

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department



2019-2020 Annual Impact Report



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

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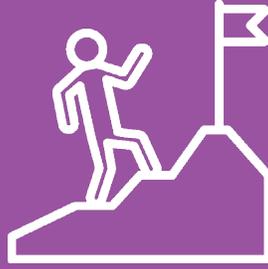
Dorritt M. Miller

Youth Services Department Director

Tammy K. Fields

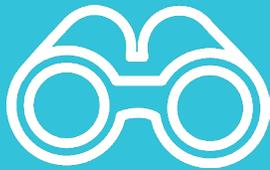
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Our Mission

Growing brighter futures by providing quality service, education, and access to resources and opportunities.



Our Vision

Empowering youth and families to realize their full potential and be the driving force of a thriving community.



Our Values

Diversity and Equity
Compassion and Empathy
Open-mindedness
Commitment
Respect

“Every child dreams of success - it’s our job to provide the tools and resources to make these dreams come true.”

-Tammy K. Fields

Letter from Our Director



“The bamboo that bends is stronger than the oak that resists.” - Proverb

The staff at Palm Beach County Youth Services Department have certainly emulated bamboo in this crazy 2020 fiscal year, and I couldn't be more proud of the flexibility, adaptability and dedication of our staff. The year started with our usual zeal serving clients, preparing for summer programming, holding community conversations, working with community partners and tracking our metrics. AND THEN CAME COVID-19!

Despite personal anxiety and fear, our staff continued to prioritize the needs of clients and community. In no time, our mental health staff started using virtual platforms to meet youth and families needs knowing full well that the families and young people we serve were coping with their own fears and feelings of isolation. For some families, survival became the driving force when jobs were lost and food prices rose. We adapted and started our summer feeding program early to meet needs. Our Highridge Family Center staff joined with the Outreach and Community Programming Division and Palm Beach County Library System staff to distribute seven-day meal boxes. When summer arrived, we continued feeding programs and worked with our summer camps to provide a wide variety of summer options for children from virtual to in-person.

The COVID-19 pandemic was not the only challenge of the year – unrest due to racism spread across the country. These events could not be ignored by a department serving youth. Our Future Leaders United for Change developed tips on how to stay safe while participating in protests. Dr. Danniella Jones of the Education and Training Center presented several sessions on race-based implicit bias and microaggressions with wide community participation.

It became evident that our community was facing trauma in many different forms which led to the decision to expand our trauma informed approach through the Sanctuary Model to the entire department. Staff received training on the Sanctuary Model and some staff were trained to be trainers so this knowledge can be shared.

The work of Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures continued too. We really saw the value of these partnerships as we were able to quickly come together to address the needs of youth and families during this pandemic and identify where gaps were present. A huge thank you to all our community partners.

Thank you to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator and Incident Commander Verdenia C. Baker and to our Assistant County Administrator Dorritt M. Miller for your support of our mission in these difficult times. Lastly, but most importantly, thank you to the staff of Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, you are remarkably dedicated people.

Tammy K. Fields

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department Director

Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship



On April 30, Friends of Youth Services and Palm Beach County, Inc. announced the 2020 Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship recipients. The scholarship provides \$1,000 per year, distributed over two semesters to each recipient and is renewable for up to four years, depending on degree or certificate program.

The application process included 55 reviewable applications. Following an online application process, finalists were selected based on application submission, letters of recommendation and written essay. Scholarship eligibility was limited to residents of Palm Beach County.



The scholarship is in memory of Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson. Alyssa was committed to living a self-sufficient life and discovering her passions. Her determination to pursue education, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees, enabled her to live consistent with those commitments. She hoped others could have support to achieve their goals. The Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship is dedicated to those who need a little extra assistance in achieving education goals.

Strive to be better. Learn your value and live by it. Be consistent. Don't fear failure. Relax and see the good in life.

- Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson

Scholarship Recipients



Beatrice Mattison-Santos

Beatrice graduated from Palm Beach Gardens High School in the pre-med academy. She's attending Palm Beach State College majoring in biological science, and aspires to have a career in medical research. Beatrice is a mentor, tutor and has taken leadership roles in community organizations. Belief in herself includes a belief in giving to others.



Katia Mejia-Lagos

Katia, a graduate of John I. Leonard High School, is currently enrolled at Palm Beach Atlantic University, pursuing a bachelor of science in nursing. Katia is an active member of Future Leaders United for Change. She has been a reading mentor for second and third graders, tutored middle school students, and painted houses in neighborhoods in need. At the Nicklaus Children's Hospital where Katia volunteers, it was said that she "provided patients with unexpected joy during their hospital stay."

Department Highlights

Awards



Palm Beach County Golden Palm Awards

Sherron King, M.S. received a Golden Palm Award for her creation of the Therapeutic Intervention Breaks (TIBs) room at Highridge Family Center. The TIBs room provides youth with various sensory opportunities to work through and regulate emotions when youth find them difficult to express.

NACo Achievement Awards

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department was recognized with two Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) in the category of children and youth. The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized the department's Summer Camp Scholarship Program, which provides full-tuition and fees for summer camp for children residing in families with income at or below 150% of Federal Poverty Guidelines and the Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP). FVIP is a court diversion program for first time juvenile offenders who have been charged with domestic battery or assault.



Team Building

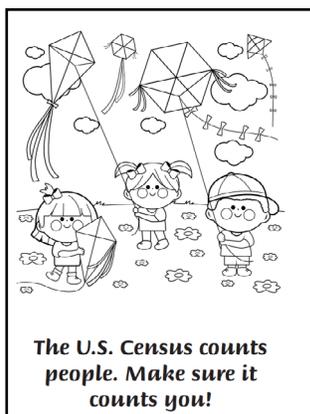
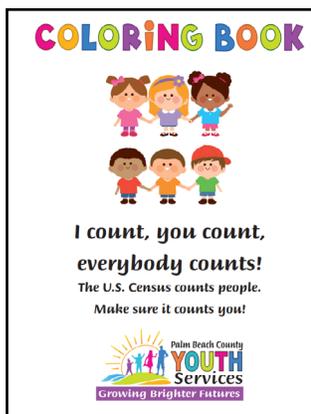


Employee Retreat

This year, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department held its annual employee retreat as a department-wide virtual gathering via Zoom Video.

Youth Services Director Tammy K. Fields expressed her appreciation to the staff for their dedication and flexibility while adjusting to the new ways of doing business during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communications



Youth Services Developed a 2020 U.S. Census Media Campaign

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department encouraged Palm Beach County residents to take part in the 2020 Census through a social media campaign. The department also designed a Census coloring book as a resource for families to understand the impact the Census has on Palm Beach County.

The coloring book was distributed among community partners including the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, Center for Child Counseling, Friends of Foster Children, the Office of Community Revitalization, and at the South Florida Fair.

The campaign and collateral were developed by Youth Services Public Relations Specialist Erin Baker.

Department Highlights

Sanctuary Certification



Department-Wide Training

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department held a three-day training for employees as part of its pursuit of department-wide certification in the trauma informed care model by the Sanctuary Institute.

The training provided participants the chance to attend in-person sessions for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March. CDC and county guidelines, including wearing of facial covers, maintaining a distance of six feet and proper hygiene measures, were required for those attending. Employees who were unable to attend in person had the option of participating virtually via Zoom Video.



Train the Trainer Conference

The department held a three-day conference for employees hosted by the Sanctuary Institute. Sanctuary consultant Aaron James, conducted the “Train the Trainer” conference, which provided a team of employees with an in-depth overview of the trauma informed care model, direct staff care practices, the importance of community meetings, module presentations, facilitator and adult learner styles, teach-backs, and strategies for holding successful training sessions.

Community Training



Implicit Bias & Microaggressions

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department’s Education and Training Center’s Danniella Jones, Psy.D. presented the training “Impacts of Racial/Ethnic Implicit Bias and Microaggressions,” for staff and mental health providers in the community on multiple dates to accommodate the overwhelming requests to receive more information and training surrounding the topic.

In June, Reporter and News Anchor Luli Ortiz of WPEC CBS 12 attended the training and featured the story in an evening broadcast.

Continuity of Operations



Telemental Health Services

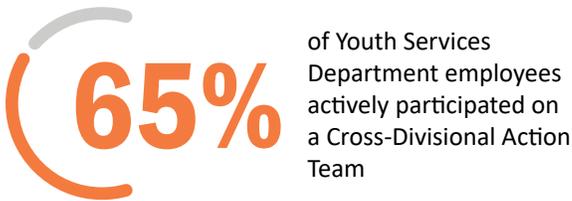
Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department’s Residential Treatment and Family Counseling Division (RTFC) transitioned immediately to telemental health providing services initially via phone and ongoing through the videoconferencing platform Zoom. All therapists received training by Education and Training Center employees on the “Basics of Telemental Health” including benefits, risks, and ethical issues.

Employee Engagement



During fiscal year 2020, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department employees engaged within the department, across the county and throughout the community. Employee engagement across all levels provides a forum for employees to work collectively and to collaborate with other departments and community organizations on effecting changes that benefit all within the department.

By Activity



In spite of challenges caused by the pandemic, department employees played active roles on action teams at various levels effecting changes that benefit the entire department.

- Marlene Etienne, Program Evaluator



 100 % Established goals accomplished	 57 Participants	 5 Presentations to Leadership
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Cross-Divisional Action Teams

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Cross-Divisional Action Teams align with the department's vision and its own strategic priorities, focusing on solutions to improve overall organizational performance.

During fiscal year 2020, each team held bi-weekly forums which allowed team members to work with their co-chairs to develop ideas.

The teams delivered presentations to the Leadership Team on a quarterly basis. The presentations provided an opportunity to gain feedback and guide the strategic plans forward.

Each of the three teams successfully accomplished their strategies, metrics, and goals.

Seed of Success

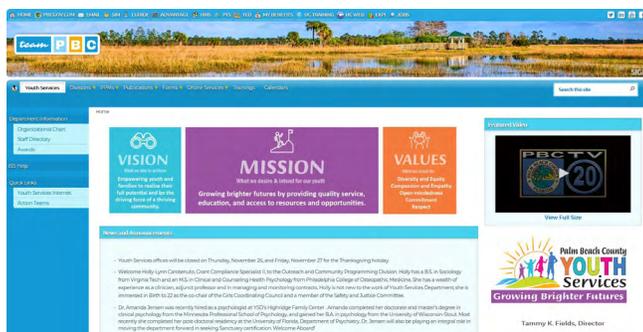


"We Plant The Seeds Of Success That Grow Futures."

Seeds of Success established employee recognition, wellness, safety, and celebrated the unique contribution of the department's diverse, caring and competent professionals.

- Implemented Employee of the Quarter and Year Programs.
- Created quarterly wellness articles for inclusion in the YSD Scoop! newsletter.
- Planned all department events during fiscal year 2020.

Cheers

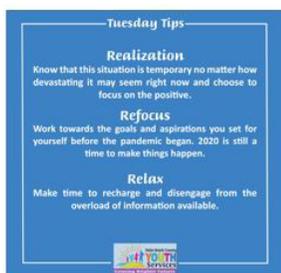


"Where Everybody Knows My Name... & Mission Too."

