



CIRCUIT 12

DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties

Florida's Five Year Prevention and Permanency Plan State Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014 Progress



Highlights and Accomplishments

The Sarasota/Safe Children Coalition (SCC) has been evolving over the past year. There have been changes in our organization to allow all staff to be aware of the CAPP and to be part of implementing new initiative. Below are just a few that we felt were highlights.

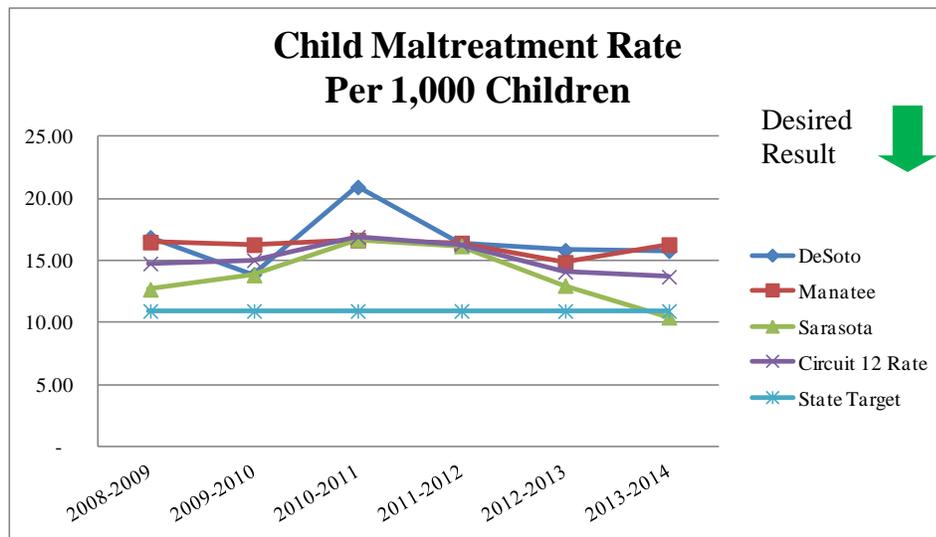
- 1.) Healthy Families was one of our 1st priorities for the legislative issues for continued or enhanced financial support to keep families from being turned away for service.
- 2.) The SCC was also a partner for the Safe Sleep Awareness campaign and has been offering training not only to SCC staff but to Healthy Families staff as well.
- 3.) The SCC has been partnering with Florida Coalition for Children (FCC) communications and the Department of Children and Families Public Information Officer to ensure all local media outlets are aware of events, presentations, and positive stories.
- 4.) The SCC continues to work with the faith based community in building relationships through donation drives, prayer drives, gallery displays, and expanding parenting classes.
- 5.) The SCC is in the process of hiring a Media/External Affairs position that will make a huge impact on our media connections and stories getting out to our communities as well as building relationships regarding awareness.
- 6.) The SCC began working on developing the 111 Project to assist with Faith Based Recruitment.
- 7.) The SCC and One Church One Child partnership was improved.
- 8.) The SCC exceeded their adoption goal of 140 for the 2013-2014 year. There were 146 children adopted by June 2014.
- 9.) Family Finders program has assisted in 171 connections and 128 placements for children by June 2014.

Child Maltreatment Prevention
10.)Desired Population Level Results

1. **Child Maltreatment Prevention** – By June 30, 2015, the verified findings of child abuse rate will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 statewide rate of 10.94 per 1,000 children.

Child Maltreatment Rates						
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
DeSoto	16.88	13.90	20.94	16.42	15.84	15.79
Manatee	16.50	16.29	16.66	16.42	14.86	16.29
Sarasota	12.69	13.84	16.69	16.19	12.99	10.43
Circuit Rate	14.77	15.03	16.92	16.32	14.10	13.70
State Target	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94
State Rate	10.94	12.06	12.51	13.23	12.27	11.42

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy 1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will support the statewide efforts to increase the availability and capacity of Healthy Families Florida to provide home visitation for families at high risk of abuse and neglect and in need of parenting education and support over the five year period from July 2010 – June 2015.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Continue, enhance and expand Healthy Families Florida in all 3 counties.	Ongoing	This continues to be an ongoing effort. Currently, Healthy Families was one of our 1 st priorities for the legislative issues for continued or enhanced financial support to keep families from being turned away for service. The SCC was a partner for the SafeSleep Awareness campaign and has been offering training not only to SCC staff but to Healthy Families staff as well.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

