



CIRCUIT 6

Pasco and Pinellas Counties



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

Highlights and Accomplishments

- The Pinwheels for Prevention, as well as Strengthening Families Resource Guide, have been distributed throughout Pasco and Pinellas Counties. Eckerd Community Alternatives, Pasco Sheriff's Office CPID and Pinellas County Sheriff's Office CPID keep an ongoing supply of both handbooks in the lobby for parents. Directions for Living Family Works (diversion program) is using the Strengthening Families Resource guides in their parenting education. The feedback from both parents and case managers is very positive.
- The State drowning postcard is handed out in the lobbies of ECA, Child Protective Investigations and the Juvenile Welfare Board. These postcards are also being distributed to the Neighborhood Family Centers in Pinellas County. Tampa Bay Rays player, Ben Zobrist, is a local spokesperson for drowning prevention and has starred in a PSA for this campaign.
- Our circuit's Protective Factors Umbrella symbol was updated as part of collaboration between the Juvenile Welfare Board and Eckerd Community Alternatives. The Protective Factors wording was amended to be simple and family friendly, and was printed in both Spanish and English. The new umbrella handout has been handed out at multiple events and trainings in both counties, and has been shared with members of our Local Planning Team for distribution.
- Eckerd Community Alternatives completes training every other month on the Protective Factors to case managers at New Hire Orientation during the year.
- The "Be a Better Bystander" Trainings continue to be conducted around Pinellas County by Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force. These trainings are very well attended.
- The Annual Child Abuse and Prevention Conference (AND) was held on 4/18/14 in Clearwater. Over 400 people attended, and the keynote speaker was Markus Dietrich. The conference focused on supporting families affected by addition, mental illness and poverty.
- Pasco Youth and Community Summit "Together We Stand" was held on 6/10/14.
- Fairmount Park Children's Initiative, located in the St. Petersburg Child's Park Neighborhood (Fairmont Park Elementary School) provides students from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade with an infrastructure of support through educational programs, integrated community services, social services, early intervention and prevention programs, and resources that will increase students' academic performances, improve behavior and increase parental engagement and community support. The initiative's scope includes highly effective teachers, best practices; quality social services, social work assistances, enrichment activities, and before and after school care.
- The Early Learning Coalition (ELC) is in partnership with 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares not only for the provision of child care resource and referral which assists parents and caregivers with locating a child care provider, but also because they maintain an extensive database with other resources that parents and caregivers often need. ELC has 4 staff that are co-located with Eckerd Community Alternatives. ELC provides an expedited daycare procedure to children working with CPID, diversion programs and court ordered protective services. The staff also hand out the Strengthening Families workbooks to clients.
- The Children's Home, Inc. was awarded a Federal Family Connection Grant from the Children's Bureau (Kin-Tech). The only such grant awarded in Florida, and one of only seven awarded in the country, the grant supports Child Welfare/TANF Collaboration in Kinship Navigation Programs. This major award will enable The Children's Home and its partner agencies, including the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, to begin a significant new program to better assist kinship caregivers to receive the financial help and other community services for which they are eligible. The grant is \$750,000 over 3 years.
- The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office continues to host an annual Services Fair to be a resource event for Child Protection Investigators to learn and provide information to the children and families they serve. Approximately 40 Community Service Agencies in Pinellas County are represented annually and available on-site to answer questions and hand out information about the service agencies they represent to assist Pinellas County children and their families.
- 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares is now working with the Juvenile Welfare Board, Central Florida Behavior Health Network, Suncoast Center, Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services and Coordinated Child Care on

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the Family Services Initiative (FSI) in Pinellas County. The main goal of FSI is to provide correct, easy and fast access to services for families in need. The goal is to assist high risk families with multiple needs obtaining the help they need to get stable connecting them with a short term navigation program. Funds are also available to aid families in need and prevent families from entering the child welfare system.

