



# Families First

OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

EMBRACE **E**MPower

2023





# We EMBRACE & EMPOWER Families

As we turn the page on another year, it's with immense pride and gratitude that we reflect on the incredible journey we've shared at Families First of Palm Beach County. Despite our challenges, your unwavering support and our dedicated team's passion have fueled tremendous positive impact across our seven essential programs.

This past year, we witnessed the transformative power of early intervention firsthand. Through programs like TOPWA and Healthy Families, we've nurtured the well-being of mothers and their infants, fostering healthy attachment and laying the foundation for a strong developmental path. Our Child First and Infant Mental Health initiatives reached families facing adversity, providing critical support to strengthen family bonds and equip children with coping mechanisms.

On the frontlines of behavioral health, our dedicated therapists guide children battling mental health challenges toward recovery. Kin Support offered a lifeline to all kinds of caregivers, alleviating their burdens and ensuring vulnerable children receive the love and care they deserve. Bridges to Success empowered adults seeking second chances, equipping them with the skills and resources to break cycles of poverty and build self-sufficiency.

Numbers can only tell part of the story. Each statistic presented in this report represents a life changed, a family strengthened, and a future brimming with hope. These achievements are a testament to the dedication of our staff, the resilience of the families we serve, and the unwavering support of you and our community. Together, we are building a stronger, healthier Palm Beach County where every child and family has the opportunity to thrive.

But our journey is far from over. As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding our reach, innovating our services, and ensuring that every family in our community feels supported. We will continue to advocate for equitable access to mental health services, champion preventive initiatives, and build collaborative partnerships that uplift and strengthen our families.

Thank you for being a part of the Families First of Palm Beach County family. Together, let us embrace and empower families in need.



Byrnes Guillaume, Esq.  
President of the Board



Julie Swindler, LCSW  
Chief Executive Officer



**Kin  
Support**

**They call her “Ma Dukes” in the neighborhood, and she has raised many generations, despite her health. Ma Dukes has endured several heart attacks and struggles with symptoms of her diabetes. Despite her struggles, she appears strong like a wall of bricks, and she laughs even though she should be crying. Ma Dukes always rolls out the red carpet when her Family Service Coordinator (FSC) arrives at her home. Did I mention she’s a strong advocate for her grandchildren?**

**Here’s one story that led to success because of Ma Dukes’ advocacy. The FSC was approached one day because Ma Dukes had concerns for her elementary age grandson, Jason, who was in the 4th grade and couldn’t read. According to Ma Dukes, Jason would have the other grandchildren complete his school projects or ask for the answers to the questions in his homework assignment. Ma Dukes was confused and not sure why her grandson wasn’t on grade level, like all her grandchildren. Ma Dukes said she wasn’t used to having a grandchild that needed additional help academically, but reached out to the FSC to locate a tutor who could assist.**

**Immediately the Kin Support Program FSC was on the case. The FSC reached out to Galaxy Elementary School and gathered information needed to determine what should be done for Jason. The FSC was informed about the School Based Team meeting that would soon take place and determine the level of care the grandson needed. Both the FSC and the grandmother attended the meeting to ensure Jason was receiving the necessary academic accommodations needed in the classroom. Then the FSC received a lead from Galaxy Elementary School staff and reached out to a tutor that provided tutoring for children at the family’s local library, at no cost.**

**Fast forward to today, Ma Dukes raves about how much Jason has improved in his reading level and ability to complete his own homework assignments. Ma Dukes has the ability to attend School Based Team Meetings on her own and communicate her grandson’s needs from the skills she learned from the Kin Support FSC. The FSC was also informed that Jason was promoted to the next grade level for the August 2023, school term.**

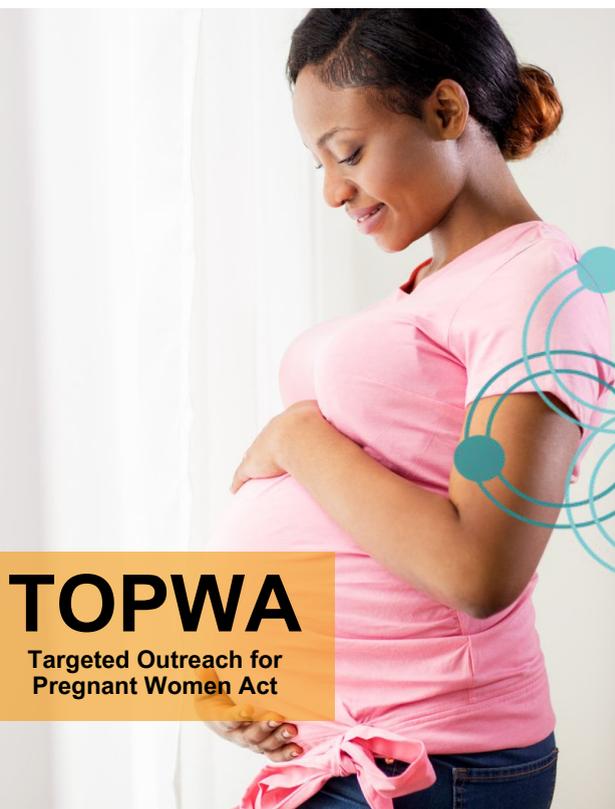
**Of the 52 families served through our Kin Support Program, 99% of families enrolled accepted the program services. 99% of the 116 children were able to remain together with relative caregivers and kept out of the welfare system.**

