



**Brevard C.A.R.E.S.
Board Report September 2015
Strengthening Families...Whatever It Takes!**

July 2015

Effective July 1, the Mobile Response Team went live as a Brevard C.A.R.E.S. program. This team provides on-site crisis counseling services to children and families in Brevard County 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Services are provided to children and families who have been identified as at risk for placement disruption, removal as a result of a protective investigation and/or as the result of a call from a parent/child in need from the community.

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. was awarded \$78,750 for the Emergency Solutions Grant for Prevention and Rapid Rehousing. However, the Office of Homelessness overestimated the total amount of the 2015 Emergency Solutions Funding and later revised the award amounts. The award amount was reduced by \$1,845, for an updated award amount of \$76,905.

Development of an implementation plan for Targeted Case Management is underway. The plan will take into account AHCA Handbook requirements, electronic billing, training, expanding C.A.R.E.S. ability to bill additional Managed Medical Assistance Programs and staff identification and certification. Once those pieces have been completed, Brevard C.A.R.E.S. will start billing for Targeted Case Management for the population we are currently serving prior to expanding to full Targeted Case Management services in our community.

Brevard County School Board voted to approve the contract with Brevard C.A.R.E.S. to provide services to Head Start families as well as training technical assistance for family advocates. The awarded amount is \$64,800, and the contract term was approved to commence on August 12, 2015 and continue until June 30, 2016.

As Brevard C.A.R.E.S. continues to grow in size and expand our service offerings we are exploring additional opportunities to co-locate in the Titusville area. We are exploring opportunities to co-locate with the Children's Center and Brevard County Public Schools Head Start.

Department of Children and Families, Brevard Family Partnership, Impower, and Brevard C.A.R.E.S have begun the process to analysis the data surrounding children removed from their homes during the past year. The first piece of this review focused on collecting demographic and historical information regarding the families, including prior investigations and services. The next step will be to dig deeper into the prior services provided.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phebe Powell
Phebe Powell
Executive Director