

The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County has been funding local children's programs for more than 17 years throughout St. Lucie County. The funding priorities of the Children's Services Council include programs that address promoting healthy families and babies, promoting school readiness and school success, promoting family building and strengthening, promoting healthy lifestyles and teen pregnancy prevention, and promoting recreational activities and youth development. During the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year, over 50 programs will be funded by the Children's Services Council. These programs include early intervention and primary prevention programs that each work to enhance the lives of the children and families in our County.

Listed below are the programs that the Children's Services Council is currently funding. Agency phone numbers are listed for you to obtain any further information you may need on a specific program.

#### HEALTHY FAMILIES AND BABIES

*In order to build a strong foundation for our children, the Children's Services Council funds programs that ensure the health of newborns and their proper development.*

**BRAIN Program (320-0770)** – Building Readiness Among Infants Now is a prevention oriented program, Providing vital educational home visits to families with 2-month old infants, with follow-up developmental monitoring provided through the mail from 4 months to 48 months of age.

**Early Steps (380-9972)** –Early Steps provides a county-wide, comprehensive, family-centered system of prevention, early identification, and early intervention services for developmentally at-risk infants and toddlers and their families who are ineligible for Medicaid.

**Healthy Kids Insurance (467-2016)** –Health insurance coverage to school age children in St. Lucie County, not eligible under other coverage plans. Program also includes outreach to market the uninsured and help families with enrollment.

**Healthy Families (467-9505)** – Healthy Families is a community-based, voluntary home visiting program designed to promote positive parent/child interaction and healthy childhood growth and development, thereby preventing child abuse and neglect.

**Infant/Family Resource (320-0770)** – A home-based and group developmental intervention and parenting support program for families with infants and toddlers under three who are at-risk of developmental delays.

**Home Visitation for Newborns (467-2016)** –Provides a nurse home visit for St. Lucie County parents of newborns born at Lawnwood Hospital & St. Lucie Medical Center. Encourages and facilitates mothers to provide and receive optimum medical care for themselves and their newborns.

**Mother/Baby Home Visitation (223-5945x.1607)** –Provides a nurse home visit for St. Lucie County parents of newborns born at Martin Memorial Hospital. Encourages and facilitates mothers to provide and receive optimum medical care for themselves and their newborns.

#### SCHOOL READINESS AND SCHOOL SUCCESS

*In order to build the structure for future success, the Children's Services Council funds programs that ensure children are prepared to learn at school and develop positive assets so they can achieve their greatest potential.*

**Applied Behavior Concepts (466-0051)** – The ABC program serves children 3-4 years old that have been identified as having behavior issues that cannot be managed in their current child care settings.

**Early Learning Coalition (595-6424)** – Local match for the Early Learning Coalition to draw down Federal funds to serve working poor eligible families by providing affordable child care.

**Early Learning Coalition Child Care Purchasing Pool - (595-6424)** – Local match for the Early Learning Coalition to increase availability of child care services for the working poor.

**Florida Reads & Reading Bigs (466-8535)** – Program designed to promote family literacy and school success through reading mentoring with K-2nd graders utilizing volunteers.

**Help Me Behave (320-0770)** - Program providing behavioral evaluations, intensive family service coordination, parent support and training for families of children with difficult behaviors or whose emotional well being is at risk.

**Project R.O.C.K. North (465-4646)** – Located in Fort Pierce, this program provides a structured, supervised, nurturing environment for youth who have been suspended from school, taking them off of the streets and into a positive learning environment.

**Project R.O.C.K. South (336-9930)** – Located in Port St. Lucie, this program provides a structured, supervised, nurturing environment for youth who have been suspended from school, taking them off of the streets and into a positive learning environment.

**St. Lucie County Health Department (873-4920)** – Local match to support half of 3 nurse positions in the elementary and middle schools throughout the County.

**Student Assistance Program (467-3010)** – A school-based program designed to prevent and reduce substance use and abuse among high risk, multi-problem adolescents. Program services focus on strengthening protective factors for healthy behaviors and decreasing priority risk factors associated with greater potential for drug use.

**Truancy Project (489-5601)** – Program designed to promote regular school attendance and success through targeting of K-5th graders with five or more unexcused absences serving 9 Elementary schools.

**Truancy Project II (460-9918)** – Program designed to promote regular school attendance and success through targeting of K-5th graders with five or more unexcused absences serving 9 Elementary schools.

#### FAMILY BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING

*In order to build the positive support system for a child to grow, the Children's Services Council funds programs that strive to provide opportunities for the family to maintain and become a stronger unit that builds resiliency and sets positive goals for its children.*

**211 Help Line (dial 2-1-1)** - information and referral services for community resources.

**Adult Role Models (924-9005)** – Program provides education and awareness to parents of issues facing adolescents. Parent-trained volunteers lead workshops that train parents to talk openly with their children about matter that challenge teens.

**After-School and Summer Program (468-7879)** –An afterschool and summer activities program for children with physical and developmental disabilities.

**Camp Holiday (466-0051)** –Program is designed to provide family focused services to parents of children with emotional and behavioral difficulties. Provides respite, specialized parent training, and a structured positive skill building program for the children.

**Children of Promise (466-8535)** – Program promote family building with improved child self image and academic success as a result of mentoring for children that have an incarcerated parent.