- The 6th Circuit Dept of Children and Families was awarded \$4,076,061 in federal funds to improve wellness among young children living in Lealman Corridor Community of Pinellas County. Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) seeks to support the social, emotional, behavioral, physical and cognitive aspects of children's development from birth to age 8. Project LAUNCH aims to strengthen the partnership between state and local agencies serving young children and their families including the health centers, substance abuse/mental health providers, and county agencies. Ultimately, the goal is to prevent youth behavioral health disorders and improve family functioning. The new five-year grant, will fund early screening and intervention for children; interventions for parental substance abuse/mental health needs; parenting education and supports; advocacy and education; support childcare centers and schools serving these children; child screening and assessment; and integration of behavioral health into prenatal and primary care. At the same time, the state mental health and health agencies will review, develop, and implement policies that will enhance child-serving systems.
- Eckerd Community Alternatives has received 194 Special Conditions Referrals with 424 children from October 2013 to October 2014. The main reports receive include homelessness, youth with mental health concerns and ungovernable youth. These referrals are a prevention strategy that is used when there is a concern for a child but it does not reach the statutory requirements of accepting it as an abuse or neglect report. Prevention/diversion staff contact the parent directly to see if there are any community resources, linkages to community programs, parenting tips, or child development information that would be helpful and could be mailed to their home.
- James B. Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center offers after school activities for young kids including tutoring, REAL Men groups for youth, computer classes, dance, karate, arts and crafts, to more than 150 kids a day. They also host free tax preparation, classes, Kinship Care Support Groups, Adoptive Parent Support Groups and GED classes.
- Safety Harbor Neighborhood Family Center offers after school care, holiday assistance, family support, computer classes, summer camp and homework help.
- High Point Neighborhood Family Center offers parenting classes, ACCESS, clothing closet, WIC, Family Life Coaching, clothes closet, a food pantry, PAL after school programs, Girl Scouts, AA meetings, and free tax preparation.
- Lealman Asian Neighborhood Family Center offers youth development, a food pantry, ACCESS, homework assistance, summer programs, adult computer classes, school programs with transportation provided, and ESOL classes.
- The Citizen's Alliance for Community Progress in Tarpon Springs offers family advocacy, after school programs, literacy program, youth leadership program, cultural arts program, Boys to Men group, Girls United club, parenting classes, ACCESS and free tax preparation.
- Prevention Materials including, drowning prevention, sleep safe, a baby's life shouldn't begin with detox, child abuse, summer safety tips, and the check the back seat, fliers/campaign materials were distributed at both the Pinellas and Pasco Child Welfare Alliances as well as the Children's Action Team meetings to be provided to the attendee's respective organizations. These materials were also provided to our network of ACCESS Community Partners for distribution in agency/partner lobbies
- Over 150 DCF Partners for Promise had been recruited to date. They are provided with information regarding the needs of the community to assist with prevention efforts.
- Since July 2012, ECA6 has hosted nine Community Forums between Pinellas and Pasco County. At these forums, ECA has partnered with Child Protection Investigations Division (CPID) from both counties, Department of Children and Families, judges, foster/adoptive parents, and young adults who have aged out of foster care to present. The goal of each forum is educate the community about our child welfare system, find solutions to barriers to success, and find opportunities for partnership with ECA and the community.
- Pasco Kids First 8th Annual Family Fun Day was held on 11/01/14 Sims Park from 10am - 3pm. This event is designed to bring together a fun place for families to have fun, while learning about the different programs in our county that are in place to keep kids and families safe. For the past six years, this event has a huge success, bringing together more than 3,000 families.

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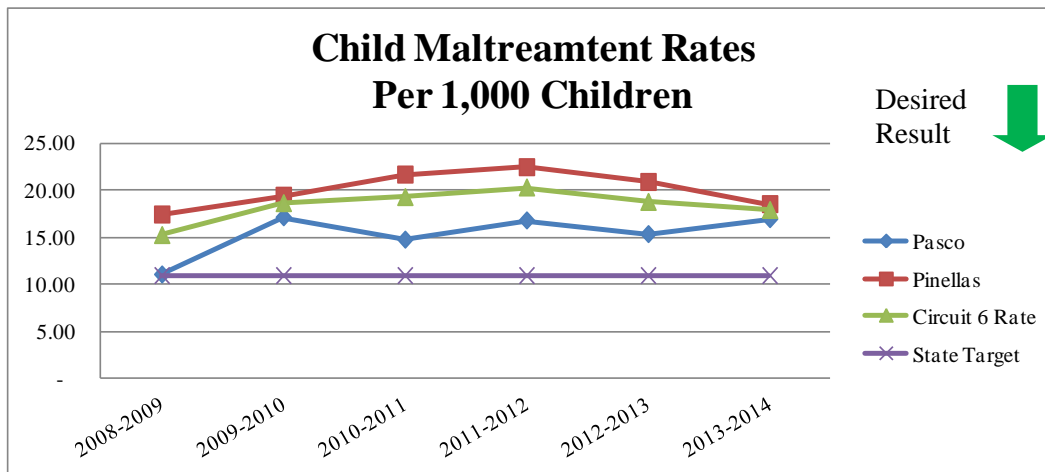
- “A Focus on Teen Marijuana Use” was a community meeting held on 10/21/14 to share the impact of youth marijuana use on Pasco County. This event was hosted by the Pasco Youth Initiative.
- On 10/23/14, the 5th annual Narcotics Overdose Prevention & Education Task Force candlelight vigil was held to remember the hundreds who have died from substance related incidents in Pasco County and to show support for families and friends. This community event also recognized the thousands in our community who are suffering from the disease of addiction.
- On 9/20/14, The Faith Networking Steering Committee hosted “Restoring Hope for Youth and Communities”; a community event to focus on prevention, resources, awareness and networking for youth at risk. The location was St. Petersburg, FL.
- On 8/7/14, the Lew Williams Center for Early Learning opened in St Petersburg. The Center will provide high quality early childhood education to 104 children, ages 1 to 4, who reside in south St. Petersburg and was named in honor of former Pinellas School Board member Lew Williams, a staunch advocate for early childhood education. The Center is operated by the R'Club and began serving children on August 18th.
- On 4/18/14, the Enoch Davis Center hosted a Community Information Day in St. Petersburg, FL
- The Family Advisory Council of the Family Services Initiative has held multiple family fun days throughout the year. These activities are open to their customers and the public, and are offered free of charge.
- National Adoption Month is November 2014. Our circuit is hosting an Adoption Picnic on 11/1/14, Pasco National Adoption Day on 11/7/14 and Pinellas National Adoption Day on 11/14/14.
- Healthy Families Pinellas, South County, held their annual participant graduation on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at Great Explorations in St. Petersburg. In attendance were 50 adults and 25 children, with 35 families graduating. The children were given free access to Great Exploration’s activity center. Many parents shared stories of their experiences and expressed gratitude for the services they have received from the Healthy Families Program. Families took pictures with the target children in their cap and gown and parents received framed certificates with a bag with items, such as Fist Aid kits, while the children received activity bags to take home. Dinner was also provided.
- Healthy Families Pinellas, Mid County, held their Fall Holiday celebration at the Helen Howarth Community Park on October 22, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During the event, the kids were able to take pictures in their costumes. There were activities such as arts and crafts and games with prizes. 143 families attended, 74 children and 69 adults, pizza also provided for this event.

