

## Annual Report 2005-2006

# Crosswinds Youth Services



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## Crosswinds' Programs Create Opportunities for Youth

### Year at a Glance

- Crosswinds provided services to **3,847** youth.
- **1,195** of these young people and their families received intensive residential and community-based services.
- **2,652** of these young people received screening and assessment services.
- The Non-residential Counseling program served **283** youth in 2005-2006, an increase of over **150%** from last year.
- Crosswinds also responded to **1,451** crisis information and referral calls.

### PAWS on Reading Program Enhances Reading Skills

Young people are experiencing the joy of reading in a special way through the PAWS on Reading program. Youth from the Robert E. Lehton Children's Shelter and the Rainwater Center for Girls are able to read in a quiet environment to a Certified Therapy Dog in the presence of a facilitator who assists with pronunciation and comprehension.

At the end of the program, the young people graduate with a certificate of completion, a photo of themselves with the therapy dog, and a new hard-back book. To date, over fifty young people have participated in the program.

The students have expressed a new-found interest in reading, and their reading skills have improved, as well as their confidence and articulation.

Crosswinds has acquired two dogs which are both Certified Therapy Dogs and also have their American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen title: Jasmine, a yellow Labrador Retriever, and Luke, a Golden Retriever from the Guide Dog Foundation. Therapy dogs Havoc, a Border Collie, and Maude, a black Labrador Retriever, also come to work at Crosswinds on occasion.



Therapy Dogs Jasmine and Luke of Crosswinds with Annie and Jordan Dodi, children of Crosswinds' employee Joe Dodi

The PAWS on Reading program is facilitated by Wendy Keighley, Education Specialist. Ms. Keighley has been training and working with dogs for over thirty years.

### Crosswinds Volunteer Wins National Safe Place Award

the national award as the outstanding youth volunteer in the nation for the YMCA National Safe Place program.

Kimberly received the "Tomorrow's Promise Youth" award for her dedication to Crosswinds, volunteering over 100 hours throughout the organization. Her most recent efforts were with Project Safe Place, volunteering her time to

make site visits to over 100 Safe Place locations throughout Brevard County.

Kimberly is a Melbourne resident and recent graduate of Holy Trinity Academy. She is currently a freshman at Barton College in Wilson, South Carolina on a softball scholarship. She plans to study both psychology and mass communications.



Kimberly Lindsey (right) with Misty Campbell, Vice President Community Relations



**K**imberly Lindsey, a youth volunteer for Crosswinds Youth Services, has received

### Crosswinds Youth Services 2005-2006 Board of Directors

Cynthia Handley, *Chair*  
Sheriff Jack Parker, *Vice Chair*  
Mitchell Goldman, *Treasurer*  
Dave Hemme, *Secretary*  
Shannon Wilson-Farmer, *Past Chair*  
Judge Cathleen Clarke  
Len Demyan  
Nina Gadodia  
Robert Lehton, *Psy.D.*  
Alison Malone  
Bruce Melnick  
Stockton Whitten

Jan Lokay, *President/CEO*



### Message from the President

Jan Lokay

Dear Friends,

Crosswinds has experienced great growth and change since opening its first program over 32 years ago. Although these years have been filled with both challenge and accomplishment, one thing has remained constant. The young people that come through our doors continue to inspire us with their ability to overcome many obstacles, achieve their goals, and become successful young members of our community.

Their success is a reflection of the caring support system of individuals, businesses, and community organizations that assist us. I am overwhelmed by our donors and volunteers whose generous spirits make it possible to strengthen our services and reach out to more youth and families. All of us at Crosswinds are very fortunate to work in a community that has proven time and again that it genuinely cares for the well-being and success of its children.

I am also personally proud to work side-by-side with a deeply committed and active Board of Directors and a truly talented staff who each day help us fulfill our mission. Because of you, every child who enters our doors, regardless of past experiences, has the opportunity to succeed.

It's in the spirit of our mission that Crosswinds is currently conducting a capital campaign to raise funds to build a Youth Learning and Assessment Center on our campus in Cocoa. This urgently needed center will house an array of essential educational and assessment programs and services to help young people succeed in spite of past academic and other life difficulties. You can read about this special facility and the capital campaign in this annual report.

None of our achievements are possible without your input. Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments regarding the new Learning Center or any of our programs. I'm looking forward to hearing from you in the months ahead.

Warm regards, Jan



## Crosswinds Programs and Services: Opportunities for Success



Crosswinds programs strengthen families, reduce barriers to success, and provide young people with support, safety, and opportunity. Our programs build on each youth's unique strengths.

- **Robert E. Lehton Children's Shelter**, offering homelike emergency residential care for young people.
- **Transitional Living Program**, providing housing, a caring support system, and skills development for young adults.
- **Functional Family Therapy (FFT)**, a nationally recognized, model intensive family therapy program.

- **Rainwater Center for Girls**, an accredited alternative school for girls on probation.
- **Intensive Delinquency Diversion Services (IDDS)**, a community and home-based program for first-time youth offenders and their families.
- **Screening and Assessment Services** at the Brevard Juvenile Assessment and Detention Centers for arrested and at risk youth and families in crisis to include referral to Crosswinds and other services within the community.

