



**Children's Services Council  
of St. Lucie County**

*our children. our community. our future.*



# 2016 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County has worked tirelessly to ensure that our community is a great place to raise children. Along with the help of our program partners, we have created a culture in our community that allows every family in every neighborhood access to the tools to help them be successful.



## ENSURING EVERY BABY IS A HEALTHY BABY

In St. Lucie County, all newborns are eligible to receive a nurse home visit within one week and a BRAIN program visit within two months of age. These resources, along with others, help families establish a healthy start for our newest and most vulnerable residents.



**92%**

of St. Lucie County births received a voluntary nurse home visit

**97%**

of parents increased knowledge of child brain development

“ I am so grateful for the BRAIN program, especially as a first time mom. It is helping calm some of my fears and answering all my questions. Thank you!



## STOPPING CHILD ABUSE BEFORE IT STARTS

Under stress and without the proper tools, parents and caregivers often revert to how they were treated as a child, which in some cases can lead to abuse or neglect. Understanding the difficulties facing parents, our programs work to eliminate barriers like transportation and childcare to ensure the whole family is working towards success.



**99%**

of families increased skills to prevent child abuse as evidenced by no reports of abuse or neglect

**99%**

of parents improved parenting skills including skills to prevent abuse/neglect

**94%**

of children improved coping skills including anger management and empathy



## KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL

In order for a child to be successful in school, they first have to show up ready to learn. Children's Services Council provides resources to students that provide access to healthcare, reading mentors and family support to ensure school attendance.



**96%**

of children in participating programs improved their reading skills

**90%**

of children reduced their rate of unexcused school absences

**5,956**

pediatric dental screenings provided in local schools and childcare centers



## KEEPING KIDS OFF THE STREETS

All of the afterschool programs supported by the Children's Services Council focus on academics, physical activity, social interaction and build positive decision-making skills to prevent youth from joining gangs or becoming involved in the Department of Juvenile Justice.



**100%**

of participating youth increased decision making skills to prevent juvenile delinquency referrals

**90%**

of youth increased their ability to identify bullying practices and prevent it

**89%**

of youth improved or maintained academic performance



## KEEPING KIDS OFF DRUGS ALCOHOL & OTHER RISKY BEHAVIORS

Children's Services Council believes that the primary educator for youth about their involvement in drugs, alcohol or other risky behaviors should be the parent. Programs that educate youth and their parents on the realities of drug and alcohol use lead to realistic family discussions about the consequences of those behaviors.



**100%**

of children increased skills to prevent use of alcohol, tobacco & other drugs

**99%**

of teens participating in programs did not become pregnant

**91%**

of parents increased comfort levels in communicating with their children



## IN THE COMMUNITY

**52**

weekly radio shows connecting people to resources

**1,200**

tickets were distributed for our FREE Sounds of the Season Holiday concert featuring performances by 100 of the talented youth in our afterschool programs

**\$225,183**

in additional funding to increase and support summer learning opportunities for youth

**5,287**

FREE books distributed through our literacy efforts including Sundaes in the Park, the Healthy Families Book Club and church-based Little Libraries.

**220+**

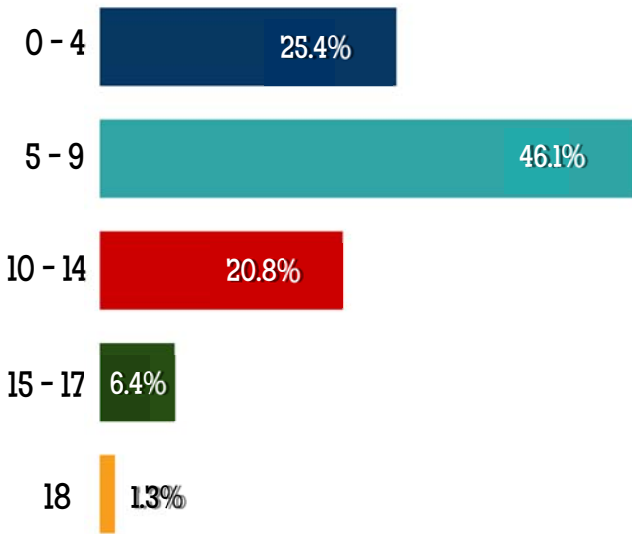
water safety scholarships were given to families to ensure kids could be safe in and around the water

