



**Brevard C.A.R.E.S.  
Report November 2018**

**Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!**

## October 2018

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. leadership continues to work with the Department of Children and Families Child Protective Investigations (DCF CPI) to assist in the identification of impending danger cases prior to the 45-day mark. It has been determined that when non-judicial services begin within 45 days of the start of an investigation, families are more engaged, outcomes improve, and families are more likely to stay together.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tracy Pellegrino commenced her role as the new Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Executive Director. Interviews for other open positions continue to be scheduled with the hope that all positions will be filled by the end of November.

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. executed their contract with Central Florida Cares Health Systems on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> to expand the Mobile Crisis Response Team. This contract increases our revenue by \$183,410 for FY18-19 and another \$252,614 for FY19-20, for a total of \$436,024. These revenues allow for two additional positions to be added to the C.A.R.E.S. family, and additional funds will be used for contractors to provide crisis response.

The Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Board of Directors interviewed a potential new Board member and have accepted nominations for additional applicants. Brevard C.A.R.E.S. would like to add at least three new members to diversify community involvement and increase exposure.

The Brevard C.A.R.E.S. staff have begun participating in Booster Training sessions with Dr. Patricia Nellius and Tracy Little to ensure ongoing fidelity to the Wraparound Model. Leadership is working on updating procedures to reflect consistency between practice and model fidelity. Jessica Miles, Manager over the Prevention Model, will begin competency certification with the NCFIE in preparation to become a trainer so she can provide targeted training in the moment with her staff.

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month; staff represented C.A.R.E.S. in the reading of the proclamation on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the County Commissioner's Office in Viera.

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, C.A.R.E.S. staff attended the Parenting in Today's World Workshop, and provided information and materials regarding ages and stages of childhood development to parents and other attendees.

Leadership met with John Katov, founder and CEO of Open Table, to restart conversations regarding the expansion of Open Table in Brevard County. The Open Table model trains faith, government, business, non-profit and other sectors to work together to transform an existing network of members into tools that individuals and families experiencing poverty can use to develop and implement plans to have better lives.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tracy Pellegrino  
Executive Director