



Brevard C.A.R.E.S.

**Executive Director Report
January 13, 2021**

Kathryn Parker
Executive Director

Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!

November and December 2020

Key accomplishment(s) this past month

- THANK YOU!!!! There was much concern about how this Christmas season would look for our children. Our Marketing Department had been contacted, in October, that there were organizations that had previously supplied large donations of gifts that would not be able to because they had to lay off their own employees. An amazing thing happened. There were so many individual families who stepped up and said they wanted to support another family for Christmas. Through these donations we were able to provide gifts for over 320 children with donations that exceeded \$38,000.
- While COVID- 19 has brought with it many challenges, it has also brought many opportunities. Brevard CARES has always been known for their people. For our Christmas all staff, the leadership team dropped off a goody bag for all the team members. In the bag was a bagel, cream cheese, a Christmas mug, hot cocoa mix, a card to play Christmas BINGO and a Christmas headband. The team enjoyed a virtual Christmas party where teammates decorated doors in their home, and we did a Secret Santa with Amazon making the deliveries directly to each other's houses.
- Brevard CARES was notified of an increase in the amount of funding available to families for housing issues. The Brevard Housing coalition received additional funding from the federal government because of COVID-19. Brevard Housing Authority authorized an additional \$ 55,636 that can be directly used on things such as utilities, rent assistance, deposits and other moving expenses.
- Prior to COVID-19 Brevard CARES was working with the Managing Entity, they are the funding source that is giving specific federal funding for behavioral health issues, on expanding our Mobile Response Team to include service all ages. Unfortunately, the grant that would have paid for this was not renewed. The Managing Entity, however felt that Brevard County needed this service and have committed an additional \$272,867 to our existing Mobile Response Team contract which will take our total amount to \$527,481. They have also extended the contract ending year 2023. The total amount for the contract is \$1,582,443.

Key challenges moving forward

- Brevard CARES is on the last step towards completing the Behavioral Health application through Medicaid. This step requires a medical doctor to agree to attach their license to our agency for Medicaid billing. Any suggestions or contacts for possible leads would be appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Parker
Executive Director