

# Around the Corner

## CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services



*Interface East re-opened at the newly-renovated shelter in Palatka. On December 13th, 2007 CDS Board members toured the new facilities*

## Support and Dedication Key to a Stronger Community

~By Jim Pearce, CEO



CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services has held public board meetings every January for more than 20 years. This is a very special time for CDS Board members and staff.

The major purpose of the annual Board luncheon is to honor and recognize some of the staff and community partners who have made significant contributions to these programs in the past year.

As you already know, CDS provides services to runaway, truant, ungovernable, abused, and neglected youth; children aging out of foster

care; individuals with substance abuse issues; families in crisis; and to the community at large which is impacted by our many prevention efforts.

Our successes in these areas can be attributed to two resources: our dedicated staff and our supportive community partners. We take great pride in their many accomplishments in 2007.

We consider it a privilege to assist youth, adults, and families in need throughout North-Central Florida. On behalf of those we serve, we take this time now to say thank you to our caring and hard-working CDS staff and community partners. We look to 2008 with great expectations for what we can accomplish together.

**2007  
Annual  
Report**

### 2007 Highlights:

- ♦ 1,307 youth were served through Family Action and the Interface Youth Program.
- ♦ 238 youth & young adults participated in the Independent Living Program
- ♦ 330 adults were served through Drug Court / Day Reporting and Federal probation / parole.
- ♦ More than 940 youth were reached through Prevention activities.
- ♦ 3,519 people were served last year through CDS programs.



**CDS Family  
& Behavioral  
Health Services**

3615 SW 13th Street, Ste 4  
Gainesville, FL 32608

**(352) 334-3800**

Visit CDS online at:  
**[www.cdsfl.org](http://www.cdsfl.org)**

# Interface Youth Shelters



**Cassandra McCray**  
Coordinator for  
Interface Youth  
Program (Central),  
Gainesville  
(352) 334-3833



**Gonzales Whitter**  
Supervisor for  
Interface Youth  
Program (Central),  
Gainesville  
(352) 334-3833



**Pam Purnell**  
Supervisor for  
Interface Youth  
Program (East),  
Palatka  
(386) 312-2220



**Jill Downey**  
Supervisor for  
Family Action  
(NW), Lake City  
(386) 758-5780



**Leslie Frost**  
Coordinator for  
Family Action  
(Central),  
Gainesville  
(352) 334-3800  
x 3813

**Cindy Starling**  
Coordinator for Interface (East),  
Palatka / (386) 328-7771 x 4

*(Pictured later)*

**Rhonda Lockwood**  
Coordinator for Interface (NW),  
Lake City / (386) 758-5780

*(Pictured later)*

**Tracey Ousley**  
Coordinator for Interface Youth (NW),  
Lake City / (386) 758-5780

*(Pictured later)*

## INTERFACE (Residential Services)

Interface is a short-term youth shelter for children ages 10 to 17. It is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Once at Interface, a trained staff member talks to youth about their situations and explains how the program works. Youth who decide to stay can count on a safe place to sleep, food, clothing, and personal support. Trained staff also provide crisis stabilization, counseling, and help youth address short-term needs and long-term goals.

## TRUANCY CENTER

The Gainesville IYP shelter accepts actively

truant students in the Alachua County area. Law enforcement bring in youth who are not attending school, and the staff provides counseling and intervention services. This program is a collaborative effort with the School Board of Alachua County, Gainesville Police Department and the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

## Major Accomplishments During 2007:

397 youth made use of the Interface Youth Shelters, and 31 were served through the Truancy Center. Interface East also moved into a larger, newly-renovated site in Palatka.

# Family Action Program

The Family Action program provides short-term counseling to families with youth ages 6 to 17 who are having trouble following rules, are truant from school, have runaway, or who are threatening to runaway. Via family and individual counseling, we work to provide youth and their families with the tools necessary to meet the challenges they face.

The Family Action Program is available 24-hours a day, every day, and is free of charge for

all basic services. Family Action usually takes 12 weeks to complete, and is available in Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Putnam, Suwannee, and Union counties.

## Major Accomplishments During 2007:

There was an increase in the number of youth and families served by the program. Family Action served more than 330 young people families during the year!

