



**Brevard C.A.R.E.S.
Board Report July 2017**

Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!

June 2017

On June 14th Valerie Holmes/BFP Senior Executive of Programs and I met with the new juvenile delinquency judge, Judge Earp, to share information about C.A.R.E.S. and our desire to help prevent youth from crossing over between delinquency and dependency. Judge Earp was welcoming of the information and the support that the program would bring to families at risk. He requested C.A.R.E.S. brochures and information about our programs that could be made available for parents inside of the court room.

Members of the C.A.R.E.S. team attended the Celebration of Adoption on June 16th. Twenty-one children were adopted during the celebration. Following the official adoption hearings C.A.R.E.S. team members were on hand to share information about Post Adoption Supports and Mobile Response Team with the new adoptive parents.

Throughout the month of June we have been completing interviews for current vacancies and anticipated new positions. Heather Howlett/Community Services Program Manager and I completed interviews to fill the current three open Diversion Care Coordinator positions. Candidates were identified and offers extended, contingent on background screening. These three vacancies represent 50% of the total unit, so it has been a priority to identify qualified candidates. The three new Diversion Care Coordinators will join the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. team the beginning of July and will start training for the Child Welfare Certification July 10th. The supervisor position for this unit is also currently vacant and Heather Howlett has been serving as the interim supervisor. This is the first turnover we have experienced in this unit since 2015. Heather and I will begin interviews for this position the beginning of July. In addition to our current vacancies, C.A.R.E.S. is anticipating funding to support two new positions, a Chief Operations Officer and a Parenting with Love and Limits Therapist. These new positions will create some shifts in our current table of organization and are designed to meet the growing needs of the agency and community. The Chief Operations Officer will provide oversight and support for our expanding clinical programs to include: Safety Management, Mobile Response, Targeted Case Management, and Parenting with Love and Limits. Valerie Holmes and I have begun first interviews for the Chief Operations Officer. The addition of the Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL) Therapist will not only expand our clinical services but will also expand our use of evidence based programs. PLL combines parent education and group therapy with individual “coaching” (family therapy) sessions to both stabilize and address trauma within the family. PLL is designed for families with youth between 10 and 18 with extreme emotional and/or behavioral problems.

Brevard Business News featured the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Safety Management Team in their June 26th edition. The article highlighted the success of Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and the Safety Management Team.

On June 30th we official said our farewell to Osha Goodwin. Osha has transferred to new case management agency, Family Allies. Family Allies is the newest member of the Brevard Family Partnership family of agencies and will provide dependency case management services. Osha will serve as the Family Allies Executive Assistant. She will still be providing mentoring for our new Executive Assistant/Board Liaison, Angie Levesque, and will provide support for our COA site visit scheduled for September 24th – September 26th. Angie has been shadowing with Osha since May 30th and officially came on board with the agency June 19th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phebe Powell
Executive Director