Strategy 2: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will support the statewide efforts with regard to developing and enhancing current resource directories in order to establish within communities and throughout the state a system for identification of prevention services and interventions.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Sarasota County to explore expansion efforts of current resource cataloging system.	Ongoing	We continually update and revise our resource guide. We have a position that tracks the resource information and the types of insurance our resources take. This person continues to add services or resources for families who may call for assistance 211 has evolved and become more accessible to use, even from a cell phone.
Objective 2.2 Manatee County to expand current Whole Child Project to include programs up to age 18 years; and to explore expansion efforts of current resource cataloging system.	Ongoing	This continues to be implemented.
Objective 2.3 Desoto County to research and explore resource directory.	Ongoing	Resources have been expanding in the Desoto area. There are new mental health providers and other types of services available in Desoto that were not when the CAPP plan was first developed.

Strategy 3: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will enhance and expand upon current child abuse prevention initiatives and programs within the community.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 3.1 Development of Media/Educational Committee.	Ongoing	Currently, we do not have any media people on the committee although we have had the highest media coverage for events and stories then years past. There are several staff who have been building media connections and have been reaching out to local media to run stories and develop regularly broadcasts to showcase our children for adoption. We have also been interviewing for a Media/External Affairs position that will be filled by December 2014. This position will be responsible for building up our presence in the media and in our communities. .
Objective 3.2 Advocate and support continued efforts of agencies and programs that are already involved with prevention and educational programs.	Ongoing	The SCC continues to support and advocate for agencies and programs that are already involved with the prevention and educational programs. The SCC has two school points of contacts that hold meeting with school officials to continue to enhance our partnership and discuss issues regarding communications, visibility of staff at meetings, and sharing data systems. The prevention program has at least quarterly meetings to discuss issues, concerns, and ways to enhance services to families.

Strategy 4: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will support the statewide initiative to identify and seek informal support systems of support within the community, specifically related to the Faith-Based and Community-Based Systems.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 4.1 Engagement of Faith-Based and Community-Based Systems regarding current services that are offered to community at large.	Ongoing	Currently the SCC has developed a parenting class that is offered in several churches in our three county area. The church has certified trainers and they offer the class free to our parents. We have also partnered with several churches that do “need” drives for us such as underwear, backpacks, clothing, new shoes, etc... We are in the works of developing a “One Church, One Child”

Child Maltreatment Prevention

		program where a church would adopt a child and their family and welcome them to their events and host them at the church to build support for the family within their community.
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Additional Activities

The SCC has been partnering with the FCC communications and the Department of Children and Families Public Information Officer to ensure all local media outlets are aware of events, presentations, and positive stories.

The SCC continues to work with the faith based community in building relationships through donation drives, prayer drives, gallery displays, and with building parenting classes.

The SCC is in the process of hiring a Media/External Affairs position that will make a huge impact on our media connections and stories getting out to our communities as well as building relationships regarding awareness.

Interagency Collaboration

The SCC continues to work with DCF, FCC and local organizations on getting the word of foster care and prevention out into our communities.

We have just established a partnership with Suncoast Community Church and have been awarded for the 2014-2015 year to be there sponsored non-profit of the year. With that honor comes use of all their media support as well as being part of their events.

We continue to work with Central Church of Christ and Sarasota Christian Church on offering foster parent night out – at least every other month.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

111 Project to be developed and implemented.

The SCC and One Church One Child partnership to be improved.

Human Trafficking Activities

Summary of Human Trafficking Activities

Human Trafficking is now assigned to a Quality Assurance position to keep up with the number of children and ensuring those children are placed into appropriate homes and are getting their needs met to remain stable and not be at risk to run back to where they were trafficked.

Human Trafficking training is continuously provided through webinars, internal training, and ensuring staff are familiar with a child's behaviors that might be an implication the child experienced human trafficking.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

Proposed Human Trafficking Activities for 2014-2015

Human Trafficking training and development of resources for those children who are victims of Human Trafficking and come into care will continue

Provide training to our teens, so they know the signs of adults who may be involved with human trafficking.

