



FLORIDA NETWORK

OF CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

CAC Data & State Funding Report Fiscal Year 2021-2022

501 E. Tennessee St. Suite B Tallahassee, FL 32308

(850) 671-4791

www.fncac.org

About Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers and State Funding:

Accredited by the National Children's Alliance (NCA) as the State Chapter for Florida, the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (FNCAC) is a membership organization representing the 28 Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) of Florida.

The FNCAC provides financial support to the CACs in Florida. FNCAC manages State Appropriations provided to the CACs through subcontracts earmarked for CAC services in local communities.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022, the FNCAC provided **\$5M to 27 eligible CACs** by means of subcontracts. This report will provide details about the use of those funds. CACs submit all data to the FNCAC through monthly invoicing and performance reporting. Data pertaining to the full array of services was provided directly to the National Children's Alliance by member CACs.

STATEMENT

FNCAC is committed to promoting and supporting communities in providing a coordinated investigation and comprehensive response to child victims of abuse and neglect through Children's Advocacy Centers and multidisciplinary teams.

MISSION

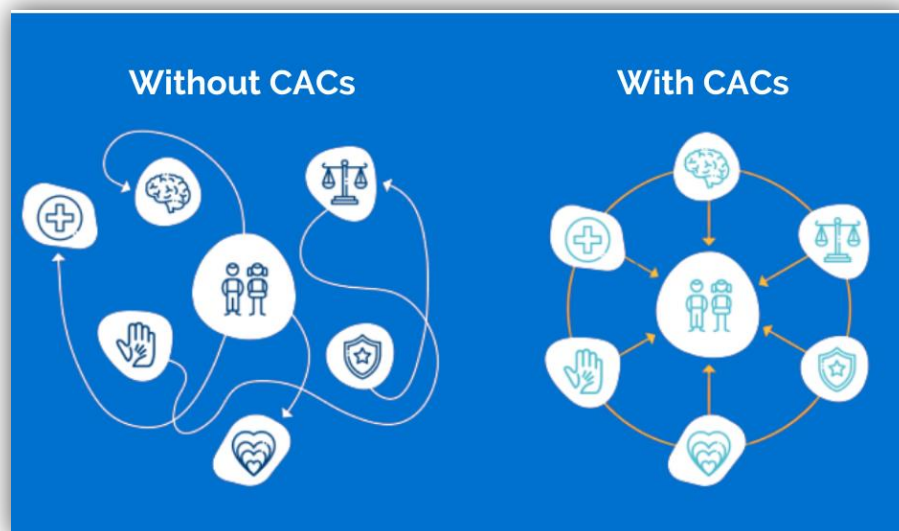
To educate and support Children's Advocacy Centers using specialized training and technical support, to speak for CACs at the state and national level, and to manage and deliver funds to Florida's eligible CACs.

VISION

To ensure that every child in Florida has access to a CAC in their community with a full range of services.

About the Children's Advocacy Model and Multidisciplinary Team:

Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are community-based, child-focused facilities where children alleged to be victims of abuse or neglect are provided forensic interviews, medical exams, therapy, advocacy, and other critical services in a non-threatening and child friendly environment. A CAC brings together an array of professionals to confer and conclude about investigations, treatment, and prosecution of child abuse cases. The primary goal of a CAC is to lessen the trauma experienced by child victims, improve prosecutions, and provide efficient and thorough provision of necessary services to child victims and their families. The impact of CACs today is clear when visualizing the former model of care:



The CAC model of a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) approach was developed through the vision of former Congressman Cramer and a group of individuals in 1985 in Huntsville, AL. Mr. Cramer, a District Attorney in Madison County, AL, saw the need to create a better system to help abused children. The idea to bring agencies and services together formally was born and named the CAC model. Here is an image depicting the MDT Umbrella:



The Impact of Florida's Children's Advocacy Centers:

8,542

NEW Children
served by Florida's
CACs in FY21/22
with General
Revenue Funding

In Fiscal Year (FY) 21/22, 27 of FNCAC's Member CACs were provided funding from the state's general revenue allocation of **\$4.4 Million**. The FNCAC, monitors the use of these funds provided to CACs to support the services and operations of their multidisciplinary teams. CACs use the funds to provide direct service to victims, train multidisciplinary team (MDT) partners, & provide outreach and education. Without the support of our state appropriations allocation, child victims and their families might not receive the critical services they need to heal from trauma.

