

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Foundation donates \$10,000 to foster dreams

Port St. Lucie - The Kathryn A. Basile Foster a Dream Foundation awarded Devereux Community Based Care \$10,000 today, continuing a commitment to teens and young adults in foster care that began in 2010.

The award will be used to pay for high-school graduation expenses, college campus visits and other costs associated with making the transition into independence.

More youth in foster care are graduating high school and heading to college, said Chris Martinez, supervisor for Devereux Community Based Care's Road to Success program which prepares young people for their life after foster care.



Pictured from left are: Chris Martinez, program supervisor; Steve Basile, Foundation Board Chairman; and Josie Kirchner, DCBC Director of Clinical Services.

"Foster a Dream helps them meet expenses that ordinarily would be handled by family," Martinez said. "It helps normalize the foster-care experience."

In fact, the number of students in foster care who graduated high school or received a GED this year increased by 70 percent from the year before, which was itself a 43 percent increase over the 2014-2015 school year.

Most of those students are currently enrolled in college, Martinez said.

Furthermore, two students in the Road to Success program graduated with an associate's degree from Indian River State College this year. They are both currently enrolled in bachelor's programs.

Since the foundation was created in 2010, Foster a Dream has contributed more than \$55,000 and helped nearly 100 teenagers and young adults in foster care.

Learn more about Kathryn A. Basile Foster a Dream Foundation

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November 9, 2017 Contact: Christina Kaiser (772) 528-0362



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