



**Brevard C.A.R.E.S.  
Board Report January 2016**

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

## **October – December 2015**

The Annual Council on Accreditation Maintenance of Accreditation Report was due in November. COA requires accreditation consumers to complete an annual maintenance of Accreditation Report. The annual MOA Report demonstrates an accreditation consumer's commitment to the pursuit of excellence and quality service delivery for persons served and affirms the accreditation consumer's ongoing implementation of/performance with the accreditation standards and compliance with all maintenance of accreditation requirements. Through this process, COA and its accreditation consumers are able to evaluate significant organizational changes, ongoing sustainability, and events and critical occurrences within the context of the organization's continuous performance improvement activities, and ongoing commitment to the standards.

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. continues to work with DCF Child Protection Investigations, BFP and Impower to analyze shelter data. This is a two-fold project. First every two weeks we are reviewing current shelters to determine if there were services that could have been placed in the home to prevent removal, identify potential cases for family drug court, and to discuss conditions for return. The second piece of the project is to analyze data from the prior FY to identify gaps in service delivery, family engagement, and opportunities for enhancement. There have been a number of common characteristics identified to include: high rate of substance abuse and/or family violence, children with disabilities, significant prior reports, young children in the home.

On November 9<sup>th</sup> Brevard Family Partnership conducted the annual contract monitoring for the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Prevention Program, the non-judicial in home services monitoring is completed separately. The initial debriefing highlighted several opportunities for improvement. A corrective action plan will be developed to address the increasing the number of families with transition plans from 83% to 95% and increasing informal and community supports from 45% to 90%.

Staff from Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and Brevard Family Partnership attended the Rally in Tally. Rally in Tally is dedicated to educating foster youth, families, and child welfare workers on advocating their needs with Florida's lawmakers. During the event the team had the opportunity to meet with legislators and share their stories and experiences.

As you know Brevard C.A.R.E.S. submitted a 1 time special appropriation request for 1.3 million dollars last that was approved by the Legislature and later vetoed by the Governor. This year we will be resubmitting the request for 1.58 million dollars to Senator Altman and Representative Goodson. I will keep members apprised of the progress of this request and may call upon you if needed to support it if necessary.

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. held its annual Winter Wonderland for the families receiving services on December 16. This year's event was a huge success with over 250 in attendance. We are very thankful for all of our donors who provided gifts for our children for the holidays.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Phebe Powell  
Executive Director