



EVERY
family
HAS A STORY

**This is
ours**

Devereux Community Based Care
2015 Annual Report

Happily Ever After!

An open letter from Carol

The following is a letter from our Chief Executive Officer, Carol Deloach.



*Carol Deloach, with her husband
Dewey and their grandchildren
Lauren and Alex Warot.*

November 2015 marked Devereux Community Based Care's second anniversary as the Lead Agency for child-welfare services in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties— two years of hard work, dedication and commitment to serving the most vulnerable of our community's residents.

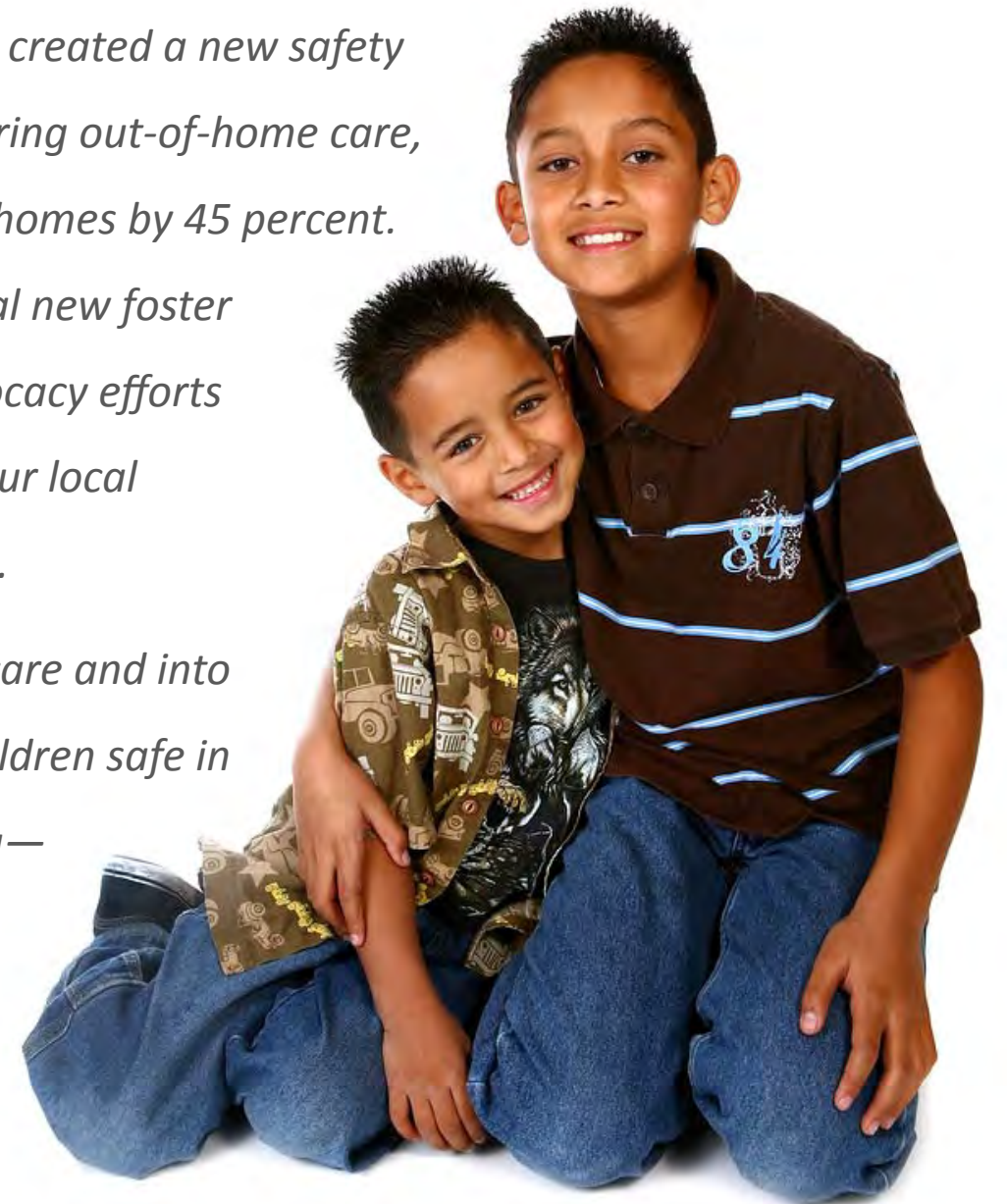
We accomplished a lot in the past year, from expanding our county director model into Martin County to rolling out a full year of the new Safety Methodology. We created a new safety program that is helping to curb the number of children entering out-of-home care, added two new licensing agencies and increased our foster homes by 45 percent.