The Cheers team bridged communication gaps and supported the cross-divisional linkage of youth services for a greater impact.

- Surveyed department employees on familiarity of the department's internal intranet page.
- Collected mini-bios for all employees.
- Developed intranet design and layout.

Growing Brighter Futures



Jaylin Gabrielle Jones | Suncoast H.S.
Current accomplishments: International Baccalaureate (IB) & dual enrolled student with a 3.9 GPA, member of National Society of High School Scholars, Black Student Union, and Journalist for the Year Book Club, recipient of several academic scholarships including the Pegasus Scholarship.
Post-Secondary opportunities: University of Central Florida

"Our Department, Where We Grow Brighter Futures."

Growing Together, Growing Brighter Futures promoted the department's services, accomplishments, and collaborative partnerships through a dynamic public relations campaign.

- Developed content utilizing department resources for youth and families within Palm Beach County during the pandemic.
- Highlighted Palm Beach County graduating seniors through a Senior Spotlight campaign.
- Produced mindfulfulness trainings and coping strategy videos.

Whether you are doing your part by sheltering at home, social distancing at your essential job, or teaching your child at home, we are all experiencing new norms. Hang in there. We are all in this together!
[#TuesdayTips](#) [#YSUpdate](#)

Guardian ad Litem



The Florida Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Program in Palm Beach County is a partnership of community advocates and professional staff providing a powerful voice on behalf of Florida's abused and neglected children. Guardian ad Litem Volunteers (GALs) are trained, court-appointed advocates for children who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected. Palm Beach County Youth Services Department funds two county positions under GAL. Speak Up! For Kids also funds two GAL positions.

The overall goal of Speak Up! For Kids is to ensure that the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) has the resources to provide every abused, abandoned and neglected child - infant to 18 years old - in the Palm Beach County dependency court system with a well-trained, court-appointed, volunteer advocate. During fiscal year 2020, GAL served 2,401 children.

The Difference a GAL Volunteer Makes ...



A child with a GAL is ...

More likely to be **adopted**.

1/2 as likely to re-enter foster care.

More likely to find a **safe and permanent home**.

More apt to receive the appropriate **physical, educational and emotional care** they need through available child services.

Volunteer Time & Travel



1,383

Children involved in dependency court



86%

Advocacy for youth in the dependency court system county-wide



281

Advocacy for Belle Glade & Delray Beach youth in the dependency court system

Residential Treatment & Family Counseling



This year, has been one to go down in the books. However, each time I think of all the adversity, loss, and change, my mind inevitably is drawn to the resiliency that I have witnessed in the people I work with. It is all of you, the amazing group of professionals that make up our Residential Treatment and Family Counseling Division (RTFC), who have continuously impressed me. Your commitment to the youth and families we serve in Palm Beach County is inspirational. This letter isn't just about the COVID-19 pandemic, but I do not want to minimize the loss and change it necessitated socially, professionally, and personally. My heart goes out to all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

I want to recognize Dr. Shayna Ginsburg, Dr. Amanda Terrell, and Ms. Tanya L. Tibby, LCSW, and their respective teams, for their incredible work. Their teams created the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP); transitioned RTFC services to a virtual platform; researched and provided training on how to ethically and effectively deliver telemental health services; created forms to include new consents for telehealth and in-person services. Additionally, transitioning Highridge Family Center into a summer school day program, then an intensive outpatient program and finally back to a residential program as families returned to work. All of this accomplished while completing their regular job duties such as weekly statistics, key performance indicators, meetings, trainings, supervision, bringing on a new cohort of student trainees, etc.

I want to say a special thank you to the direct care staff who changed their lives and schedules to work with the Outreach and Community Programming Division (OCP) to assist with pre-summer feeding, summer food, and summer camp programs.

During this pandemic, we struggled with social unrest and racial injustice issues that sparked massive peaceful protests through the Black Lives Matter movement. We began having some "hard to have, hard to hear" conversations among our colleagues about racial inequity and its effects, not only on the youth and families we treat, but also on our employees. We started an open group at Highridge called OASIS, the department created an Equity and Diversity Cross-Divisional Action Team, and I sent out a survey asking for feedback on how people would feel safest in addressing the intense emotional reactions related to race. We will continue pushing forward to create safety around this and other equity issues.

Throughout this past year, we also developed and signed a contract with ANDRUS to begin the recertification process for Highridge Family Center to continue being certified by the Sanctuary Model in providing trauma informed care; as well as, expanding certification to all of RTFC programming and the other divisions within the department. With the help of Pat Adams, Ralph Engle, and the Finance, Contracting and Administrative Services Division, we were able to complete a virtual Needs Assessment, three-day Foundational Sanctuary Training (offered both in-person and virtually), and three-day Train the Trainer in-person training! All before the end of the fiscal year - what an accomplishment! These next steps may be challenging, but we are not afraid of rising to the challenge. We are creative, resilient, and the best group of professionals I have ever had the pleasure to work with.

Lastly, I want to thank our Youth Services Department Director, Tammy K. Fields, who has helped me navigate my way as I embrace my "new" role as Division Director and a special mention to my fellow Division Directors for being supportive and understanding.

Part of being trauma informed is always looking for areas of growth and change and continuing to be future focused. I am looking forward to putting 2020 in the rear-view mirror, while I focus on 2021 and all that we can accomplish!

Dr. Twila Taylor

Director of Residential Treatment and Family Counseling Division



Education & Training Center



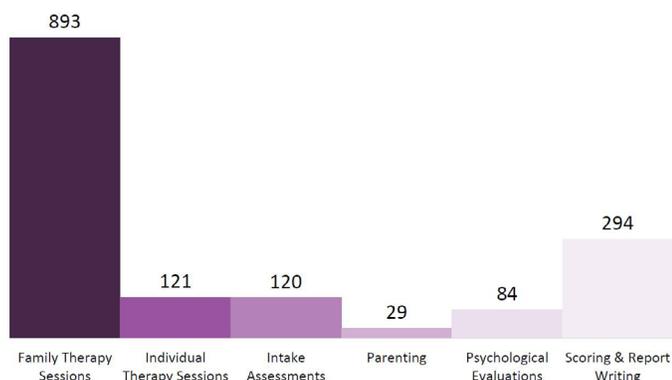
The Education and Training Center is a community resource for primary prevention through education, training and professional development, providing free services to parents, children, families, school personnel, and mental health professionals in Palm Beach County. Family, individual, and group therapy services are offered, in addition to psychological evaluations. Services are offered in-person or virtually, and are available in English, Spanish, and Creole. The Education and Training Center is responsible for developing and implementing trainings, workshops, and community outreach activities. It also serves as a trainee placement site for doctoral interns, postdoctoral fellows, and doctoral level practicum trainees.

During fiscal year 2020, The Education and Training Center exponentially increased its audience at trainings, now provided remotely via Zoom Video. There were 4,445 attendees increasing the annual attendance by 103%.

Didactic Trainings

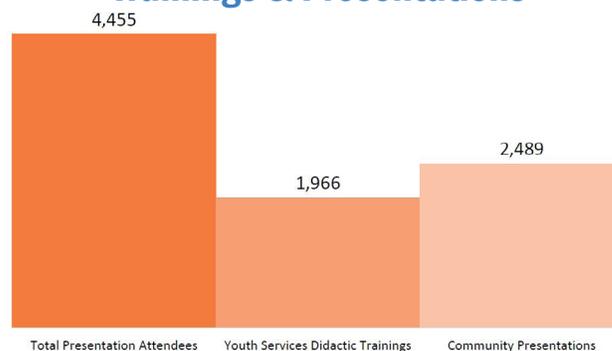
Addressing Marital Conflict in the Context of Family Therapy	Children and Adolescents	The Impact of Implicit Bias and Microaggressions	Structural Family Therapy
An Introduction to Motivational Interviewing	Dialectical Behavior Therapy	Managing Emotions During a Pandemic	Suicidality
An Introduction to Zoom	Disability: Culture, Treatment and Assessment	Normal Expressions of Sexuality in Children	Tapping into Your Parent Super Powers: Strategies for Getting Young Children to Behave
Anxiety and Depression: Steps for Managing your Mental Health	Enhancing your Family Therapy Skills from a Multicultural Perspective	Paper Tigers Documentary	Teach Us All Documentary
Attachment	Ethics: Maintaining Professional Boundaries	Professional Development: Preparing For the Next Steps	The Impact of Parental Incarceration on Children & Families
Basics of Telemental Health	Florida Laws & Rules of the Board	Promoting Emotional Regulation in Children: Evidenced-Based Practices	The Role of Psychopharmacology in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Care
Beauty and Beyond: Body Image and Well-being Among Women and Girls of Color	Foundations of Clinical Supervision	Providing Affirming Gender and Orientation Care	Trauma 101
Best Practices for Working With the Haitian Population	Genograms: Uncovering Family Trends	Race-Based Implicit Bias and Microaggressions	Unfriended: Impacts of Social Media
Child Abuse and Neglect	Group Therapy	Sexual Assault	What Happened to You?: The Impact of Familial Substance Abuse
Children's Exposure to Domestic Violence	Healthy Partner Communication	Step Families: A Greater Understanding for Professionals Working with Blended Families	When Compassion Causes Concern
Coping With Self-Injury	Incorporating Evidenced-Based Practices in Treating Young Children with Disruptive Behaviors: Using Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Skills	Strategic Family Therapy	Your Brain on Poverty: Psychological Effects of Living with Financial Scarcity
Developing Cultural Competency	Let's Talk about Race/Ethnicity:		
Diagnosis and Treatment of Social Anxiety and Selective Mutism in			

Direct Service Hours



Numbers Served at

Trainings & Presentations



Client Satisfaction Survey Report

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department consistently conducts data collection, analysis and reporting of the department's satisfaction surveys and comment cards to evaluate and improve services, maintain client satisfaction and meet the needs of Palm Beach County youth and families. The following data and responses were received between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020. Input was collected from youth and parents/guardians at the department's Education and Training Center, Family

Violence Intervention Program, Highridge Family Center and Youth & Family Counseling locations.*

Survey data driven from the combined answers (231) for all RTFC programs indicate that clients and parents/guardians are extremely satisfied to satisfied with the clinical services provided by the division. Youth feel physically and emotionally safe in an environment that they feel is supportive to their needs.

Education & Training Center Client Satisfaction Survey Report

Youth

100%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that they felt respected by Youth Services' staff

74%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that their family got along better because of what they learned during their care at Youth Services

78%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped them express their feelings in a better way

89%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped them reach their treatment goals

I liked being able to express how I felt and got the help and support I needed.

- Youth comment

Parents/Guardians

I liked how patient the therapists were. Their feedback was helpful during sessions.

- Parent/Guardian comment

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that they felt respected by Youth Services' staff

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that their family got along better because of what they learned during their care at Youth Services

99%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped their family express feelings in a better way

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that they are happy with the services their family received

*Data included in the Youth Services Department's Annual Impact Report does not include survey results received after the analysis deadline.

