

FOCUS

Family Oriented Concept Unified to Serve

*Linking the Faith-Based Community with Social Service Providers
to heal our community*

4TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

For Maximum Impact, BE THE CHANGE!



MAKE
THE
CHANGE

February 16, 2017

8:30 AM—4:00 PM

Bridgepoint Church

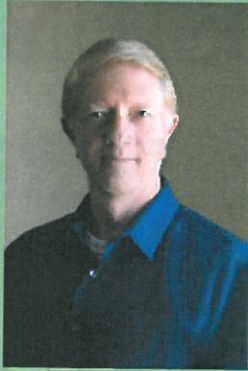
6690 Crosswinds Drive North
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

*In Partnership with Florida Dream Center, the Juvenile Welfare
Board of Pinellas County, and Eckerd Kids Community Alternatives*



FOCUS

Family Oriented Concept Unified to Serve



**Pastor Bill Losasso,
FOCUS Chair
Florida Dream Center**

**Meeting: Every Third Thursday
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Juvenile Welfare Board
14155 58th Street N,
Clearwater, FL 33760**

Invitation to Join FOCUS

When families are hurting, they seek support from faith-based organizations. Faith-based organizations provide the food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance. They provide shelter and solace. They provide the healing for “broken people” who are suffering from addictions of any kind including drugs, and alcohol. They provide the encouragement and examples to let those most affected know that it can be overcome. Regardless of these interventions, faith-based leaders know these families and individuals need more than that “one-time” intervention. This one dosage is not enough to truly restore these struggling persons and individuals to make them “whole” again.

In 2007, a network of faith-based leaders and social service providers residing and serving the communities of mid-county Pinellas: Pinellas Park, Largo, Lealman, Seminole and the Ridgecrest communities had a vision to have a “one-stop” center that could provide comprehensive services for those challenged with unresolved trauma, unmet needs, and negative family histories. These factors contribute to lives without purpose and plagued with constant challenges for basic needs. In order to restore these individuals and families, a network of faith-based leaders and social service providers committed to returning these individuals and families to a state of resiliency and spiritual purpose. They adopted the following goals:

1. To identify and create an awareness of services and social action ministries by connecting and collaborating with other faith-based organizations and social service providers
2. To share those services and replicate in other communities where the need arises with technical assistance and support.
3. To increase the visibility of your ministries by sharing your vision

These network goals have been embraced by a growing number of social service providers and faith-based organizations. FOCUS invites you to join us every third Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at the Juvenile Welfare Board, 14155 58th Street N, Clearwater, Florida, as we move forward for the realization of the above goals.

Sincerely,

Pastor Bill Losasso

For more information, please contact: Trena Cox, JWB Senior Special Projects Coordinator at: tcox@jwbpinellas.org /727-453-5624 and/or Yaridis Garcia, JWB Community Planning Manager at ygarcia@jwbpinellas.org / 727-453-5662.

2017 FOCUS Symposium Program

8:30AM	Registration Musical Interlude & Breakfast
9:00 - 9:30AM	Welcome <i>Pastor Tim Whipple</i> , Senior Pastor Bridgepoint Church <i>Bridgepoint Band</i> <i>Trenia Cox</i> , Senior Special Projects Coordinator, Juvenile Welfare Board <i>Zachary Gibson</i> , Chief Child Advocate Director of Adoption and Child Protection, Executive Office of the Governor Opening Prayer <i>Pastor Harold Paxton</i> , Advent Christian Church <i>Phoebe Quarterman</i> , soloist
9:30 - 10:15AM	BE THE CHANGE <i>Pastor Bill Losasso</i> , FOCUS Chair, Florida Dream Center
10:15 - 10:25AM	Break
10:25 - 12:00 PM	Panel Discussion <i>Transforming individuals and systems for the greatest good for the greatest number</i>
12:00 - 12:45 PM	Invocation <i>Minister Joseph McCall</i> , Resource Recruitment Coordinator for Eckerd Kids Youth /Associate Pastor New Hope Missionary Baptist Church Lunch/Networking <i>Henry Ashwood</i> , saxophonist
12:45 - 2:00 PM	General Session Part A: Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Promises
2:00 - 2:15 PM	Break/Networking
2:15 - 3:30 PM	General Session Part B: Tomorrow's Promises=Change
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Closing Challenge <i>Pastor Bill Losasso</i> <i>Alfred Lomas</i> , Director of Gang/Violence Abatement Program in South Central Los Angeles



Boots on the ground, new hope, innovative approach to community service, one person at a time...