## Drug-Free Communities



**Karen Baugh,**  
Supervisor for Drug-Free  
Communities Support  
Program, Gainesville  
(352) 334-3800 x 3813

**Leslie Frost,**  
Coordinator for Drug-Free  
Communities Support Program,  
Gainesville / (352) 334-3800  
x 3813

*(Previously pictured)*

The Drug-Free Communities Support Program provides substance abuse education, intervention, drug-testing, and counseling to adolescents in our community. Youth are referred to the program by a variety of sources— some of which include Teen Court, the State Attorney’s office, school systems, the Department of Children and Families, and the Partnership for Strong Families.

At times, services are provided in lieu of prosecution or as a suspension-reduction alternative for youth in

school. Other times, youth or their parents request help. Services are provided at our offices, in schools, and even in the participants’ homes.

### Major Accomplishments During 2007:

Faster admission process for youth is one major accomplishment. Young people are more likely to continue participating in services when we can respond quickly to their requests for help. We have also improved accessibility of our services by expanding the number of outreach (out-of-office) sessions this year.

## Outpatient Services



**Lanard Perry,**  
Coordinator for  
Outpatient Services,  
Gainesville  
(352) 334-3800 x 3811

Outpatient Services provides adult substance abuse services to program participants from three criminal justice agencies: Alachua County’s Drug Court Program; Alachua County’s Day Reporting Program; and U.S. Federal Probation office.

Services include but are not limited to: screening individuals for alcohol and drug abuse problems, and education and counseling activities to improve the functioning (or to prevent the further deterioration) of persons with substance abuse disorders.

### Major Accomplishments During 2007:

This past year, two significant accomplishments were the establishment of men’s and women’s groups for gender-specific counseling services, and better integration of services and deliverables regardless of a person’s status with Drug Court, Day Reporting, Federal Probation, or TANF.

These two seemingly small changes have had a huge impact in the quality and effectiveness of services provided to our participants.

## Children's Outpatient



Cindy Starling,  
Coordinator for Children's  
Outpatient Services,  
Palatka  
(386) 328-7771 x 4

The Children's Substance Abuse Program provides outpatient counseling for youth abusing drugs, or who have risk factors for substance dependency, such as a parent with addiction issues. The services of the program include treatment, intervention, and education for young people who are experimenting with or abusing drugs. On average, youth stay in the program for four months.

Other Children's Outpatient programs include TASC (Treatment

Alternatives for Safe Communities), which provides assessment and referral services; and TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Family), which provides counseling and other services to families experiencing economic instability due to substance abuse or mental health issues.

### Major Accomplishments During 2007:

About 85 youth have been served this year, 76 through TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities).

## Independent Living



Tracey Ousley,  
Coordinator for  
Independent Living  
(352) 334-3800 x 3827



Rhonda Lockwood,  
Coordinator for  
Independent Living  
(386) 758-5780

Independent Living is a program of counseling / case management / education for youth and young adults ages 13 to 23 who are or have been in the care of the Partnership for Strong Families. Services provided to youth and young adults range from needs assessment and service plans to individual instruction on necessary life skills. Counselors / Case managers also assist in locating student housing, negotiating financial assistance forms, and finding overlay services to ensure success (such as tutoring).

### Major Accomplishments During 2007:

We had 22 youth graduate high school or receive their GEDs in the past year. One young adult graduated from community college and is now attending the University of West Florida. About 50 of our young adults are involved in post-secondary education. Also in 2007, we began holding Youth Advisory Board meetings on the 1st Thursday of every month to advise our partner agencies on best practices and improvements for the Child Welfare System.



## Prevention Services



Gwen Love,  
Coordinator for  
Prevention Services  
(352) 334-3800  
x 3831

The Prevention Program provides substance abuse education and resources primarily for youth and adults in Alachua and Levy counties. Program Services include in-school programs, training workshops, educational seminars and chemical-free events.

This year the Prevention Program received funding from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice for Project Turnaround, a civil citation diversion program designed to offer first-time offenders an opportunity to be diverted from the Juvenile Justice System.

Youth in Project Turnaround are required to complete community service hours and to attend classes on theft awareness, substance abuse, and aggression management. Youth are also required to write apologies to the people they have victimized.

If the young person completes all requirements within 45 days, his/her citation will be voided.

This program has provided second chances to 32 youth since April of 2007.

**Major Accomplishments During 2007:**  
Prevention Services

personnel in our Alpha and Beta Programs provided assessment and counseling services for 47 elementary and middle school students in Williston. Our "Too Good For Drugs" program reached over 700 students at Williston Elementary and Middle schools.

