

2013 Annual Report for Circuit 6

Reporting Period: January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013

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Summary of Plan Activities Please provide a summary of five-year plan activities for the five-year prevention and permanency plan. For each activity, please identify how they support/promote the Protective Factors.

- 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.
- Morton Plant-Mease Hospital has included the Strengthening Family Resource Guide in their packets given to new mothers at their facility.
- The Strengthening Families Resource guides were handed out the National Night Out event on 10/01/13 (Spanish and English versions).
- The State drowning postcard is handed out in the lobby of ECA and the Juvenile Welfare Board. These postcards are also being distributed to the Neighborhood Family Centers in Pinellas County.
- Our circuit's Protective Factors Umbrella symbol was updated as part of a 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 umbrellas have 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 completed five trainings on the Protective Factors to case managers at New Hire Orientation.
- Juvenile Welfare Board and Eckerd Community Alternatives conducted a local radio interview on Child Abuse and Prevention on 9/29/13 and discussed the importance of the Protective Factors in families.
- The Early Learning Coalition (ELC) provides training several times each year that targets family involvement training for child care providers that help providers understand the importance of family involvement, as well as teaching them specific activities and themes for these events. Includes brain development training and training on developmentally appropriate activities to do with children. ELC also provides training and technical assistance for child care providers who are required to implement developmentally appropriate curricula for the children in their care. The ELC maintains an Infant Toddler Lending Library for child care providers so they can borrow developmentally appropriate toys and learn how children can use them. The Brain Development/ Child Development Training was also presented to the ELC Board Members and to the wide variety of community representatives working in child care at the Board Meeting by Dr. Jamie McHale of USF.
- Hispanic Leadership Council hosted a conference "The Challenge of Happiness", 7/26/13 at Suncoast Hospice.

- The “Be a Better Bystander” Trainings continue to be conducted around Pinellas County by Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force.
- Pasco ASAP hosted their annual conference, The Prescription Drug Epidemic- Building Bridges to Take Action! on May 23, 2013 in Pasco County.
- Florida Drug Free Workplace Summit was held on 10/15/13, in St. Petersburg.
- PEMHS System Navigator/FSI hosted a free Family Advisory Council Summer Luau for children and families on 7/16/13 in Largo, FL
- Pasco Co. Schools- On June 27, 2013 at Wesley Chapel Center for the Arts, Pasco County brought together a group of high school students, parents, educators, and community leaders to work on the essential question, "How do we create more peaceful and inclusive schools and community?" The goal of this event is to start a dialogue that will help build resiliency and reduce youth violence, including bullying.
- Healthy Start Pinellas hosted a Baby Shower on 4/27/13 at Peace Presbyterian Church, in Clearwater
- The Annual Child Abuse and Prevention Conference (AND) was held on 4/18/13 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.
- All Pro Dad Event, in partnership with ECA & DCF, took place at Raymond James Stadium, Tampa, on 5/11/13.
- A domestic violence conference was held at the Criminal Justice Center in Clearwater on 6/7/13.
- Pasco ASAP hosted a Parent Summit on 4/26/13 in New Port Richey, focusing on bullying and trends in drug use.
- In Jan/Feb 2013, ASAP & Pasco Healthy Start started providing training & a resource guide to OBGYN doctors re: substance exposed newborns and treatment for the mothers.
- Healthy Families Pinellas (HFP) hosted Parent Support Groups in south and north Pinellas County in April 2013. Topics included social isolation and how support is important, an overview of tips on saving money, the importance of having good credit, the difference in services between a credit union and a bank and a question and answer session.
- On April 6-9, 2013, representatives of New Beginnings: Generation-to-Generation with the St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project traveled to Washington, DC for the 14th Annual National Healthy Start Conference. Attendees were: Kimberly Brown-Williams, Community Services Supervisor, Valerie Lee, Case Management Supervisor, Amber Tellis, Consortium Coordinator, Rashid Mizell, Father Service Specialist, Janis Sanders, Community Health Worker, and two consumers/CREED Consortium members. The theme of this year’s conference was *Moving Forward Community Advocacy in an Era of Health Reform*. Representatives from our program and those from 105 other Federal Healthy Start (FHS) programs conducted “hill visits” in which congressional representatives were educated on the continued efforts of FHS. During these visits, consumers shared their stories on how FHS has been beneficial to their families and communities.
- The St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project was represented at several community events in April 2013, including the NAACP and Bethel Community Health Summit, New Covenant 5th annual Wellness and Community Resource Expo, and the Zeta Amecai Wellness Tea. The Project helped to sponsor the In-service, “Racial Inequities in Health Care” and speaker, Tim Wise, held on April 26, 2013 at All Children’s Hospital.
- In coordination with Healthy Start, A PAT Group Connection for Spanish speaking clients was held at the Pinellas Park Health Center on September 19, 2013. Connie Tello, former Healthy Start Care Coordinator, presented on the topic of “Discipline”.
- The St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project (HSF) hosted its 4th fourth Annual Infant Mortality Walk at Dell Holmes Park. Those who attended walked a mile or more to raise awareness.