Highridge Family Center



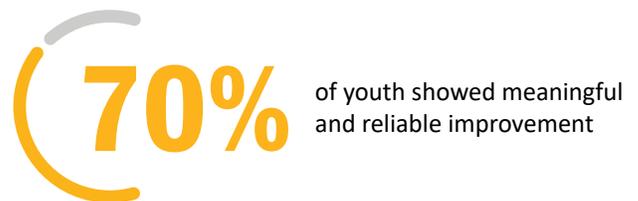
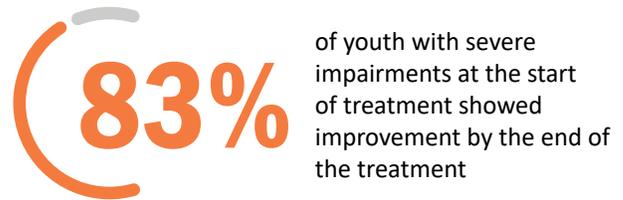
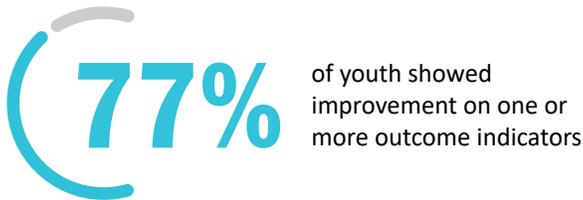
Highridge Family Center offers a three-to-four month, trauma informed weekday residential treatment program for Palm Beach County youth, ages 11-16, who are experiencing problems at home, at school, with friends, and in the community. The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department partners with the School District of Palm Beach County to provide school instruction on campus in a small school setting.

During fiscal year 2020, Highridge successfully adjusted its program several times to minimize a disruption in care. The program shifted to a telemental health service, summer credit recovery program, day program, and resumed its residential care program, providing services in accordance with CDC guidelines to meet the needs of families as they transitioned back to work.

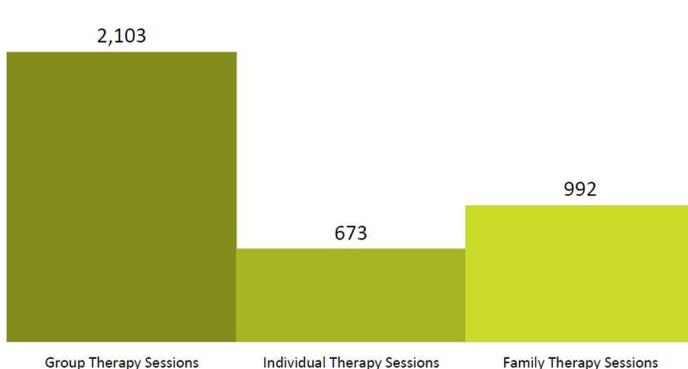
CAFAS Outcomes

The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) is designed to assess the degree of impairment in youth (ages 5-19) who have, or are at risk for emotional, behavioral, substance use, psychiatric, or psychological problems. The instrument assesses a youth's day-to-day

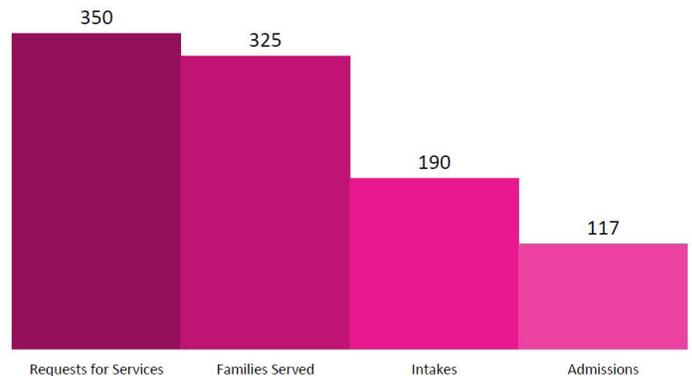
functioning across critical life domains, including school/work, home, community, behavior towards others, moods/emotions, self-harm, substance use, and thinking, and determines whether a youth's functioning improves over time.



Direct Service Hours



Services Provided



Highridge Family Center Client Satisfaction Survey Report

Residents completed surveys during their level meeting deliberation, prior to graduation.

Therapists provided the survey to parents/guardians at least one week prior to their final family therapy session.

For the youth who are released, withdrawn or whose discharge takes place before graduation and/or at a time when a therapist is unavailable, the staff member handling the discharge administered both the resident and the parent/guardian survey.

Youth

92%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that they felt physically safe at Highridge Family Center

83%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to improve their behavior in school because of what they learned at Highridge Family Center

90%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped them express their feelings in a better way

87%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that Highridge helped them achieve their treatment goals

Parents/Guardians

64%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that their family got along better because of what they learned during their care at Highridge

70%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that Highridge Family Center helped their child express his/her feelings in a better way

63%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that they are happy with the treatment their child received

82%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that they would refer another family to Highridge Family Center

I loved the fact that my dorm counselors were nice and patient with me. They were my inspiration to do better.

- Youth comment

My expectation of the program was fulfilled. Hearing about new techniques really improved communication.

- Parent/Guardian comment

Youth & Family Counseling

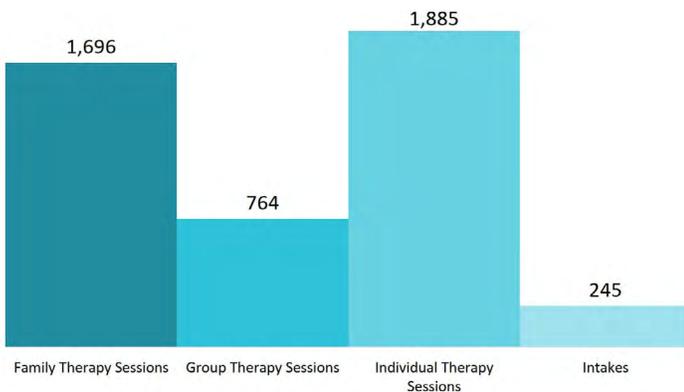


Youth and Family Counseling (YFC) is a three-month community based program that provides family therapy, individual therapy, group therapy, psycho-educational school based programs, and on-site school based services for families with children and youth up to 22 years of age. Additionally, YFC provides parent education classes based on S.T.E.P. (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting)

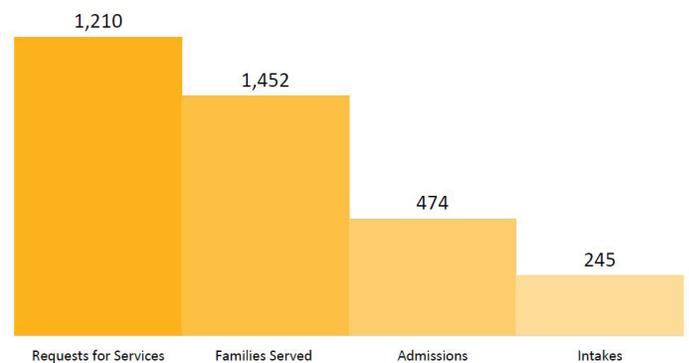
and community presentations. YFC collaborates with community agencies such as the School District of Palm Beach County and the 15th Judicial Circuit Courts.

During fiscal year 2020, YFC staff participated in eight community presentations and were represented by 17 team members, with an additional 24 team members attending 14 community events.

Direct Service Hours



Services Provided



21

Schools (elementary, middle and high) served



438

Students received on-site school-based services



14

Community events attended

Youth & Family Counseling Client Satisfaction Survey Report

Youth

99%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that they could talk about any problems with their therapist

91%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that their family gets along better because of what they learned during their care at Youth Services

89%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped them to express their feelings in a better way

92%

of youth strongly agreed or agreed that they would send a friend to Youth Services if they needed help

What I enjoyed the most was having a way to cope with my problems as well as understand them.

- Youth comment

Parents/Guardians

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that they could talk about any problems with their therapist

98%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that counseling helped their family express feelings in a better way

I liked the neutrality of the service. The therapist did not take sides and treated us equal and fair.

- Parent/Guardian comment

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that they are happy with the services their family received

100%

of parents/guardians strongly agreed or agreed that their family gets along better because of what they learned during their care at Youth Services

Family Violence Intervention Program

The Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP) is a court diversion program for first time juvenile offenders who have been charged with a domestic violence offense. Cases are only accepted upon referral from the State Attorney's Office.

FVIP has a volunteer program that helps clients with the expunction process. During fiscal year 2020, FVIP received a National Association of Counties (NACo) Award in the category of children and youth to honor the program's effectiveness and innovation.

It is a good program. It helps youth stay on track with goals and helps create better relationships with families.

- Youth comment

We had a great experience and FVIP has helped my family communicate in a positive way. Great group interaction. Great counselors.

- Parent/Guardian comment

Family Violence Intervention Program Client Satisfaction Survey Report

Youth

88%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that the mediation conference was helpful in offering solutions for their family problems

98%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that the program helped them make their behavior better

84%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that initial contact with case manager helped ease worry about the court process

90%

of **youth** strongly agreed or agreed that their case manager helped make their family communication better

Parents/Guardians

94%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that the program helped them decrease their child's violent behaviors

100%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that the program was a positive experience for their family

100%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that their case manager helped improve their family communication

100%

of **parents/guardians** strongly agreed or agreed that the individual and/or family counseling sessions their child attended were helpful


103
Clients


91
Clients diverted from the
Juvenile Justice System


88%
Completion Rate

Outreach & Community Programming

As I write this letter we are in the midst of a global public health crisis. Living through this situation we have learned lessons of appropriate reactions, effort and commitment. Before diving into our annual report data and statistics in the pages following, let me start with what we consider to be our greatest asset and top priority, now and always: our people.

Ensuring health and safety has been our top focus throughout these challenging times. We adjusted our work platform, provided PPEs to agencies and children, and heeded guidance from county leadership. We have worked in partnership with other organizations to provide service and resources to all of our funded agencies and Palm Beach County's children and families.

The spread of COVID-19 has presented extraordinary challenges to in-person services. Through ingenuity and use of technology, we transformed services and resources offered to meet the community where they are. We have been fiercely committed to supporting our Community Based Agencies (CBAs) through weekly communications and technical assistance, outside the box programming for summer camp and summer feeding, and access to virtual learning and training.

In June 2020, our division partnered with Pace Center for Girls Palm Beach and Palm Beach County Victim Services to fund the Girls Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County. The Girls Coordinating Council (GCC) is a community collaborative focusing on reforming and strengthening the system of care for girls and increasing the availability of gender responsive, trauma informed and strength-based services for girls. In only six months, the GCC has grown to over 20 partner agencies, aligned with Birth to 22 initiatives, created a website that hosts resources for young women in our community and has begun to identify data indicators that will be at the heart of our work over the next year. The committee will be focused on initiatives that support girls from birth to 22 to be healthy and thrive emotionally, socially and economically.