**\$5,000**

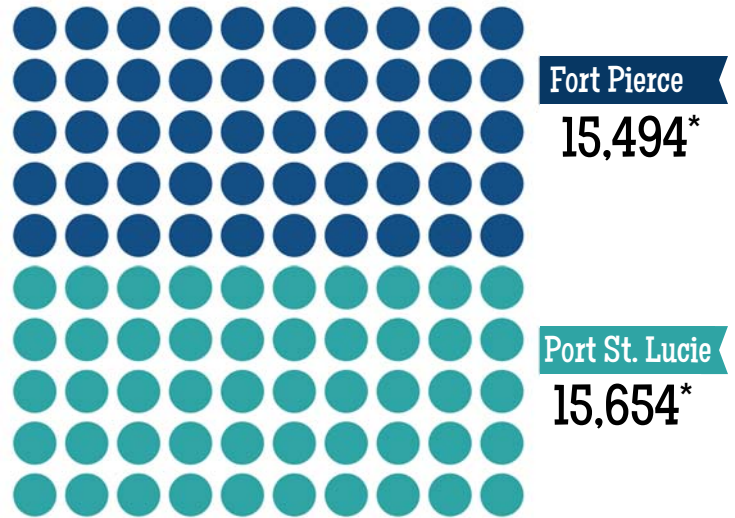
in scholarship monies were given to the winners of our Outstanding Youth awards who participate in our funded programs

# BY THE NUMBERS

## SERVED BY AGE GROUP



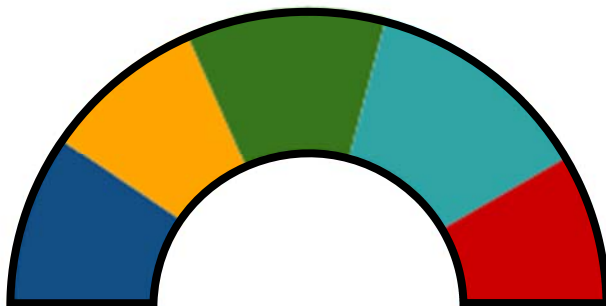
## SERVED BY CITY



\*represents aggregate total of children served

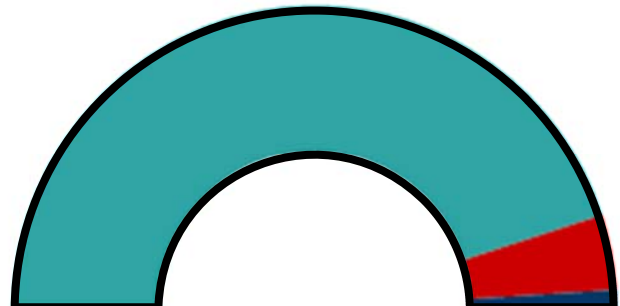
# BUDGET FY: 2014-2015

## FUNDING BY PRIORITY AREA



ensuring healthy babies: \$1,112,792  
 stopping child abuse: \$1,046,024  
 keeping kids in school: \$1,288,250  
 keeping kids off the streets: \$1,477,495  
 keeping kids off drugs & alcohol: \$981,734

## TOTAL SPENT: \$7,291,579



programming: 89.1%  
 administrative: 8.0%  
 collection: 2.9%

“ OUR INVESTMENTS HELPED DRAW DOWN AN ADDITIONAL **\$5.1 MILLION** IN OTHER FUNDING AND PROVIDED MORE THAN **400** LOCAL JOBS IN ST. LUCIE COUNTY.