In Fact, Devereux CBC made up 20 percent of the state's total new foster homes for the year! And although we faced another budget deficit in Fiscal 2015, our advocacy efforts did not: thanks to strong partnerships with the Department of Children and Families and our local lawmakers, the Florida Legislature approved an additional \$1 million to cover our shortfall.

We have many challenges to come. We must continue to move children out of residential care and into foster homes, where appropriate. And we must find newer, more creative ways to keep children safe in their own homes and out of deeper-end care. We'll do this the same way we do everything—with steadfast dedication to the families who count on us to get it right.

A handwritten signature of Carol Deloach in black ink.

- CEO, Devereux Community Based Care



Mission & Vision

Our mission is to enhance the safety, permanency and well-being for all children in Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast through a community network of family support services.

Our vision is to eliminate abuse, neglect and abandonment in Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast so all children grow to their full potential.



The Kidd children, pictured here with permission from Ashley and Robb Kidd, found their Forever Home during the fall of 2015. They are still picking up the ribbons and ripped paper of their first Christmas together as a family.

2015 was a year of tremendous success

Here are just a few of the year's achievements:

Case management

- Reduced caseloads from 16 to 14 children per case manager
- Decreased turnover among case managers from 48% to 30%

Foster Care

- Increased foster homes by 43 homes—representing 20% of all newly licensed homes in the state
- Expanded number of recruiting and licensing agencies looking for new foster homes in our community to four
- Reduced the number of foster homes with over-capacity waivers

Programs & Clinical Services

- Increased clinical oversight of services to children and families, and added an on-staff nurse to coordinate health coverage for children in care
- Expanded housing network for youth living in Extended Foster Care
- Deepened partnerships with substance abuse and mental health providers and funding agencies
- Finalized 142 adoptions, exceeding annual goal by 18%

Administration

- Received expedited accreditation through the Council on Accreditation
- Added performance improvement manager position to increase focus on performance oversight
- Caregiver Support Coordinator recognized statewide for superior collaboration with local foster homes
- Established risk-management committee to ensure performance excellence
- Improved contracts measurement to allow for real-time, quality monitoring

Community Outreach

- Successfully completed rollout of 25 by 25 public relations campaign to increase interest in foster parenting— campaign increased traffic to website by 22%
- Worked with local Legislators and state partners to secure additional funding to local system of care
- With Rep. Gayle Harrell, coordinated a local workshop to begin addressing the issues presented by crossover children who move between the Juvenile Justice and Dependency systems

Budget

This table and the pie chart on the next page represent income and expenses for FY15, which ran from July 2014 through June 2015.

