



St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Office of Public Affairs

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St. John's County Health and Human Services' Family Integrity Program *Community Based Care program ranked second in the State*

St. Augustine, FL – (January 30, 2012) – The Florida Department of Children and Families and the Florida Coalition for Children (FCC) unveiled a "Scorecard" this month ranking St. Johns County's Family Integrity Program (FIP) second in the state for prevention, foster care, adoption and independent living services to children and families in the state child welfare system. The Scorecard is targeted at measuring success as the nation's preeminent social service network continues to evolve and protect Florida's families every day.

The Scorecard was developed in conjunction with the twenty community-based care lead agencies across the state including St. Johns County's FIP. These twenty agencies contract with DCF to provide prevention, foster care, adoption and independent living services to children and families. The Scorecard will be updated monthly and evaluate the lead agencies on twelve key measures to determine how well they are meeting the most critical needs of these at-risk children. The scorecard will measure the lead agencies across each indicator, including child safety, family preservation, adoptions, and well-being of children in foster care such as medical and dental services and educational goals.

"As providers, the community-based care system is one of the most closely monitored and evaluated systems in the state, perhaps in the country even," said Mike Cusack, FCC president and CEO. "Our goal in working to develop this scorecard with DCF is to ensure that the measures highlight areas where we are succeeding, while identifying areas of improvement to ensure the system achieves its ultimate goal of keeping kids safe and building strong families."

Commissioner Mark P. Miner, Board of County Commissioners' Chair, congratulates the County's FIP employees and says "This ranking is a credit to the dedicated staff and superb leadership of Saint Johns County's Family Integrity Program." St. Johns County is unique in being the only local government in Florida to contract with the state to provide these services.

The Scorecard and an explanation of the measurements are available online at www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/cbc/cbcaccountability.shtml.

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