Children Affected	51,842					
Percent of Immunization Levels in Kindergarten	94.6					
Initial Reports of Maltreatment Closed (2006/07)	172,316					
No Indication	79,882					
Some Indication	46,195					
Verified	33,821					

Juvenile Justice 2006/07	Total	White	Black
Delinquency Cases Received	146,765	79,888	62,685
Youths Referred for Delinquency	91,497	53,267	35,617
Delinquency Cases Transferred to Adult Court	4,424	1,757	2,526
Youths Transferred to Adult Court	3,408	1,357	1,934
Delinquency Cases Committed	9,234	4,182	4,835
Youths Committed	7,187	3,311	3,704

Education 2006/07	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
Public Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12 [fall count])	2,663,637	1,244,089	616,820	645,768
Students Enrolled in Classes for English Language Learners	231,001	12,374	28,534	177,659
Students Enrolled in Exceptional Education Programs	517,323	263,964	116,360	109,787
Students Eligible to Participate in Free/Reduced Lunch	1,208,957	326,974	421,090	399,232
Number of Disciplinary Actions	607,249	221,324	242,983	120,315
Corporal Punishments	5,257	3,415	1,371	307
In-School Suspensions	278,433	107,637	100,370	59,938
Out-of-School Suspensions	248,566	87,464	106,534	45,328
Placement in Alternative Education Settings	7,790	3,269	3,095	1,168
Number of Non-Promotions	159,147	55,880	54,479	42,288
Number of Dropouts	47,166	15,531	16,418	13,414
Graduation Rate	72.4	81.0	58.7	66.0
Private School Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12)	349,059			
Families Registered in Home Education Programs	36,939			
Children Registered in Home Education Programs	55,822			

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Lake

Population 2006	Total	White	Black	Other
Total Population	276,783	248,496	24,081	4,206
Number of Children Under Age 18	55,302	46,471	7,509	1,322
Age 0-4	14,269	11,769	2,123	377
Age 5-9	15,326	12,941	2,027	358
Age 10-14	16,085	13,630	2,090	365
Age 15-17	9,622	8,131	1,269	222
Age 18-24	14,985	12,664	1,976	345
Age 25-34	12,327	10,310	1,714	303

Health and Well-Being 2006

	Total
Child Deaths Age 1-14	9
Violent Deaths	5
Teen Deaths Age 15-19	10
Violent Deaths	6
Deaths Age 20-24	18
Violent Deaths	12
Dissolutions of Marriage with Minor Children Affected	416
Minimum Number of Children Affected	715
Percent of Immunization Levels in Kindergarten	90.4
Initial Reports of Maltreatment Closed (2006/07)	2,895
No Indication	1,164
Some Indication	882
Verified	628

Birth Indicators 2006	Total	White	Nonwhite
Number of Births	3,448	2,875	572
Number of Hispanic Births	754		
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.3	11.5	19.9
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-17	29.7	26.1	48.7
Teen Birth Rate Age 15-19	57.1	53.6	75.7
Birth Rate Age 20-24	158.8	155.3	176.8
Infant Mortality Rate	5.5	3.1	17.5
Number of Infant Deaths	19	9	10
Number of Hispanic Infant Deaths	3		
Births to Mothers with No High School Diploma or GED	856	734	122
Births to Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy	501	457	44
Births to Mothers with Prenatal WIC Participation	1,529	1,205	324
Births with Medicaid as Delivery Payment Source	1,589	1,228	361
Births to Mothers who Intend to Breastfeed	2,517	2,166	351

	#	%	#	%	#	%
Births to Unwed Mothers	1,415	41.0	1,100	38.3	315	55.1
Births to Unwed Mothers Under Age 20	361	10.5	275	9.6	86	15.0
Births to Unwed Mothers Age 20 and Over	1,054	30.6	825	28.7	229	40.0
Births to Mothers Under Age 20	432	12.5	342	11.9	90	15.7
Births to Mothers Receiving Early Prenatal Care	2,577	81.0	2,183	82.0	394	76.1
Low Birthweight Births	281	8.1	200	7.0	81	14.2

