

## Highlights of Special Needs Data and Service Priorities

### For Palm Beach County, FL 2017

#### Special Needs Advisory Coalition Outcomes

- Maximize access to information and referral
- Expand availability of quality respite providers
- Increase housing options
- Improve transition practices
- Increase employment opportunities for individuals with special needs and disabilities

#### Special Needs Service Needs and Gaps Identified from FAA 2017 Community Survey

Q2. NEEDS: In thinking about special needs services, which are most critical for the population of Palm Beach County? Need is defined as services that people NEED AND USE. Select up to three (3) for each age group by selecting 'Top 3' in the drop down box.

Aggregate	n	Birth to 22 years	n	22+ years	n
Housing services including group homes and supported living	91	Transitional services- prepares students with disabilities to move from school to post-school life-instruction, related services, community experiences, employment and other post-school adult living objectives, evaluation	58	Housing services including group homes and supported living	64
Transitional services- prepares students with disabilities to move from school to post-school life-instruction, related services, community experiences, employment and other post-school adult living objectives, evaluation	90	Case management or case coordination/advocacy services	47	Job skills training	46
Case management or case coordination/advocacy services	78	Medical services (speech therapy, ABA, occupational therapy, and nutrition services)	43	Paid employment	38

Q3. GAPS: In thinking about the current special needs resources and services provided in Palm Beach County, which resources and services are lacking? Gaps are defined as services people NEED BUT CAN'T GET. Select up to three (3) for each age group by selecting 'Top 3' in the drop down box.

Aggregate	n	Birth to 22 years	n	22+ years	n
Housing services including group homes and supported living	83	Respite care-planned or emergency care provided to a child or adult with special needs in order to provide temporary relief to family caregivers who are for that child or adult	41	Housing services including group homes and supported living	55
Transitional services- prepares students with disabilities to move from school to post-school life-instruction, related services, community experiences, employment and other post-school adult living objectives, evaluation	65	Transitional services- prepares students with disabilities to move from school to post-school life-instruction, related services, community experiences, employment and other post-school adult living objectives, evaluation	39	Paid employment	36
Case management or case coordination/advocacy services	63	Medical services (speech therapy, ABA, occupational therapy, and nutrition services)	36	Job skills training	35

### **Special Needs Funding Needs, Barrier & Priorities Identified during the FAA 2017 Public Forum**

The service needs (services needed and used) and gaps (services needed but can't get) identified during the discussion were:

- Advocacy/education
- Service Needs: Job/employment services, Respite services, Support and navigation services

The service barriers identified during the discussion were:

- Lack of transition services
- Lack of access due to funding, available high quality providers, geographic location.

The service funding priorities identified during the discussion were:

- Services throughout life span, throughout the County – housing, employment, recreation, medical, transportation, inclusion, guardian advocacy, medical supplies to promote independence, mobility, and dignity- all services leading to integration as soon as possible
- Navigation and understanding the resources and services that are available, including family supports
- Advocacy/education- in order to transition through adulthood smoothly, support the virtual information HUB, understanding and competency in serving the special needs population
- Reconsideration of how to allocate funds – making sure to fund smaller organizations as well