Child Maltreatment Prevention 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
Pasco	11.06	17.14	14.76	16.80	15.35	16.94
Pinellas	17.44	19.43	21.68	22.46	20.89	18.54
Circuit Rate	15.25	18.64	19.29	20.31	18.77	17.92
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: Circuit 6 will support the statewide effort to promote the Protective Factors: parental emotional resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete services in times of need, and nurturing and attachment over the five-year period from July 2010 – June 2015.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Increase public knowledge of the Protective Factors.	completed	<p>Our circuit continues to promote the Protective Factors in both the prevention and court ordered/child welfare parts of our community. The Pinellas Juvenile Welfare Board has done Protective Factors for the following groups: Pinellas County Schools Parent Academy, Head Start, Women’s Survival Group, Parent Advisory Groups, Re-entry group, Family and Friends Group, and Neighborhood Family Service Centers. They are also scheduled to do the Protective Factors for the FSI training group in November and the Parent Academy for 2014-15.</p> <p>We have shared the Strengthening Families workbooks in numerous locations throughout both counties, and will continue to do so as an ongoing effort. Locations include</p>

Child Maltreatment Prevention

		<p>circuit 6 child welfare and child protective investigator offices, DCF offices, and our Pinellas Juvenile Welfare Board offices. Our contracted in-home diversion providers use the books while working with their families.</p> <p>Healthy Start and Healthy Families in both counties have completely infused the Protective Factors into their training programs and standard operating procedures.</p> <p>Eckerd Community Alternatives provides training on the Protective Factors to all new case managers.</p>
Objective 1.2 Continue to educate community partners on the Protective Factors and advocate that they are incorporated in the strategic planning process.	completed	<p>Our circuit continues to promote the Protective Factors in both the prevention/diversion and court ordered/child welfare parts of our community. Healthy Start and Healthy Families in both counties have completely infused the Protective Factors into their training programs and standard operating procedures. The Juvenile Welfare Board has a Prevention Team dedicated to promoting the Protective Factors, positive parenting and Front Porch trainings. Eckerd Community Alternatives provides training on the Protective Factors to all new case managers. We have shared the Strengthening Families workbooks in multiple locations throughout both counties, and will continue to do so as an ongoing effort.</p>

Strategy 2: Circuit 6 will increase the accessibility and capacity of primary and secondary prevention services over the five-year period from July 2010 – June 2015.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Identify, coordinate, and connect primary and secondary prevention efforts.	completed	<p>The Pinellas County 211 has joined forces with the Juvenile Welfare Board to broaden their services with funding available through the Family Services Initiative (FSI). This is designed to help in prevention efforts and keep children out of the child welfare system. There is a large focus on homeless family services in Pinellas County with the FSI partners. Pinellas County is home to multiple Neighborhood Family Service Centers which focus on prevention and strengthening families. Healthy Start and Healthy Families are fully operational in both counties. Both the Healthy Start PAT+ Program and the Kinship Care Network have received federal grants to provide services in families in Pinellas County. The Substance Exposed Newborn Task Forces and Domestic Violence Task Forces in both counties continue to meet on a regular basis. Community awareness efforts will continue as to the Protective Factors, domestic violence, prescription drug abuse, safe sleeping and drowning</p>

