



**COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST**

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## News & Media

### Foster Parents celebrate National Foster Parent Appreciation Month with food, friends – and dueling

**Port Saint Lucie** – The cake said it all.

There is no better gift to give a child than a family.

Devereux Community Based Care celebrated that gift – and those who give it – May 20 during a special event to honor local foster parents.

The event was a partnership of Devereux CBC, the nonprofit organization responsible for child-welfare services in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties, and its licensing agencies: Camelot Community Care, 4Kids of the Treasure Coast, Place of Hope and Mount Bethel Human Services.



*Foster parents do the locomotion in a 110-person train*

Hosted at the Santa Lucie River Club at Ballentrae, the event featured three dinner stations of roast beef, pasta and stir fry, a DIY photo booth and an assortment of gift baskets. Russell Hamilton, Vice President of the Devereux CBC Board of Directors, gave an address to the caregivers - [click here to read it](#).

But the piece de resistance was the entertainment, provided by Fun Pianos! By 176 Keys.

Two pianists delivered enough personality to keep nearly 120 caregivers on their feet, on the dance floor and, at times, on a people train of foster parents that wound itself around the room, singing “Locomotion” and making train noises.

“It was really one of the best, if not the very best, events we’ve had,” said Rose Bailey, an adoptive mother and foster parent mentor. “Years ago, we had covered-dish picnics in the middle of summer and now we have a dinner in a country club and dueling pianos – I think the foster parents really appreciated it.”

The dinner was the first of a series of events held each year in observation of National Foster Parent Appreciation Month. Next is a foster family pool party, to be held next month in Indian River County.

For more information on becoming a foster parent [click here](#).

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