I express my most heartfelt thanks to the Outreach and Community Programming Division (OCP). It is in times of crises that heroes are born. You are all setting an extraordinary example of commitment, professionalism, and solidarity. You are the best guarantee that, united, we will emerge stronger. As a result of the OCP's work, I am pleased to share that the division's overall outcomes measurements are both positive and steady.

Throughout fiscal year 2021, we will continue to create opportunities to strengthen families, build communities, and help our children realize success.



Geeta Loach-Jacobson

Director of Outreach and Community Programming Division



Community Based Agencies



Community Based Agencies (CBAs) are organizations that receive funding from the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners through its Youth Services Department. The Outreach and Community Programming Division monitors funded organizations for strict compliance and service integrity.

The areas of funding were identified in the Youth Master Plan “Strengthening the Steps to Success” based on information gathered from the community by the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, along with other

youth-serving partner agency members of the Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures Alliance.

The department’s goals for the CBAs are to:

- Provide direction and support to CBAs to ensure successful implementation of contract requirements.
- Ensure that the department’s funding supports programs that fill service gaps as indicated by the Youth Master Plan.
- Evaluate CBA programs to ensure services are having a positive impact on the youth served.

I don't think I would have graduated without your help. You gave me the courage to continue when school closed.

Thank you for all you do.

- Youth comment



44

Contracts



\$4,062,484

Expended



10,827

Youth, adults, parents and organizations served

CBA Funded Programs*

Economic Access \$295,031 expended

ASPIRA of Florida, Inc.
88 youth served

College Bound Youth Bridge to Success

95% of youth maintained acceptable academic standards and remained engaged in a post-secondary education program.

Urban Youth Impact, Inc.
65 youth served

The Reframe Work Program

67% of youth demonstrated an increased understanding in time management, interview and financial skills.
69% of youth were mentored by a business, organization or a community member.

Vita Nova, Inc.
100 youth served

The Ready2Work Program

94% of youth increased their supporting network related to school or work.
88% of youth with increased employability skills gained employment.

Educational Supports \$657,083 expended

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Inc.
20 youth served

School to Work Program

95% of youth connected to a business mentor.
80% of youth increased in socio-emotional competence.
100% of youth were promoted to the next grade level or graduated from high school.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Inc.
308 youth served

Great Futures Program

100% of 6th-11th graders moved to the next grade level.
73% of junior staff successfully fulfilled job requirements and gained 21st Century skills.
71% of Youth Volunteer Corps have completed 100 service hours each per year while being supported by 30 AmeriCorps members.

College for Kids, Inc.
1,146 youth • 465 parents/caregivers served

Take Stock in Children PBC Program

93% of youth met regularly with a positive adult role model.
97% of youth increased college readiness.
89% of parents/caregivers opted into signal vine digital platform.

Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches and Treasure Coast, Inc.
90 youth served

JA Job Shadow

36% of youth increased career awareness.
33% of youth identified next steps for career preparedness.

Seagull Industries for the Disabled, Inc.
45 youth served

SAIL Program

100% of youth have graduated on time, as evident by student tracking sheet.
100% of youth have been employed or enrolled in a continuing education program.

The Arc of Palm Beach County, Inc.
117 youth served • 30 mentors

Stand UP Program

100% of youth completed 20 hours of Stand UP Leadership training.
100% of mentors each contributed 100 hours of mentoring or volunteer services.

The Guatemalan Maya Center, Inc.
100 youth served

Maya - STEAM Academy Program

77% of elementary and middle school aged children increased FSA practice test scores.
49% of parents maintained 65% attendance.

The Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, Inc.
88 parents/caregivers served

Glades Family Education Program

100% of parents/caregivers increased their knowledge of parenting skills.
80% of parents/caregivers agreed or strongly agreed the program has helped them understand how to support their children's education.

Urban Youth Impact, Inc.
15 youth served

Young Readers Program

93% of K-1st graders improved reading scores and literacy comprehension.
100% of K-1st graders moved to the next grade level.

Health & Wellness \$317,709 expended

Center for Child Counseling, Inc.
406 youth • 162 caregivers/providers served

Childhood Trauma Response Program

100% of youth improved trauma symptoms, self-regulation and coping, and behavioral patterns.
100% of adult caregivers and service providers increased knowledge about trauma.

Compass, Inc.
42 youth served

Youth Mental Wellness Program

97% of youth served (through group therapy) demonstrated decreases in anxiety, depression, and isolation.
100% of youth served (through individual therapy) have demonstrated decreases in anxiety, depression, and isolation.

Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.
105 children/youth served

Connections Health and Wellness Program

100% of children/youth with ASD gained an increased knowledge of healthy eating and meal preparation while having access to fresh foods.
100% of children/youth benefited physically by participating in structured in/outdoor exercise.

* Funded CBA Programs chart is not representative of all measures. A full report on CBA measures will be distributed separately.

For the Children, Inc.
30 families served

The Healthy Families Healthy Kids Program
81% of families increased knowledge of nutrition.
90% of families attended 9 of 12 group sessions.

The School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida
156 total served

Project to Ease the Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences Program
100% of students, per school, were screened for services.
75% of teachers increased knowledge and skills of trauma-informed climates.

Parenting & Role Models



\$514,367 expended

Children of Inmates

74 youth • 41 incarcerated parents served

Babies N' Brains Parenting Supports Program
74% of children demonstrated a decrease in anti-social behavior.
84% of incarcerated parents successfully completed the nine module cohort and demonstrated knowledge gained as assessed by pre/post test.

Grandma's Place, Inc.

150 parents/caregivers served

Family Support Program
100% of parents/caregivers reported learning gains and emotional support.
100% of parents/caregivers demonstrated increased learning gains in successfully using a learned communication technique.
100% of parents/caregivers indicated respite care met their needs within one year.

Planned Parenthood of South Florida and Treasure Coast, Inc.

280 parents served

Time for Your Teen Program
98% of parents committed to engage in multiple future conversations with teens about healthy sexual behaviors aligned with values.
99% of parents increased ability to seek additional community resources.

The Children's Home Society of Florida

179 finalized adoptions

Adoption Assistance Program
100% of children served did not experience a recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of service termination.
100% of youth served had a finalized adoption status within 12 months of referral.

The Children's Home Society of Florida

1,027 youth served

The Visitation Center Program
48% of children removed from their homes achieved permanency in under 12 months.
98% of youth achieved permanency had not experienced re-abuse, verified or indicated, within 6 months of termination of services.

United Way of Palm Beach County, Inc.

520 youth • 686 mentors/others served

The Mentor Center Training & Technical Assistance Program
100% of youth mentored over the academic school year were promoted to the next grade level.
100% of trained mentors, staff and parents were better equipped in addressing training topics.

Safety & Justice



\$1,175,370 expended

Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc.

175 youth, 81 parents, and 71 service providers

Commit to Change: A Violence Prevention Initiative Program
100% of youth increased awareness of domestic violence and available resources.
75% of parents increased their knowledge of domestic violence and community resources.
100% of service providers increased awareness of domestic violence and available services.

Boys Town South Florida, Inc.

200 families served

Glades Project Program
77% of families received information about after-school and community based programs.
93% of parents completed parent skills training and reported improved family relationships.
75% of families reported safe home environments with new involvement with child welfare and juvenile systems.

Children of Inmates, Inc.

37 youth served

Boyz to Men/Girlz to Women
92% of youth reported decrease of anti-social behavior.
92% of parents provided a stable family environment.

Children's Case Management Organization, Inc. (Families First)

107 youth served

Y.E.S. (Youth: Empowered and Secure Program)
100% of youth increased in over-all level of functioning.
100% of youth increased improvement in family functioning resulting in no gang participation.

Community Child Care Center of Delray Beach, Inc.

45 youth served

MenTeens of the Future Program
100% of youth experienced high quality out-of-school time programming, as measured by Prime Time Quality Assurance Tool.
100% of youth decreased contact and/or recidivism with Juvenile Justice System.

Communities In Schools, Inc.

50 youth served

Charting for Success Program
100% of youth were promoted to the next grade level.
84% of youth improved in academics.

Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc.

41 youth served

Going the Distance Program

100% of youth were not convicted of a crime during the 12 month contract year.
80% of youth remained active in the program for a minimum of 6 months.

Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc.

155 youth served

Intensive Home Detention Program

100% of youth successfully completed the program by abiding by the signed agreement of program requirements.
100% of youth have not obtained any new charges while enrolled in the program.

Milagro Foundation, Inc.

25 youth served

Youth Inspire Greatness Program

71% of youth were promoted to the next grade level.
71% of youth demonstrated increased knowledge and skills in program workshops/service components.



The Urban League of Palm Beach County, Inc.

70 youth served

Project Moving Forward Program

43% of youth demonstrated improvement in school attendance.
56% of youth demonstrated an increase of knowledge in various topics including but not limited to gang resistance and life skills.

Social & Emotional Learning



\$1,102,920 expended

American Association of Caregiving Youth, Inc.

23 students served

Caregiving Youth Program

38% of students learned that they are not alone.
38% of students reported less stress anxiety; reduced effects of caregiving.

Center for Child Counseling, Inc.

652 youth • 435 caregivers served

Childcare and Community Social-Emotional Wellness Program (CCSEW)

94% of youth improved in healthy communication, problem-solving, coping and behavioral patterns.
100% of adult caregivers increased knowledge of trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences.

City of Greenacres

49 youth served

Youth Programs Division - Cool Zone/Hot Spot

100% of youth obtained at least 25 hours of community service.
93% of youth maintained a minimum report card conduct score of 3.

Community Child Care Center of Delray Beach, Inc.

687 youth served

Out-of-School Programs

100% of youth received high quality out-of-school services.
85% of youth reported a positive climate on program climate survey.

Compass, Inc.

357 participants served

Transgender Youth Services Program

100% of youth improved connectivity within the community.
100% of youth increased knowledge about transgender health resources.
100% of youth increased knowledge on healthy relationships.

Florida Fishing Academy, Inc.

349 youth served

Angling for a Healthy Future Program

97% of youth acquired new skills.
100% of youth engaged in group activities.
100% of youth served as group facilitators and/or mentors.

Housing Partnership, Inc.

29 youth served

Mentoring at Lake Worth Middle Program (MLWM)

100% of youth mentees matched for four months or more consistently attended school.
100% of youth mentees matched for four months or more maintained or decreased in disciplinary referrals, or no referrals at all.

Housing Partnership, Inc.

17 youth served

Mentoring at Pahokee Elementary Program (MPE)

80% of youth mentees matched for four months or more consistently attended school.
80% of youth mentees matched for four months or more maintained or decreased in disciplinary referrals, or no referrals at all.

Milagro Foundation, Inc.

35 youth served

Middle School Program

100% of youth completed at least one year in the program achieved promotion (or graduation).
94% of youth demonstrated an increased in knowledge and skills in each of the programs/projects.

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.

434 youth served

Middle School Out-of-School Time (OST) Initiative Program

95% of programs participated in Quality Improvement System achieved and/or maintained satisfactory program quality.
90% of practitioners across all participated QIS programs reported a positive impact with services and supports provided.

