



# Caring for Kids

Spring 2011

A REPORT ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH FUNDING PARTNERSHIPS  
ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI

## 2010 Year End Clinical Results

The economic downturn had a number of impacts on the services being provided by our funding partners during 2010. Utilization of contracted dollars remained extremely high at nearly 96% for the second year in a row. Many of our agencies reported a greater demand for services and maintained higher waiting lists. On top of the higher demand, many agencies reported that the intensity level of the needs was even greater as many children and youth were feeling the ill effects that the sluggish economy was having on their families. Many programs ran out of funds well before the end of the year, and a low growth in sales tax revenues did not allow for supplemental funding to address the gaps.

In total, CCRB partner agencies provided services to 71,911 children and youth and 24,093 parents and professionals. The breakdown of children served is as follows:

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Shelter Services                            | 2,185  |
| Respite Services                            | 422    |
| Teen Parents                                | 234    |
| Substance Abuse Treatment                   | 286    |
| Psychiatric Services                        | 117    |
| Transitional Living Services                | 16     |
| Crisis Interventions                        | 57     |
| Counseling Services                         | 648    |
| Home & Community Based Family Interventions | 2,022  |
| School Based Prevention Programs            | 65,924 |
| <br>  |        |
| Total Children and Youth                    | 71,911 |
| Total Parents/Professionals                 | 24,093 |
| Total of St. Charles Co. Service Recipients | 96,004 |

However, not only were a larger number of children served, but 93% of all clinical outcomes were met or exceeded, an 8% increase over 2009. These results are testimony to the outstanding work of our agencies' front line staff, who achieved these results under the difficult circumstances mentioned above. We are fortunate to have these caring professionals in our community.

## CCRB Welcomes Two New Agencies

Two agencies have been added to the list of funded CCRB partners for 2011. Nurses for Newborns, headquartered in St. Louis, serves families in St. Charles County and in 2011 will be working with 30 teen moms and their babies and children up to the age of two. Home visitations will be offered by registered nurses to promote positive parenting skills to medically vulnerable families.

Kids Under Twenty One (KUTO) has been a voice for suicide prevention efforts in the St. Louis and eastern Missouri region since 1987. KUTO will be providing suicide prevention education curriculum in the Ft. Zumwalt and Francis Howell School Districts to approximately 2,000 ninth grade students.

## 2011 Children's Trust Fund Awards

Six St. Charles County based organizations are recipients of 2011 Children's Trust Fund grant awards, designated for programs that support child abuse and neglect prevention. These organizations include: *Our Lady's Inn*, \$5,000 for aftercare services for new mothers leaving the shelter; *Youth In Need*, \$3,000 for Head Start/Early Head Start programs; *Crider Health Center*; \$3,000 for wraparound supports; *Crisis Nursery*, \$2,500 for respite services; Community Living, Inc, \$1,500 for respite services; and *Lutheran Family & Children's Services*, \$1,000 for teen mom services. Funding from the Children's Trust Fund is generated by the License Plate Campaign, a program that has generated over \$200,000 since its inception in 1998.



## Satisfaction Survey Underway

The CCRB has contracted with Cynthia Berry, Ph.D. of BOLD to conduct our biannual survey of families served by the Children's Services Fund in 2010.

As a means to capture family voice and to solicit feedback on how to improve the quality of services provided, this survey will measure service performance by our funded partner agencies according to the opinions of their customers. In 2009, a similar survey was conducted and 94% of the customers who responded were satisfied with the services they received.

It is the goal of this survey to also compare programs from two years ago and see what improvements have been made from 2008 to 2010. Results from this survey will be made available in our next newsletter this fall.

---

## CCRB & Partner Agency News.....

Kids In The Middle is hosting its major fundraiser, Bugaballoo, on May 21st at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Clayton (6:30-10:30 p.m.). The Honorable Douglas R. Beach will be receiving the Champion of Kids Award that evening.

Catholic Family Services is offering Love and Logic Parenting Classes in March, which consists of four sessions. The agency also announces psychiatry services through Dr. Claudia Viamontes for all ages (beginning at age 3).

The 2011 Children's Mental Health Conference will feature CCRB Board Member, Betty Kramer, R.N., as a keynote speaker at its March 31 conference. The conference is presented by the Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministry Network.

Congratulations to Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service for achieving a 4-year accreditation from the COA (Council on Accreditation). Additionally, much work has been going into the agency's expanded food pantry and other site changes. The Women's Life Group of Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church from Rockford, Michigan provided a great deal of labor for the agency.

Preferred Family Healthcare's ARTC program received the 2011 Department of Mental Health Director's Creativity Showcase's Best in Show award. The clients will have their artwork displayed at a reception in Jefferson City in April. Congratulations to Kasey Harlin, Program Director, the Preferred team and the youth who participated in this competition.

Preferred Family Healthcare's Teams of Concern school-based prevention and early intervention program facilitated the submission of several Francis Howell District student art pieces to the Missouri Youth Adult Alliance (MYAA) statewide Red Ribbon Week Calendar Contest. An eight grader from Bryan Middle School won his age category and his entry was featured in the calendar.

## Fifth Annual Shower of Love

### Shower of Love



The 5th annual Shower of Love has added Nurses for Newborns and Birthright as two new partnering agencies to the event. These agencies along with Crisis Nursery, Youth In Need, Our Lady's Inn and Mary Queen of Angels will receive essential baby-care items for their clients from the 5th annual Shower of Love.

