

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Foster moms open foster closet for Treasure Coast and Okeechobee caregivers

Stuart – Ericah Brinson took a long look at her donation-stacked front porch one day and decided something had to be done.

So the Martin County foster parent called her sister-in-law and fellow caregiver Sabrina Brinson, and the two went to work.

One Facebook post and 48 hours later, the pair had a storage room, someone to pay for it and more than \$1,000 to get the project off the ground.

Husbands were recruited, lumber was purchased, shelving was made and voila! The Treasure Coast Foster Closet was born.



From left, sisters-in-law Ericah Brinson and Sabrina Brinson stand in front of the Foster Closet.

"Friends of friends knew I was a foster parent and kept contacting me to let me know about this donation or that donation," said Ericah, who was licensed by the placing agency, Place of Hope, to be a Devereux CBC foster parent more than a year ago. "My front porch became Grand Central Station, and I was always shuffling around baby gear."

The foster closet has donations of clothing, furniture and baby equipment and is available to all caregivers in Devereux CBC's service area, which includes Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties.

The Brinson sisters have even made the closet available to caregivers from further south.

"We don't care about county lines," Ericah said. "Just come get what you need."

Donations to the closet are accepted at drop-off sites throughout the community, including RE/MAX of Palm City, Napa Auto Parts, in Port Solarno, Alliance Building Group, in St. Lucie West, Life Church, in Jensen Beach and Cottons Automotive, in Port St. Lucie.

Caregivers can learn more about Foster Closet by joining the <u>Treasure Coast Foster Closet Facebook page</u>. To learn more about becoming a foster parent click here.

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