2024 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

OUR MISSION

To Protect Children, Strengthen Families, and Build Community.

July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024

OUR **IMPACT**

9,307 } Children and families served in Foster Care, Adoption, and Prevention and Diversion programs.

47,836 } **Prevention and Diversion Hours** were provided to children and families across prevention programs like Youth Prevention Services, Achievers, HIPPY (Home Instruction for Preschool Youngsters), E.R.A.T. (Emergency Response Assessment Team), and others to keep children safely and securely with their families

19,460 } **Books were read** by 115 pre-school youngsters ages 2- 5 in our HIPPY (Home Instruction to Parents of Preschool Youngsters) Program. The program uses an evidence-based home visiting model that employs former participants of the program to work with parents in underserved populations to prepare them to teach their children the skills they need to enter kindergarten with the knowledge they need to be successful from the first day of kindergarten. Nearly 4,000 home visits resulted in 100% of children in the program passing the school readiness assessment for kindergarten.

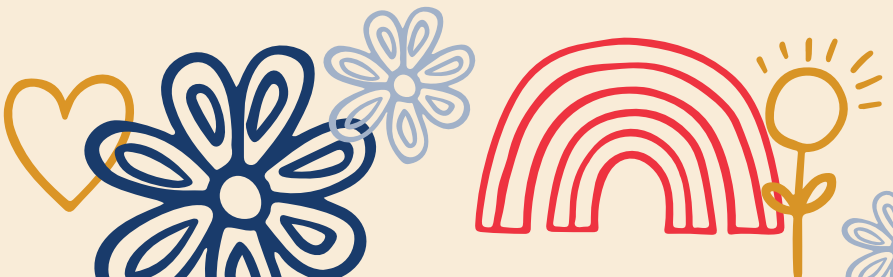
3,996 } **Children received services across our Prevention and Diversion programs** including HIPPY, Achievers, Schoolhouse Link, Youth Prevention Services, the Fatherhood Program, and the Youth Shelter. We collaborated with numerous agencies, law enforcement, and school systems to provide in-school counseling, crisis assessment, case management and more to address challenges early and often, reducing the risk of children entering the child welfare system.

3,527 } **Children and youth were served by our newly created in-house Medical Program** to assist children and young adults in the Community Based Care system in Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto counties, as well those children and young adults who receive child welfare benefits post-adoption or Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) closure, with accessing healthcare services.

2,743 } **Emergency Safe Shelter Bed Nights were provided** to homeless teens ages 10 -17 in crises. We continue to experience repercussions from an ongoing teen mental health crisis. Our Youth Shelter has served as a defacto step down unit for many teens being released from the Cornell Behavioral Health Pavillion at Sarasota Memorial Hospital who can't go home. Although our shelter is in a temporary location while we are completing a capital campaign for a larger facility, our number of bed nights has remained constant, and the wait list for services has increased.

1,642 } **Children of all ages were served in Licensed Foster Care** Homes and Out of Home Care Placement in Circuit 12 (Sarasota, Manatee, and Desoto counties).

142 } **Children from Infants to Teens found their Forever Homes** through our Adoption Program



Letter *from* Leadership

As we reflect on the past fiscal year, we celebrate our achievement, rejoice in the obstacles we've overcome, and look forward to the continued work of making the lives of children and families better in our community.

Change does indeed happen here. Last year we served just over 9,300 children across all programs and services providing critical, life-saving resources to families who find themselves in situations requiring intervention to safely care for their children.

Our journey to reducing the number of children experiencing the trauma of foster care over the last two years has not only resulted in fewer children being removed from their homes, it has also resulted in case managers having lower caseloads. **We're proud of our progress in reducing caseloads from a high of more than 25 children to a manageable 10 to 18 children per case manager.** Reduced caseloads means that case managers can give targeted attention to the children in their caseloads, build stronger relationships with families, and experience less burnout.

Case management is at the heart of the work we do, and it's an emotionally taxing role. We're proud to say that we've done the work to market adjust case manager salaries and increased support in various ways for this most vital role. These changes have resulted in reducing our overall turnover rate from a high of 37% to a low of 19% over two years. Which means better and more consistent care for our children and families.

Everyone in our agency has worked hard to help us reach these goals. We are thankful for the 300 staff members that show up every day, no matter the challenges put before them, for pouring their hearts and souls into helping children.

With the support of donors like you, whether you're an individual, foundation, organization, small business, or large corporation, we have created meaningful impact and lasting change in our community. Together we've shown the community that Change. Happens. Here.

We're thankful to our dedicated volunteer Board of Directors and Board Committees for their crucial role of providing oversight and strategic direction to keep us moving forward. Their thoughtful insights in setting long-term goals, asking constructive questions, and aligning resources ensures that we stay on mission. We are grateful for the accountability and ethical standards they bring to our organization, and the transparency they help us to maintain. Their stewardship continues to help us to build trust and sustainability, ensuring that SCC will be here for the safety of children in our community for generations to come.

Throughout Fiscal Year 2024, we have quietly continued gathering resources to build a crucially needed Youth Shelter in our community.

It is the only Youth Shelter for teens designated for Sarasota and Desoto counties. And we serve teens from Manatee County too. Currently our Youth Shelter is in a temporary facility that has reduced the capacity of the program to serve teens, ages 10 – 17, who are in crisis. Our quiet phase has lasted for a brief 24 months. **We're happy to report that we've reached 77% of our phase 1 campaign goal, and that our quiet phase will transition into a public campaign shortly.** In this public phase, every gift—be it large or small, will help us complete our campaign and make the much-needed Youth Shelter a reality for our community.