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Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
		prevention.
Objective 2.2 Prioritize the continuation, enhancement, and expansion of effective primary and secondary prevention models, programs, and strategies.	On going	<p>A large barrier to increase capacity of prevention programs remains lack of funding, particularly in Pasco County. The Pinellas County 211 has been able to expand and offer a multitude of services with their partners, largely in part to funding from the Juvenile Welfare Board. The 211 in Pasco County lacks the funding to expand at this time.</p> <p>Both of our counties have strong Healthy Start and Healthy Families programs, and multiple agencies offer in-home prevention/diversion program that work diligently to keep children in their homes and out of the child welfare system.</p> <p>Kinship Care is a strong program that operates in both counties to support caregivers raising their relative's children. This program has received a 3rd year of federal grant funding for Pinellas County, and ECA funds the program in Pasco County.</p> <p>Through the Family Services Initiative in Pinellas County, the partnership between the Juvenile Welfare Board, 211, PEMHS System Navigation and Central Florida Behavioral Health Network is continuing and works with prevention families. Through the FSI collaboration and funding from the Juvenile Welfare Board, 2 new family residences (homeless shelters) were opened in St. Petersburg.</p> <p>Directions for Living has expanded their Street Homeless Outreach program to provide case management services for up to one year to serve the chronically homeless.</p>

Additional Activities

The Protective Factors resinate throughout the newly implemented Safety Methodology. The ECA contracted diversion providers, Directions for Living Family Works and Gulfcoast Safe at Home Wraparound, discuss protective factors at family case staffings, and come up with solutions if families are lacking in certain factors in order to enhance protective capacities and supports.

Interagency Collaboration

There are many community meetings held in which partners meet on a regular basis to address issues and create solutions. Working collectively and collaboratively is definitely one of our circuit's strengths. These meetings include the Children's Action Team, Pinellas Community Alliance, Pasco Community Alliance, Local Planning Team, Pinellas Family Services Initiative, Pinellas DV Task Force, East Pasco DV Task Force, Pasco ASAP meeting, Kinship/KinTech program meetings.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

While our circuit continues to infuse the Protective Factors in our community, we are looking ahead to our 2015-2020 plan which will focus on the Safety Factors Campaign including Safe Sleeping, Head Trauma prevention, Drowning Prevention and Who's Watching Your Child. The prevention team of the Juvenile Welfare Board, Healthy Start and Healthy Families will continue their dedication to the protective factors in both counties.

Human Trafficking Activities

Summary of Human Trafficking Activities

Our circuit has a comprehensive human trafficking protocol in operation for victims.

Human Trafficking Training Plan – Eckerd Community Alternatives (ECA) -Circuit 6 Developed in compliance with the 07/22/14 DCF Memo S14-006690 - Specialized HT Requirements for Training.

The Specialized Human Trafficking Initial Training will be provided to all Case Management Personnel within Judicial Circuit 6. Licensing Staff will also be encouraged to attend. The Initial Training will be offered as a one-day session, once per quarter until all staff has been trained. Those staff that currently have a Verified Victim of human trafficking on their caseload will be required to attend the first offering of this Initial Training.

Structure of Training:

The 3 hour Human Trafficking 101 course will utilize the Kristi House Training. This will be presented by the ECA Missing Child Specialist and the ECA Training Specialist.

The 1 hour webinar “HB7141: An expansion of the Safe Harbor Act” located on the Center for Child Welfare website will be utilized to train House Bill 7141.

The 2 hours of Additional Live Training on Specialized Topics will include:

- 1 hour training on Local Procedures and Policies completed by the ECA Missing Child Specialist

- 1 hour presentation by a community guest speaker such as a Human Trafficking Survivor or Law Enforcement Detective specialized in Human Trafficking.

The Specialized Human Trafficking Initial Training will be incorporated into Pre-Service curriculum, once the final 12 week curriculum is finalized and implemented. This will allow for all new Case Management Personnel to meet the basic Initial Training requirements.

Ongoing Training (at least 1 hour per quarter) will continue to be provided through DCF and Center for Child Welfare webinar opportunities disseminated to staff via email. Live community based training opportunities will also be disseminated to staff by email as they are announced. Live training sessions hosted by ECA will also be offered at a minimum of once per quarter. These will be conducted by the ECA Missing Child Specialist or the ECA Training Specialist. Guest Speakers may also be incorporated into ongoing trainings.

At this time, ECA Circuit 6 does not intend to utilize the Grandfather Clause as there are no current staff who meet the requirements established in the 7/22/14 DCF Memo S14-006690 Specialized HT Requirements for Training.

A training tracking system will be implemented and managed by the ECA Training Specialist to ensure that all Case Management Personnel complete the Initial Training and participate in ongoing quarterly training opportunities.