Juvenile Justice 2006/07

	Total	White	Black
Delinquency Cases Received	2,175	1,427	732
Youths Referred for Delinquency	1,421	973	436
Delinquency Cases Transferred to Adult Court	42	18	23
Youths Transferred to Adult Court	35	17	17
Delinquency Cases Committed	168	98	70
Youths Committed	130	77	53

Education 2006/07

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
Public Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12 [full count])	39,623	25,275	6,209	6,296
Students Enrolled in Classes for English Language Learners	2,586	141	72	2,235
Students Enrolled in Exceptional Education Programs	6,762	4,446	1,200	897
Students Eligible to Participate in Free/Reduced Lunch	16,333	7,271	4,186	4,073
Number of Students Requiring Disciplinary Action	7,552	3,696	2,373	1,221
Corporal Punishment	0	0	0	0
In-School Suspensions	2,695	1,250	787	530
Out-of-School-Suspensions	4,519	2,235	1,506	633
Placement in Alternative Education Settings	174	87	51	31
Number of Non-Promotions	1,780	915	420	376
Number of Dropouts	713	452	130	107
Graduation Rate	73.5	78.2	61.8	61.9
Private School Student Enrollment (Pre-K to 12)	3,826			
Families Registered in Home Education Programs	900			
Children Registered in Home Education Programs	1,297			

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More Lake County Statistics...

School-aged Child and Adolescent Profile Lake County



Measure	Year	County Quartile** 1=most favorable, 4= least	State Comparison
Modifiable Behaviors Leading to Premature Death*			
Insufficient Physical Activity			
Percent of students without sufficient vigorous physical activity			
Middle school	2006	3	31.0%
High school	2006	3	40.9%
Overweight			
Percent of students reporting BMI at or above 95th percentile			
Middle school	2006	1	9.7%
High school	2006	3	13.9%
Tobacco Use			
Percent of students smoking cigarettes in the past 30 days			
Middle school	2006	1	5.9%
High school	2006	3	20.1%

Measure	Year	County Quartile** 1=most favorable, 4= least	State Comparison
Social-emotional Development			
Learning Environment			
Percentage of students absent 21+ days			
Elementary school	2006-07 (SY)	2	6.6%
Middle school	2006-07 (SY)	2	10.4%
High school	2006-07 (SY)	3	19.4%
Percent of children not promoted			
Elementary school	2006-07 (SY)	2	828
Middle school	2006-07 (SY)	2	200
High school graduation rate*	2006-07 (SY)	3	73.6%
Out of school suspensions per 1,000 students			
Middle school	2006-07 (SY)	3	1,608
High school	2006-07 (SY)	3	1,680
Percent of students feeling safe at school			
Middle school	2006	3	69.8%
High school	2006	3	73.1%
Percent of students ready for school at kindergarten entry	2005-06 (SY)	2	83.0%
Social Environment			
Children in foster care per 1,000 population			
5-11	2007	3	142
12-17	2007	3	126
Children 4-11 experiencing child abuse per 1,000 pop. 4-11 (3-year rate)	2005-07	3	982
Children 4-11 experiencing sexual violence per 1,000 pop. 4-11 (3-year rate)	2005-07	3	57

Funded Agencies & Programs



Project Learn has been a crucial and significantly effective project of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake & Sumter Counties (BGCLSC) for more than eight years. This after school program seeks to provide comprehensive educational and support services to increase the academic skills and performance of disadvantaged learners.

The project provides a compendium of wraparound educational and support services to enable disadvantaged learners to learn easier, to learn more, to feel better about themselves, and to perform better in academic testing. The goal is to increase the capacity of project participants to perform better in school and on academic tests, and to install a self-directed interest in the joy of learning.

\$25,000.00 Funded Children Served: 300



The primary mission of ELC is to ensure that every child is ready to learn by kindergarten. The Big Blue Bus is a mobile resource bus, which provides resources training and services to providers, family and children that are at-risk to participate in early education training. Two of the objectives of early learning programs are to serve as preventative measures for children at risk for future school failure and to enhance children's chances of academic success as they enter and progress through school. An Early Childhood Specialist/Bus Driver, employed by the ELC, provides the services.