Last year also afforded us the opportunity to expand our program footprint through the creation of an in-house Medical Team, Fatherhood Program, and Youth Intervention Services program. Previously we contracted with an outside agency for medical services for youth both in our child welfare programs and in other programs. Having the team in-house has helped us to better track and deliver medical services to children. We also added to our lineup the Fatherhood Program with an ultimate focus on increasing the percentage of fathers who are reunified with their children. The addition of the Youth Intervention Services program has allowed us to expand prevention services to serve children who previously did not qualify.

As you peruse this Annual Impact Report, you'll see our story told in the numbers. But the scope of the work we do cannot be relegated to just the numbers. Though we continue to improve upon our ability to help children reunite with their families in shorter periods of time, we also continue to see children who have more emotional and behavioral challenges than ever before. The teen mental health crisis continues to affect the system of care and require more resources. No matter the challenge, we are thankful for staff who continue to innovate to find solutions for children who are becoming more and more difficult to serve.

When Florida privatized child welfare services in 1997, Safe Children Coalition was the first organization to accept the challenge of convening and collaborating with many community agencies to provide a continuum of care for children who had been abused, neglected, or abandoned. From the beginning it has never been our goal to do this work alone. And we don't. We're thankful for our program and agency partners, and the community at large, for collaborating with us to make the lives of children better.

We're thankful to the nearly 700 donors over the last year who trusted us to make a difference and supported us with their generosity. Thank you for understanding that we are a unique public/private partnership whose needs are different from a traditional nonprofit, and who also still needs the support of donors like you.

Change. Happens. Here. Whether a child is receiving services in our Foster Care or Adoptions programs, or in one of our Prevention and Diversion programs like HIPPY (Home Instruction for Preschool Youngsters), Achievers, Youth Prevention Services, Schoolhouse Link, and more), children in our programs are empowered to believe that their lives can change.

Thank you for being on this journey with us. We are steadfast in our commitment, no matter what obstacles we face, to the children of Circuit 12 (Sarasota, Manatee, and Desoto counties). Together, with your support, we continue to work towards our vision of children growing up in safe, stable, nurturing families and communities.

Thank you for caring about children in our community.

Brian Goodrich
Board Chair

Brena Slater
President and CEO

FINANCIAL **REPORT**

Revenue

Contracts and Government Grants	$55,470,746
Gifts – Corporations, Foundations, Contributions	5,203,201
In-Kind Contributions	122,581
Investment Income	18,776
Other Revenue	47,089
Change in the Beneficial Interest of the SCC Foundation	347,002
Total Revenue	**$61,209,395**

Expenses

Program services	$55,921,800
Management and General	1,216,936
Fundraising	441,041
Total Expenses	**$57,579,777**

97¢ Of Every Dollar Goes Back To Programs And Services For Children And Families.

Fiscal Year 2024: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Estimate at time of printing. Visit sccfl.org for final Audited Financials when available.

We're thankful to our community

Thank you for being a part of the nearly 700 contributors and donors who supported SCC last year. As a unique public/private partnership, we would not be able to support the totality of programs and services our children and families need without you. Every operational gift, big or small, helps to keep our community's children safe. **Thank you to the following top corporate, foundation, organization, and government supporters of $10,000 or more during Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024.**

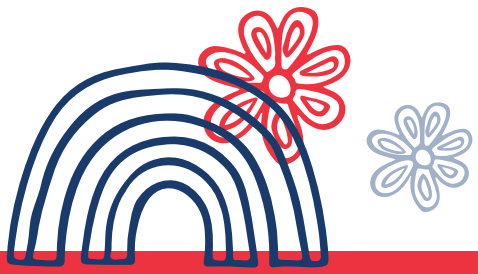
Bank of America Client Foundation/Sarasota
Charles and Margary Barancik Foundation
Community Based Care Integrated Health, LLC
Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc.
Doris M. Carter Family Foundation
FEMA/Emergency Food and Shelter
Gulf Coast Community Foundation
Florida Department of Children and Families
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
Florida Literacy Coalition, Inc.
Florida Network of Youth & Family Services
Joy McCann Foundation
Manatee County Government
Sarasota County Government
Sarasota Housing Authority
Selfless Love Foundation, Inc.
School Board of Sarasota County
Sunset Automotive Group
Sunshine Health
The Charles Stein Family Foundation, Inc.
University of South Florida
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Volunteer Florida
Wilson-Wood Foundation, Inc.

Hurricane Community Support

In the span of a little over sixty days from August 5 – October 9, 2024, our community endured three hurricanes - Debby, Helene, and Milton. For families living in the margins, these weather emergencies create more hardship than usual. We are thankful to our community members, especially our Community Foundations, for always being ready to help us assist our families and staff members to get back on track. We are truly thankful for being in a community that deeply values our children and families.

Fiscal Year 2024 Board of Directors

Brian Goodrich, Bently Goodrich Kison, Board Chair
Lee Lipton, L3 Images, Vice Chair
Tony Gamelin, CFO Integrity, LLC, Treasurer
Ken Alexander, Retired
Arlene Buckmaster, HouseMax Realty
Jamara Clark, Rowlett Middle Academy
Dr. Paul Couzelis, Retired
David Fairey, Rev Content
Darren Gambrell, University of South Florida
Ann Marie Jones, Bridge A Life
Rob Goldstein, Retired
Chris Stobaugh, Gulf Coast Community Foundation



Safe Children Coalition

COA Accreditation ACCREDITED A Service of Social Current

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT to continue caring for our community's children.
sccfl.org/donate

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