



CENTER FOR FAMILY SERVICES OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC.

From Our Family To Yours

Our mission to strengthen individuals and families is alive and in action every day. This month our mission was tested and recognized for excellence.

Our first bit of good news... Nonprofits First informed us that we passed our accreditation with excellence.

Children's Home Society of Florida approved our agency once again as a SAFE PLACE for youth, ages 10-17. This means, at-risk youth in crisis can continue to seek emergency shelter at the Center for safety, counseling, and basic necessities. We are here to connect our youth to help and resources.



This past month has also brought tests and measures of our mission and practices. We had visitors from Florida Department of Children and Family Services (DCF) and the Council on Accreditation (COA) examining our policies and practices.

DCF's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Office examines an agency's eligibility for licensing. We submitted evidence for 551 standards. Our Partners for Change Recovery Program, which provides substance abuse services to individuals and families at risk of, or challenged by, substance abuse, was under scrutiny for the past five months. Auditors ensured that the state's regulatory standards were met by CFS and our recovery program. The results came in that we passed with 100%.

Having no findings is a real feat, one that we are proud of our Partners for Change Team (Director of Counseling Services Jamie-Lyn Richartz, Therapist Mario Astudillo, Therapist Dolly Dagher, and our COO, Dawn Silver) for achieving. Now, we are fully licensed for the next three years!

When an agency such as Center for Family Services provides trauma informed treatment and demonstrates family engagement and outreach, according to the Family First Prevention Service Act (FFPSA) of 2018, we are eligible to be accredited by the Council on Accreditation's Health and Human Services division and receive funding from donors who require agencies to have sound practices.

COA is a national accrediting body that ensures an agency is engaging in best practices. There is a rigorous assessment of evidence we provided to support their 426 standards.

Our team showed grace under pressure. While continuing to provide high quality services to our most vulnerable clients, they worked hard on implementing best practices and improving policies and procedures for an intensive self-study that was 6 months in the making. Every staff member contributed to the self-study process. Board members, management, supervisors, therapists, clients, and community partners were interviewed by reviewers to evaluate and question our policies and practices.

In the end, we will be fully accredited again. The reviewers recognized that we deliver high quality services to our clients, support our staff, have sound Board governance, demonstrate compliance with regulations and laws, ensure continuous quality improvement, and provide excellent services to inspire legislators, funders, and donors to support our community through the excellent work being done at the Center.

No stone was left unturned by these outside agencies. The commitment, support, and dedication to excellence by our staff and Board of Directors was recognized and extolled by the reviewers. It was humbling to hear from an unbiased party, what I have known and seen to be true all along.

Although our mission, policies, and practices have been scrutinized these past few months, our true work is never done. Existing to help families navigate life's most difficult moments means that our vital work is right now. Every day we rise and meet the needs of the families we serve with excellence. Every day we are thankful that we have the pleasure of serving our mission.

As we continue to celebrate 60 years of service, CFS remains a beacon in the community. We provide services to over 2,000 families annually because of the generous support from you, our donor, putting your mind and money in the service of our mission.

From our family to yours—thank you for your continued support and may all the fathers in your lives have a happy, fun-filled Father's Day!

Dr. Fabiana DesRosiers

Chief Executive Officer

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FATHER'S DAY

In light of the upcoming Father's Day holiday, we wanted to share a story about a father's success in our SAFE Kids Program.



Alex has had a long history of trauma in his life, surviving past childhood physical abuse and intimate partner violence as an adult. He had been using romantic relationships, sexual behaviors and substances to handle his negative emotions. The result, a broken relationship with his children, driving him to seek help.

Since his engagement in our SAFE Kids program, Alex has worked diligently with his therapist and has been able to implement healthy coping skills and process his past feelings. Because of this ability to regulate emotions, he has been able to heal the relationship between himself and his two children. Now, they talk almost daily and continue to work on rebuilding their relationship.

We want to wish an especially Happy Father's Day to Alex, and to all of the dads in our CFS family!

[20 Reasons Why Children Need Dads](#)

Published



Our very own Jamie-Lyn Richartz, MS, LMFT - Director of Counseling Services, has been published in the *Journal of Systemic Therapies*.

This article focused on perceptions on the use of teletherapy and the application of one teletherapeutic model. Emergent themes related to flexibility afforded by teletherapy, need in crisis management training for therapists, need for being proactive in preparations, need for future training and care for therapists, makes for an interesting read full of good research.

[Read Article Here](#)

OLD BAGS

LUNCHEON[®]

Save The Date

Friday, February 11, 2022

The Colony Hotel & Worth Avenue



Thank you to Living Local for producing this wonderful recap video of this year's Old Bags Luncheon!

#OBLPalmBeach



Get Your Green On



May was *Mental Health Awareness Month* so the staff (those who are working in the office right now) showed their support by wearing GREEN!

We hope you enjoyed the daily social media posts raising awareness for Mental Health as well.



Donate For Free Every Time You Shop Amazon

Shop Father's Day gifts at smile.amazon.com to support us while you shop



Amazon customers can now support **The Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County, Inc.** in the Amazon shopping app!

Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process



Center for Family Services has been providing mental health services and education to children, adults and families since 1961. Our clients are some of the most vulnerable in the community due to their age, gender, and socioeconomic status. Donations are a crucial means to their mental well-being. On their behalf, thank you for your support.

To learn more about our programs, visit our website at ctrfam.org.

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