



Brevard C.A.R.E.S.

**Executive Director Report
November 11, 2020**

Kathryn Parker
Executive Director

Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!

October 2020

Key accomplishment(s) this past month

- Over a year ago, the Department of Children and launched an initiative to remove the barriers previously placed on employee's ability to foster children in our community. The Department was able to recognize that DCF employees, as well as those who contract with DCF would make great foster parents. Historically this was not allowed due to perceived, or actual conflict of interest, in managing these cases. As a result of this, DCF requested these cases be managed by a separate case management agency than where the employee works. This month Brevard CARES launched a new unit to support these cases. This unit is already serving three cases and is expecting three more cases within the next month.
- Parenting with Love and Limits received a quarterly review. The Parenting with Love and Limits team achieved 100 % content, intake, and referral engagement for this quarter. The Team continues to provide this program virtually, so the clients are receiving individual counseling and parenting sessions. The team has successfully graduated eleven families through the program and currently has eleven families currently in the program.
- The Family of Agencies has been working with Rock, Paper, Simple to finalize the creation of the new Brevard CARES website. The Brevard CARES team has worked hard this month on the content for the website. That has been submitted and Rock, Paper, Simple is forecasting that the new site should be live by the end of the year.
- Brevard CARES has been working with the sixteen different law enforcement agencies in Brevard county to provide information about using the Mobile Response Team. The focus has been to help them understand that the Mobile Response Team also helps link the families for ongoing services. The Mobile Response Team has been distributing new business card size informational cards about MRT that are easy for officers to card on them. MRT also presented to Melbourne Police Department during their Critical Incident Training. The Melbourne Police department has a personal goal to have at least one officer on every shift trained in responding in a trauma informed way.

Key challenges moving forward

- There have been unique challenges presented by COVID. Staffing has been hard in that once a position is open it has taken a long time to replace because of limited candidates to interview.

Upcoming community events/Any requests of the board members

- Celebration of Adoption November 19, 2020 at the Space Coast Stadium please RSVP with Osha if you would like to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Parker

Executive Director