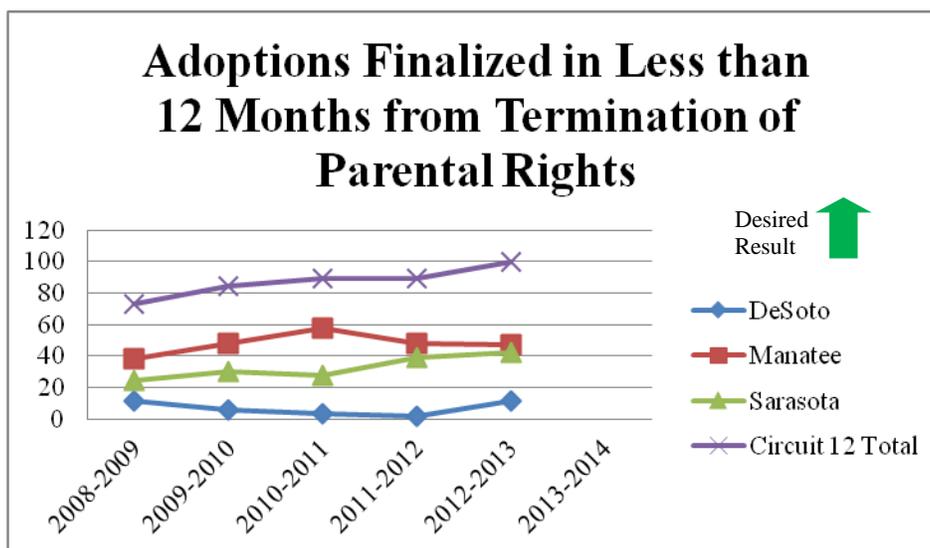
Promotion of Adoption Desired Population Level Results

2. Promotion of Adoption –

- a. By June 30, 2015, the percent of children adopted **within 12 months** of becoming legally free for adoption will increase from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 rate of 66.4 percent.

Children Adopted within 12 months of Termination of Parental Rights							
County	Numbers and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
DeSoto	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	11	6	3	2	11	12
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	73%	50%	57%	50%	79%	86%
Manatee	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	38	48	58	48	47	47
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	57%	79%	33%	73%	69%	60%
Sarasota	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	24	30	28	39	42	37
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	49%	64%	50%	80%	68%	70%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	73	84	89	89	100	96
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	56%	70%	60%	75%	69%	66%

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*

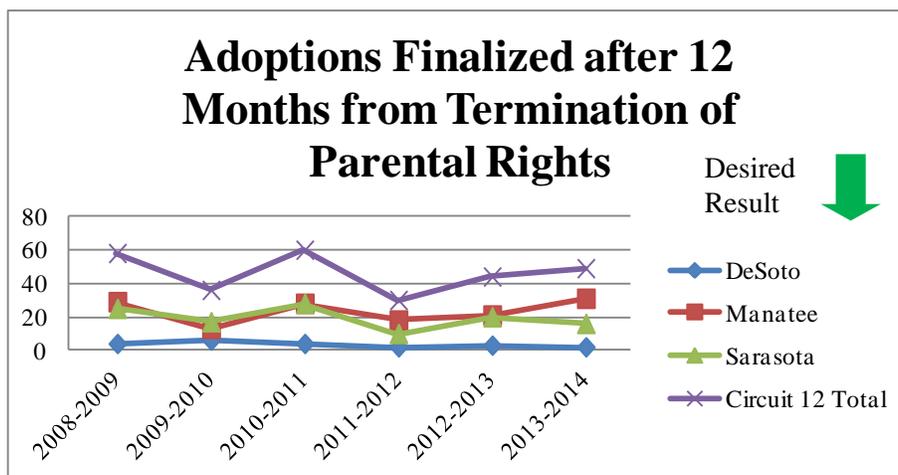


Promotion of Adoption

- b. By June 30, 2015, the percent of children legally free for adoption who have been waiting for adoption since the date of termination of parental rights (TPR) for **more than 12 months** will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 rate of 53.19 percent.

Children Adopted after 12 months of Termination of Parental Rights							
County	Numbers and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
DeSoto	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	4	6	4	2	3	2
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	27%	50%	57%	50%	21%	14%
Manatee	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	29	13	28	18	21	31
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	43%	21%	33%	27%	31%	30%
Sarasota	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	25	17	28	10	20	16
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	51%	36%	50%	205	325	30%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	58	36	60	30	44	49
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	44%	30%	40%	25%	31%	34%

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Promotion of Adoption
Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy 1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will have provided training to key Leads, Partners, Champions, and Case Management Organizations in Family Finders, Family Centered Practice, and Family Team Conferencing in an effort to ensure all are operating from the same knowledge base, using the same language, and working towards achieving the adoption promotion goals.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Train key Leads, Partners, Champions, and Case Management Organizations in Family Finders.	Ongoing	Although all staff has been trained we continue to implement training through our pre-service curriculum regarding Family Finders and ensure they are part of the orientation process for all new employees.
Objective 1.2 Train key Leads, Partners, Champions, and Case Management Organizations in Family Centered Practice.	Ongoing	All case management organizations have been trained on Family Centered Practice. Training on Family Centered Practice has also become part of the curriculum for pre-service training.
Objective 1.3 Train key Leads, Partners, Champions, and Case Management Organizations in Family Team Conferencing.	Ongoing	All case management organizations have been trained on Family Finders programs and we have seen success with partnering through the process.