Dates:

Webinar: completed prior to training and certificate brought to the training on 10/2/14
10/2/14 9am-3pm with one hour lunch

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Place: 8550 130 Ulmerton RD Largo FL Conference Room 1

10/23/14 9am-3pm with one hour lunch

Place: 8550 130 Ulmerton RD Largo FL Conference Room 2

R U A Target presentation obtained for training youth completed in group homes;

Point of contact: Gwen Garfall, S.A.F.E. President (Safety Against Forced Exploitation), info@safe-girls.org

Includes: PowerPoint, Handouts, Videos, Booklet, C.D.

Partnerships

STAAR Ministries, HT Victims (our youth) mentor Program, Point of Contact: Phone: 727-403-9971, E-mail: Niki@staarministry.com, www.staarministry.com

Placements:

DCF provided Safe Home placement lists for ECA to utilize homes for victims

Missing Child Specialist and HT Victim Point of Contact, Clara Hartman (MCS), is involved in Human Trafficking Awareness and partnership with Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco County. MCS participated in monthly meetings with the Tampa Bay Restore and Rescue Coalition, Child Advocacy Center, STARR Ministry, and is in communication with Law Enforcement. Through these meetings the MCS has coordinated the meetings to occur in Pinellas County (this was not previously occurring) involving providers in Pinellas/ Pasco County, training youth involved in the Juvenile Justice System through the SHOCK program (training youth set for December 2014) and trained over 150 people (attorneys, judges, providers, individuals) on 1/10/14 and 8/11/14 to bring Human Trafficking Awareness to our community. MCS will train CMOs and community providers as DCF requirements for Human Trafficking Awareness on October 2, 2014 and October 23, 2014.

MCS participated in Community Campaign against Human Trafficking to network with Pasco County Sherriff's office for Human Trafficking Awareness. MCS has networked with Judy Dreher (Homeland Security Education Program) to train Human Trafficking Awareness at placements and in schools in the Pinellas and Pasco County areas.

MCS assisted Homeland Security (FBI), case management, and child protection with interviewing youth, in field assistance for case manager, and ensuring the child received a forensic interview at the Tampa Bay Crisis Center. Also Participated in Human Trafficking Summit.

DCF provided youth identified as victims/ at risk of becoming victims

MCS began CSEC staffings for these children

MCS and Training Specialist, Morgan Ednie, used this list to identify case managers in need of HT Awareness Training (participated in October 2014 training)

Proposed Human Trafficking Activities for 2014-2015

- Ongoing training for CMOs and CSEC Staffings to meet DCF Requirements (training plan above continued)
- Human Trafficking Victim MOU with Law Enforcement in C6
- Funding for CSEC emergency supplies and placement assistance
 - Safe Homes have requested gift cards for Taco Bell, Bush Gardens, and gym memberships to assist with behavior change

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- ECA plan to participate in Human Trafficking Awareness Month (January 2016)

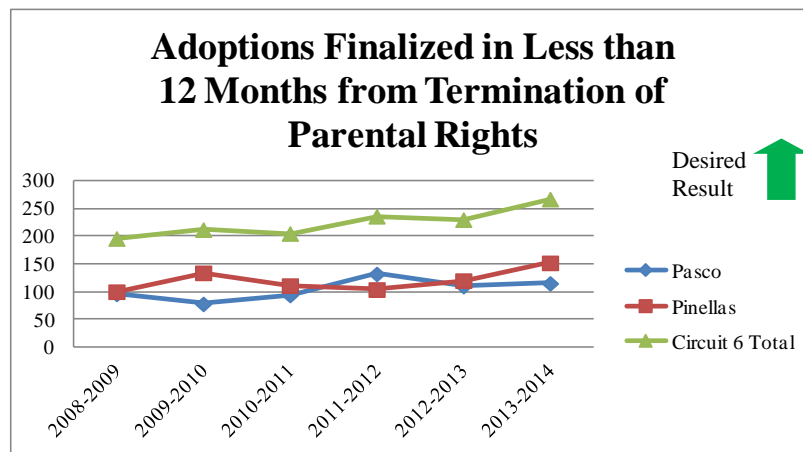
Promotion of Adoption
Desired Population Level Results

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	Number and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Pasco	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	96	78	94	132	110	115
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	80%	73%	86%	86%	81%	68%
Pinellas	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	100	134	111	104	120	152
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	50%	73%	68%	75%	70%	75%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	196	212	205	236	230	267
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	61%	73%	75%	81%	75%	72%

