



inspiREsilience



**Families
First**

OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

2021



We Inspire Resilience in our Families

This has been a great year for the agency despite its challenges with COVID-19. We were fortunate to maintain our staff who have been committed to our mission and servant leaders throughout this difficult year, providing outstanding services to children and families of our community. Staff found creative ways to engage children and families through telehealth, in schools, outside families' homes, and communities, following CDC guidelines. We were able to engage in play creatively with children by sending toys to their homes to be utilized during telehealth. We also created a safe playroom for families of young children birth to five.

During this year, we developed new funding partner relationships and increased donor participation. Through funders' generous support, the agency was able to assist clients with emergency assistance of food, rent, utilities, and sometimes motel stays so that children and families could have their basic needs met.

Leadership and the Board of Directors have been exceptional in leading the organization and supporting the staff. Supervisors increased their supervision and attention to staff as referrals increased, the challenges the families were facing grew enormously, as did a need for ongoing reflection to ensure family success. The Board of Directors was always available to ensure our policies gave direction needed during this year of COVID-19, our technology was appropriate, our financial position strong, and our Performance Quality Improvement process ensured a high performing organization. Because Families First believes in racial equity across the organization, a core group of staff comprised of different levels, cultures, and races is leading our participation in Advancing the Mission. This process will guide us through operationalizing and institutionalizing equity and inclusiveness for all staff, board members, and clients. Additionally, the agency rebranded and developed a new mission statement, vision, and belief statements.

We are pleased to report that in fiscal year 2021, all goals and outcomes for all programs have been met or exceeded their benchmarks. You will see on the next page how programs like our Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women and Healthy Families surpassed all standards and expectations. For this, we are truly grateful.

Thank you for your support of our mission, and we look forward to our work together in 2022!



Dena Sisk Foman, Esquire
President of the Board



Julie Swindler, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer

resilience in numbers...



197

pregnant women received an assessment which consists of HIV testing, substance abuse treatment if needed, and access to prenatal care. **100%** of HIV-exposed infants tested HIV negative.



99%

of **426 Families** in our Healthy Families program improved their parenting skills and increased their family stability and self-sufficiency – ultimately eliminating abuse and neglect.



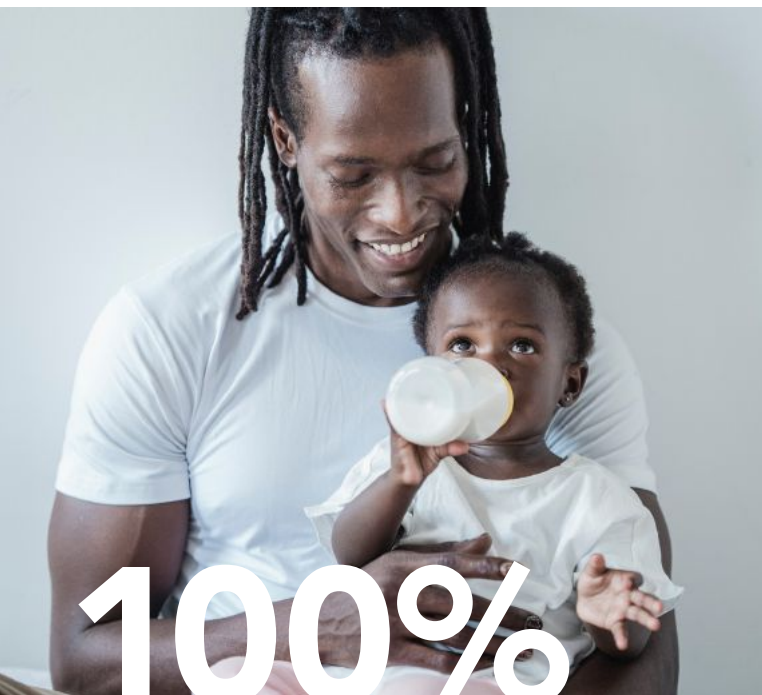
1161

Children have remained out of the child welfare system by giving caregivers the tools they need to use positive discipline techniques, cope with stress, and set and achieve short- and long-term goals.



1150

Community members have taken part in Families First initiatives, volunteered, and contributed financially. There were 5220 social media followers.



100%

of our Bridges to Success clients maintained stable housing or successfully exited the program and moved to safe, permanent housing. 90% increased their monthly income.



83%

of children and teens improved their behavior, preventing disruption and increasing their ability to learn in school and thrive at home.



98%

of Kin Support families remained together and out of the Child Welfare System.