For fiscal year ending on September 30, 2023, our seven programs served 1,046 families consisting of 1,694 children/youth and 1,388 adults.



## Healthy Families

100% of the 401 Families served in our Healthy Families program improved their parenting skills and increased their family stability and self-sufficiency – ultimately eliminating abuse and neglect for the 789 children served by this program.



## TOPWA

Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women Act

192 Pregnant, High-Risk Women received a health assessment which consists of HIV testing, substance abuse treatment if needed, and access to prenatal care. 100% of HIV exposed infants tested HIV negative.



## Behavioral Health Services

Behavioral Health Services served 264 families consisting of 349 children and 516 adults. 85% of children/youth maintained stable behaviors in their home and schools.

**Of the 10 families served in our Bridges to Success Program, 100% maintained stable housing. 98% of families maintained income including wages and benefits as they continue to work towards self-reliance.**

## **Bridges To Success**



## **Infant Mental Health**

**Families First Infant Mental Health program served 37 families, consisting of 82 children and 70 adults. 80% of the caregivers who completed services met their treatment plan reducing the risk of abuse and neglect 100% of the year.**

**The Child First program served 90 families consisting of 146 children and 128 adults. 80% of the families completed services successfully. Of the families discharged, 100% of those families improved in at least one domain.**



## **Child First**

# Funder & Contributors

## Government & 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

Cigna Corporate Services, LLC  
Lucy's Fund  
The Jim Moran Foundation

## \$50,000 to \$99,999

Florida Blue Foundation  
Leslie L. Alexander Foundation  
Libra Foundation Inc.  
Quantum Foundation  
Season To Share Fund Inc.  
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.  
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation

## \$25,000 to \$49,999

Children's Healthcare Charities, Inc.  
Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin Counties  
Impact the Palm Beaches  
Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation  
Scaife Family Foundation  
The Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.

## \$10,000 to \$24,999

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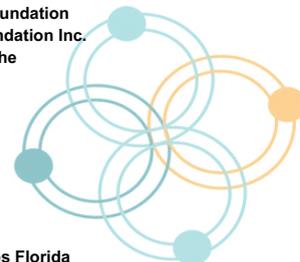
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Steinger, Greene & Feiner  
Templeton & Company  
The Gold Coast Chapter of the Community  
Tire Kingdom  
Toshiba Business Solutions  
Two Men and A Truck  
U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management  
Beth Walton  
Wesley Wiggins

# Revenue & Expenses

Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023

## Annual Contributions and Revenue

### Government Support

**\$4,447,124**

### Community Support

**\$192,438**

### Foundation Grants

**\$1,089,262**

### Other Support

**\$138,346**

### Employee Retention Tax Credit

**\$436,384**

### Fundraising

**\$307,632**

### In-Kind Revenue

**\$29,627**

### Net Investment Return

**\$150,261**

### Total Revenue

**\$6,791,074**

## Agency Expenses

### Program Services

**\$5,013,109**

### Supporting Services

**\$1,061,057**

### Fundraising Events

**\$78,439**

### Total Expenses

**\$6,152,605**

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, 2023. 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](http://www.familiesfirstpbc.org).



# **STOP** CHILD ABUSE

Join  
**Project  
Blue April**



**Become our partners in the fight against Child Abuse!**



SAVE THE DATE



PRESENTS

**Families First of Palm Beach County  
18th Annual  
Children's Day Luncheon**

**11/1/2024**

Cohen Pavilion - Kravis Center

**Matt Lincoln,  
Master of Ceremonies**



## Funders



CATHLEEN McEARLANE  
FOUNDATION



## Accreditations



**Families  
First**  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

**West Palm Beach Office**  
3333 Forest Hill Blvd.  
2nd Floor  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
(561) 721-2887

**Wellington Office**  
12300 Southshore Blvd.  
Unit 210  
Wellington, FL 33414  
(561) 283-0635

**Belle Glade Office**  
1500 NW Avenue L  
Suite B  
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