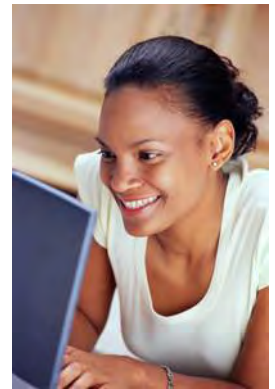
- **Job Link Youth Services** for the Brevard County Workforce Development Board.
- **Community Counseling** and related services for young people and their families.
- **Project Safe Place**, where children can get immediate help from Crosswinds by entering one of 100 Brevard businesses or public buildings.
- **Drug Court**, supervised intervention of juvenile offenders with alcohol, tobacco and other drug offenses.

## A Focus on Quality

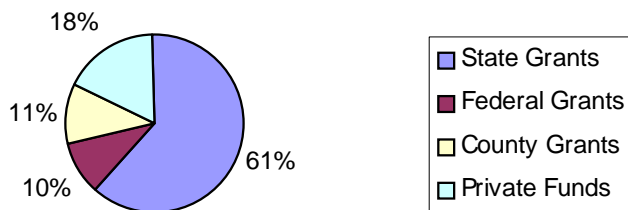
Over the past several years, Crosswinds has placed special focus on continuous quality improvement in order to bring the highest quality programs and services to the community. Although Crosswinds put many quality improvement initiatives in place over the years, in 2005 we began developing a formal organization-wide Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Plan. This formal plan is now in place, providing a well-defined process for evaluating and strengthening all of Crosswinds' programs, services and operations.

CQI at Crosswinds is a dynamic process with a *team approach*, involving participation at all levels of the organization – programs, service areas, board, and administration. In order for this approach to work, it must also include input from those who are most affected by our services. CQI accomplishes this through the formal surveys we distribute to the community and informally by encouraging ongoing input throughout the year from the young people and families that use our services and the community that helps us achieve our goals.

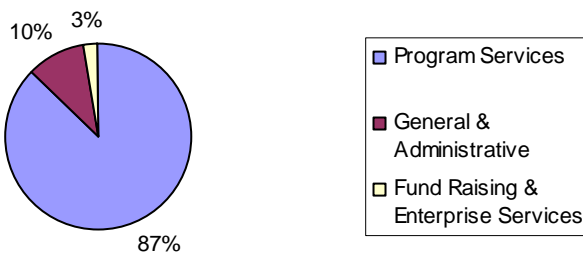
As part of the CQI effort, Crosswinds is currently undergoing the process of becoming accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA). COA partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. Receiving COA accreditation is recognition that an organization complies with nationally recognized standards of best practice.



**Operational Revenues**

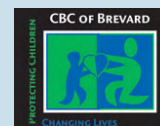


**Expenses**



### In 2005-2006 Crosswinds Youth Services received operational funding from:

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners; Brevard Workforce Development Board; School Board of Brevard County; Community Based Care of Brevard; Eckerd Family Foundation; Family Services of Metro Orlando; Florida Department of Education; Florida Department of Juvenile Justice; Florida Network of Youth and Family Services; Orlando Magic Youth Foundation; United Way of Brevard; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and businesses, organizations, and individuals.





**CROSSWINDS**  
YOUTH SERVICES, INC.

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## Youth Learning and Assessment Center Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign to build the Crosswinds Youth Learning and Assessment Center experienced a year of great progress with over \$2,100,000 having been raised, pledged or committed toward the total \$2,980,000 project goal. This figure includes a Challenge Grant of \$400,000 from The Kresge Foundation if the remaining \$800,000 is raised.

The Youth Learning and Assessment Center, a single-story, 12,835 square foot structure, will be designed to meet both current and future needs. To be built on the existing Cocoa campus, the unique, one-stop facility will offer an array

of counseling, assessment, educational, and day treatment services.

Some of Crosswinds' existing programs and services will be relocated at the facility, including the Rainwater Center for Girls, a day treatment program for girls on probation; the life skills component of the Transitional Living Program for homeless youth; the Children's Shelter training room; and a media center. In addition, the facility will be the new location of the Brevard Juvenile Assessment Center, which Crosswinds operates in collaboration with the Brevard County Commission, local law enforcement, and other community partners.

This facility will offer children and young people, ages 10-21, opportunities to succeed in spite of past and current life challenges.

The members of the volunteer Capital Campaign Cabinet have played a major role in the campaign's success to date. The campaign is led by Jim Handley and his Co-Chair, Dr. Maxwell King.

The Learning and Assessment Center is designed by Rood and Zwick Architects in Association, and M. H. Williams Construction Group will manage the construction.

**For more information  
on the  
Capital Campaign and the  
new Learning Center,  
please contact  
Jan Lokay, President/CEO  
Crosswinds Youth Services  
321-452-0800, ext. 208.**



LEARNING CENTER- NORTH ELEVATION