**Children's Bereavement Program (465-0660)** –Program provides grief support at home, school or hospice office, in an individual, group or classroom setting, with an emphasis on family involvement and healing.

**Children's Home Society (489-5601)** – Local Match to support Heart Gallery of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast adoption/awareness efforts.

**Crisis Nursery (334-9311)** – Child abuse and neglect prevention program that provides in-home services to families experiencing crisis. These services may take the form of family support, therapy, medical, daily living assistance, educational, and short-term respite care for children.

**H.O.P.E. (334-9311)** – A child abuse and neglect prevention program that provides reunification services to families experiencing crisis that have resulted in out-of-home placement of children.

**Family Support Services (466-8535)** –A collaborative partnership with Boys & Girls Club to provide counseling or group mentoring services to children and families that have demonstrated anger control issues, low self-esteem, poor peer relationships and poor family management.

**Father and Child Connection (595-6424)** – A community collaboration program that provides fathers with skills and education to help them fulfill their responsibilities to their children, through father and child activities, and awareness of fatherhood resources.

**Haitian Children's Multi-Service Center (460-1419)** –This program is designed to provide information and referral services to Haitian parents and children regarding use of community resources including translation and distribution of social service material written in English and Creole.

**High Hopes for Kids (461-0863)** –An educational and support group for children whose parents have divorced or separated.

**La Promesa (692-2023)** - This program is committed to closing the gaps in the quality and availability of healthcare, health education, and preventive measures currently existing in the Latino population.

**Safe Families (465-6011)** –A home-based parent education and support program designed to prevent child abuse and neglect and help families remain intact.

**Strengthening Families (461-0863)** – Family focused program designed to address communication and behavioral issues. Specialty groups for Haitian, Hispanic, Foster Care, Department of Juvenile Justice, and behavior disorders.

**Strong Fathers/Strong Families (465-6011)** - Promotes responsible fatherhood in incarcerated fathers, provides concurrent services to mothers and children of incarcerated fathers through skill based classes for the family, as well as home based follow-up upon reunification of the family.

**Treasure Coast Kids (873-0015)** – Professional counseling services for individuals, couples, children and families targeting resolution of stressful issues that adversely affect family life.

**Valued Visits (461-0863)** – Provides a safe and nurturing place for non-residential parents to have supervised visitation with their children.

#### RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

*In order to build opportunities for children to play and develop, the Children's Services Council funds programs that provide positive activities and promote self worth and empowerment to children and youth.*

**Avenue D Boys Choir (342-6317)** – A youth vocal performance group focusing on positive behavior and building self-esteem.

**Boys and Girls Club (460-9918 FP/398-0028 PSL)** – The Boys & Girls club provides after-school and summer development activities for children ages 6-18 that focus on educational enrichment, recreation, leadership development, drug and teen pregnancy prevention, art, music, & career exploration.

**Frontline for Kids (464-0100)** – An after-school and summer prevention and intervention program of activities for youth ages 12-18 that focus on educational enrichment, recreation, leadership development, positive decision making, and career exploration.

**Future Generations (528-9931)** - Program provides musical, literary and technological activities in a summer and after school program.

**Helping Youth Succeed (468-5270)** - After school program for students enrolled at Indian Hills. Provides academic tutoring, social skills, support groups, organized sorts, arts and crafts classes, and volunteer community projects.

**PACE Center for Girls (595-8880)** – PACE provides young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy.

**Save Our Children (466-8398)** – A neighborhood program designed to address the academic, social and emotional needs of at-risk children. Emphasis is placed on youth in school with attendance problems, discipline and academic deficiencies.

**Studio 2B (201-8713)** – A girls' educational and recreational program designed to enhance self-esteem and build practical life skills.

**YMCA After School (878-7377)** – Program provides sports, recreation, arts, reading, tutored homework time after school and during out of school time (holidays and teacher workdays) in both Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce locations.

**YMCA Summer Camp (878-7337)** – The Youth Camp program is a traditional summer activity program for children ages 3 to 15. Camps in Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce serve youth and teens.

#### TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

*In order to build a positive future for children, the Children's Services Council funds programs that promote positive decision-making amongst our youth to ensure a healthy lifestyle and prevent teens from becoming parents.*

**Adolescent Health (461-1402)** – An adolescent health care program to provide medical testing, treatment and health education concerning HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention.

**Teen Life Choices (489-5601)** – Program targets primary prevention of teen pregnancy through collaboration with the St. Lucie County middle and high schools, churches, and community agencies serving the teen population.

**Teen Case Management (467-2016)** – This program offers teens accurate information regarding physical and emotional issues surrounding their sexuality.

**Teen Time (595-6681)** –This program is designed to provide healthy lifestyle resources to adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18. It promotes abstinence and provides information on a broad range of family planning topics including the means for preventing STD, HIV, and pregnancy.

**Teen Time After-School (595-6681)** – A long-term, multi-faceted program focused on improving the economic and educational opportunities available to adolescents, while decreasing high-risk behaviors including teen pregnancy. Provides after-school academic support, career awareness, creative arts programming, family/sexuality education and community services.

For more information on the Children's Services Council or its funding strategies please visit our website at [www.cscslc.org](http://www.cscslc.org)