**inspiration can
give you purpose**

Marvin is a local high school student from a Latino family. Living with his mom, he always felt the full and unconditional support of his family. When he shared his identity as part of the LGBTQ community, he received a loving response. Despite his caring home, Marvin's mental health was sinking. He experienced stress at school and found himself struggling with low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression. As he further withdrew and showed signs of escalating stress his junior year, Marvin's school referred him to Families First for behavioral health therapy. Exhausted, scared, and without hope, Marvin came to us with thoughts of suicide overwhelming him. Working with Families First to build coping skills, Marvin learned to recognize challenges, manage symptoms and heal underlying traumas. Using his creativity and love of video, he began to use recordings as a way of expressing emotion. From beginning to end of his clips, the dark poem of words used to describe himself would turn positive and affirmative. He found this very healing, helping him to visualize his progress during treatment. After therapy with Families First, Marvin found a purpose to live. As a result of Marvin's work in therapy, he experienced a significant drop in symptoms and felt his self-confidence grow. He still creates videos depicting his mental health challenges and sharing how he overcame them. Rediscover Marvin Today: a portrait of young promise, purpose, and strength. At Families First, Marvin restored his value and self-worth. He discovered a passion for helping those who struggle and is considering a career to help others like him find healing and purpose. Meet Marvin, stronger than before.

83%

of children served in the behavioral health program have stability in the home and in school and have experienced a reduction in mental health issues.

Resiliency begins here

- Assisting youth in identifying tools and strategies to reduce symptoms related to trauma and other mental health issues.
- Working with children as young as five whose parents have died due to drug overdoses and who are now living with relative caregivers.
- Assisting children new to the school system deal more effectively with social and separation anxiety due to having been quarantined because of the COVID pandemic.
- Motivating youth to remain in school after having experienced gun violence.
- Providing adolescents and teens with therapy to assist in the recovery due to an increase in drug use and misuse.

community inspires us all



**Harriet Goldstein Award Recipient
Eric Kelly**



Kinship Month!



Joel & Janelle Dowley



**Foundation Board of Directors Member
Chairman of the Legacy Committee**

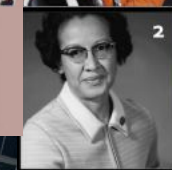


Kristoffer Doura



1

**Celebrating
Black History...
Past & Present**



2



3

**Keynote Speaker
Commissioner Mack Bernard**



How important is eating healthy while pregnant?

**Meet our 2021 Board Presidents
& join us for our
Annual Meeting & Celebration**



**Dena Sisk Foman,
Eq.**



**Bao Nguyen,
CRCP, CAMS, CFE**



**Board of Operations
Member**



Barbara James





Thank You!!!

Strategies & Solutions
for Donors and their
Charitable Goals

**REGISTER
NOW**

Join us tomorrow,
Dec. 9
11-12PM



**Families
First**
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY



**Tax Changes that
will impact
You!**

Join us September 1st 10-11am

Seth Kaplan Kristoffer Doura Edwin Morrow III



- | | |
|---|---|
| Town of Palm Beach United Way
United Way of Palm Beach County
McLaughlin & Stern
Dena Sisk Foman
Ward Damon Angels
JobsInLogistics.com
Community Friends, Inc.
Byrnes Guillaume
Mirabella at Mirasol Community
Barbara LeBrun
Leadership Palm Beach County
Ofelia Utset | Strathmore Gate West
Good Samies Group
Numerous Community Members
Outreach Ministries of Ascension Church
Hagler Bank
Lady Stars Softball Team
Sandra Flemming & her community
Silverball Museum
Numerous Families First Staff
Food gift cards thanks to
Shirley Schwartz &
Private Donors |
|---|---|



**strength
is determination
and resilience**

Janelle was pregnant when she moved from Haiti to the United States in 2019, seeking a better life for her unborn child. She was fearful of being alone in a new country, unable to speak the language very well. However, Janelle wanted to raise her child in a country that had opportunity, freedom, and would give her a chance at a life without poverty. Janelle was severely depressed not knowing how she would care for her child and would speak negatively about the baby. She was 28 weeks pregnant in a new country, by herself, and terrified.

Janelle connected with Healthy Families, a home visiting program soon after arriving in Florida. Her bilingual social worker, Esther, helped her create family goals, which included learning basic words in English that would help her get a job. During home visits, Esther would send Janelle a list of words and definitions to learn and follow up during the next scheduled home visit. Janelle would excitedly repeat the new words that she learned and their meanings during the follow-up visits. She was linked with an English class held in her city, where she began to build her social support network with other parents in the community who shared similar experiences.

In 2020 Janelle gave birth to a beautiful baby boy she named Daniel. During the two years she had been with Healthy Families, she secured Medicaid for the baby, kept all medical appointments, ensuring the baby received immunizations and well-child checks. She was able to sustain a well-paying job to care for herself and Daniel. Janelle felt supported and knew that there was someone there for her if a problem arose. She no longer felt hopeless. Janelle is securing childcare so that she can continue to work. She has developed a strong bond with her baby and no longer has negative thoughts or language about motherhood. Janelle's outlook on life is now and continues to be positive. She is set to attend Healthy Families 2022 graduation.

99%

of families were empowered to create change resulting in positive life-altering behaviors for themselves and their children.