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

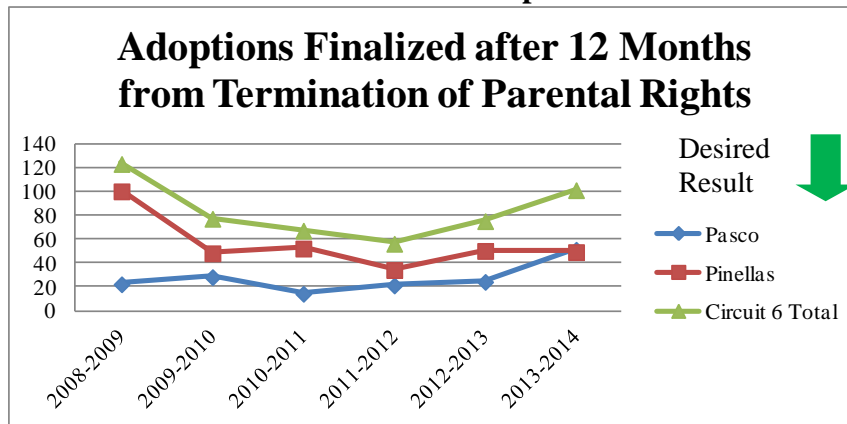


- b. By June 30, 2015, the percent of children legally free for adoption who have been waiting for adoption since the date of termination of parental rights (TPR) for **more than 12 months** will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 rate of 53.19 percent.

Children Adopted after 12 months of Termination of Parental Rights							
County	Number and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Pasco	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	23	29	15	22	25	53
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	19%	27%	14%	14%	19%	32%
Pinellas	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	101	49	53	35	51	50
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	50%	27%	32%	25%	30%	25%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	124	78	68	57	76	103
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	39%	27%	25%	19%	25%	28%

**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 6 will actively utilize the Explore Adoption, Customer Service and Customer Support Protocol for Adoption Services in their adoption promotion programs.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Identify current practices in Circuit 6 for adoption promotion.	ongoing	ECA ensures each quarter that a Match Event is held to promote adoptions. The ECA Faith Based Champions for Children initiative promotes adoption of legacy and special needs children. ECA will continue to reach out to local community partners to increase the number of sponsors for match events. ECA will also continue to recruit faith based organized to raise awareness and promote adoptions.
Objective 1.2 Ensure the Eckerd Community Alternatives, Case Management Agencies and all Community partners in Adoption understand and are able to utilize the concepts of the Explore Adoption, Customer Service and Customer Support Protocol for Adoption Services.	ongoing	ECA monitors the compliance of the case management organizations to ensure children are uploaded on the Explore Adopt website timely. As of Oct 1, 2014, an ECA Adoption Specialist reviews a random sample of cases monthly to ensure the timeliness and compliance with Explore Adoption.

Strategy 2: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 6 will specifically address their special needs populations of children who are waiting for an adoptive home.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Identify effective recruitment efforts currently being utilized and recognize gaps in effectiveness.	ongoing	ECA identified that our teen population and special needs population are not getting adopted at an appropriate rate. ECA has identified this population as the focus for all recruitment efforts. We have had some success with our target recruitment efforts. Last fiscal year, 3 teens were match with forever families as a result of these recruitment efforts.

Promotion of Adoption

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.2 Create a Community Adoption Action Team to assist and identify best practices in innovative adoption recruitment and retention of adoptive families.	ongoing	ECA has an adoption work group that meets once a month. The group members include a representative from each case management agency (3), ECA Licensing department, ECA adoption department, Heart Gallery, Destiny Adoptions, Adoption Related Services and Gulf Coast Giving's. ECA will continue the work group meetings and ensure families are linked to local Post Adoption Support Groups.
Objective 2.3 Adoptive children with special needs will be able to successfully transition into adoptive homes with support of adoption issues.	ongoing	This is an area that ECA continues to partner with our therapeutic providers in order to identify families that can meet the special needs children. One of the initiatives of the Faith Base Champions for Children is to ensure adoption materials are located in business of our therapeutic providers and children hospitals. ECA will continue to build relationships with therapeutic provider to match special needs children with families.
Objective 2.4 Innovative Child Specific Recruitment will be utilized to identify and support families for children waiting to be adopted.	ongoing	ECA now has a contract with CAIRS. The CAIRS system allows families to upload their approved home study electronically in a data base. Our case management organizations utilize this data base to match children with families. The CAIRS system was recently rolled out and additional training is needed, revised process and protocols to ensure case management organizations are using the data base effectively to help identify families for children.

Additional Activities

Interagency Collaboration

Eckerd Community Alternatives currently partners with Directions for Living, Lutheran Service Florida, Youth and Family Alternatives, Destiny Adoptions, Gulf Coast Giving, Adoption Related Services and the Heart Gallery of Pinellas and Pasco to ensure that four match events occur each year. The match events target legacy children, teens and sibling groups. In addition, in partnership with the Tampa Bay Ray's Home Run Club, Eckerd Community Alternatives holds an Adoption Strengthening Event. The Strengthening Event targets recently matched families.

Eckerd Community Alternative partners with the St. Petersburg Exchange Club, who sponsors an annual adoption picnic to honor Post Adoptive Families. The last adoption picnic took place on November 1, 2014.

Promotion of Adoption

Eckerd Community Alternatives contracts with the Pinellas and Pasco Heart Gallery for recruitment. The Heart Gallery ensures each child has a professional photo taken. These photos are uploaded on the Heart Gallery website and Eckerd's website, and then photo galleries are placed throughout the Tampa Bay area.