Strategy 2: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will work with key Leads, Partners, Champions, and Case Management Organizations to put into practice the evidence based models of permanency (Family Finders and Family Centered Practice) with a philosophy of family and community connections.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Implement and put into practice the Family Finders modality.	Ongoing	Family Finders has been implemented and put into practice. Family Finders program is initiated at time of removal. The Case Management Organizations work in partner ship with the Fame Finders programs.
Objective 2.2 Implement and put into practice the Family Centered Practice modality.	Ongoing	Family Centered Practice is an ongoing practice. Family Team meetings are occurring as well as working with the families to identify supports.
Objective 2.3 Implement the use of the Targeted Recruitment tools to target TPR cases with no identified placement.	Ongoing	We have increased our efforts with targeted recruitment for those children who are TPR'd. We have a part time adoption recruitment person, we are enhancing our relationship with One Church One Child, and we have been improving the Heart Gallery, as there is a since we have a new President for the Heart Gallery.

Strategy 3: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will support the statewide initiatives to identify and seek support systems within the community, specifically related to the Faith-Based and Community-Based Systems, for our challenging population of children awaiting identified adoptive homes and in efforts of enhancing and maintaining sibling relationships within the community.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 3.1 Engage the faith based community and build a strong working relationship.	Ongoing	We have been branching out to all our faith based communities. We have some of our African American staff approaching some of the African American churches and engaging them in displaying the Heart Gallery, we have connected with the 111 Project to develop the program in our Sarasota County, and we have begun building our relationship with One Church One Child to recruit and provide special events for our children.

Promotion of Adoption Additional Activities

The SCC has a new Heart Gallery that is easier to transport and display in all types of spaces.

The SCC went over meeting their adoption goal of 140 for the 2013-2014 year. There were 146 children adopted by June 2014.

Family Finders program made 171 connections and 128 placements for children by June 2014.

Interagency Collaboration

The SCC continues to work with the case management agencies on the importance of Family Centered Practice and with Family Finders Programs.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

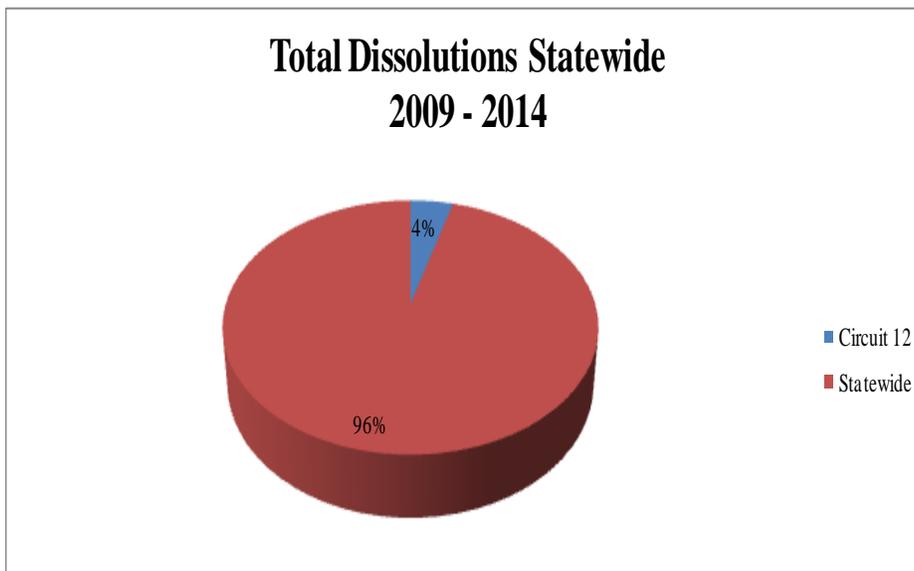
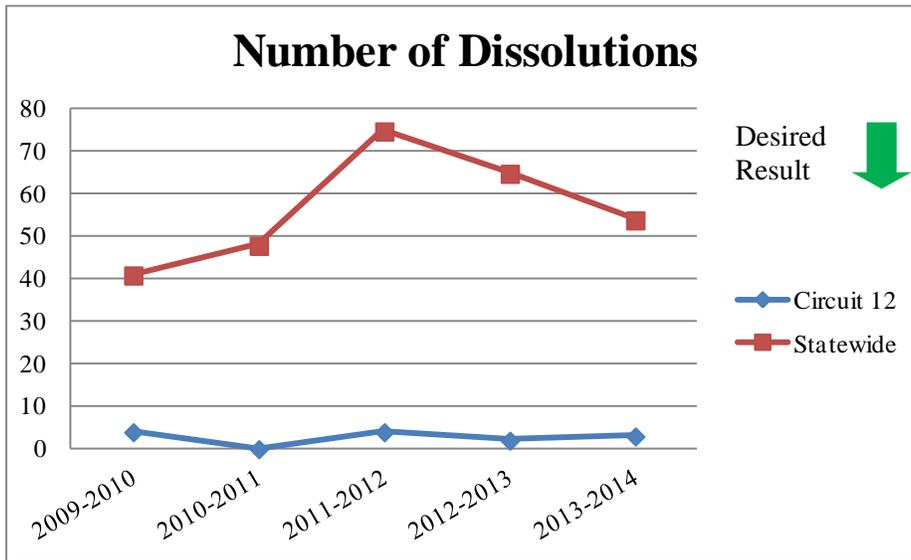
Continue to enhance our practices.

