## 2018 Annual Report



Artwork by Crosswinds Youth

Funded by Variety - The Children's Charity of Florida

## **Creating Opportunities for Young People to Succeed**



## Thank You from Our Board of Directors

**Dear Friends of Crosswinds,** 

We are pleased to share our Annual Report for 2018. On behalf of all of us, our staff and the children, youth and families we serve, an enormous thank you for helping make such positive changes in so many lives. For more than 44 years, Crosswinds has been able to serve thousands of children and youth in crisis, helping them build brighter and better futures. Your tremendous friendship and support has greatly impacted them for generations to come.

Our very best wishes to you,

Greg Crews, Chair - Summit Shah, Vice Chair Charles Ian Nash, Treasurer - Sheriff Wayne Ivey, Secretary Robert Lehton, Psy.D., Past Chair - Nina Gadodia, Director Ben Glover, Director - Mitchell Goldman, Director Susan Hammerling, Director - James Handley, Director Mater Admiral Wayne Justice, USCG (Ret.), Director - Alison Malone, Director Sheriff Jack Parker (Ret.), Director - Dara Cunnion Pauley, Director Andrew Walters, Director - Thomas Weinberg, Director Stockton Whitten, Director - Shannon L. Wilson, Director Jan Lokay, President/CEO, Ex-Officio

## **Programs and Services**

#### **Robert E. Lehton Children's Shelter**

Offers 24/7 emergency residential care and supportive services for youth who have run away, are homeless, waiting for foster homes, in respite, or are otherwise in crisis.

#### **Transitional Living Program (TLP)**

Is a comprehensive program offering housing and supportive services to help homeless young people ages 16-22 achieve self-sufficiency.

#### **Street Outreach**

Targets homeless, runaway, and young adults through a mobile street outreach team.

#### **Community Counseling**

Provides counseling and case management for youth ages 6 - 17 and their families to find solutions to issues such as school performance, truancy, runaway behaviors, and family conflicts.

#### **Independent Living Services**

Assists youth aging out of foster care in making a successful transition to independent adulthood.

#### **Safe Place**

Helps children get immediate help from Crosswinds by entering any one of over 100 Brevard businesses or public buildings displaying a Safe Place sign.

#### **Juvenile Assessment Center**

Is the central point of entry for coordinated service delivery for at risk youth and the central point of contact for law enforcement.

#### **Civil Citation**

Is an alternative to arrest for youth with certain misdemeanor offenses, which holds them accountable, while offering counseling and other services for youth and their families.

#### Stop Now and Plan (SNAP)

Is an evidence-based, cognitive-behavioral model, which helps children 6 - 11 years old and their parents learn how to effectively manage their emotions and keep problems small.



## **Celebration of Success**



### Seth Woodhead A Story of Determination & Opportunities

Crosswinds Youth Services has served many young people and when we think of our clients we think about resilience and empowerment. Recently, one of our youth became the symbol for these two attributes, Seth Woodhead.

Seth has understood that education is necessary to triumph in life. He did not let economic and social adversity become an obstacle. Seth has risen to even higher levels of achievement than expected from him. He has demonstrated that the power to succeed lies in the determination to "get it done."

Seth is 18. In May he graduated from Cocoa High School and also earned an Associate in Arts degree from Eastern Florida State College through the dual enrollment program. Currently he has just completed his second semester at the University of Florida, majoring in chemical engineering.





This is an excerpt of a letter written this past year by one of our Transitional Living youth to his peers in the program:

It's interesting how value works. Most people take it for granted. The strange thing about it is once you lose something that's precious to you, that's when you value it the most. We have all lost something that was of value to us in some point in our lives. Maybe it was a treasured object, a friend, a family member, a pet or even yourself. There's an old saying that goes like this: when a door closes a window opens. The same goes for life. I can't speak for all of you but in a way I think we're kind of like family. Think about it, we all live under the same code of rules; we all go grocery shopping together. So in a way we are. That's what Crosswinds is, a window, a second chance or a new beginning in our lives. ... I would like to thank you all in this journey; we have all come so far in life. Remember the sky's the limit so reach for the stars and beyond!



**Funded by Variety** 

# 2018 Impact



From its very beginning members of Grace United Methodist Church have been supporting Crosswinds Youth Services. Marian Lambers, one of our long time members (now deceased) recognized the need for an organization to support youth in crisis in the Central Brevard community and was on the board helping found what would become Crosswinds. Since then Grace has supported the organization in a multitude of ways from donating personal hygiene supplies and other in kind donations to financial support. At Grace, we firmly believe in the work Crosswinds does for our youth and their families and would encourage others to help support the work they do. We all need someone to be there for us when life goes awry and our youth don't always have extended family who can step in, which is why Crosswinds is so important. They are there when there is no one else. When we work together to help our youth become successful adults, it strengthens our next generation. We give them the tools and space they need that in turn allows them to fulfill the dreams

they have for their future. Thank you to all the staff at Crosswinds Youth Services for the valuable work you are doing in the lives of our youth. You are making a difference.

Pastor Beth Burton Associate Pastor Grace United Methodist Church Merritt Island

### Here's How You Have Helped

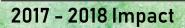


Crisis Counseling, Information and Referrals 1,166



Residential Youth Services 410

Volunteers over



# 2018 Impact



Community Credit Union is proud to be a long-time supporter of Crosswinds and their initiative to keep Brevard County's young people, families, and communities safe while helping improve our area's stability and quality of life.