Urban League of Palm Beach County

168 youth served

Project Ready NULITES Program (PR NULITES)

100% of high school seniors graduated.
80% of youth demonstrated growth in leadership and increased knowledge of life skills.

Summer CBA Funded Programs

Health & Wellness  \$138,750 expended

Educational Supports  \$86,495 expended

Digital Vibez
984 youth served

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
778 youth served

Wellness Workshop Program

85% of youth increased their knowledge and understanding of nutrition.

80% of youth demonstrated an increase in physical activity.

80% of youth attended the annual KidsFit Jamathon event.

Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO)

80% of practitioners reported high satisfaction.

100% of providers achieved satisfactory quality scores.

80% of providers reported youth were cognitively, socially and emotionally engaged.



2

Contracts



\$225,245

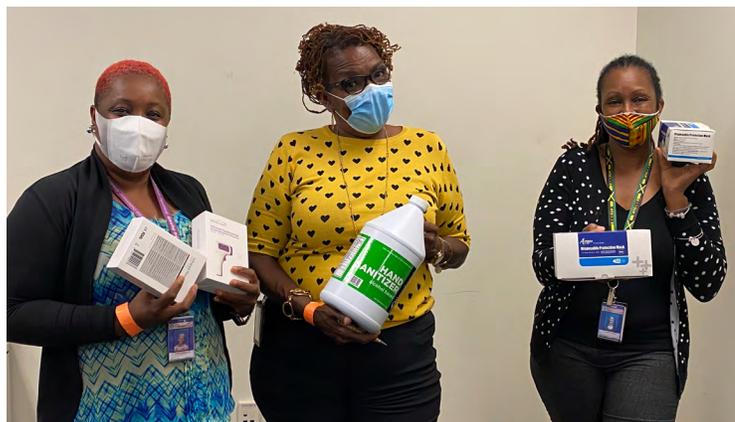
Expended



1,762

Youth served

Summer Programs Safety



Safety & Sanitation Procedures

Any camps providing in-person services were required to provide an updated Safety & Sanitation Plan specific to the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan included precautions taken by the staff, camper, and the site, as well as how they would handle a positive case.

CARES Act funding provided protective personal equipment (PPE) and sanitation equipment to both the Summer Camp Scholarship Program and the Summer Food Service Program.



1,115

Gallons of
hand sanitizer



152,550

Masks



1,408

Bottles of
disinfectant spray

Summer Camp Scholarship Program

The Summer Camp Scholarship Program (SCSP) provides full-tuition and fees for summer camp for children residing in families with income at or below 150% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. It allows parents to work with the knowledge that their children are safe. It gives children educational and recreational opportunities for growth. In addition to the funding provided by Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, a significant contribution of scholarship funding is made by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County.

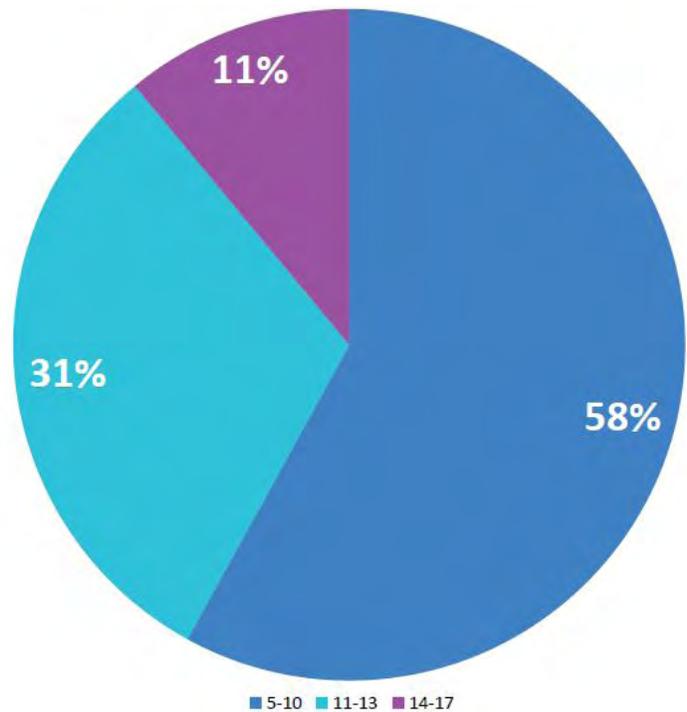
Summer Camp Platforms

Fiscal year 2020 summer camps platforms included in-person camps with additional safety protocols, virtual-only camps with daily education and recreation activities campers were able to utilize from home, and hybrid or combination camps that offered a blend of both in-person and virtual camps.



Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County

Campers By Age



46%

of camp sites operated through in-person platforms

44%

of camp sites operated through virtual platforms

10%

of camp sites operated through hybrid platforms



2,401

Summer camp scholarship attendees



1,145

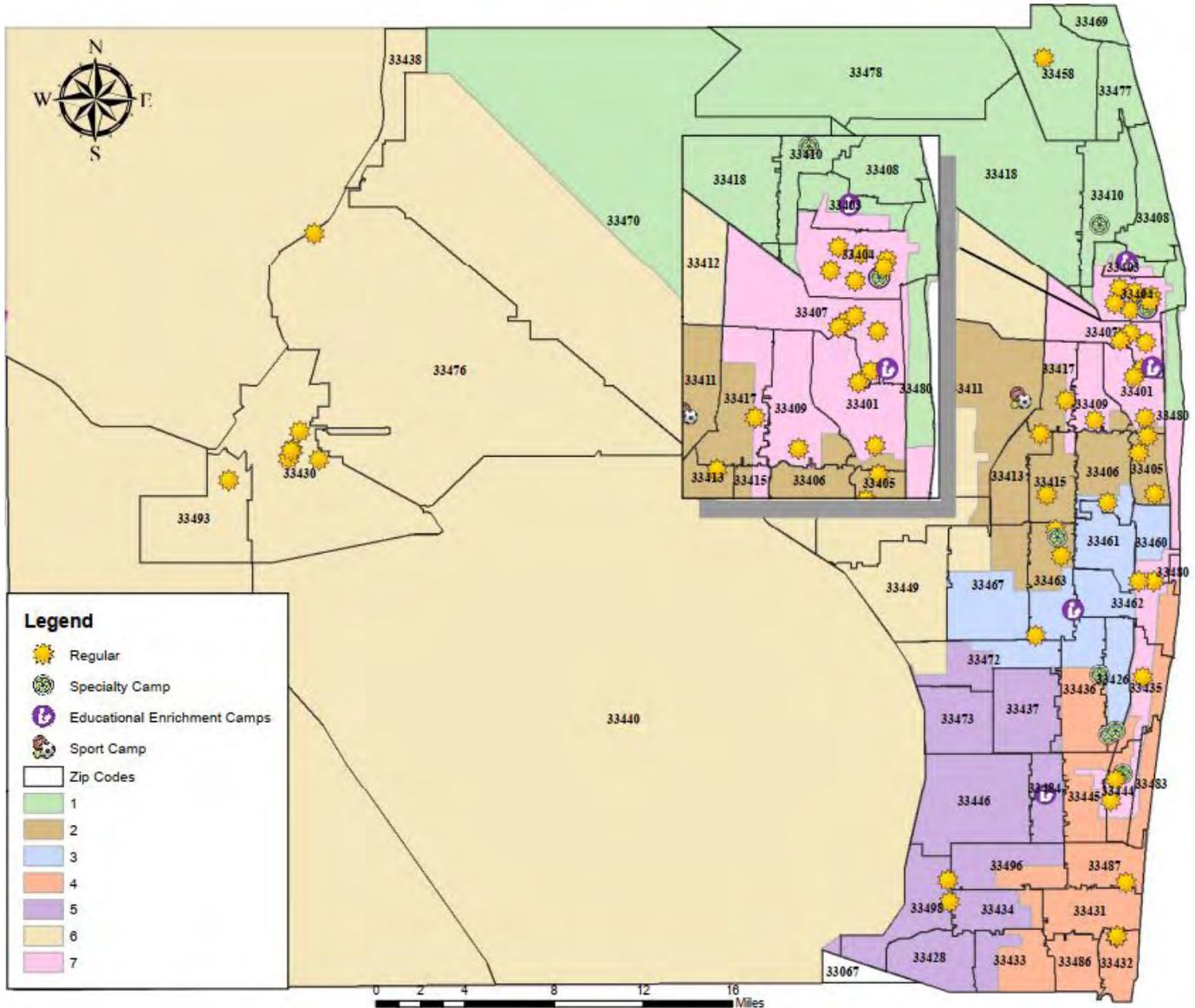
Children attended Educational Enrichment camps



115

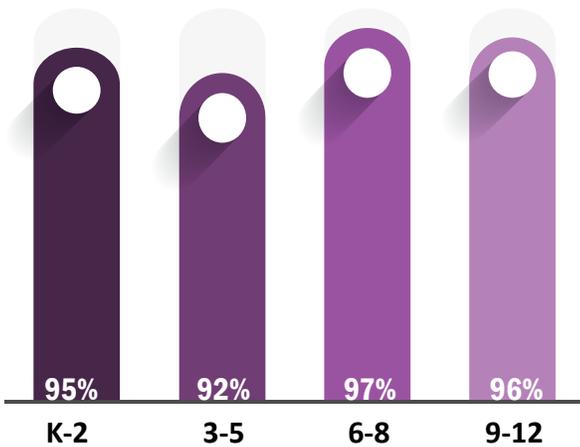
Camp sites

2020 Summer Camp Sites

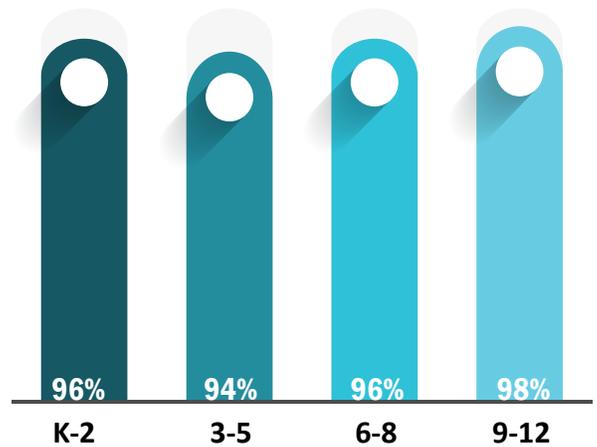


Percent of Youth in Educational Enrichment Camps had Educational Gains

Math



Reading



Summer Camp Scholarship Extension

The Palm Beach County School District postponed the start of the 2020-2021 school year to August 31. This resulted in a three-week gap between the end of summer camp and the start of the school year.

Summer Camp Scholarship Program funders approved an extension for several in-person camps. Camps provided a minimum of six daily programming hours and operated through August 28, with state, county, and CDC safety guidelines.