The Shower of Love was first organized in 2007 in response to several tragedies occurring to infant children of young parents in St. Charles County in 2006. The Shower of Love was created to provide a tangible means of helping young parents and to give babies a strong start in life. Over \$220,000 in donations have been collected since the first annual Shower of Love to benefit families in St. Charles County.

During the month of April, businesses, churches and individuals are needed to host collection drives and baby showers. A coordinator's kit with flyers and tips on hosting a collection drive is available by contacting the CCRB. Also during the month of April, residents can drop off their donation at a community drop-off location. They include St. Charles City-County Library District branches: Spencer Road, Linnemann, Middendorf-Kredell, Corporate Parkway, Kisker Road, Deer Run, McClay, Library Express at WingHaven and Library Express and Discovery Village, New Frontier banks, Fairwinds-River's Edge and M & I Banks in WingHaven and in O'Fallon.

On April 28 and 30, volunteers are needed to staff participating Dierbergs, Schnucks, Shop 'n Save grocery stores, Mid Towne IGA and Walmarts. Volunteers are needed from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Michelle McElfresh at 636.939.6200 or [mamcelfresh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mamcelfresh@sbcglobal.net) or visit [www.freewebs.com/showeroflove](http://www.freewebs.com/showeroflove).

---

## Racial Disparities Task Force

Mental health, school and juvenile justice leaders in St. Charles County have been meeting for the last six months in an attempt to understand why African-American youth are overly represented in the juvenile justice system, particularly with such offenses as runaways and 3rd degree assaults. As a result of these findings, new partnerships are being forged between the Courts, the schools, churches, Youth in Need and the Boys and Girls Club to offer preventative services to these at-risk populations. It is the hope that through these efforts that juvenile crime will be even further reduced and racial disparity will be eliminated.

---

**Upcoming CCRB Meetings:** A Manager's Meeting for all partner agencies will be held in late April. The goal of the meeting is to introduce new partners to CCRB over the past two years to on-going agencies and to receive feedback on program progress and/or concerns. In early summer, CCRB is also planning a workshop on changes in the upcoming 2012 application process. More later on times and dates of these meetings.

## In Memory of Ray Grush

The staff and board of the CCRB lost a dear friend and partner in Ray Grush on February 12th following a long illness. Ray served as the Chief Juvenile Officer for the 11th Circuit Family Court for nearly 35 years before his retirement in 2010, and was instrumental in the securing of many programs to help youth with mental illness and substance abuse issues.



While he was a strong defender of the law, he possessed an even more compassionate heart for the struggles these youth were experiencing, and always sought and fought for necessary services to turn their young lives around. Ray will be deeply missed.

## Notes from Executive Director

We are not surprised with the 2010 Census information that shows St. Charles County with a 27 percent increase in population. We also realize that this increase, coupled with steady unemployment rates and the loss of jobs to other states, will, in all probability, impact state funding for mental health, substance abuse, and child protection services for years to come. On top of these current risks, there is a growing momentum for a statewide vote in 2012 to eliminate the state income tax and replace it with a hefty sales tax, which would put greater burden on the poor, the elderly, and those challenged with healthcare issues. This “fair” tax proposition would likely reduce general revenue, threatening mental health funding, social services, and education.



Bruce Sowatsky, Executive Director

In tough economic times, we note that mental health services generally face cuts while the demand for services is expanded. It is vital that we continue to advocate with our legislators to keep mental health a priority in the State of Missouri and to maintain funding. Communities are and have been doing more for their residents in terms of services for children and youth, but it is equally important for continued support of state and federal funding that help our most vulnerable populations.

We must speak with a common voice because together we can be heard.

### CCRB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Berrey, Ed.D.  
 Chairperson  
 Valerie White  
 Vice-Chair  
 Dan Kuntz  
 Treasurer  
 Kevin Cantwell  
 Chuck Gross  
 Betty Kramer  
 Frank Martinez  
 Steven Stahl  
 Arthur Wash

Staff:

Bruce Sowatsky  
 Executive Director  
 Janet Lewien  
 Grants Administrator  
 Michelle McElfresh  
 Administrative Assistant

2440 Executive Drive #214  
 St. Charles, MO 63303  
 Phone: 636-939-6200  
 Fax: 636-939-6202

[www.stcharlescountykids.org](http://www.stcharlescountykids.org)

## CCRB FUNDED AGENCIES

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Bridgeway Behavioral Health.....           | 636.757.2300 |
| Catholic Family Services.....              | 636.498.2273 |
| Child Center.....                          | 636.332.0899 |
| Children’s Home Society.....               | 636.940.1119 |
| Community Living, Inc.....                 | 636.970-2800 |
| Crider Health Center.....                  | 636.332.6000 |
| Crisis Nursery-St. Charles/Wentzville..... | 636.947-0600 |
|  | 636-887-3070 |
| Eleventh Circuit Family Court .....        | 636.949.3040 |
| F.A.C.T.....                               | 636.949.2425 |
| Kids in the Middle.....                    | 314.909.9922 |
| Kids Under Twenty One.....                 | 314.963.7571 |
| Lutheran Family & Children’s Services..... | 314.787.5100 |
| NAMI .....                                 | 314.962.4670 |
| Nurses for Newborns.....                   | 314.544-3433 |
| Our Ladies Inn.....                        | 636.398.5375 |
| Preferred Family Healthcare.....           | 636.946.6376 |
| Saints Joachim and Ann Care Service.....   | 636.441.1302 |
| Salvation Army.....                        | 636.240.4969 |
| United Services.....                       | 636.926.2700 |
| Youth In Need .....                        | 636.946.5600 |