Services Provided by Florida's CACs with General Revenue Funding:



669

Forensic or Specialized
Interviews



642

Medical Evaluations



28,321

Advocacy Services



17,553

Therapy Sessions



23

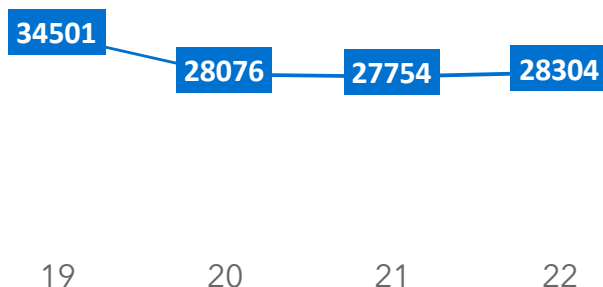
Psychological Evaluations



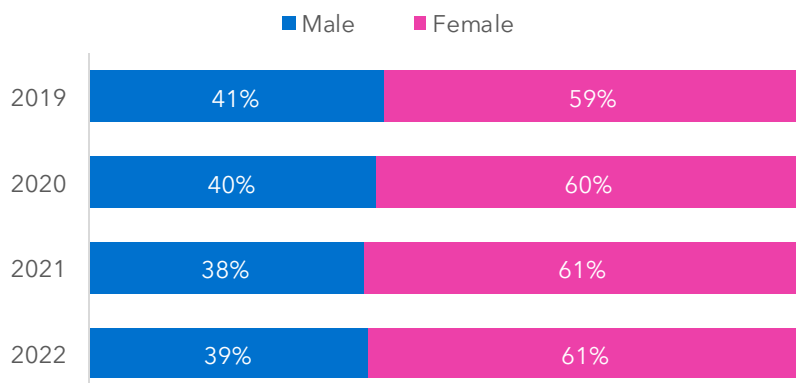
Statewide Data Submitted to National Children's Alliance

Florida's Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are independent organizations that depend upon diverse funding sources to provide services in their communities. Pass-through funding from the general revenue allocation is combined with grants or donations from state, federal, and local levels to ensure best practices are maintained and evidence-supported services are delivered to child victims in Florida. Below are some statistics showing the impact of CACs in our state over the last four years according to submissions to the National Children's Alliance.

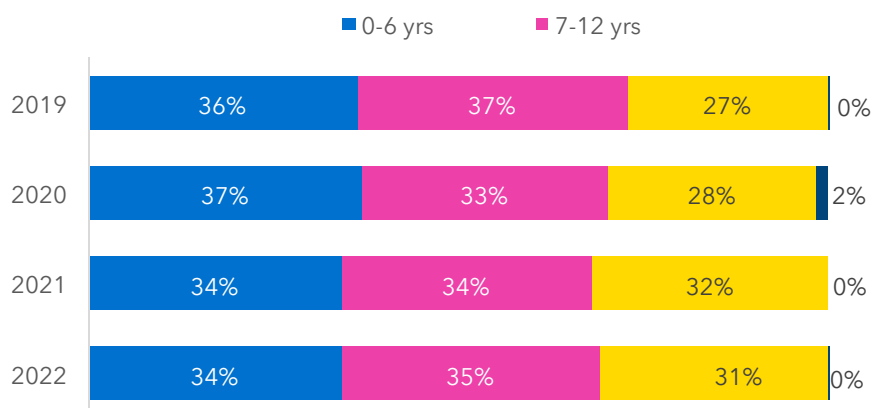
CHILDREN SERVED OVER TIME



Gender of Children Served



Ages of Children Served



The global pandemic caused a huge disruption in the work of CACs and their multidisciplinary teams (MDTs).

These organizations saw a huge decrease in the number of child abuse reports received by multidisciplinary teams across the nation. As CACs and MDTs settle into their routines post-pandemic, we are seeing an increase of children being referred.

CACs also report that the cases they are seeing today are more egregious, with peoples' needs for services being greater than ever.

According to a November 2022 survey of Florida's CACs, more than 24% of advocates in the field have caseloads of over 50! The national average caseload per advocate is 22 cases, according to NCA's Salary Study published in 2022.

