



The Helping Hand

The voice of Community Based Care of Volusia and Flagler Counties

We restore families, support caring relatives, connect children with loving homes and prepare adolescents for adulthood.

**VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1
NOVEMBER 2006**

Inside this issue:

Daytona Rotary And Charlie Horse Restaurant “Make A Difference” In The Lives Of Local Foster Care Children

Millions of Americans spent Saturday, October 28 - Make A Difference Day - participating in volunteer activities to better their communities. Engaging in this special day, the Daytona Beach Rotary Club gave local foster care children something to smile about.

An event sponsored by the Daytona Rotary at Daytona Lagoon Family Entertainment Center gave a day of fun to 30 foster care children presently eligible for adoption. The energetic children putted around the miniature golf course, took a spin on a go cart, scaled a 25 foot rock wall, and zapped some fun during a game of laser tag.

The event was topped with a pizza party thanks to pizza donations from Domino's Pizza, Pizza Hut and Papa John's on Beville Road .

More “Make A Difference Day” fun took place at the Charlie Horse Restaurant on



Children eligible for adoption are treated to a day of fun at Daytona Lagoon on Make A Difference Day-October 28.

South Atlantic Avenue in Ormond Beach. A local favorite, the restaurant offered specially priced menu items while a team of hosts, cooks, servers, bartenders and managers banded together to raise money to support foster care children.

A total of \$1,001 was raised at the all day event. Patrons enjoyed 25¢ chicken wings and all-you-can-eat crab legs, and one lucky donor won the raffle grand prize of a two-night stay on the beach compliments of LaPlaya Resort and Suites.

By The Numbers	2
Family Success Story: Home Is Where The Heart Is	1
Independent Living Program	3
CBCVF Celebrates National Adoption Awareness Month	3
Volunteer Opportunities	3
Calendar of Events	4

It's the Season

Introducing the Community Based Care Holiday Card Tribute. Meet the artist, Hannah.

See page 2 for details.

Family Success Story: Home Is Where The Heart Is



In July 2005, two little boys, Mitch and David*, were removed from their home for their own protection. They were only two and five years old and their parents were not capable of caring for them. For Mitch and David, this experience

forever altered their lives and immediately instilled a relentless fear of abandonment. Feelings of doubt and insecurity took root in their battered little hearts.

Because the little boys had no relatives residing in Florida, they were ini-

tially placed with a foster family, and although the loving foster family provided care and stability, the new home was still not *their* home.

Story continued on page 2

*To ensure privacy, actual names have been changed.

Welcome to the first issue of *The Helping Hand*. This newsletter is our channel for sharing our progress, challenges and successes with the children we strive to help every day.

We are very grateful to the committed men and women who serve on our staff, to our dedicated Board of Directors, and to those caring citizens who contribute time, talent or treasure in support of this organization. Our team is very proud of the work we do in helping the children we protect.

In the **By The Numbers** section, I will update you on our progress using the latest available information. For this first issue, the numbers for September 2006 are in and here is what they tell us...

Sincerely,
Ron Zychowski, CEO

By The Numbers Child Abuse

Volusia and Flagler Counties

143

Abuse Reports Every Week

9

Children Removed From Families Every Week

12

Children Reunited With Families Every Week

1,452

Abused Children Being Helped Today

Home Is Where The Heart Is

Continued from Page 1

The story of Mitch and David is quite complex because the nearest relative able to care for them lived a thousand miles away. Despite this hurdle, a dedicated case worker and a caring foster family joined together with the boy's loving Aunt Millie and Uncle John in Ohio to help heal the boys and permanently place them with family.

During the transitional period of case work and court dates, the boys remained in Florida. Millie spoke with them on a weekly basis and quickly learned that Mitch was a real chatterbox who loved to talk on the phone and David was extremely shy even to the point of barely whispering "Hi" to her. Many social visits followed that first phone call to allow the boys necessary time to connect with their

Aunt. At the end of each visit, the boys would relive the sorrow of separation when watching their Aunt leave. At the end of one visit, David, standing tall and trying to be brave, began to softly sob. He was old enough to understand he would see Millie again, but the pain of separation was simply unbearable. At David's side, Mitch was crying so forcefully his tiny face turned an agonizing shade of red. His little eyes held a sad, desperate plea as if Millie, like his Mother, was also leaving him forever.

After a long and emotional ten months, Mitch and David were finally able to move to Ohio in May 2006 to live with their Aunt and Uncle. As they traveled the 14 hours from Florida to Ohio, the boys experi-

enced many exciting "firsts" like seeing the mountains, tree covered hilltops, and tunnels...all for the first time. They are now looking forward to their first snowfall and have been able to settle into a comfortable routine while enjoying the rewards of a healthy family life. What hasn't yet escaped them is a fear of being left behind, worrying at the end of each school day that no one will come to pick them up and take them home.

Community Based Care provides care to more than 1,400 children every day who have been victimized by abuse or neglect. To learn how you can help, please visit communitybasedcare.org or contact Jo Lynn Deal at (386) 944-4709.

Tis the Season

This year, wouldn't it be nice to send a holiday greeting to someone you love while



also making a difference in the lives of children? With your donation to CBCVF this season, we will mail this original design card from you to the person you dedicate. Please contact Jo Lynn Deal at (386) 944-4709 for more information.