SCSP Database

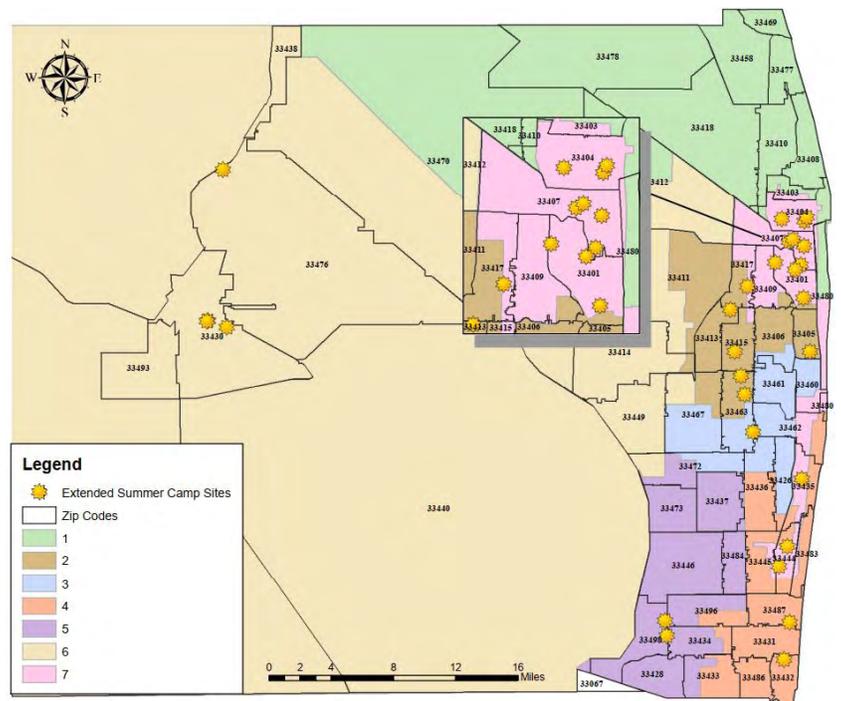
The online mobile-friendly database allows providers and parents to electronically complete applications. In 2020, the database added a third billing cycle to accommodate the Summer Camp Extension Program and a digital monitoring letter was created to make site monitoring a paperless process.



Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today, Inc.

-
-
-
-
-

Summer Camp Extension Map



 <h1>470</h1> Summer camp extension attendees	 <h1>\$248,000</h1> Expended for additional scholarships	 <h1>29</h1> In-person camp sites
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Super Summer Spelling Bee

Palm Beach County Youth Services Department hosted its sixth annual Super Summer Spelling Bee on July 14.

Using Kahoot!, a virtual learning-based platform, campers' spelling skills were tested through identifying the correct spelling of a spoken word, filling in the blanks, listening and typing the correct spelling of a word, and selecting the correct word in a sentence. The spelling bee provides academic activities to encourage the spirit of learning while preventing summer slide.

All winners received a trophy and a book. Each 1st place speller won a Kindle.



Registration Dashboard

The Super Summer Spelling Bee registration received its own dashboard on the Summer Camp Scholarship Program database. The dashboard allows providers to register the spellers, generate bib numbers, upload consent forms, create the event roster, and facilitate reports once the event is concluded.



Super Summer Spelling Bee Winners

K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th
Jordan Grant East Coast Flame Allstars	Alany Jean Digital Vibez. Inc.	Christopher Marquez City of Greenacres	Destiny Haynes Destiny Fulfilled
Kayla Farmer Digital Vibez, Inc.	Kailey Brown East Coast Flame Allstars	Shane Gimmy Quantum Youth	Jermaine Lovely Boys & Girls Clubs Belle Glade Teen Center
Jade McCoy Destiny Fulfilled	Addie Lafortune Achievement Center	Zona Black Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders	Keiana Haines Destiny Fulfilled



83

Spelling bee
participants



27

Summer camps
participated

Pre-Summer Feeding

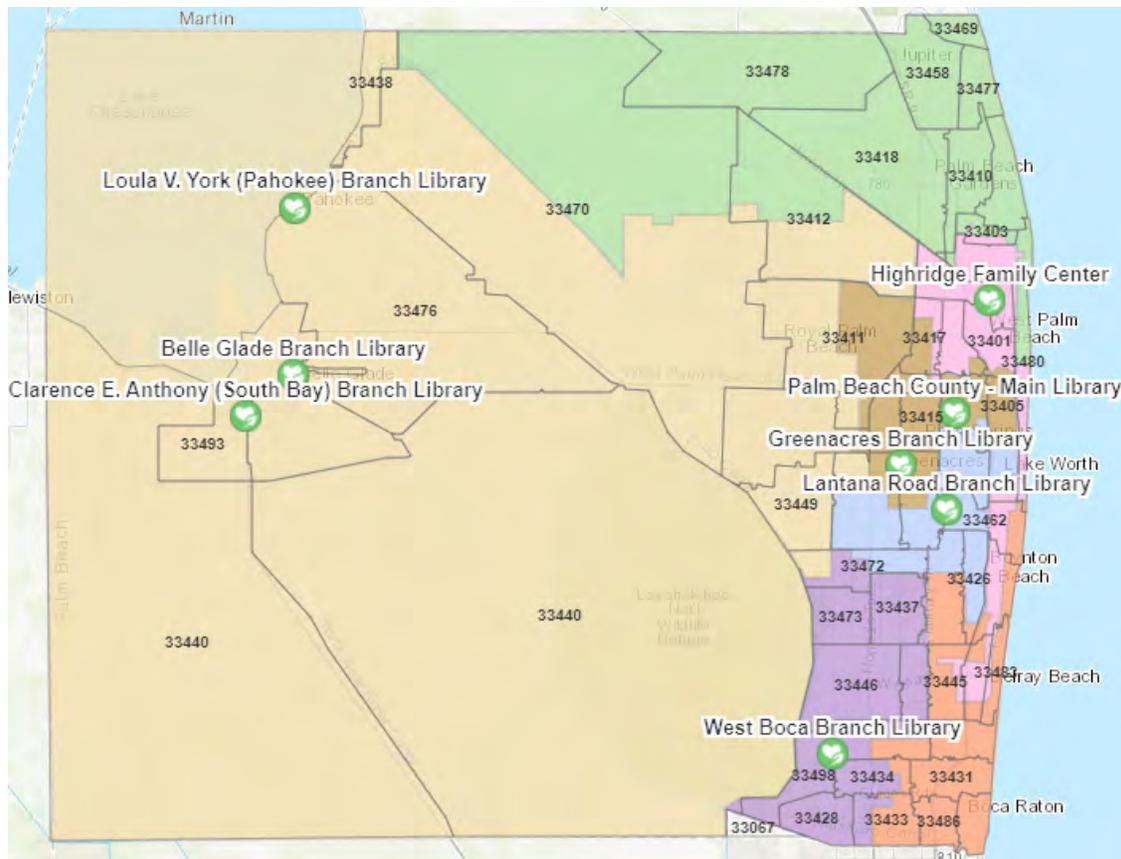


Palm Beach County Main Library Site

During fiscal year 2020, the USDA issued waivers to allow Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Summer Food Service Program, to begin pre-summer feeding on April 27. Sites distributed seven-days worth of meals to each eligible child.

The pre-summer feeding ensured that school-aged children, 18 years and under, continue to receive nutritious meals during school closing as a result of the pandemic. Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department worked with approved sites to provide a safe environment where children received nutritious meals.

Pre-Summer Feeding Map



8

Food sites



5

Weeks in operation



16,674

Pre-summer meals served

Summer Food Service Program

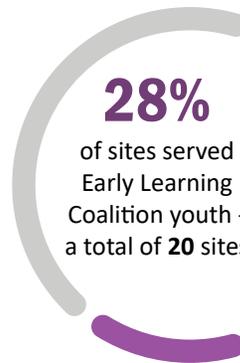
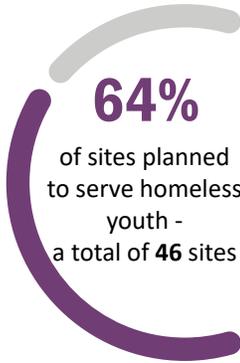
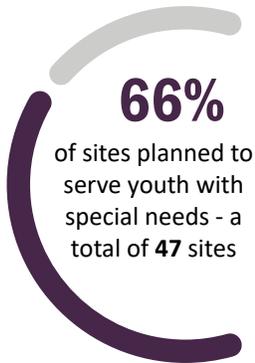


Highridge Family Center

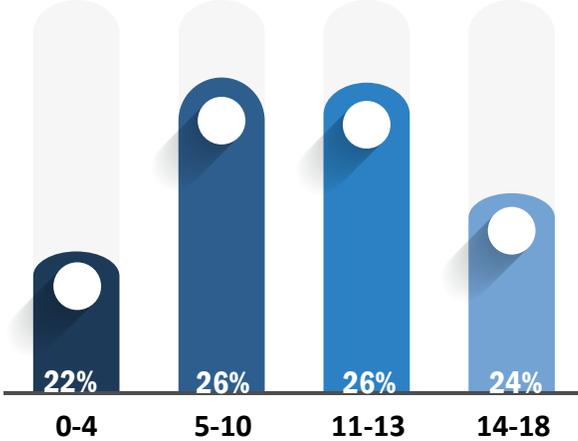
As pre-summer feeding ended, the regularly scheduled summer food service began on June 1. The purpose of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is to ensure that school-aged children, 18 years and under, continue to receive nutritious meals beyond the school year and during the summer months. Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department works with approved sites to provide a safe environment where children can receive a nutritious meal.

During fiscal year 2020, all seven Palm Beach County districts were represented. This was the first year the program serviced as far north as Tequesta. Four sites were located in the Glades.