Income

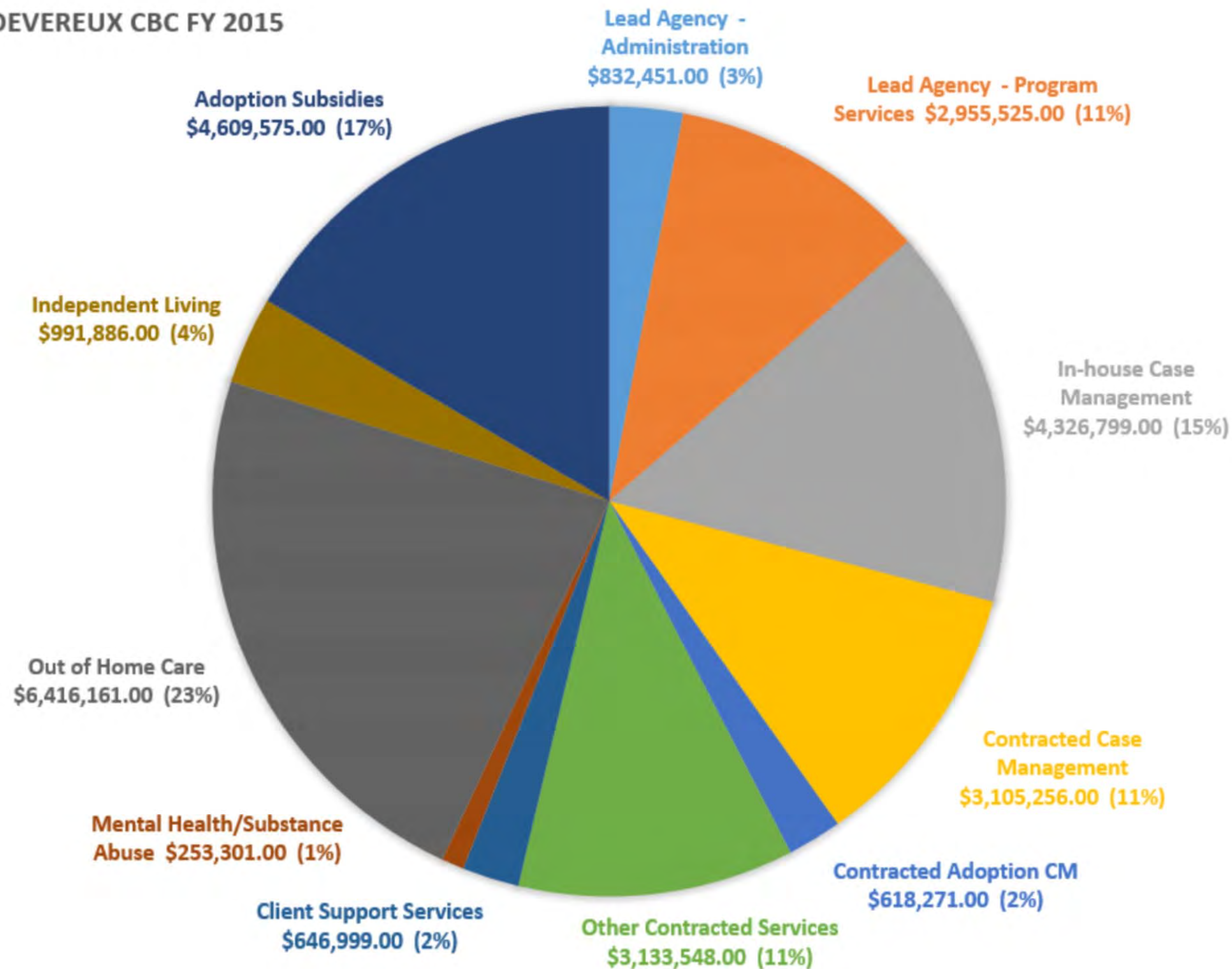
DCF **\$27.8 million**

Expenses

Administration	\$832,451
Program Services	\$2.9 million
In-house Case Management	\$4.3 million
Contracted Case Management	\$3.0 million
Adoptions	\$618,271
Other Contracted Services	\$3.1 million
Client Support	\$646,999
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	\$253,301
Out of Home Care	\$6.4 million
Independent Living	\$991,886
Adoption Subsidies	\$4.6 million
Total Expenses	\$27.8 million



DEVEREUX CBC FY 2015



Programs & Innovations

Caregiver Support

This program offers financial support to the caregivers of children who have been removed from their homes.

Family Group Conferencing

This is a family-centered practice that empowers families, through their identified strengths and community support, to facilitate decision-making and planning for the safety, care and protection of their children.

Permanency Roundtable

The roundtable process was developed to increase permanency among youth in foster care by reunification, adoption or guardianship. It is a structured meeting intended to establish permanent connections for youth by involving a team of experts who brainstorm current barriers to permanency and develop a specific action plan to achieve it.

Quality Parenting Initiative

This statewide initiative develops new practices to ensure children receive effective, loving parenting while in the care and that caregivers develop techniques they can use to work with biological parents.

Extended Foster Care

This program, managed locally through the Road to Success program, allows youth to remain in foster care beyond age 18. You may choose to enter extended care, decline care but opt for educational services or leave care, entirely.

Foster Parent Mentor

Through this program, veteran foster parents serve as support coaches to newer caregivers and work with staff to ensure all foster parents receive the help and resources needed to provide the highest level of care to children.