Meet the Artist:

Hannah is one of our very special children. She is a fun-loving, artistic six year old, an honor roll student and winner of the Citizenship Award. She loves to draw and is a talented dancer.

Community Based Care of Volusia and Flagler Counties To Celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month

In honor of National Adoption Awareness Month, CBCVF will hold an awareness event and celebration at the DeLand Court House at 11:30am on November 17.

CBCVF along with judges, attorneys, city officials, county officials and advocates will join together forming a collective effort to raise community awareness of the significance of finalizing adoptions and finding permanent, loving homes for our children in foster care.

Brightly colored balloons will lift to the air during the celebration representing the 127 children in Volusia



and Flagler Counties adopted last year and those 188 children currently in foster care and eligible for adoption. The day's celebration will serve as the pinnacle of the month long awareness campaign held during November-National Adoption Awareness Month.

Joining the effort, area Foster Care Agencies will be on hand providing information to community residents who are interested in becoming a foster parent and CBCVF Adoption Specialists will provide information

about the adoption process.

Currently there are 3,423 children in the state of Florida waiting to be adopted. More information on children not yet placed with an adopted family is available at www.dcf.state.fl.us/adoption/.



Rounding Turn One In Race To Independence



Funding for education and living expenses for children leaving foster care has never been sufficient in Florida. To deal with this deficit, CBCVF launched a Race To Independence Campaign in December 2005 in an effort to provide much

needed assistance to our children. With the \$49,965 raised, funds were added to the Independent Living Program to increase services to children in this program, a mentorship program in partnership with DBCC is now in development, and

a program coordinator has been assigned to manage the program.

To learn more about the Independent Living Program and mentoring opportunities, contact Nancy Graham at (386) 238-4846.

Make A Difference: Helping Hands Volunteer Opportunities



You can make a difference in the lives of children who are suffering from abuse and neglect right here in

our own community. The Helping Hands Volunteer Program at Community Based Care offers volunteer opportunities within two special areas, Agency Helping Hands and Special Event Helping Hands.

We are currently seeking a part-time volunteer coordinator to assist with recruiting volunteers and coordinating activities. This position is a volunteer position within the CBCVF

Development Department and will be provided with a work station and staff assistance. If you are interested in this position or other volunteer opportunities, please contact: Ernest Hamilton at (386) 239-6685.

Remember our hands were made for helping...Won't you please lend yours?



Community Based Care
Of Volusia and Flagler Counties

160 North Beach Street
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114
CommunityBasedCare.org
Phone: (386) 238-4900
Fax: (386) 238-4880

Board of Directors

Jerry Lowe, *Chair*
Bill Griffin, *Vice Chair*
Willia Marie Smith, *Secretary*
Joe Bendix, *Treasurer*
Dr. Janice Allen-Kelsey
Marie Avery
Lori Campbell-Baker
Doug Daniels
Dr. B J Primus-Cotton
Dr. Carl Schwenker

Administrative Team

Ron Zychowski
Chief Executive Officer

Shawn Salamida
Vice President of
Administrative Services

Rachel Smith
Vice President of Programs

Bill Babiez
Chief Financial Officer

Jo Lynn Deal
Chief Development Officer

Jacqueline Eaton
Chief Legal Counsel

Ernest Hamilton
Director of
Community Relations

Calendar of Events

Community Based Care is planning events and fund raisers and will update our calendar each month. Already scheduled events are shown on the current calendar. To get involved, please contact Jo Lynn Deal at 386-944-4709.



December 2006

- ✧ Holiday Toy Distribution
- ✧ Holiday Card Tribute

January 17, 2007

- ✧ Friends of Children Breakfast

February 2007

- ✧ Daytona 500 Parking Event

March 2007

- ✧ 3rd Annual Hand of Hope
Poker Run

May 2007

- ✧ Inspiration Grant Appeal

Inspiration Grant Success

The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida provides matching funds to programs that improve the health, education and life outcomes of Florida's at-risk children and families. The Rotary Foster Care Coalition, a group representing Rotary Clubs throughout Volusia and Flagler Counties, was inspired by Dr. Carl Schwenker to create the Inspiration Grant.

Dr. Schwenker, one of the coalition's founding members and a long time child advocate, envisioned this grant program as a means to ensure that funds were raised within the community to achieve the Ounce of Prevention match.

Today, through community efforts and fund raising, the program not only ensures the match but also provides support for additional needs of the

children.

Funds provide local children who are placed in foster care, relative care, and approved non-relative care the opportunity to experience normalcy while in care. These children are able to participate in sports, arts, extra-curricular activities and are given the opportunity to enjoy cultural or educational events that would otherwise be unaffordable.

The Inspiration Grant is managed by a committee of local community leaders who meet monthly to review grant requests and devise community support efforts. Lead by Jennifer Desmond, a Rotarian, community leader, and member of the Community Based Care Development Council, the Inspiration Grant Committee volunteers to raise money through presentations to local civic clubs, personal donations, and securing scholarships. Case Manag-

ers or caregivers have the opportunity to submit requests in the form of a grant proposal two times per year.

For FY 2006-2007, the Inspiration Grant Committee has set a goal to raise \$40,000 through the Ounce of Prevention match and community support.

**In FY 2005/2006
\$10,293.00 was
raised through
Inspiration Grant
efforts and
provided
assistance to 95
local children.**

For more information on the Inspiration Grant contact Ernest Hamilton at (386) 239-6685.