Eckerd Community Alternatives partners with One Church One Child. One Church One Child operates statewide in Florida and is a private, non-profit, faith-based organization that provides adoption related services and works in partnership with the Florida Department of Children and Families and churches. One Church One Child also collaborates with the Community Based Care Lead Agencies and their provider agencies in recruiting and referring families interested in adopting children from Florida's Foster Care System.

Faith Based Champions for Children is an initiative of Eckerd in partnership with One Church, One Child of Florida, Heart Galleries of Pinellas, Pasco & Hillsborough, Directions for Living, Lutheran Services Florida, Youth & Family Alternatives, Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas and Safe Families for Children. The initiative is designed to identify and partner with churches in an effort to find foster and adoptive homes for all foster children in the Tampa Bay Area. Pastors, churches and organizations are invited to a free luncheon to discover the many ways that they can connect and become a champion for children.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

- Faith Based Champions for Children Luncheon
- Adoption Picnic sponsored by St. Petersburg Exchange Club
- Destiny Adoptions would like to sponsor a bounce house event for all ages for the first quarter (January-March 2015)
- Bowling event for our sibling groups for the second quarter- Destiny Adoptions (April-June 2015)
- Airheads event for children of all ages for the third quarter- Sponsored by Gulf Coast Giving (July-Sept 2015)
- Another activity for the fourth quarter-possibly another picnic or scavenger hunt/team building/minute to win it event for teens (October – December 2015)

Other smaller events may be planned using Eckerd's Largo Office as a location:

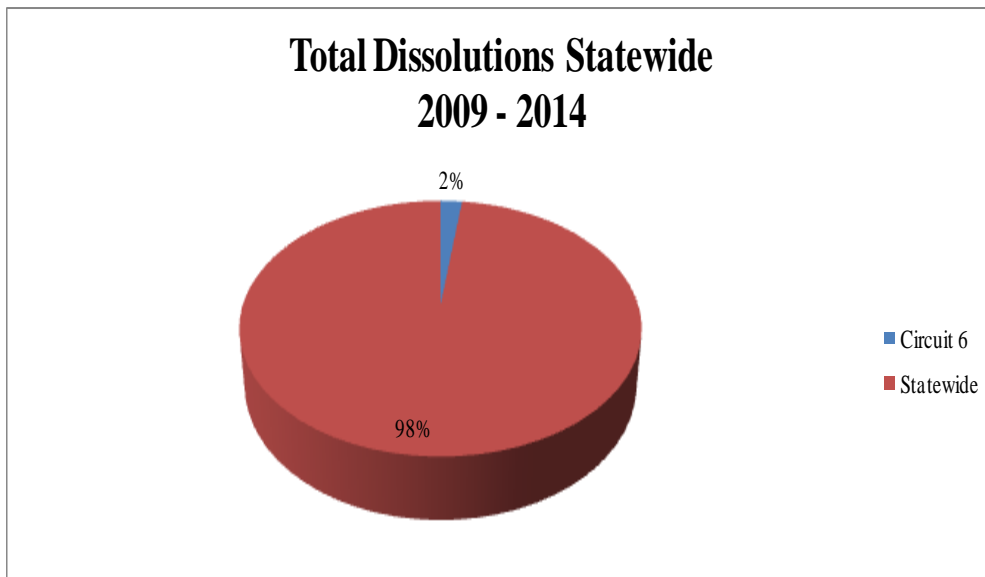
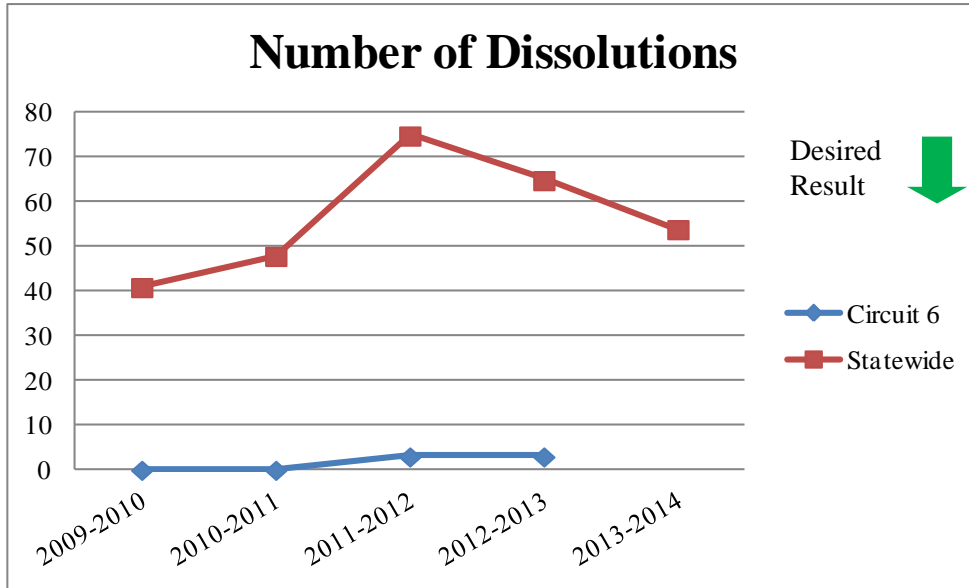
- Small Holiday themed party such as Valentine's Day
- Strengthening events to include provider that offer post adoption support (ARS, Support Groups, etc.)