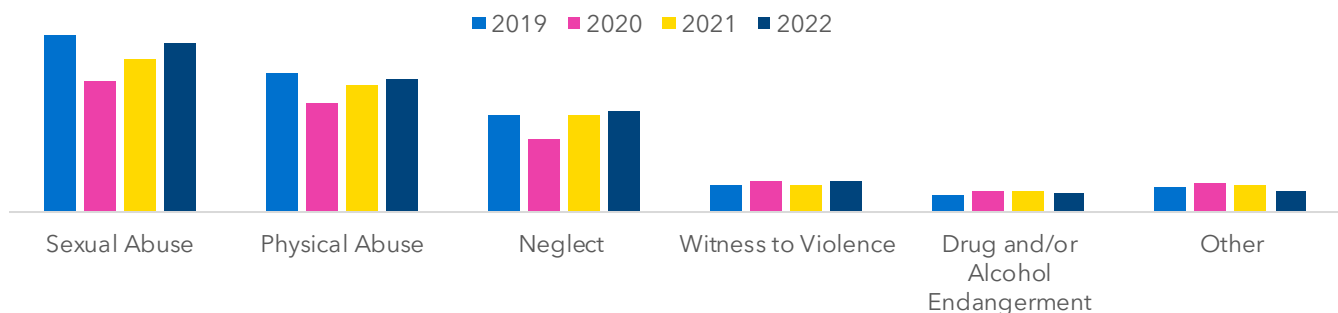
Statewide Data Submitted to National Children's Alliance

The primary maltreatment types presenting to CACs in Florida continue to be child sexual abuse (CSA) and physical abuse. CACs and their partners are the experts in investigating, treating, and helping families transcend the trauma.

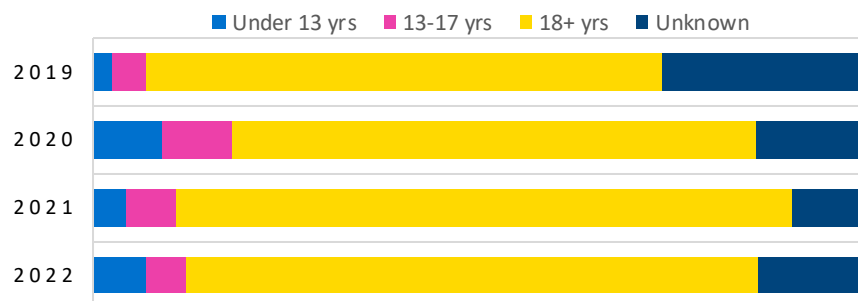
The field experienced a spike in 2020 of children under 13 being named as offenders. Education is a priority of our work and CACs continue to pursue new ways to perform outreach in their communities and schools. Communities are also implementing new training modalities such as Problematic Sexual Behavior – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (PSB-CBT) to address the needs of this population.

More than half of Florida's child victims name a parent or other known person as their alleged offender.

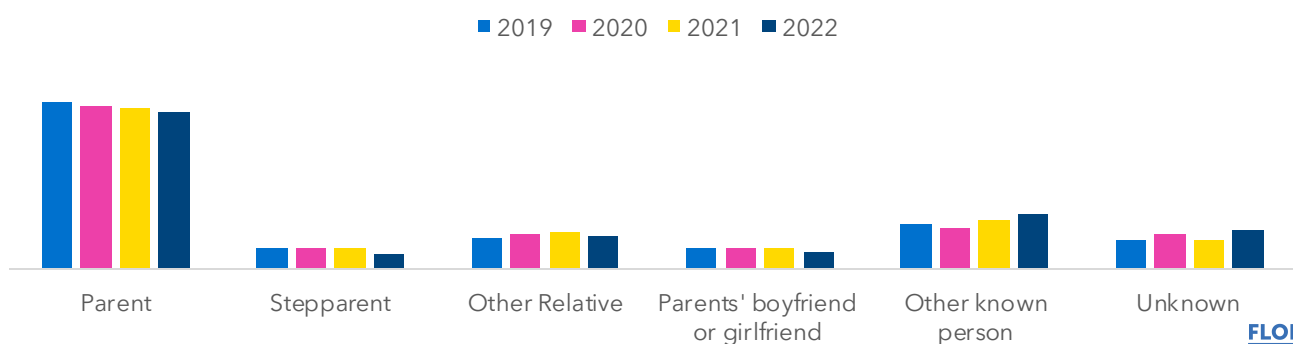
Types of Abuse Reported



Ages Of Alleged Offenders



Relationship of Alleged Offender



Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers Impact:

The FNCAC currently receives \$213,240 in General Revenue (GR) and another \$80,000 in GR for monitoring of the CACs. This funding, in combination with funding from the National Children's Alliance, supports five full time positions addressing the needs and services of the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) movement in Florida.