Intensive In-Home Intervention

These services provide immediate safety management services to prevent out-of-home placement. The program serves families who are at imminent risk of having their children removed; intensive services are provided during 4-5 home visits per week to keep the family together.





Our providers

4Kids of South Florida	Mental Health Association of Indian River County
ADAP Counseling Services	Mount Bethel Human Services
Breakthrough Recovery Center	New Horizons of the Treasure Coast
Brighter Futures Inc.	Place of Hope
Camelot Community Care	Real Life Children's Ranch
CASTLE	Substance Awareness Center of Indian River County
Changing Tree Wellness Center	Suncoast Mental Health Center
Children's Home Society of Florida	Translations USA
Counseling and Recovery Center	Treasure Coast Counseling Center
Father Flanagan's Boys Town Fla, Inc.	Tykes & Teens
Hibiscus Children's Center	VisionQuest
LabCorp	

I am not afraid of them leaving

For years we discussed the idea of becoming foster parents, but always brushed it off with the thought of "I could never give them back." But sign after sign kept leading us in the same direction, and we showed up to our first training class at the end of January.

Every child welfare professional we met, from our trainer to our placement teams to our caseworkers have been 110 percent dedicated to these children and finding ways to provide them the very best ways to thrive under incredibly difficult circumstances. Every foster family that we have met has become an unwavering system of support and has deepened my respect for the role they choose to take in the lives of these children who need so much.

Children who need foster homes have been removed from their own homes for reasons of abuse or neglect. They are vulnerable and simply need safe, loving and nurturing environments where they can begin to heal and thrive. People often ask me, now that we are foster parents, how we deal with the thought that these children might not be with us forever, and I always tell them the same thing:

"I am not afraid of them leaving; I'm afraid of where they would be if they weren't here."

- Ashley Kidd, written as part of a yearlong series of Letters to the Editor that told the stories of local foster parents

Meet our Board of Directors



Steve Murphy spends some time with his granddaughters, Grace and Nicole Murphy.

An open letter from Steve

The following is a letter to the community written by Steven Murphy, president of the Devereux CBC Board of Directors

On behalf of the Devereux CBC Board of Directors, I want to congratulate staff and leadership for another successful year. We began 2015 with a critical shortfall of foster homes, a record

number of children in group care and a budget deficit. We ended it with the addition of 47 new caregivers, a gradually decreasing rate of children living in group homes and a budget that finished in the black thanks to advocacy efforts both locally and in Tallahassee. One of the most exciting events of 2015 was the very recent announcement that Devereux Community Based Care has been approved for accreditation by the Council On Accreditation. Accreditation is more than a status. It is a comprehensive process that turns our policies and procedures inside out and tests them against currently accepted best practices. Accreditation means that Devereux CBC, its programs, staff and leadership meet a national standard of excellence that carries over to the families we serve and results in improved outcomes for children in our community. We will use this momentum in 2016 to create an even stronger system of care for the children and families of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast.

 - Chairman, Devereux CBC Board of Directors

Josie Bellamy *Retired*

Ms. Bellamy built her career in the telecommunication and human resources industry and retired 13 years ago from Pacific Bell Directory— at the time a subsidiary of Southern Bell Corp.

Eula Clarke *Stuart City Commissioner*

Ms. Clarke practices law in Stuart, where her focus is family, juvenile, dependency, immigration, probate and guardianship law.

Denny Davis *Okeechobee Police Chief*

Denny Davis is chief of police for the city of Okeechobee. He and his wife, Margo, are house parents at Real Life Children's Ranch.

Robert Dunne *Chief Financial Officer, Devereux National*

Mr. Dunne began his career with Devereux as controller in 1992 and is now the Senior Vice President for Devereux National.

Russell Hamilton *Attorney*

Mr. Hamilton has 40 years of legal experience, almost exclusively in the area of labor and employment. Although retired, he continues to serve as counsel with Ford & Harrison, LLP, from Melbourne.

Elizabeth Keer *National Human Resources Director-Devereux National*

Ms. Keer provides consulting services to Devereux National and Division Human Resources staff and operations leadership.

Lisa Kroger *Regional Administrator-Devereux Florida*

Ms. Kroger is the regional administrator, providing leadership to 185 staff and programs serving those with mental health, behavioral and/or intellectual disabilities.

