



Crosswinds Youth Services

Serving children, youth and families in crisis
Since 1974



eNewsletter

March 2010



Volunteers come out for “Give a Day, Get a Disney Day”

Volunteers of all ages filled the Training Room of the Handley Center on a Saturday in February to learn about

Crosswinds and its volunteer opportunities. After a briefing on Crosswinds’ history and programs the volunteers wasted no time, jumping right in to assemble materials that explain the services available and the eligibility requirements for Crosswinds’ varied programs to assist children, youth and families in crisis. Participants were drawn to Crosswinds by the description of its volunteer project as part of Disney’s program offering a free one-day pass to a Disney theme park as encouragement to get involved in their communities. Disney’s program was so successful that further sign-ups for it have been closed out after the goal of 1 million volunteers was reached in only 10 weeks from the announcement of “Give a Day, Get a Disney Day”. The end of that program doesn’t signal an end to other opportunities to volunteer with Crosswinds, however. Contact Crosswinds at 321-452-0800 or visit www.crosswindsyouthservices.org to find out more.



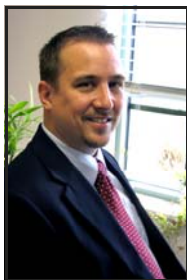
DCF Officials Visit Crosswinds

Department of Children and Families (DCF) Assistant Secretary for Operations Pete Digre



visited Crosswinds Youth Services’ Independent Living Program in February, accompanied by DCF Circuit 18 Administrator William "Jack" Sidoran and other DCF staff. Crosswinds and Brevard Family Partnership staff and clients participated with them in a wide-ranging discussion of issues affecting young people in transition from foster care to living successfully as independent adults.

As a result of this meeting Crosswinds and DCF have an agreement in place for Crosswinds to serve as an ACCESS Florida Community Partner, allowing Crosswinds staff to assist Independent Living and other clients to apply for Food Stamps, Medicaid, and Temporary Cash Assistance on site at Crosswinds and overcome some of the challenges clients have in applying for these much needed benefits.



Program Director Presents at National Conference

Stephen “Kris” Denny, Director of Brief Strategic Family Therapy™ (BSFT) program at Crosswinds will be a co-presenter at the Blueprints for Violence Prevention conference in San Antonio in April. The goal of this national conference is to disseminate science-based information on

youth violence, delinquency, and drug prevention programs that are effective.

Mr. Denny was invited to participate with Dr. Jose Szapocznik of the Miller School for Family Studies of the University of Miami (Florida), who will discuss the scientific research supporting the use of BSFT, a short-term, problem-focused intervention that improves youth’s behavior problems by improving family interactions that are presumed to be directly related to the child’s symptoms. Mr. Denny will discuss how Crosswinds has successfully implemented BSFT, developed by the University of Miami, in the first application of it outside the University setting, making it a potential model for other agencies.



Juvenile Assessment Center Initiates Civil Citation Program

A new program of the Brevard Juvenile Assessment Center gives law enforcement officers throughout the county the option of issuing a Civil Citation in lieu of arrest for youth involved in certain misdemeanor offenses. Youth are held accountable for their actions, and families get the immediate help they need without the stigma of an arrest that can negatively impact a young person’s future, even the ability to get certain jobs as adults. Civil Citation of Brevard is the result of a collaborative effort which includes all local police chiefs, the Brevard County Sheriff, and representatives from the State Attorney’s Office, Public Defender’s Office, Department of Juvenile Justice, School District Public Safety Office, and Crosswinds Youth Services. From October 2009 when the program began as a pilot through March 15th 2010, 53 Civil Citations have been issued, for such offenses as assault, battery, domestic violence, criminal mischief, loitering, possession of alcohol or drugs, theft, or resisting arrest without violence.

OUR MISSION: Creating Opportunities For Young People To Succeed!

THE DUCKS ARE COMING...



12th Annual Great Brevard Duck Race
Sunday, April 18th, at the Indian River Festival

Adopt ducks in person at

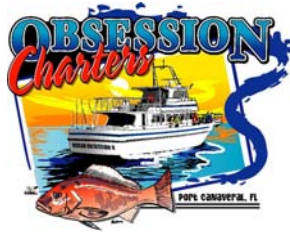


RBC Bank™



Or adopt ducks online at www.duckrace.com/brevard

For chances to win great prizes from



Special thanks to our caring supporters

WFTV 9 Family Connection and Partners: Central Florida Auto Dealers Association, AirTran, Stanley Steemer, FAS Windows and Doors; Clear Channel Radio and Lite Rock 99.3 – WLRQ; Publix Super Markets Charities; National City Bank/PNC Harbor Foundation; Bank of America; United Space Alliance Corporate Charities; USA Employee's One Fund; SunTrust Bank; Florida Power and Light; Washington Nationals Foundation; The Margaret Heins Foundation; Mike Erdman Nissan/Cadillac; Atlantic Network Services; PODS; Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce; Indian River Festival; Titusville Sailing Club; SpaceCoastMedicine.com; Indian River Press; Coca Cola Bottling Company; and Seaside Piecemakers Quilt Guild

Crosswinds Youth Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. An audited financial statement is available for review.
1407 Dixon Blvd., Cocoa FL 32922 - 321-452-0800 - www.crosswindsyouthservices.org



U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