\$25,000.00 Children Served: 1,200



Vision Quest's Full Screening program is to assure that economically disadvantaged public school children have the capacity to see their world clearly in order to succeed academically and socially. Full Screening includes vision screenings for all students, comprehensive vision exams for those who fail their screenings, and finally provision of corrective eyeglasses, as needed, for those examined. The outcome will be that economically disadvantaged Lake County school children will be geared with the basic vision tools for success in school and elsewhere.

\$20,000.00 Children Served: 200



Safe Alternatives for Violence Exposed Kids (SAVE Kids) provides a safe environment and effective interventions for children exposed to Domestic Violence (DV). Problem areas caused by exposure to family violence are identified through professional interviewing and assessment. This occurs when they enter the emergency shelter with their mothers, and continues on an outreach basis as part of their post shelter transition. 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.

\$25,000.00 Funded Children Served: 225



The purpose for the expansion of the Forensic Interviewing Program is to gather facts about the abuse incident in order to meet the current demands for this service. This would include the training of two counselors at the National Children's Advocacy Center. Following this training, the counselors would be able to conduct Forensic Interviews according to the National Children's Advocacy's standards. This would enhance their interviewing skills, as well as provide credibility when they are called to testify in court on behalf of their client.

\$25,000.00 Funded Children Served: 140



Single Parent Project is a program to provide assistance to single parents by assisting with tuition, books and supplies. This is to encourage single parents to pursue a college certificate or degree. The long term of providing assistance to single parents is to improve family economics and establish academic role models for children in the family.

\$ 7,500.00 Funded Children Served: 30



Arts Enrichment Initiative works 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 3-8 to Cultural Arts. The Leesburg Art Center will identify students who are artistically

Funded Agencies & Programs

disposed, and provide intensive, ongoing training in the arts for thirty students.

\$18,000.00 Funded Children Served: 200



LifeStream Behavioral Center's Child Care Choice Services Subsidized Child Care Program assists each family by determining their eligibility for services, and providing resource and referral information so a parent can choose services that are most appropriate for their child. The early care and educational services, which include subsidized childcare, monitor each child's full development and provides training opportunities for parents, families and child care workers.



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



Soccer League is a proposed program to build a league for economically challenged students to assist with improved personal and physical skills, improve academic performance with a goal of improved student and adult multi-cultural interaction. The rural nature of the communities further reinforces isolation of the population preventing experience in making positive life choices. Sport programs emphasize the need for cooperation, teamwork, sportsmanship and education, which in turn will help the students. Development of parent leadership skills, along with goal awareness, will contribute to multi-cultural experiences.

\$22,000.00 Funded Children Served: 300



Parents and Children Together (PACT), is a proven effective program for first time juvenile offenders aged 8-18, and is an alternative sentence or diversion from a traditional probation sentence. PACT's strength is their strategy of working with both the youth and their parent(s). The design and curriculum provides intervention which addresses the youth's problematic behaviors, attitudes and assumptions, as well as the parents. Topics include major emphasis on communication, anger control and conflict resolution, self-esteem and personal responsibility, as well as substance abuse and abstinence/STDs. The program's success is measured in that 75-80% of graduating youth graduate, and 75% of graduates improve socio-academic performance.