The Florida Dream Center has always believed that change can spread and grow from a single, possibly even minute, action. With that thought our programs have taken on a boots on the ground approach keeping consistent with our dedication to make a difference in the homes and lives of individuals and families living in despairing communities.

People in Pinellas County face different circumstances and challenges in their lives. Our programs are implemented with the intent of aiding a person through these sections of their lives so assure they are not defined by their failures but by the changes they make to improve their circumstances.

Together with various other groups, churches and organizations, the Florida Dream Center programs are developed to address changes in community needs while bringing together volunteers to help neighbors and make a difference in these communities.

Our Adopt-a-Block program has become a vital gateway to multiple areas lacking support to address immediate and long-term needs in areas of hunger, homelessness, poverty, addiction, and human trafficking. This framework has been successful in developing long term relationships with residents; elderly and children alike.

The consistency of the Adopt-a Block program builds credibility while effectively meeting the needs of individuals, families and the community, Block by Block, finding a need and filling the need, One Door Knock at a Time

Steve Cleveland,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Cleveland".

Executive Director

A MESSAGE FROM JWB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For 70 years, the Juvenile Welfare Board has been charged with understanding the needs of Pinellas County's youngest and most vulnerable residents. Through research, analyzing data, and leveraging resources, we wisely invest to strengthen the lives of Pinellas County children and their families.

But today's social problems are more complex than ever. A common agenda and structured form of collaboration are needed.

The concept of collective impact is not new. First documented in the *2011 Stanford Social Innovation Review* and recognized by the *White House Council for Community Solutions*, it is an important framework for progress on social issues. It is based on the belief that organizations must coordinate efforts and work toward a clearly-defined goal in order to create large-scale, lasting change.

The Juvenile Welfare Board and our partners are working collectively to address complex issues and create positive change-- from our Family Services Initiative to the four Collective Initiatives outlined in this booklet. We're committed to a collective impact approach that features:

A COMMON AGENDA

where all participants share one common vision for change

SHARED MEASUREMENT

so data is collected and results are measured consistently

MUTUALLY-REINFORCING ACTIVITIES

with a plan of action to ensure coordination

CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATION

that is open and consistent to build trust among participants

BACKBONE SUPPORT

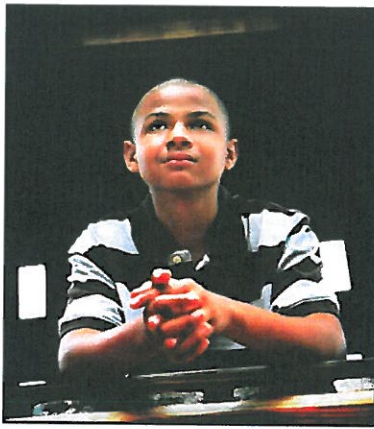
organization to serve as a convener and connector

Together with our Board of Directors, funded agencies, and community partners, JWB is asking everyone to be part of the solution. Working collectively, we can improve the futures for all Pinellas County children!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcie A. Biddleman". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a horizontal line at the end.

Dr. Marcie A. Biddleman, DM
JWB Executive Director



Faith Based Champions for Children

One Prayer One Child One Champion

A prayer for places of worship, like yours, to step forward to serve as "Faith Based Champions" for children in foster care

Photo courtesy of the Heart Gallery & JAM Studio

Our prayer is a simple one – that every child, like Anthony pictured above, will have a safe, nurturing and committed family.

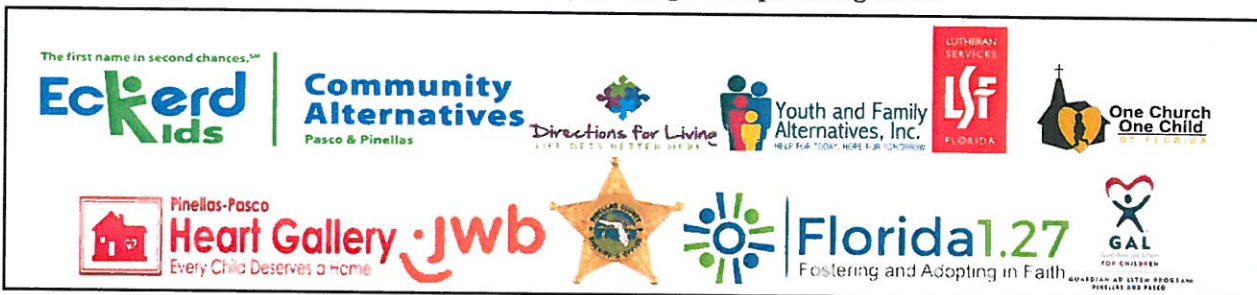
Faith Based Champions for Children Initiative