Inspiration begins here

- With family support and coaching that help parents provide a safe and stable environment
- With national accredited curriculum focused on healthy growth and development.
- Using positive discipline techniques, learning to cope with the day-to-day stress, setting and achieving short- and long-term goals.
- Eliminating costly consequences including hospitalization, child welfare services, special education, and juvenile delinquency saving taxpayers \$105,131 per child annually.

revenue and expenses



Reflects fiscal year ending September 30, 2021



annual contributions and revenue

Government Support

\$4,301,978

Community Support

\$177,774

Foundation Grants

\$735,039

Other Support

\$139,928

Fundraising

\$104,999

In-Kind Revenue

\$19,595

Net Investment Return

\$135,956

Conditional Loan Forgiveness

\$495,897

Total Revenue

\$6,111,166

agency expenses

Program Services

\$4,772,900

Supporting Services

\$625,553

Fundraising Events

\$24,598

Total Expenses

\$5,423,051

Families First is audited by the independent CPA firm of Templeton & Company, LLP, which conducted its examination in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards. Templeton & Company, LLP, rendered an unmodified opinion that the financial statements are fairly stated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021. If you want a copy of the audit or the 990, please feel free to contact the office at 561-721-2887 or you can get them on our website at www.familiesfirstpbc.org.

funders and contributors



Reflects fiscal year ending September 30, 2021

government and agency

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Florida Department of Health
Health Care District of Palm Beach County
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Community Services
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Youth Services
School District of Palm Beach County
The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida
Town of Palm Beach United Way
United Way of Palm Beach County

\$100,000 plus

Leslie L. Alexander Foundation
Lucy's Fund
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation

\$50,000 plus

Libra Foundation, Inc.
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
The Jim Moran Foundation

\$25,000 plus

Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin Counties
The Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.
The Smith Brothers Family Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Children's Healthcare Charity, Inc.
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Edward T. Bedford Foundation
Scaife Family Foundation
Leon & Shirley A. Schwartz
William & Helen Thomas Charitable Trust
Ward Damon P.L.
Itto Willits Charitable Foundation

\$5000 to \$9999

Pira Amirsaleh
BMO Harris Bank N.A.
Castle Group
CBIZ Insurance Services, Inc.
Constitutional Tax Collectors,
Palm Beach County
Jeff & Frances Fisher
H. E. Hill Foundation, Inc.

\$2,000 to \$4999

Sherry Borchert
Christ Fellowship Church
Peter & Julie Cummings
Clinics Can Help
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Impact Landscaping & Irrigation, LLC
Kaye Bender Rembaum, P.L.
Kaufman Rossin & Company
Meshnick Charitable Family Foundation

\$500 to \$1,999

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Brown Institute for Health & Wellness, LLC
Robert Carbajal, Impact Deposits Corporation
Bret & Kay Danilowicz
Robin Dean & Anique Brown,
PRSM Solutions, LLC
Renee Dunn
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Tony & Susan Morris
Joseph & Nicole Floyd
Mark & Marian French
Tim & Mary Gavin
Byrnes Guillaume
Gary & Alice Hodach
Integrated Data Technologies
IOA Risk Management
Raul & Michelle Mercader
John Lacy
Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC

Jose Antonio Grifols Lucas Foundation
Law Enforcement Trust Fund
Miami Diaper Bank
Eddie & Jo Ann Sears
TD Bank Charitable Foundation
Wycliffe Charities Foundation, Inc.

Rehmann
Schwab Charitable
Seacoast Bank
Chris & Patty Spencer
Ted & Julie Swindler
The Dorothy Louise Kyler Foundation
Toshiba Business Solutions
Two Men and a Truck,
Palm Beach & Treasure Coast
U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management

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Pike & Lustig
Domenick & Jennifer Macri
Michael & Kim Mahlbacher
Warren & Barbara McQuinn
Justin C. Mosley
James & Cindy Nau
Rose M. Novotny
Ronny & Eniscia Nunez
O'Neil Charitable Trust
Jeffrey & Jodie Petrone
Nico Sabugo, Leading Data Exchange, Inc.
Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Templeton & Company
The John F. Scarpa Foundation
Dr. Ofelia Utset & Dr. Tom Kodadek
Rick & JoAnn Wagner
Nicholas Walters
Wes Wiggins



"As the president of the Families First Foundation, I see life-changing breakthroughs being made every day when we support children and families at a critical time of their lives. We build strength across communities through outreach and the delivery of our proven programs. You have seen that in the stories we've shared. It is my hope you will consider a Legacy gift today, so Families First can continue to help children today and in the future. Help us inspire and create resilient families."

Bao Q. Nguyen
Foundation Board President



inspiration builds resiliency

Join our Forever Families Legacy Society

Our goal is to make your giving experience one that inspires and uplifts you.

Join our Forever Families Society and we will be honored to work with you to plan your giving journey in a manner that is compelling and rewarding. Your gift will allow you to combine your philanthropic goals with your financial needs to ultimately build resilient children, families and community.

To learn more, visit FamiliesFirstPBC.org.

funders



Leslie L. Alexander Foundation



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accreditations



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Families First

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