**Support of Adoptive Families
Desired Population Level Results**

3. Support of Adoptive Families – By June 30, 2015, the annual number of adopted children who are returned to foster care (regardless of when the adoption was finalized) will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 number of 98.

Number of Dissolutions					
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Circuit Total	4	0	4	2	3
State Total	41	48	75	65	54

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Support of Adoptive Families
Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will expand the number of providers that are trained in the Adoption Competency model and expand the training opportunities available to adoptive parents.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Train and implement the Adoption Competency model in an effort in increase the number of providers trained and able to work with adoptive families in this model.	Ongoing	Currently in our three county areas we have one Adoption Competent therapist – however we currently have 23 going through the training at this time.
Objective 1.2 Expand the training opportunities for adoptive parents through partnering with the Foster Parent Associations, making PAIRS training more accessible, and increasing the number of adoptive parents attending DCF/CBC adoption focused conferences.	Ongoing	We have divided our Adoption MAPP training for future adoptive parents to make the process more adoption focused. Material from Rutgers is incorporated to ensure our pre adoptive parents are being trained properly. Our Foster/ Adoptive Parent Associations have been re-branding themselves to be more supportive and bringing in training to meet the issues they may be experiencing and with keeping up with changes. Our foster/adoptive parents are sponsored to attend a variety of trainings such as the Foster Parent Conference.

Strategy 2: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 12 will develop a committee, to include formal and informal participants, who will focus on issues affecting adoptive families and identifying needs/solutions to gaps in services.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Establish a committee that will include formal and informal participants that will focus on issues affecting adoptive families and identify needs/solutions to gaps in services.	Ongoing	In the past year the SCC has restructured. An adoption is now under a new Director and Programs Assistant. The referenced committee has not been formalized but will be discussed in future meetings.

Additional Activities

Continue to seek out therapist to complete this training and be available for our adoption families.

Interagency Collaboration

The SCC has only one therapist who is trained in Adoption Competency and since this number is not enough SCC has reached out to Hillsborough County therapists to assist with our families.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

Currently, there are 23 therapists going through the Adoption Competency training.

Inventory of Faith-Based Partners

Please provide information for all faith-based partners that have provided support to your Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan.

Organization Name	Contact Name	Type(s) of Support Provided
<u>Central Church of Christ</u>	<u>Rod Myers</u>	<u>Foster parent night out and parenting classes. Pastor Myers is also very involved with the Family Safety Alliance (FSA) and a variety of other community awareness programs.</u>
<u>The Sarasota Christian</u>	<u>Jodie Jester</u>	<u>Foster parent night out</u>
<u>Bridge of Life</u>	<u>Danny Jones</u>	<u>Hammer time, Stew Crew, walk a thon and an adoption event. The Bridge of Life has become their own entity, separate from the church, and they want to do more to assist with adoption for the more challenging children. T</u>
<u>Florida Baptist</u>	<u>Terryn</u>	<u>They assist with licensing homes and completing the home study. They provide the Positive Parenting Program They host events for our children.</u>
<u>Guardian Angels of SW Florida</u>	<u>Bobbie Price</u>	<u>They are not a church, but they are a Christian group who are raising money and building 6 bedroom 6 bathroom homes for our kids. This will help with keeping sibling groups together. Currently they have two homes and they are building the third.</u>
<u>Suncoast Community Church</u>		<u>SCC has been awarded their “ non profit of the year “which means they will work with the SCC on needs for the children and families and allow us to present about the needs to their congregation. They are remodeling the Clothes Closet to meet the need of all children.</u>