The Partners In Prevention of Substance Abuse Coalition (PIPSA) received a grant from DCF to collect data and develop a Community Action Plan to address "Underage Drinking" for Alachua County.

## Spotlight on Youth



Join us for a spectacular performance featuring the best and the brightest young area artists! On March 30th, 2008, CDS will host our 9th annual *Spotlight On Youth*.

In addition to being our agency's major fundraising event of the year, *Spotlight* is a chance for over 100 outstanding high school musicians, dancers, artists, and poets to experience the complete creative process: Students apply; audition;

must be chosen by a panel of judges; rehearse; and then perform on a professional stage with the assistance of a backstage technical crew.

Studies show that youth who are involved in the arts are less likely to get involved with drugs, alcohol, or violence. They are more likely to stay in school and do better in their classes. The arts teach critical thinking skills, stress management, and

discipline— all of which help create healthier adults and better citizens.

*Spotlight* gives young people a positive alternative to potentially risky behaviors; its performers are positive role models for their peers.

Please join us for this important event— Buy your ticket today! Call (352) 334-3800 x 3865 for more info, or if you would like to become a sponsor.

## **Esprit de Corps 2007 Awards**

**David Beasley** — Family Action Central  
**Rachel Douglas-Jones** — Prevention  
**Lindsey Faircloth** — SAMH East  
**Joshua Farmer** — Family Action Central  
**Rosemary Lee** — Interface North West  
**Doris Martin** — Outpatient Services  
**Melody McMann** — Interface Central  
**Tia Wilson** — Independent Living



*David Beasley (top) and Joshua Farmer accept awards from CEO Jim Pearce. Esprit de Corps awards are given every year to exceptional CDS employees.*

## **Our Heroes— We Couldn't Have Done It Without You**

### **2007 Community Partner Awards**

**Janet Woods**, Contract Manager  
Partnership for Strong Families  
**Mark Denmark**, Officer  
Gainesville Police Department  
**Janice Wasson**, Director  
Gilchrist Co. Neighborhood Accountability Board/Teen Court  
**Sherry Smith**, Guidance Counselor  
Horizon-New Pathways  
**Heather Jones**, Juvenile Division Chief  
State Attorney's Office

### **2007 Staff Achievement Awards**

**Jill Downey**, Regional Supervisor  
**Liz Walker**, Youth Care Worker  
**Rebeca Kovar**, Addictions Counselor  
**Carrie Smith-Cordell**, Residential Administrative Assistant  
**Lytinia McCullough**, Counselor/Case Manager  
**Freddie Thurman**, Youth Care Worker  
**Leslie Frost**, Regional Coordinator  
**Arzella Hawthorne-Louidor**, Counselor/Case Manager  
**Tiffani Arrington**, Prevention Specialist

### **2007 Volunteer of the Year**

Mary Welch

### **2007 Spotlight on Youth Award**

Danielle Willett

### ***In memory of* (WILLIE) CARLOS ELLERBE**

*CDS would like to take this time to remember Interface residential counselor Carlos Ellerbe, who passed away on March 22, 2007 after a stroke. He was 48.*

*Carlos was a valuable and talented member of the team at IYP Central. He was patient, genuine, honest, supportive, enthusiastic, helpful, fair, open-minded, effective, observant, and dedicated. He was also a good problem-solver and decision-maker.*

*Carlos was motivated by his family, by an abiding Faith, and by his passion for education. Working with youth was near to his spirit.*

*Horace Mann once said, "Character is what God and the Angels know of us; reputation is what men and women think of us."*

*Carlos was rich in both character and reputation. He was an inspiration to those who knew him, and a hero to the youth in crisis that he worked so hard to help. He is deeply missed.*