Faith Based Champions for Children is an initiative of Eckerd in partnership with One Church, One Child of FL, Heart Gallery of Pinellas & Pasco, 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 you in an effort to find foster and adoptive homes for all foster children in the Tampa Bay Area. Partner places of worship will be known as **Faith Based Champions** and will receive a tool-kit of resources to help in recruiting foster and adoptive families, as well as information on helping provide much-needed resources for foster children.

What is a Faith Based Champion?

Faith Based Champions are places of worship, that commit to helping children like Anthony find a foster or adoptive home, as well as providing much-needed resources to children like Anthony in foster care. When you sign up, your place of worship will receive a Heart Gallery portrait of a local foster child available for adoption, so you can share their story with your congregation and pray for that child. Your spiritual leader or designee will also receive a tool kit of resources to educate your congregation about the need for foster and adoptive families, and resources our children need. Each **Faith Based Champion** tool kit will include:

- ✓ **Heart Gallery Portrait**– Heart Gallery portrait of a local foster child available for adoption, and child photo bio cards that includes the child's digital photo and bio to feature in bulletins, flyers, websites, newsletters, etc.
- ✓ **Foster Parent Recruitment Materials**– Plexiglas card holder filled with foster parent recruitment materials, so your members will know what it takes to become a foster parent
- ✓ **Raising Hope Brochures** – Lists items needed to stock our Eckerd Raising Hope "Room of Hope" to meet the needs of infants, children and teens entering foster care – and beyond.
- ✓ **One Church One Child Materials** – Materials include a kiosk, photo album of children available for adoption, brochures, family referral form, and music CD
- ✓ **Access to Speakers** – Various speakers from Eckerd are available to speak to your congregation about your featured child or about foster parenting or adoption in general



Eckerd is a national nonprofit youth and family service organization that has given much-needed second chances to 100,000+ children and families since 1968. Eckerd Community Alternative, a program of Eckerd, is the community-based care lead agency for child welfare services in Pasco and Pinellas counties and serves over 3,400 children each day in the local foster care system.

To become a **Faith Based Champion** in Pinellas or Pasco County and receive a free tool kit or to learn more: **(Pasco)** please contact **Dave Farquharson (727)309-0666** or dfarquharson@eckerd.org, and **(Pinellas)** please contact **Joseph McCall (727)313-4947** or JMcCall@eckerd.org.

FOCUS Symposium Panel

Transforming individuals and systems for the greatest good for the greatest number.



Trena L. Cox, Facilitator, is the Senior Special Projects Coordinator with the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) which is a publicly funded, mission-driven organization that improves the lives of children and families through programs, partnerships and advocacy that ultimately benefit the whole community. She is currently responsible for faith-based and community engagement along with community capacity-building. Since 1996, she has served this organization and community in other capacities including Faith-based Coordinator, Manager of Community Planning, and as a Contract Manager. She is a former professor in Social and Behavioral Sciences at St. Petersburg Florida and was appointed in 2016 to the State of Florida's Faith-based and Community-based Advisory Council.



Brian Bostick is the Executive Director of Eckerd Community Alternatives Pasco and Pinellas Counties. Mr. Bostick brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his position as Executive Director for Eckerd Community Alternatives | Pasco and Pinellas, one of the largest lead agency contracts in the state of Florida. Under Brian's leadership, a new record was set in 2013 when more than 300 children in the Pasco/Pinellas foster care system were adopted by forever families. Since the start of his career in child welfare during the early 90s, Mr. Bostick has held various supervisory positions within the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), other lead agencies and case management organizations. He currently oversees and collaborates with Case Management Organizations, Sheriff's Office Child Protective Investigations, State's Attorney's Office, Guardian Ad Litem and other stakeholders to improve outcomes for children and families in the Tampa Bay area. He received his undergraduate degree from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, FL. He is active in the local community by dedicating his time as a youth football coach and mentor since 1994.