We have been a participant and sponsor of the Great Brevard Duck Race annual event and look forward to continuing to work together to make a positive difference in our community. All of us at Community Credit Union wish Crosswinds continued success with the important mission to create opportunities for young people to succeed.

Laurie Cappelli Chief Executive Officer Community Credit Union

"What is truly special about supporting Crosswinds Youth Services is that you are giving young people that opportunity to use a safety net that allows them to rise above circumstances that are many times beyond their control," said Bart Gaetjens, Area External Affairs Manager at Florida Power & Light Company (FPL). "That's why FPL has been involved as a partner for so long participating in events such as the Great Brevard Duck Race throughout the years. I look back with fondness of my involvement in other activities such as the charity basketball game I played in with the Brevard County Sheriff's Office to help this wonderful organization. At the end of the day, children are our future and their wellbeing in this community should always be a priority. Working with Crosswinds is just one of the ways that FPL is involved with the communities we serve to make Central Florida an even better place to work, play and raise a family."



Bart Gaetjens Area External Affairs Manager Florida Power and Light

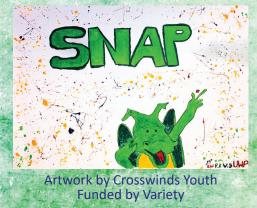
# 2018 Impact



I wanted to thank you and the entire Crosswinds team for always going above and beyond for our kids in need of placement. These young people have gone through so much, and when they are accepted into your program, we know that you have a trauma informed team ready to assist them and provide them with the special and concentrated attention that they need, in order to help them heal and grow. You answer your phone day and night, and we are so grateful to have providers like you in the area. If we could give you an award as best group home shelter in central Florida, you are right up there as #1!

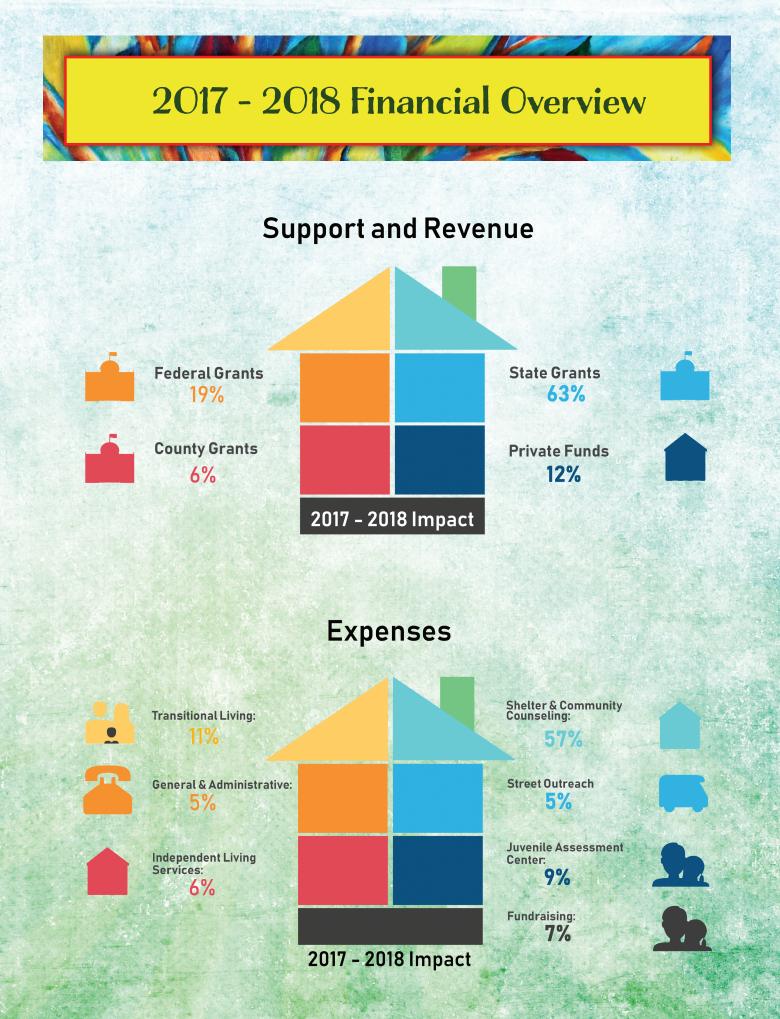
Impower Evita Santana & Staff - Intake and Placement with John Weimann, Crosswinds Director of Counseling

The administration team at Saturn Elementary have felt privileged by the opportunity to work alongside Crosswinds Youth Services and the SNAP program throughout the past year. 'SNAP in Schools' has made a positive impact on the children here, and we are looking forward to a continued partnership with the program for years to come.





Saturn Elementary School Jackie Small, Guidance Janice Rutherford, Principal Shaun Vest, Assistant Principal Cathy Gahres, Assistant Principal



## 2017 - 2018 Funding Sources

### Crosswinds Youth Services received \$3,155,474 funding from the following sources:

•Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida

- •Brevard Family Partnership
- •Brevard Homeless Coalition
- •Florida Department of Children and Families Community Based Care Organizations
  - •Florida Network of Youth and Family Services
    - •United Way of Brevard
  - •U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  - •U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

and other caring businessess, foundations, organizations, and individuals.

## **Our Mission**

Crosswinds Youth Services creates opportunities for young people to succeed.



CROSSWINDS

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United Way

United Way of Brevard

Designed and gifted by: Elusen Inc.

