Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department

2019-2020 Annual Impact Report
Contents

04  Letter from Our Director
05  Alyssa Sangeeta Jacobson Scholarship
06  Department Highlights
08  Employee Engagement
09  Cross-Divisional Action Teams
10  Guardian ad Litem
11  Residential Treatment and Family Counseling Division
12  Education & Training Center
14  Highridge Family Center
16  Youth & Family Counseling
18  Family Violence Intervention Program
19  Outreach and Community Programming Division
20  Community Based Agencies
24  Summer CBA Funded Programs
25  Summer Camp Scholarship Program
27  Summer Camp Scholarship Extension
28  Super Summer Spelling Bee
29  Pre-Summer Feeding
30  Summer Food Service Program
32  Youth Empowerment Centers
34  My Brother’s Keeper Network of Palm Beach County
35  Future Leaders United for Change
36  Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures
38  Finance, Contracting and Administrative Services Division
39  Organizational Chart
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
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
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, pursing 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.”
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.

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.

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.
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.

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

By Activity

- 65% of Youth Services Department employees actively participated on a Cross-Divisional Action Team
- 87% of Youth Services Department employees actively engaged on a division, department, steering, or core group

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

*Participants, goals, and presentations only include Palm Beach County Youth Services Department’s Cross-Divisional Action Teams outcomes.*
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

“We 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

“We 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 mindfulness trainings and coping strategy videos.
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

19,386 Volunteer case hours
93,804 Volunteer miles traveled

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
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children and Adolescents</th>
<th>The Impact of Implicit Bias and Microaggressions</th>
<th>Structural Family Therapy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dialectical Behavior Therapy</td>
<td>Managing Emotions During a Pandemic</td>
<td>Suicidality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability: Culture, Treatment and Assessment</td>
<td>Normal Expressions of Sexuality in Children</td>
<td>Tapping into Your Parent Super Powers: Strategies for Getting Young Children to Behave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing your Family Therapy Skills from a Multicultural Perspective</td>
<td>Paper Tigers Documentary</td>
<td>Teach Us All Documentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics: Maintaining Professional Boundaries</td>
<td>Professional Development: Preparing For the Next Steps</td>
<td>The Impact of Parental Incarceration on Children &amp; Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Laws &amp; Rules of the Board</td>
<td>Promoting Emotional Regulation in Children: Evidenced-Based Practices</td>
<td>The Role of Psychopharmacology in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations of Clinical Supervision</td>
<td>Providing Affirming Gender and Orientation Care</td>
<td>Trauma 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genograms: Uncovering Family Trends</td>
<td>Race-Based Implicit Bias and Microaggressions</td>
<td>Unfriended: Impacts of Social Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Therapy</td>
<td>Sexual Assault</td>
<td>What Happened to You?: The Impact of Familial Substance Abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Partner Communication</td>
<td>Step Families: A Greater Understanding for Professionals Working with Blended Families</td>
<td>When Compassion Causes Concern</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Direct Service Hours

![Bar Chart]

- Total Presentation Attendees: 4,455
- Youth Services Didactic Trainings: 1,966
- Community Presentations: 2,489
Youth Services Annual Impact Report 2019-2020

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

**Parents/Guardians**

- **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

*I liked being able to express how I felt and got the help and support I needed.
- Youth comment

*I liked how patient the therapists were. Their feedback was helpful during sessions.
- Parent/Guardian comment

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

77% of youth showed improvement on one or more outcome indicators

83% of youth with severe impairments at the start of treatment showed improvement by the end of the treatment

97% of youth who were identified initially as Pervasively Behaviorally Impaired improved with treatment and scored either mild or no impairment at the end of treatment

70% of youth showed meaningful and reliable improvement

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
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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Therapy Sessions</td>
<td>1,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Therapy Sessions</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Therapy Sessions</td>
<td>1,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intakes</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Services Provided

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requests for Services</td>
<td>1,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families Served</td>
<td>1,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intakes</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **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

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 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

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
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.

**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

*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

Youth Services Annual Impact Report 2019-2020 | 18
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 (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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contracts</th>
<th>Expended</th>
<th>Youth, adults, parents and organizations served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>$4,062,484</td>
<td>10,827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CBA Funded Programs*