Judith Warren is the Chief Operations Officer of the Juvenile Welfare Board with over 20 years of experience in human services – 10 in the private sector and 10 with the Florida Department of Children and Families. Ms. Warren brings a unique combination of operational and quality assurance leadership expertise to the position. Ms. Warren has achieved an impressive resume of awards, accolades and appointments for her outstanding performance, leadership, innovation and productivity. In 2010, DCF presented Ms. Warren with two prestigious awards – the Leadership Award during their annual Dependency Summit and the Davis Productivity Award for employee retention. Throughout her career, she has served on multiple state and area children's boards and councils; served on the Independent Living Services Redesign Committee as appointed by the DCF Secretary; and is a certified COA peer reviewer. Ms. Warren received her B.A. in Education from the University of Kentucky, her Master's Degree in Public Administration from Troy University, and is a resident of Clearwater where she enjoys cycling and spending time with her family.

FOCUS Symposium Panel

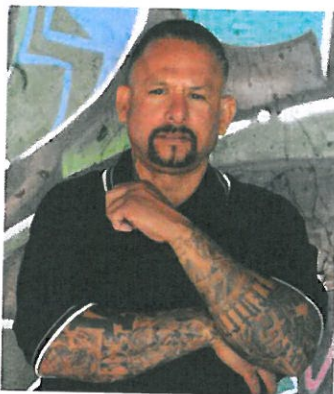
Transforming individuals and systems for the greatest good for the greatest number.



Sheriff Bob Gualtieri has been the Pinellas County Sheriff since November 2011. Sheriff Gualtieri began his career with the Sheriff's Office over 30 years ago and has served in many different capacities, including the agency's General Counsel and the Chief Deputy (second in command). Sheriff Gualtieri is an active member of Florida and national organizations that effect law enforcement policy, including the Florida Sheriff's Association, National Sheriff's Association, Major County Sheriff's Association, Police Executive Research Forum, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sheriff Gualtieri is active in the community serving on numerous boards, including the Boys & Girls Club of the Suncoast, Pinellas Homeless Leadership Board, Sheriff's Police Athletic League and the Pinellas Education



Steven Cleveland is the Director of the Florida Dream Center Adopt-a-Block program. In addition to sitting on the Board of the Florida Dream Center, he is a member of the Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Executive Board of Directors. Previously, Mr. Cleveland sat on the Boards of Directors of Child Protection Education of America, Everyday Blessings, YES United of America, and is involved with several fraternal organizations including the Eagles, Moose and AMVETS. His personal mission is to act as an instrument of positive change in his family, his work and his community.



Alfred Lomas is a national and international speaker, gang abatement consultant, social entrepreneur and founder of Inner-City Visions & LA Gang Tours, a nonprofit organization dedicated to gang violence reduction and youth development strategies. Mr. Lomas is also currently working with a multi agency collaborative that specializes in hardcore gang intervention strategies. This involves formalized training, to certify former gang members and community partners who all are working to end gang violence in Los Angeles. He started as the Director of the mobile food truck program at the Los Angeles Dream Center, the program provides food to 50,000 people and distributes 200 tons of provisions every month across the Los Angeles metropolis, primarily for low-income families who live in inner city housing projects, at-risk neighborhoods, and high crime areas.

FOCUS Symposium General Sessions

Part A:

Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Promises

This session will highlight the stressors and issues that undermine the positive growth and future success of individuals and families in today's society. These stressors have challenged the ability of individuals and communities to thrive and build the necessary resiliency for healthy development.

- ◇ *Kenneth Stottmam*
- ◇ *Rickesha*
- ◇ *Christa Hernandez*
- ◇ *Timothy Lofgren*
- ◇ *Chloe Scott*

Part B:

Tomorrow's Promises=CHANGE

This session highlights a variety of innovative programming, social action ministries, and system changes that have contributed to the success of individuals and the health of communities for positive change. These interventions are local, gender-specific, and faith-inspired for replication.

- ◇ *Laurallyn Segur, Eckerd Community Alternatives*
- ◇ *Esther Mitchell, Bay Area Pregnancy Center*
- ◇ *Jessica, Shine a Light on Domestic Violence*
- ◇ *Christa Hernandez & Betsy Mishoe, Loving You Where You Are At*
- ◇ *Assistant Chief Probation Officer Joyce Clay, Department of Juvenile Justice*

FOCUS

Family Oriented Concept Unified to Serve

What Is FOCUS?