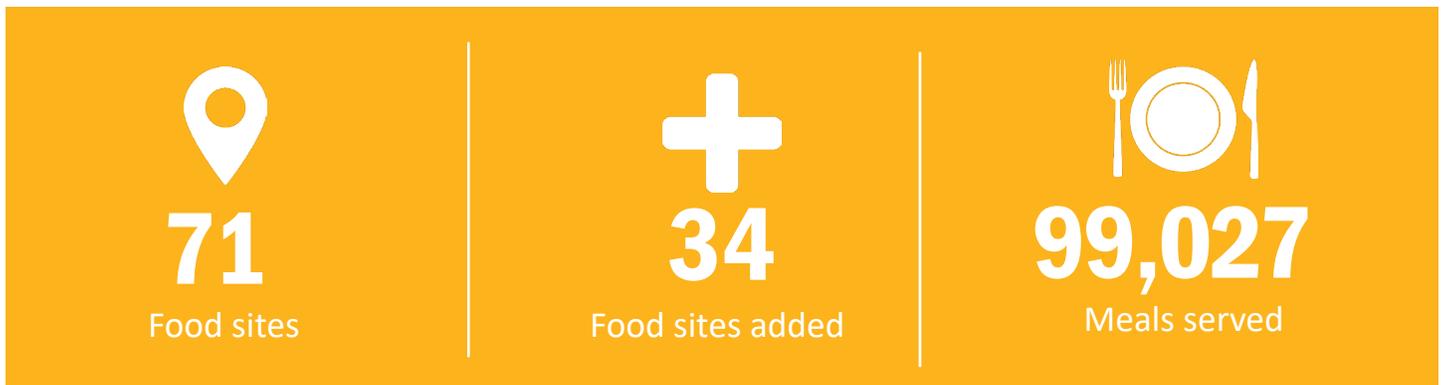
Youth Served



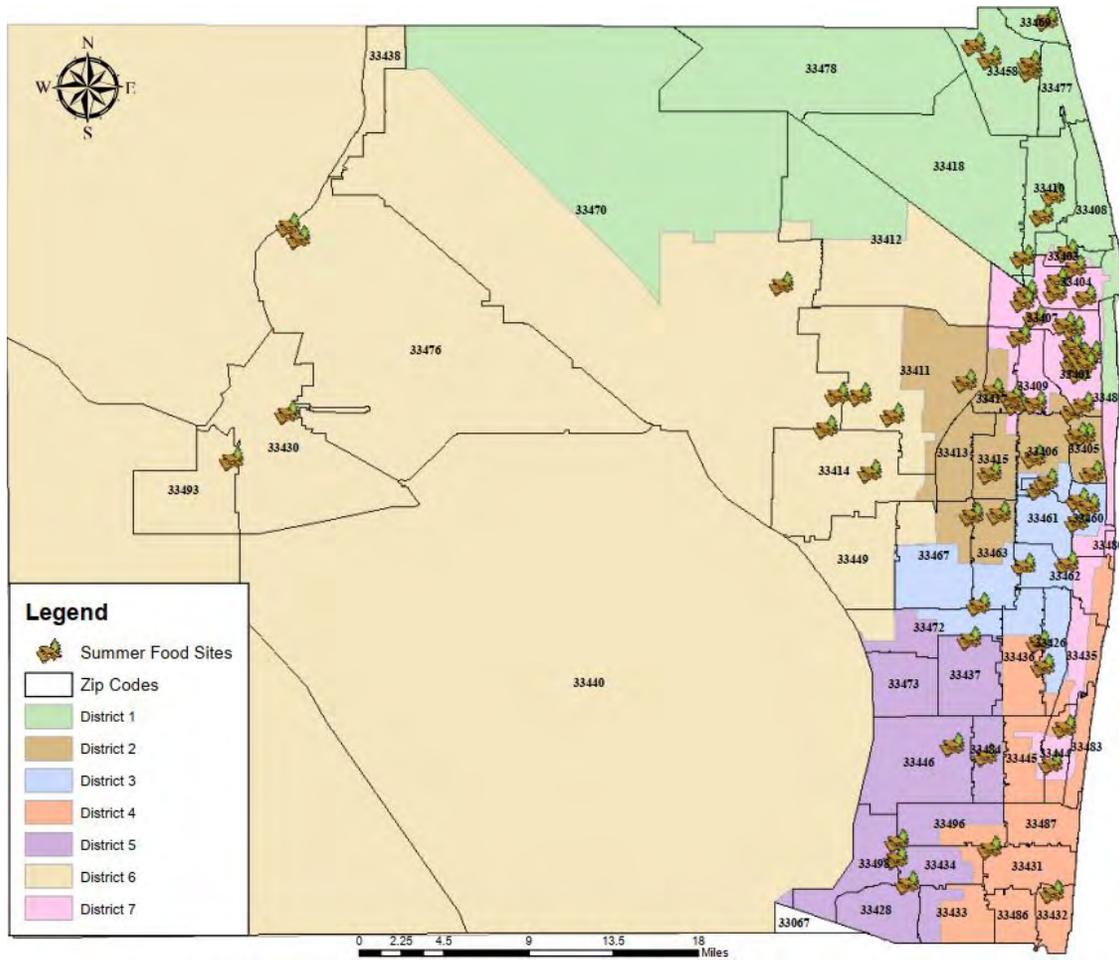
Percentage of Total Sites by Age Group Served



Palm Beach County Library System Partnership



2020 Summer Food Service Sites



Back to School Palm Beach County

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Summer Food Service Program partnered with the Office of Community Revitalization and other community partners to provide shelf-stable seven-day meal boxes to attendees at the Back to School Palm Beach County event. The event was held at Village Academy, Palm Beach Kennel Club and Palm Beach State College Belle Glade Campus.



3

Meal distribution event sites



42,000

Meals served

Youth Empowerment Centers



The Youth Services Department provides funding to three Youth Empowerment Centers (YECs) located in Belle Glade, Lake Worth and Riviera Beach. The centers offer services focused on the prevention of youth violence; youth empowerment; and fostering education, health, and leadership within the community.

The YECs are working towards reducing the rate of youth violence through positive measures such as:

- Connectivity to **mental health services** for youth who are identified with anger problems and lack of social skills

- **Social skills workshops** to prevent youth tension and violence, such as bullying prevention, conflict management and substance abuse prevention
- **Social & Emotional Supports** to develop appropriate mindset and behaviors

The YEC programs provide activities and services to middle and high school youth, including after-school education and recreational programs/activities.

During fiscal year 2020, 27 schools were served by YECs.

The Centers Focus On



Empowering Youth



Nurturing Health



Fostering Education



Encouraging Leadership & Community Involvement



Developing Career Opportunities



300

Youth participants



\$484,637

Expended



40

YEC participants placed in summer internships

Outcomes

Belle Glade (Student ACEs) YEC



of students demonstrated improvement in student academics



of students advanced to the next grade level or attained high school graduation*



of high school seniors attained post graduate success



of students remained crime free



of students placed in summer internships demonstrated increased employability skills



of students completed summer internships

Lake Worth (For The Children) YEC



of students demonstrated improvement in student academics*



of students advanced to the next grade level or attained high school graduation*



of high school seniors attained post graduate success



of students remained crime free



of students placed in summer internships demonstrated increased employability skills



of students completed summer internships

Riviera Beach YEC



of students demonstrated improvement in student academics*



of students advanced to the next grade level or attained high school graduation*



of high school seniors attained post graduate success



of students remained crime free



of students placed in summer internships demonstrated increased employability skills



of students completed summer internships



Being at YEC helped me with school and overall everything. The staff was always supportive, very respectful, and always helpful no matter what. They helped me to build a career path that I did not know I had and I would like to thank them for that. I feel that anyone who goes to YEC can and will come out with a positive future.

- Riviera Beach YEC youth

*Outcomes do not include students that have been in the program less than a year.

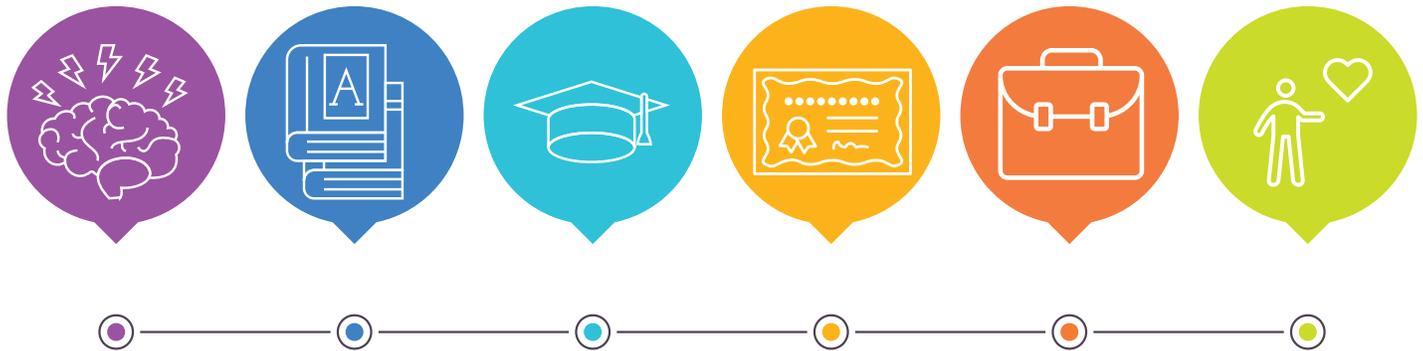
My Brother's Keeper Network



The My Brother's Keeper Network (MBK) is a coalition of public and private entities that work together to improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color through internal agency policy review, education and employment opportunities. During fiscal year 2020, MBK provided equity focused developmental initiatives and opportunities

for boys and young men of color including but not limited to reading programs, tutoring, life skills, listening sessions, police and community forums, mentoring, college prep, career readiness, internships and employment opportunities.

The Six Goals of MBK



Entering School Ready to Learn

43% of Palm Beach County children entered school ready to learn in fiscal year 2019*

Reading on Grade Level by 3rd Grade

Black males improved reading level by **56%** in fiscal year 2019

Youth Graduate from High School

Black students improved from **65% to 83%** between fiscal year 2014 and 2018

Youth Complete Post-Secondary Education or Training

61% Black students enrolled in fall semester after graduation

Access to Jobs and Valuable Work Experience

116 youth connected to summer employment opportunities

Remain Safe from Violent Crime

98% of Youth Empowerment Center students remained crime free



209

Partnerships



9%

Increase in partnerships

*Statistics from fiscal year 2018 & 2019 are the most recent available from the School District of Palm Beach County.

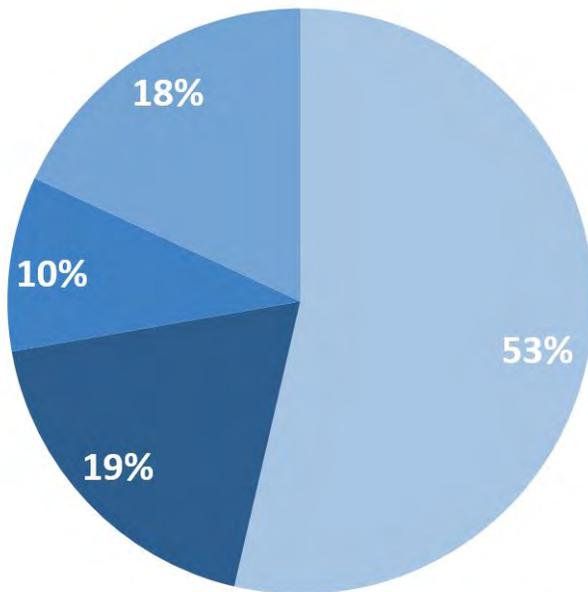
Future Leaders United for Change



Future Leaders United for Change is the voice for the youth of Palm Beach County creating leaders through self-motivation, determination and education. The youth provide input on the design, implementation and communication of an ongoing strategic plan for future

Community Conversations, focus group discussions, interviews, surveys and youth summits. The group is one of the recommendations that arose from the Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures Alliance and several members serve on the Steering Committee of Birth to 22.