Technical Assistance (TA):

As the State Chapter of CACs in Florida, FNCAC provides technical assistance and support to member children's advocacy centers (CACs), community stakeholders and multidisciplinary team partners, and to communities seeking to establish a CAC. Technical Assistance (TA) includes consulting, coaching, or mentoring. The FNCAC provides targeted support to organizations or individuals through one-on-one consultation or small group facilitation. In FY2021/2022 the FNCAC team provided over **1,350 TA services** to developing and member CACs, statewide community partners, and developing MDTs/CACs throughout Florida.



1,350

Technical Assistance Services provided to CACs

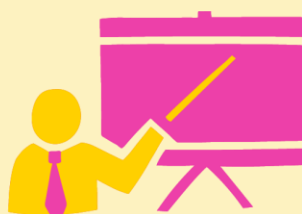
Training & Professional Development:

The professional development of our member organizations and their MDT partners is critical to the growth of our CACs. To that end, the FNCAC sponsors various training opportunities for members throughout the year. In FY 21/22 the FNCAC trained over **900** individuals through its annual Crimes Against Kids Conference, webinars, sponsored mental health trainings and more!



299

Multidisciplinary Partners Trained



578

Child Advocacy Center Staff Trained



84

Members of the Community Trained



Krimes Against Kids Conference:

