



Brevard C.A.R.E.S.

**Executive Director Report
November 8th, 2023**

Rebecca Melick
Executive Director

Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!

Key accomplishments

- In October, Brevard CARES staff attended multiple events in the community, to include: Community Baby Shower at Discover Life Church, Space Coast Mom Trunk or Treat, National Night Out and the Great Pumpkin Rescue. At these events, our staff distributed information about MRT, Cribs for Kids and the Neighborhood Partnership Program to community members to spread awareness of the services offered at our agency.
- Our Melbourne Police Department MRT team continues to be highlighted through various media outlets. In October, they were highlighted on the City of Melbourne/Melbourne Police Department's Facebook pages and were also part of news segments with News 13 and News 6. We continue to be amazed by the hard work of this team and the difference they are making in the community!
- Family Support Services Senior Manager Jessica Miles, in collaboration with Team TAQA at BFP, facilitated a training to our Prevention & Diversion teams, which was an overview of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA is a federal law that focuses on maintaining children in the home, with an emphasis on the use of evidence-based services to prevent children from entering out-of-home care. It allows the use of Title IV-E funds to pay for these services. We have begun the process of tracking CARES families who meet criteria for the current services available, with an initial goal of 30% of families engaging in evidence-based services during the life of the case. The goal will increase as we enter the new year, and as more services become available.

Key challenges moving forward

- We currently have a vacancy for our Parenting with Love and Limits Therapist and are hoping to fill that position as soon as possible to resume services as usual.

Upcoming Community Events / Any requests of the Board Members

- None at this time

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Melick

Executive Director