Leslie Spurlock *Roundtable of Indian River County*

Ms. Spurlock is a tobacco prevention specialist for QuitDoc Research and Education and the owner of Leslie Spurlock Consulting, where she offers consulting services for nonprofits.

Leah Yaw *Senior Vice President for External Affairs Devereux National*

Ms. Yaw has been with Devereux since 2009, directing communications, fund-raising and public policy activities.

Stephen Yerdon *Executive Director-Devereux Massachusetts*

Mr. Yerdon is responsible for developing services in therapeutic foster care, substance abuse treatment, autism spectrum programs and in-home services in Massachusetts.

2015 Contributors

The following are contributors for the Fiscal Year 2015, which runs from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

\$5,000-\$10,000

Kathryn A. Basile
Foster a Dream Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

Camelot Community Care

\$500-\$999

4KIDS of the Treasure Coast

Place of Hope

Trinity Freewill Baptist Church

Ronald R. Kaiser

MA King

Mr. & Mrs. R. Landis

Mrs. Geraldine Miller

Mrs. Mariel Minton

Mr. & Mrs. Perretta

>\$500

Norma Cassens Axx

Mrs. Beverly Craft

Indian River State College—*staff giving*

Mr. & Mrs. Sawyer

Mrs. Colette Simcox

Treasure Coast Builders Association

Indian River State College

In-Kind Contributors & Volunteers

Ability Home Care

Animal Emergency & Referral Center

Appletree Academy

Bank of America

Berry Fresh Café

Chick-fil-A

Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast

Children's Services Council of SLC

Church Women United

Clark Advanced Learning Center NJHS

Covenant Fellowship Baptist Church

Crossings Church

Daughters of the American Revolution

Devereux CBC—staff giving

Devereux Florida

Mrs. Niza Durfee

Dr. Patricia Cooper

Elev8Hope

TC Exchange Club

First Presbyterian

First UMC Men's Group

Florida Community Bank

Fla. Sheriffs Youth Ranch

Mrs. Fran Grossman

Guardians For a New Future

Hair Cuttery

Hoskins & Turko

Indian River State College

Indian River Presbyterian

Imagine School

Junior League of IRC

Junior League of MC

Martin County BOCC

Mr. Michael Kaiser

La Buona Vita

Lakes of Tradition

Lenco Marine

Lighthouse Intl.

Lil' Feet

Martin Health System

My Aunt's House

Olive Garden, Tradition

One Simple Wish

Palm City Presbyterian

Pursuit Boats

Riverside Billiards

Sailfish Splash Waterpark

Seacoast National Bank

Sea Salt Boutique

Sparemakers Bowling Team

St. Andrew Academy

St. Andrew Episcopal Church

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

St. Lucie County Retired Educators

St. Lucie Schools Transportation Dept.

St. Lucie Lanes

Sungrove Montessori

Surfaces Flooring

Tami Karol Insurance

The C. Bailes Family

The Hometown News

Tradition Field

Treasure Coast Builders Association

Tropicana

USPS—PSL Branch

Verizon

West End Grill

Mrs. Theresa Wonka

United Way SLC

Our story continues

Devereux Community Based Care is proud of the Road to Success program and of the young people whose hard-work and dedication make it successful. None of that would be possible without the support of our community. Here are just a few examples of success made possible through your support:

Anthony Williams and Tiana Robinson both graduated with Associates Degrees. Anthony is now attending the University of Florida, and Tiana is attending Florida Atlantic University.

Local Florida Youth SHINE member Janice Goldsberry was elected to the Statewide Florida Youth SHINE Board as the events and marketing chair. Youth SHINE is a youth-run, peer-driven organization that empowers current and former foster youth to become leaders and advocates within their communities. Janice also received the Outstanding Youth Advocate Award from Florida's Children First for her work on behalf of children in foster care locally, statewide and nationally.

And Anthony Nadeau, also a student in the Road to Success program, traveled to Boston last year to judge a prestigious national high-school debate competition. He was also a panelist for the national State of Out Youth town hall meeting, held during the spring in New York. The event is a national discussion with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and ally youth from across the country about the most pressing issues facing them today.