Family Oriented Concept Unified to Serve

Since 1946, the Juvenile Welfare Board has devoted its resources to the healthy development of children and families in Pinellas County. Through the years, this commitment was largely demonstrated through the allocation of funding for program services. With a continued reduction in revenue since 2007, due to decreasing property values, the high foreclosure rate and property tax reform, JWB was driven to re-examine how it was doing business. One of the organizational changes was the decision to engage key community stakeholders to increase the positive collective impact on struggling families and children. This led to a campaign to engage the faith-based community, who has historically served as the first responders to children and families.

In 2011, through targeted outreach, the asset mapping of the faith-based leadership of Pinellas County, one network was formed with a dedication to build healthier communities and restore the village through the spiritual principles of love, compassion, and forgiveness. This network consists of faith-based leaders and social service providers, primarily serving and focusing on the communities of Lealman, High Point, Pinellas Park, Largo, Seminole, with projected expansion to other communities throughout Pinellas County. The mission is to increase access to needed services in order to build the resiliency of individuals and families resulting in stronger and healthier communities.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and Love your neighbor as yourself

Luke 10: 27



Return to the Community.

Rebuild the Family Unit.

Building a Healthier Community.

Mission

FOCUS is a partnership of faith-based and advocacy organizations along with social service providers collaborating at a grassroots level to increase access to services, resources and support resulting in helping the hurting people and families in our communities through a holistic approach.

FOCUS Will...

- ⇒ Help rebuild the village
- ⇒ Increase your positive impact
- ⇒ Sustain your results
- ⇒ Improve the bottom line for families

Want to Know More?

Attend monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month, 1:30 p.m.
Juvenile Welfare Board
15155 58th Street North
Clearwater, FL 33760

For further information, contact:

Trenia Cox
Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County
Senior Special Projects Coordinator
727-453-5624

Pastor Bill Losasso
FOCUS Chair
727-240-0734

Pledge

- Address the basic needs of hurting individuals and families
- Connect social service providers with the faith-based community
- Provide training to faith-based leaders on proven strategies/ programs that help families and individuals
- Advocate for social policies to address societal disparities
- Provide database on faith-based social action ministries
- Offer hope and encouragement to the hurting and broken

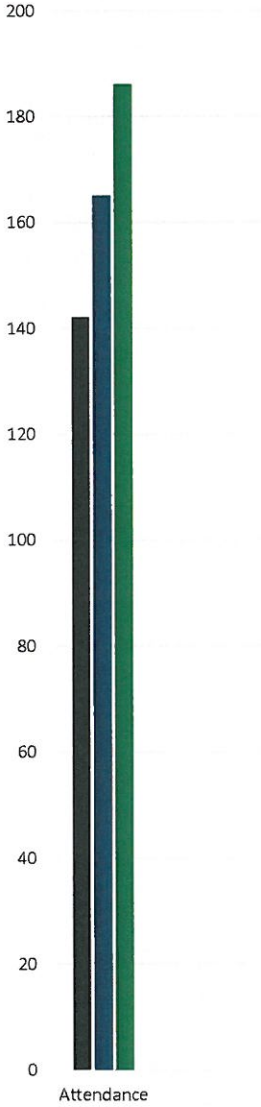
Services

- Community Capacity Building**
 - Faith-Based Symposium
 - Community Trainings
 - Volunteer Recruitment
- Outreach**
 - Adopt-A-Block: A Community Revitalization Strategy
- Networking**
 - Monthly Meetings
 - Wraparound Services
 - Resource
 - Site Visits
- Program Services**
 - Florida Dream Center
 - ◆ Food Ministry
 - ◆ Human Trafficking
- Advocacy**