Krimes Against Kids Conference

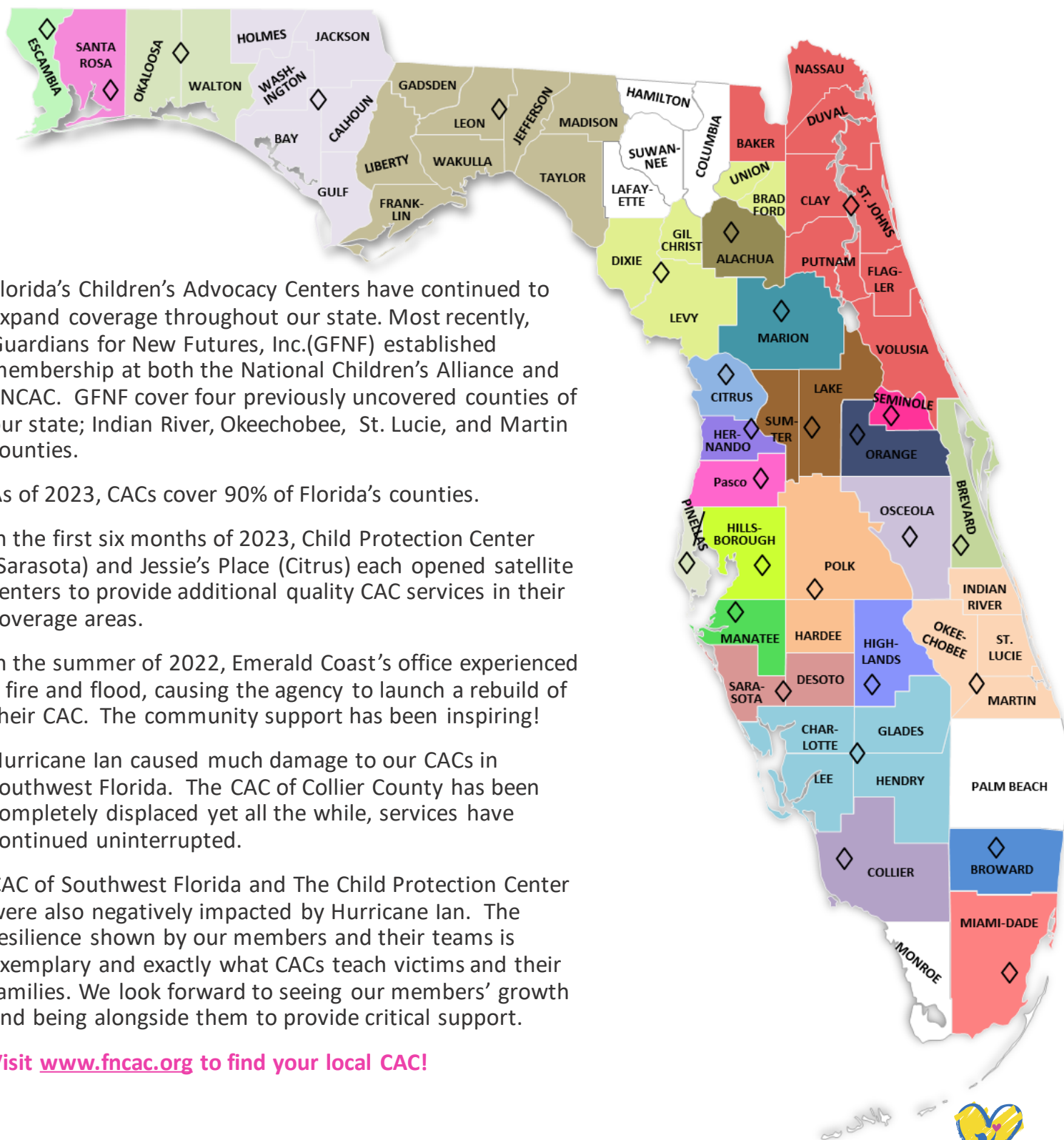


Annually, as part of its commitment to developing and increasing the capacity of the field's multidisciplinary teams and making available the most innovative and current trainings, the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (FNCAC) hosts the **Krimes Against Kids Conference**. Over the years, the conference has continued to grow in attendance and since 2020 has included a virtual attendee option. In 2022, over **400** learners from across the nation attended the conference.

Below are some highlights from our three days together.



Members of the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers:



Florida's Children's Advocacy Centers have continued to expand coverage throughout our state. Most recently, Guardians for New Futures, Inc.(GFNF) established membership at both the National Children's Alliance and FNCAC. GFNF cover four previously uncovered counties of our state; Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, and Martin counties.

As of 2023, CACs cover 90% of Florida's counties.

In the first six months of 2023, Child Protection Center (Sarasota) and Jessie's Place (Citrus) each opened satellite centers to provide additional quality CAC services in their coverage areas.

In the summer of 2022, Emerald Coast's office experienced a fire and flood, causing the agency to launch a rebuild of their CAC. The community support has been inspiring!

Hurricane Ian caused much damage to our CACs in southwest Florida. The CAC of Collier County has been completely displaced yet all the while, services have continued uninterrupted.

CAC of Southwest Florida and The Child Protection Center were also negatively impacted by Hurricane Ian. The resilience shown by our members and their teams is exemplary and exactly what CACs teach victims and their families. We look forward to seeing our members' growth and being alongside them to provide critical support.

Visit www.fncac.org to find your local CAC!

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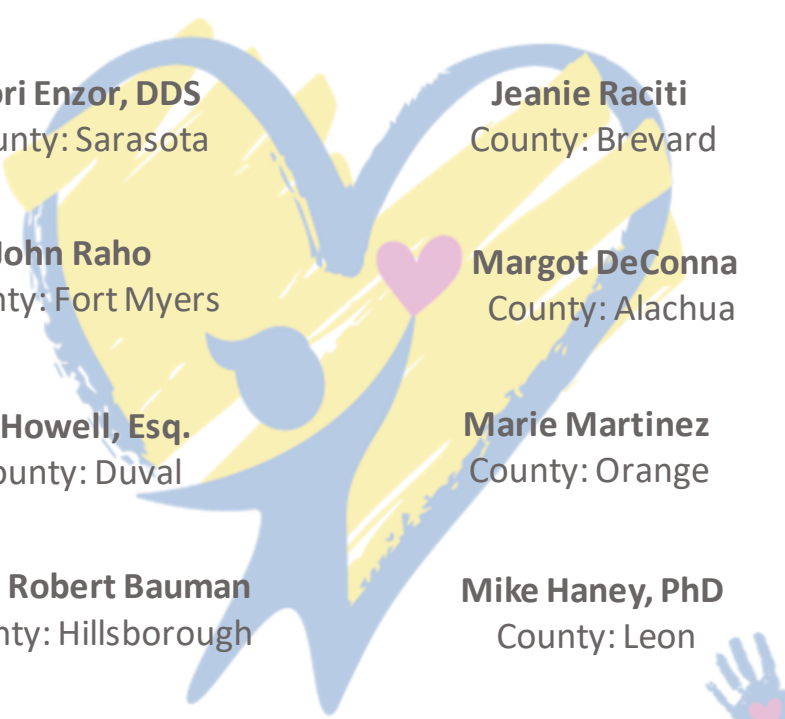
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