- Healthy Families Pinellas (HFP) conducted a Parent Support Group was held in North County at the Clearwater Center on August 15, 2013. Ailyn Flores, MS, LMHC, from the Hispanic Outreach Center, presented to the group. The topic was “bullying.” There were 86 attendees.
- North and South County completed Growing Great Kids (GGK) training and review on August 23 & 26, 2013, for the updated GGK manual, birth to 12 months through Healthy Families Pinellas.
- The St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project (HSF) was represented at several community events in the community events/meetings including Simply Healthcare’s Community Partner Event, WAS Collaborative, CoQuebbs and MLK Day Project session meetings. Raising your MENTality men’s group met on September 28, 2013, to discuss event details for the upcoming Father’s Cook-off and group discussion on various topics.
- Raising your MENTality men’s group met on August 31, 2013. A presentation was made to the group by Mr. Lyondell Bright, City of St. Petersburg on How to deal with the police. The group also met with another men’s group: Men of Distinction to see how the two could collaborate on future community events.
- Suncoast Center for Mental Health, Total Families Strategies conducted six Active Parenting Trainings in Tarpon Springs in July and August 2013.
- The St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project (HSF) hosted its 6th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Event at All Children’s Education and Conference Center. Activities included tile painting, a card creation station, glass painting, a smoothie station and a photo booth were used to engage attendees to receive information about Breast Cancer prevention, maintenance, etc.
- The St. Petersburg Healthy Start Federal Project (HSF) was represented at the following back-to-school events: Junior League on August 3, 2013, Saint Petersburg College on August 10, 2013, Child’s Park-YWCA August 17, 2013, and Health and Community Resource Fairs: All Nations August 24, 2013.
- HSF collaborated with the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority for a “Healthy Reunion.” Attendees from the Wellness Expo held earlier this year returned to show their progress. Each participant chose to incorporate a healthy change for a few months and report his or her success at the reunion. There were fifty attendees.
- Peace4Tarpon is a Trauma Informed Community Initiative in Tarpon Springs. Their mission is to provide information on the causes and consequences of trauma and to provide education, resource assistance, and advocacy for appropriate prevention/ intervention services. There is a profound connection between adverse childhood experiences, low school achievement and health/social problems. Peace4Tarpon is the anchor for the Children’s Initiative at Tarpon Springs Elementary School. A school-wide initiative, trauma-informed services are delivered through a wrap-around approach with the goal of increasing students’ academic and behavioral achievement by engaging youth, parents, school faculty, and community organizations.
- Fairmount Park Children’s Initiative, located in the St. Petersburg Child’s Park Neighborhood (Fairmount 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 is now co-located with Eckerd Community Alternatives.

- 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 45-50 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 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 recently 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. The Department has been working diligently to develop a plan for implementation pending budget authority. Once budget authority is granted, the Department will hire positions, begin environmental scans, secure contracts through the managing entity, and organize a community meeting of stakeholders to discuss the project and next steps.
- The Early Learning Coalition (ELC) provides an expedited daycare procedure to children working with CPID, diversion programs and court ordered protective services.
- Eckerd Community Alternatives has received 91 Special Conditions Referrals with 161 children in this January 2013 to September 2013. 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 staff contact the parent directly to see if there are any community resources, 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, don't miss the signs report, 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.
- A sub-committee of the Dependency Court Improvement Committee (DCIC) held several meetings throughout the year to discuss community engagement. The goal was to increase awareness of current system/community issues with partners to gain better support for families and educate one another on needed system improvements or barriers to prevent child abuse and/or assist families already in the system. The team brainstormed ways to engage with Pinellas and Pasco County Social Services, the faith-based communities, both Workforce Boards, and the Network of Homeless Providers.
- The Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board formed a Funders Council. The Board has held 3 strategic planning sessions with the end mission to end homelessness. The 2 boards are comprised of a variety of stakeholders including the business community to assist in solving problems. The new direction and strategic goals and action plans have brought new ideas and collaboration not seen before.
- 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 **seven 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.

11/01/12	Sanderlin Center, St. Petersburg
11/08/12	Rasmussen College, New Port Richey
02/07/13	Metropolitan Ministries, Holiday
02/13/13	Ross-Norton Recreation Center, Clearwater
04/23/13	Dade City Business Center, Dade City
07/16/13	Sanderlin Center, St. Petersburg
11/06/13	Faith United Methodist Church, Hudson

Progress

Please describe your circuit's progress towards achieving each objective outlined in the five-year plan for Prevention, Adoption Promotion, and Support of Adoptive Families. (Please see Planned Objectives and Strategies document) *(If your objective focuses on the State Fiscal Year, please report accordingly. If not, report information based on the 2013 calendar year.)*

Progress achievement response-

#1- Circuit 6 will support the statewide effort to promote the Protective Factors: nurturing and attachment, knowledge of parenting and child and youth development, concrete services in times of need, parental resilience, and social connections over the five year period from July 2010-June 2015.

Our circuit continues to promote the Protective Factors in both prevention 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.

#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.

The Pinellas County 211 has joined forces with the Juvenile Welfare Board to broaden their services with funding available through the Family Services Initiative. This is designed to help in prevention efforts and keep children out of the child welfare system. 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 Force and Domestic Violence Task Force 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 prevention.

Please identify the percentage of achievement of the five-year prevention plan you think your circuit has achieved, and describe why.

We feel our circuit is at 75% of the plan's goals completion. 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.

Do you think your circuit is on target to accomplishing your goals by June 2015? Why or why not?

Yes. We continue to work together to spread the word about prevention.

Highlights and Accomplishments

Please describe any highlights and accomplishments connected to your circuit's five-year plan.

Please see summary of plan activities above.

Next Steps

Please identify what your circuit's proposed next steps are for 2014 related to the five-year plan.

Circuit 6 will continue to work towards the above listed goals of our CAPPP. 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 a strength of our circuit.