# 2006-2007 Contributors

Alachua County Sheriff's Office  
 Alley Gatorz Bowling Alley  
 Arbonne International  
 Bradford County Sheriff's Office  
 Edith Brown  
 Busch Gardens  
 Theodore Burns  
 George & Constance Caranasos  
 Dr. Elayne Cassisi  
 CBS-TV4  
 State Attorney Bill Cervone  
 Royala Coleman  
 Columbia County Sheriff's Office  
 Daniel Crapps  
 DermaCare  
 Missy Earnest & Gary Bennett  
 Andrew Faiks  
 Florida Food Service  
 J.T. Frankenberger  
 Gainesville Health & Fitness Centers  
 Gainesville Job Corps Center  
 Gainesville Police Department  
 Gainesville Real Estate Mgmt. Co.  
 Gainesville Speech & Language Ctr.  
 Gainesville Sun  
 Gardner Group  
 Ira Gessner  
 C.H. & Margaret Gilliland  
 Kathy Gomez  
 Goodsearch.com  
 Hampton Inn  
 Harmony Gardens  
 Heavenly Ham  
 Holiday Inn West  
 Thomas & Elizabeth Hurst  
 Ilene's For Fashion  
 Ironwood Golf Course  
 Ivey's Grill

James Moore & Co.  
 Dickey & Susan Jones  
 Phil & Marjorie Kabler-Baros  
 Stuart Kaul  
 Karen Kearney  
 Kenneth & Irene Kellner  
 Kiwanis Club of Gainesville  
 Dr. Stephen Landay  
 Linens 'n Things  
 Magnolia Plantation  
 Richard Mankin, Ph.D.  
 Meadowbrook Golf Club  
 Melting Pot  
 Mike Shea Photography  
 Nina Cameron Dancenter  
 Oak Hammock  
 Palatka Police Department  
 Edward (Lanard) Perry  
 A. Leon Polhil & Family  
 Melissa Rabenstein  
 Pierre & Lillian Ramond  
 Kenneth & Colleen Rand  
 Peggy Richardson  
 Harvey Rohlwing  
 Michael Rywant  
 Sam's Club  
 School Board of Alachua County  
 Shands Healthcare  
 Larry Santucci  
 Jeffrey Shapiro  
 William St. Amour  
 Stonewood Tavern  
 Sweetwater Coffee Company  
 UF Athletic Association  
 Utopia Chalet  
 Walt Disney World  
 Michael Weiss  
 Westend Golf Course

Robert Wilford  
 Thomas & Tammy Wright

## One Thousand Stronger Families Society

### ~Blue Crane Members~

Ron & Deanna Carpenter  
 Doug Fols  
 Alena Lawson  
 Robert Wilford

The **One Thousand Stronger Families Society** is a quarterly donor program for CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services. It is based on our need for broad community support to fund the many programs and services we offer at little or no cost.

The name of our quarterly donor program comes from Japanese folklore. It is said that anyone who folds 1,000 origami (paper) cranes will have their greatest wish granted. Each donor will receive a hand-made origami crane ornament as a token of thanks. Our goal is 1,000 quarterly donors, and our greatest wish is for stronger, healthier families. To join, call (352) 334-3800 x 3865.

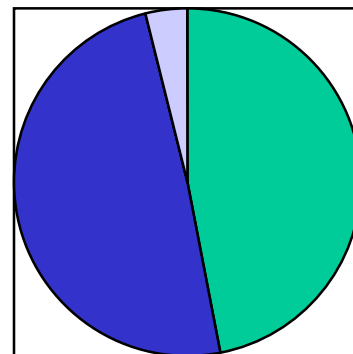
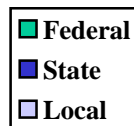
## Financial Data\*

\* As reflected in the CDS Financial Statements for the 2006-2007 fiscal year

### Support & Revenue

Grants and Contracts = \$5,341,817  
 United Way and other contributions = \$102,912  
 Contributed services of volunteers = \$111,976  
 Contributed facilities, materials and supplies = \$61,494  
 Program Services - Revenue = \$28,798  
 Interest, rental and other - Revenue = \$72,195

**Total Support & Revenue = \$5,719,192**



Major support from: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice; Florida Network of Youth & Family Services; Florida Department of Children & Families; Partnership for Strong Families; United Way of North Central Florida; United Way of Suwannee Valley; Individual Donations

**CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services**  
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 MARKETech, Inc.

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 Attorney

*Secretary:*  
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 Realtor

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**Randy S. Johnson,**  
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 Criminal Justice Services, Police Academy/SFCC

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**Richard Mankin, Ph.D.**  
 Agricultural Research  
 Service, U.S. Dept.  
 of Agriculture

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 Sentencing Alternatives

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 Cent. Fla. Community  
 Action Agency

**Reginald Williams,**  
 Assistant Principal,  
 Williston High School

*Chief Executive Officer:*  
**Jim Pearce**



**CDS Staffers Working Together For Stronger Communities**