FOCUS

Family Oriented Concept Unified to Serve

Annual Faith-Based Symposium



■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



Accomplishments

Annual Faith-Based Symposium

Attendance: 186



Attendance: 165



Attendance: 142



Community Revitalization Partners



Local And National Conferences

CWLA 2015 NATIONAL CONFERENCE
APRIL 27-29, 2015

2015 TAMPA BAY NETWORK TO END
HUNGER

2015 NATIONAL FAITH SYMPOSIUM
PLAYING WELL IN THE SANDBOX TO
REVITALIZE COMMUNITIES

**ADVANCING EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION AND
COLLABORATION**

2016 FLORIDA FAITH SYMPOSIUM
FAITH-BASED COLLABORATION
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

**OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
AND COMMUNITIES THROUGH FAITH**

Monthly Meetings

Faith-based Partners

- 55 Diverse faith-based organizations
- 40 Faith-based social action ministries

40 Social Service Providers

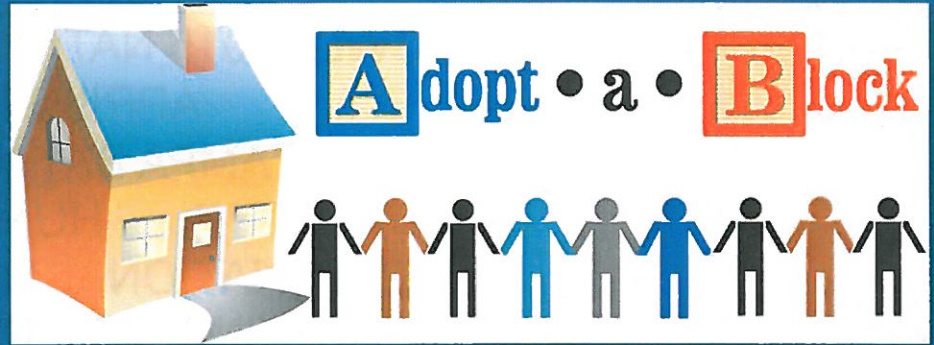
- Kinship Care Services
- Teen Pregnancy Services
- Family Support Services
- Runaway Shelters
- Homeless Shelters

Governmental Partners

- Pinellas County Government
- City of St. Petersburg

8 Business Partners

- Construction Contractors
- Landscapers
- Roofers
- Plumbers



Adopt-a-Block

Outcomes as of 09/30/2016

173,040 Pounds of Food
623 Tons of Trash
13,361.98 Volunteer Hours



2014	2015	2016
July-Program conception	June-Lealman expansion grew to 16 blocks	February-Lealman expansion to North Lealman with 6 blocks
July-October-Program training, recruitment, planning and collaboration	July-Lealman expansion into Pinecrest II Mobile Home Park with 165 units	March-June-North Lealman expansion grew to 24 blocks
November-Program launch in Lealman with 2 blocks	August- Lealman expansion into Waterside Apartment Complex with 200 units	July-Expansion into South St. Petersburg with 9 blocks
	October 15, 2015 – Special projects began in the Highpoint community	Current planning in place for expansion into Tarpon Springs

Service Providers

Thank you to the service providers for supporting this year's conference and for sharing resources to help build a stronger community!

Bay Area Pregnancy Center

Kinship Children's Home Network

CarePlus Health Plans

Loving You Where You Are At

Cons Helping Cons

Metropolitan Ministries

Countryside Cares, Helping Hands,
Mobile Food Truck

More2Life

Day for Our Children, Inc. Kids are Next.org

New Life Solutions

Department of Juvenile Justice

PARC

Eckerd Community Alternatives

Pinellas County Emergency Management

Florida Baptist Children's Homes

Pinellas County Housing Authority

Florida Dream Center

R'Club Child Care, Special Service Program

GAL

RCS

Habitat For Humanity of Pinellas County

Shine a Light on Domestic Violence

Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas

The Kidz Club

Home Share Pinellas

USFSP Infant Family Mental Health Center

Juvenile Welfare Board

FOCUS Symposium Planning Team

Thank you to the FOCUS members for planning this year's conference and for helping to make our community a safer place for families and children!

Pastor Bill Losasso, FOCUS Chair, Florida Dream Center

Sr. Chaplain Edie Darling, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Minister Joseph McCall, Eckerd Community Alternatives

Yaridis L. Garcia, FOCUS Symposium Planning Chair, Juvenile Welfare Board

Trenia L. Cox, Juvenile Welfare Board

Adrienne Conwell, Department of Juvenile Justice

Chis Mathews, Kinship Care

Debbie Brown, Florida Dream Center

Donna Bradshaw, Florida Dream Center

Lisa Richards, GAL

Marsha Brown, Bay Area Pregnancy Center

Millicent Battle, Juvenile Welfare Board

A special thanks to our host Bridgepoint Church