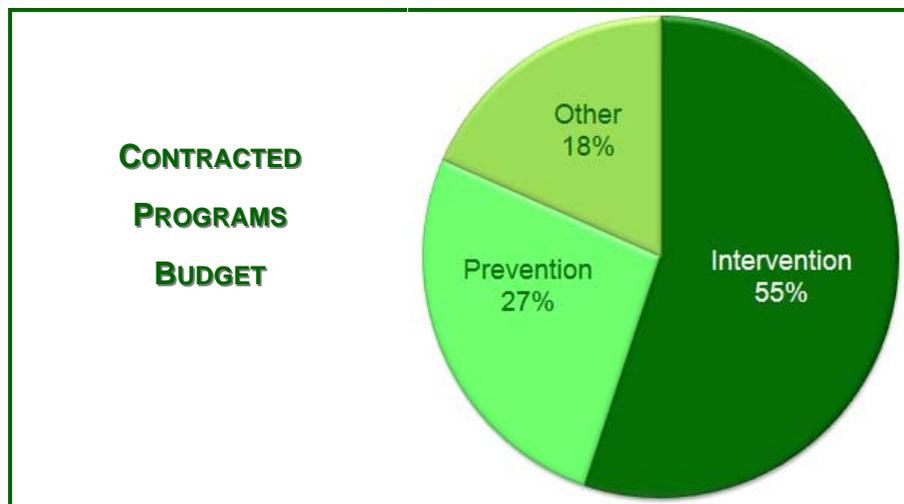
\$25,000.00 Funded Children Served: 100

TOTAL 2007-2008 FUNDED BY CSC & LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\$217,500.00

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED

5,695



CSC STRATEGIC PLAN

NEEDS PRIORITY LIST

This list is neither conclusive nor prioritized. Further meetings will be held throughout the year to develop specific objectives for meeting these goals.

1. Community support, adult role models and protection by adults.^{1, 6, 7, 9}
2. A need for safe places and activities.^{2, 3, 5, 10}
3. Child abuse prevention.^{1, 6, 8}
4. Health and wellness.^{3, 5, 7}
5. Adequate funding for early learning efforts.^{4, 10}
6. Licensure for all child care providers in Lake County.^{4, 10}
7. Sex, drugs, fighting and bullying.
8. High crime rate in Clermont and four corners area.
9. Pregnancy prevention and sexually transmitted diseases.
10. Equity funding for community based services.
11. Independent living for kids aging out of foster care.

Agencies/programs currently funded, or to be funded addressing these needs:

¹ *Advocating for Kids, Volunteer Recruiter for Guardian ad Litem Program*

² *Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake & Sumter Counties, Project Learn*

³ *City of Minneola, Kids Fit for the Future*

⁴ *Early Learning Coalition, Big Blue Bus*

⁵ *Easter Seal Camp Challenge*

⁶ *Haven of Lake & Sumter Counties, SAVE Kids*

⁷ *Lake County Health Department, Lake Children's Dentistry SSE Program*

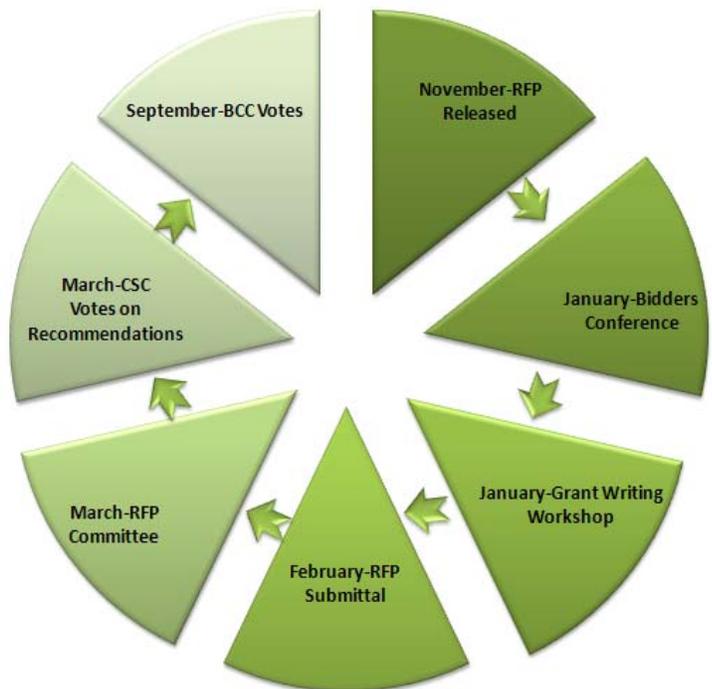
⁸ *Lake Sumter Children's Advocacy Center, Forensic Interview Program*

⁹ *Lake Sumter Community College, CROP Program*

¹⁰ *LifeStream Behavioral Center, Child Care Choice Services*

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.



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7800 • Tavares, FL 32778-7800

Physical Address: 1300 S. Duncan Drive • Building B, Suite 3

Phone: 352.742.6520 • Fax: 352.742.6505

Learn more about CSC's activities, funding & resource directory @

www.lakecountyfl.gov/csc