### Economic Access $295,031 expended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Youth/Caregivers Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASPIRA of Florida, Inc.</td>
<td>$317,709</td>
<td>88 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Bound Youth Bridge to Success</td>
<td></td>
<td>95% of youth maintained acceptable academic standards and remained engaged in a post-secondary education program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Youth Impact, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>65 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Reframe Work Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>67% of youth demonstrated an increased understanding in time management, interview and financial skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vita Nova, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ready2Work Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>94% of youth increased their supporting network related to school or work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Educational Supports $657,083 expended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Youth/Caregivers Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School to Work Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>95% of youth connected to a business mentor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>308 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Futures Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of 6th-11th graders moved to the next grade level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College for Kids, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,146 youth • 465 parents/caregivers served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Stock in Children PBC Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>93% of youth met regularly with a positive adult role model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches and Treasure Coast, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>90 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA Job Shadow</td>
<td></td>
<td>36% of youth increased career awareness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seagull Industries for the Disabled, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>45 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAIL Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of youth have graduated on time, as evident by student tracking sheet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arc of Palm Beach County, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>117 youth served • 30 mentors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stand UP Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of youth completed 20 hours of Stand UP Leadership training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Guatemalan Maya Center, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maya - STEAM Academy Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>77% of elementary and middle school aged children increased FSA practice test scores.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>88 parents/caregivers served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glades Family Education Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of parents/caregivers increased their knowledge of parenting skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Youth Impact, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>15 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Readers Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>93% of K-1st graders improved reading scores and literacy comprehension.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Health & Wellness $317,709 expended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Youth/Caregivers Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Center for Child Counseling, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>406 youth • 162 caregivers/providers served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childhood Trauma Response Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of youth improved trauma symptoms, self-regulation and coping, and behavioral patterns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compass, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>42 youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Mental Wellness Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>97% of youth served (through group therapy) demonstrated decreases in anxiety, depression, and isolation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>105 children/youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connections Health and Wellness Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>100% of children/youth with ASD gained an increased knowledge of healthy eating and meal preparation while having access to fresh foods.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Babies N’ Brains Parenting Supports Program</strong></td>
<td>74 children • 41 incarcerated parents</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Support Program</strong></td>
<td>100% of parents/caregivers served</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grandma’s Place, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>150 parents/caregivers served</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planned Parenthood of South Florida and Treasure Coast, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>280 parents served</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Safety & Justice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adoption Assistance Program</strong></td>
<td>179 finalization adoptions</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Visitation Center Program</strong></td>
<td>1,027 youth served</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>United Way of Palm Beach County, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>520 youth • 686 mentors/others served</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## For the Children, Inc.

- **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

- **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.
### Social & Emotional Learning

**$1,102,920 expended**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Youth/Participants</th>
<th>Program Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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. |
| 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. |
| 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 | 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. |
| Milagro Foundation, Inc. | 25 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. |
| Milagro Foundation, Inc. | 25 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. |
| 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. |
Our Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) program saw a high level of practitioner satisfaction, with 80% reporting high satisfaction. Additionally, 100% of providers achieved satisfactory quality scores, and 80% of providers reported that youth were cognitively, socially, and emotionally engaged.

In our Health & Wellness program, the Wellness Workshop Program saw 85% of youth increase their knowledge and understanding of nutrition, 80% demonstrate an increase in physical activity, and 80% attend the annual KidsFit Jamathon event.

Digital Vibez, our digital initiative, served 984 youth, with expanded contracts worth $225,245. We served 1,762 youth in total.

Our Summer CBA Funded Programs saw significant investments in safety and sanitation procedures. Any camps providing in-person services were required to update their Safety & Sanitation Plans specific to the COVID-19 pandemic. CARES Act funding provided PPE and sanitation equipment to both the Summer Camp Scholarship Program and the Summer Food Service Program.

Safety & Sanitation Procedures

- 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.

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

Campers By Age

- 5-10: 31%
- 11-13: 58%
- 14-17: 11%

Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County
Percent of Youth in Educational Enrichment Camps had Educational Gains

**Math**

- K-2: 95%
- 3-5: 92%
- 6-8: 97%
- 9-12: 96%

**Reading**

- K-2: 96%
- 3-5: 94%
- 6-8: 96%
- 9-12: 98%
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.

Summer Camp Extension Map

Preparing Tomorrow’s Leaders Today, Inc.

470 Summer camp extension attendees

$248,000 Expended for additional scholarships

29 In-person camp camp sites
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

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

Super Summer Spelling Bee

83 Spelling bee participants

27 Summer camps participated
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.
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

- **66%** of sites planned to serve youth with special needs - a total of 47 sites
- **64%** of sites planned to serve homeless youth - a total of 46 sites
- **28%** of sites served Early Learning Coalition youth - a total of 20 sites
- **38%** of sites served Summer Camp Scholarship youth - a total of 27 sites

### Percentage of Total Sites by Age Group Served

- 0-4: 22%
- 5-10: 26%
- 11-13: 26%
- 14-18: 24%

---

### Palm Beach County Library System Partnership

- 17 Library Locations
- 184 Library Staff Trained
- 850 Hours of Services

---

### Summary

- **71** Food sites
- **34** Food sites added
- **99,027** Meals served
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal distribution event sites</th>
<th>Meals served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>42,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
Youth Services Annual Impact Report 2019-2020 | 33

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.
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

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

- 18% 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.pcbirthto22.com

Youth Services Annual Impact Report 2019-2020 | 36
**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.

**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.
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