**Promotion of Adoption
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	0	0	3	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

Strategy 1: By June 30, 2015 Circuit 6 will ensure post adoptive families are provided adoption competent services, support and education.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Create a case management system for adoptive families that is accessible, effective and supportive.	ongoing	ECA has revised the adoption process for all case management organizations. The revisions promote more communication with families and more timely responses to inquiries. ECA has a monthly adoption meeting with the case management organizations to discuss best practices and the effectiveness of the systems.
Objective 1.2 Ensure community mental health providers are adoption competent.	ongoing	ECA, Directions for Living and Youth and Families Alternatives all have staff who are trained in Adoption Competency. Each agency offers at least 2 training session per fiscal year. ECA will continue to partner with the case management organizations to ensure trainings are occurring.
Objective 1.3 Support and creation of adoption support groups and networks.	ongoing	There are 4 Adoption Support groups each month in our circuit. The groups are led by community providers and/or Post Adoption Families. ECA will continue to support the groups and help identify area that groups are needed.
Objective 1.4 Ongoing accessible educational opportunities for adoptive families.	ongoing	The Adoption Support groups provide information to the adoptive families. ECA will ensure that information is provided to the support groups.
Objective 1.5 Case managers and Child protective Investigators will have improved knowledge and skills regarding adoption issues.	ongoing	ECA offers adoption competency training to the case management organizations and this training has been offered to the child protective investigators. ECA will ensure that the child protective investigators are engaged more and provide links to support adoption families when new abuse reports are generated.

Additional Activities

Interagency Collaboration

Continue to work closely with our case management organizations as outlined above. Further engagement of the child protective investigators is needed and efforts to engage continue.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

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
Calvary Chapel Worship Center, New Port Richey		Community Forum site, Foster Parent Association meeting & training site
Faith United Methodist Church, Hudson	Rev. Howard R. Grimmenga	Community forum site, donations to Raising Hope
St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Tarpon Springs	Pastor Curt Snare	Community forum site
Victorious Life Church, Wesley Chapel	Pastor Ed Russo	Hosts foster/adoptive parent trainings as well as monthly support group
North Pointe Church. Land O'Lakes	Kylie McCracken	Hosts foster adoptive parent trainings
Anointed Word Fellowship, St. Petersburg	Pastor Wanda Jones- McCree	Hosts foster adoptive parent trainings
Pinellas Community Church St. Petersburg	Foster Parent – Jeanette Ringeisen	Hosts foster adoptive parent trainings
First Baptist Institutional Church, St. Petersburg	Pastor Wayne Thompson	Hosts foster adoptive parent trainings
St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church, St. Petersburg	Pastor Mark Brown	Hosts foster adoptive parent trainings
10 th St. Church of God, St. Petersburg	Rev. Ronald L. Bell	HG Portrait
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo	Pastor Joe Glymph	HG Portrait
St. James AME Church, Clearwater	Rev. Bernard Smith/Lady Betty	HG Portrait
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, St. Petersburg	Rev. Troy Adams	HG Portrait
Mt. Olive AME Church, Clearwater	Rev. James V. Williams, Pastor	HG Portrait

Support of Adoptive Families

Clearwater Community Church , Dunedin	Rev. Jack Piquette	HG Portrait
Riviera United Methodist Church, St. Petersburg	Rev. Mason Dorsey	HG Portrait
Mt. Herman Missionary Baptist Church, Tarpon Springs	Rev. Smith	HG Portrait
Heritage United Methodist Church, Clearwater	Brad Weller	HG Portrait
Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, St Petersburg	Rev. Williams	HG Portrait
Greater Light A.M.E. Zion Church, St Petersburg	Rev. Bessie Mohead	HG Portrait
Greater Mt. Zion AME Church, St Petersburg	Rev. Clarence Williams	HG Portrait
Grace Community Baptist Church, St Petersburg	Rev. Jordan Senior Pastor	HG Portrait
Community Bible Baptist Church, St Petersburg	Rev John Stancil	HG Portrait
Collins Temple AME Church, St Petersburg	A. Randolph Jerald, Sr.	HG Portrait
By the Word of Faith Church, St. Petersburg	Rev. Sands	HG Portrait
Bethel Community Baptist Church, St Petersburg	Dr. Manuel Sykes	HG Portrait
Bethel AME Church, St Petersburg		HG Portrait