Community Service Hours



■ Monthly Meetings ■ Community Engagements ■ Leadership Trainings ■ Birth to 22 Meetings

14%

of Future Leaders members were enrolled in post-secondary education

66%

of Future Leaders members were enrolled in high school

20%

of Future Leaders members were enrolled in middle school



1,200

Community service hours earned



147

Youth Participants



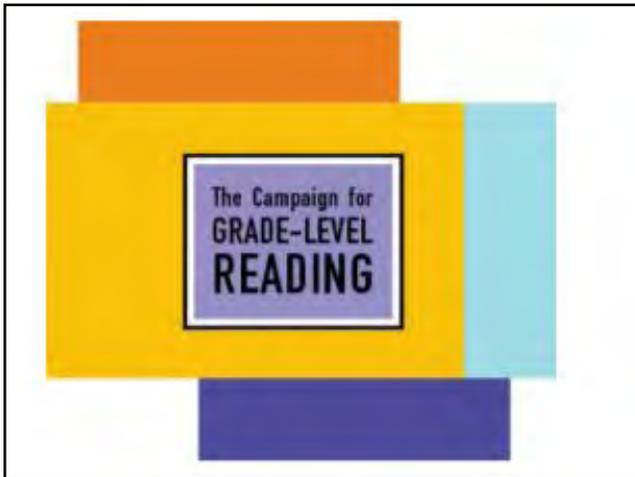
31

Palm Beach County schools represented

Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures

Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures is a collaboration of community leaders coming together to work toward one goal: supporting the healthy growth, development and education of Palm Beach County children and youth prenatal through young adulthood so that they can graduate from high school and succeed in life.

Recognition



Pacesetter Honor

The growth of Palm Beach County’s Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures Alliance was recognized as a ‘Pacesetter’ by the national Grade Level Reading Campaign. The award was in the category of “big-tent collaboration,” a salute to the Alliance’s expansion to more than 300 community partners.

The winning essay, prepared by the Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County, traced the growth of the Birth to 22 Alliance from its inception at the 2013 Youth Symposium, through Community Conversations, creation of the Youth Master Plan and development of Future Leaders United for Change. Children’s Services Council and Palm Beach County Youth Services Department co-lead the Birth to 22 Alliance.

Publications



Birth to 22 Newsletter

Birth to 22 unveiled its quarterly newsletter on December 1 2019. Each edition features current news and upcoming events.

The newsletter was designed, and is edited quarterly by Palm Beach County Youth Services Department’s Public Relations Specialist Erin Baker.

Issues are distributed during the first weeks of December, March, June and September.



Community Indicators

The Child Youth and Community Data Team completed the Palm Beach County Indicators of Child, Family, and Community Risk, Well-being and Access to Supports.

This presentation style data deck, provides information on a comprehensive array of indicators for Palm Beach County children and families beginning prenatally and continuing through the transition to adulthood.

*To view the publications, visit the Birth to 22 website at www.pbcirthto22.com

Campaigns



Get Your Green On

Birth to 22 co-hosted the fifth annual county-wide Get Your Green On campaign. The campaign aims to raise awareness by creating visible support and fostering safe spaces to talk openly about behavioral health and trauma.

The month of May featured proclamations, trainings, awareness activities, and a social media impact campaign. As part of the campaign, county residents were encouraged to wear green on May 21 in support of mental health awareness and trauma informed care. More than 2,000 photos were submitted of residents wearing green for “Get Your Green On Day.”

These efforts are proclaiming the importance of taking care of mental health and offering trauma informed support throughout the county.

Engagement



Community Conversations

Four Community Conversations were held in fiscal year 2020.

In partnership with Palm Beach State College (PBSC) the events were held at the four PBSC campuses throughout the county:

Lake Worth Campus on October 16, 2019

Belle Glade Campus on January 16, 2020

Loxahatchee Campus on February 4, 2020

Palm Beach Gardens Campus on February 18, 2020

In total, there were 187 attendees (58 were 22 years of age or under).

Task Force Meeting

In December 2019, Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures Alliance held its annual stakeholder meeting at the Clayton E. Hutchenson Agricultural Center in West Palm Beach. The meeting informs the community on the activities and accomplishments of the year and to forecast the focus of the alliance for the coming year. Leaders of Birth to 22 engaged the group in lively discussions and activities centered around making connections and partnering for impact using the principles of collective impact and racial equity.



60

Attendees



35

Agencies



8

Action areas

Finance, Contracting & Administrative Services



The annual report is a time to reflect on our accomplishments and recognize some of the challenges experienced along the way. Never could I have imagined the impact Covid-19 would have on our daily operations or the impact it would have in our communities! I am a planner; a numbers and budget person who likes things organized and calculated. Then – 2020!

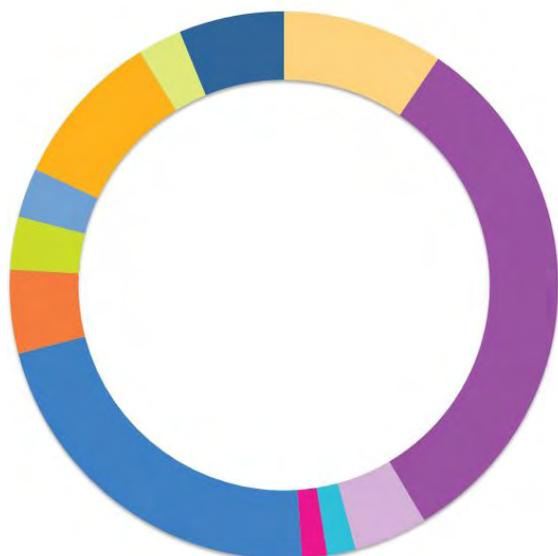
There was an urgent need to respond to the logistics of some employee’s moving to telework and some working in-office. The FCA Division moved into action to request VPN connections, distribute and troubleshoot mobile computer equipment and provide training. We ordered Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as face masks, face shields, hand sanitizer and disinfecting solutions. Other tasks included obtaining thermometers, batteries; setting up hand sanitizing stations and employee screening checkpoints; increasing our reach and creating awareness through social media campaigns regarding service delivery updates. We’ve learned new ways of communicating and working while meeting or exceeding our goals. Contract renewals moved forward as planned and all fiscal activities continued, meeting existing deadlines.

Hurricane Isaias spared us any significant harm or damage and it gave us the opportunity to test some changes to the layout and protocol at the Special Needs Shelter-Fairgrounds. Lessons learned from previous years were applied and tested with a small population so we may be better prepared to hop into action if we are called upon in the future.

As I look forward to the new fiscal year, I believe with new processes we will see new efficiencies. We will continue to grow and embrace new ideas. We will be mindful of the effects the past year’s challenges have had on our team, and in our personal lives. We will continue on our journey to learn and share information, while embracing the Sanctuary Model as well as our Racial Equity and Diversity initiatives. We prepared and submitted a timely budget for fiscal year 2021 and saw the following results in fiscal year 2020:

Michelle Liska
Director of Finance, Contracting and Administrative Services Division

FY 2020 Actual Expenses \$14,655,026.20



- Administration
- Community Based Agency (Evidence Based Programming) Contracts
- Education and Training
- Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP)
- Guardian Ad-Litem
- Highridge Family Center
- Outreach and Community Programming
- Summer Camp Program
- Summer Food Program (Grant)
- Youth and Family Counseling
- Youth Empowerment Center Contracts
- Cares Act Relief Funding



83

Active contracts



713

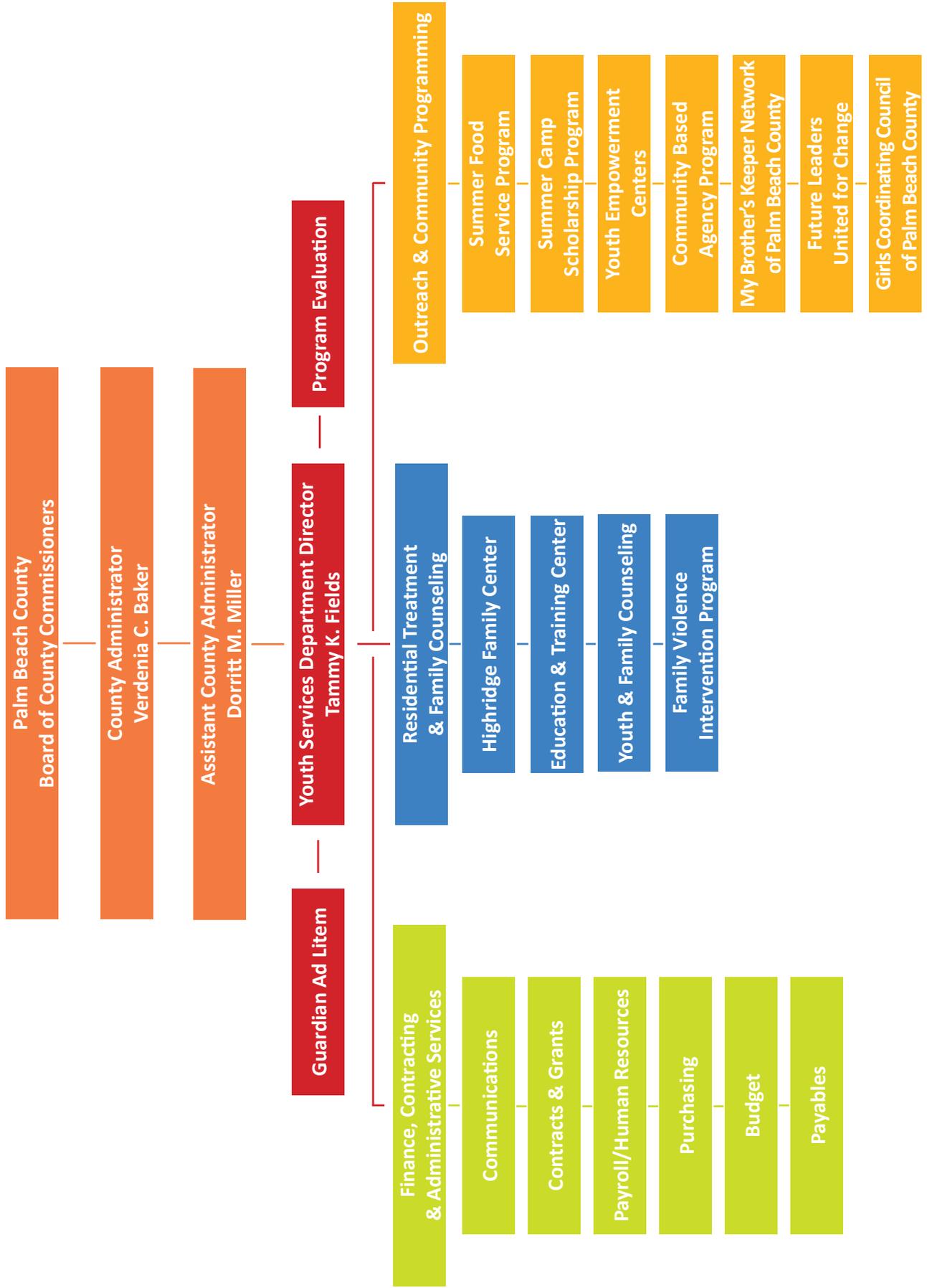
Contract claims processed



26.9%

Increased social network followers

Organizational Chart





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West Palm Beach, FL 33415
(561) 242-5700
pbcgov.com/youthservices



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners