

Devereux

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

One School kicks off from JBHS production studio

Jensen Beach - One School One Child, a foster-parent recruitment campaign aimed at teachers and other members of the school community, officially rolled out May 16 from the production studio of Jensen Beach High School.

The campaign uses teachers already licensed as foster parents to help recruit new caregivers from among their peers.

It's the latest step in an ongoing effort to increase both the number and quality of local foster homes.

Lori Kane, a Martin County foster parent and assistant principal at Jensen Beach High School, was the peer speaker for the campaign's inaugural presentation.

"Initially, it was supposed to be a live presentation to staff, but we felt that it would reach more people if we produced it in the studio and then made it available to the district," said Christina Kaiser, community relations director for Devereux Community Based Care.



The production features stories from three speakers, including Kane's perspective as a caregiver educator, and Davis Price, the biological son of licensed caregivers who talks about the positive impact that foster care has had on his life.

A third, and haunting, perspective, is presented by Tiana Robinson, who lived in a group home because there weren't enough foster homes for teenagers when she was in care.

She looks straight into the camera and says with a slight quiver to her voice:

"I went to school here, I was in your classroom," she said. "You probably didn't know it but I was in foster care, and I needed a home."

Devereux Community Based Care serves nearly 1,000 children and their families. Of that number, about 250 live in foster homes or in residential group care. There are currently 159 foster homes in the four-county area - not enough to accommodate the number of children coming into care.

The finished One School One Child production will be uploaded to the Martin County School District website and used for future foster-parent recruitment. A live presentation to school staff is scheduled for May 30 at the Okeechobee Achievement Academy.

If you work in a school and would like to schedule a One School One Child presentation, call Kaiser at (772) 528-0362. For more information about Devereux Community Based Care, or to become a foster parent, click here.

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Contact: Christina Kaiser
(772) 528-0362



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