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**For Immediate Release**

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**Charlotte Behavioral Health Care introduces new Art & Soul Summer Camp**

Punta Gorda, FL – The sounds of kids laughing and music pumping through the speakers fill the hallways of Charlotte Behavioral Health Care and the feeling of summer has officially begun. Last week, the Fred Lang Foundation graciously funded a week long art and dance camp for kids seen here at the agency ages 7-13 years old.

The Art & Soul Summer Camp provided a variety of dance and art activities for each of the camp participants. Kathleen Candales, owner of Higher Ground Performing Arts did an amazing job as the kids dance instructor. She got the campers started and ready for the day. During their dance time, the kids danced and even learned a routine to take home and show their families. A couple of the kids were hesitant at first, and then once they learned the dance moves, they couldn’t stop.

The second half of the day consisted of art, taught by art teacher, Tammy Beauchamp, from East Elementary. She had the kids making not just one project, but up to three! The kids then got to wrap their artwork up in a gift bag for Father’s Day if they wished.

Throughout the week members of the Fred Lang Foundation Board stopped by during break time to hand out drinks and snacks to the kids. “I think the Art Camp is a great idea, and seems to really help the kids.” says Sushila Cherian, Board Member. ” I hope the other Board members were equally touched and benefitted by the experience of being with the kids.”

“The camp kids had a great time and even put on a dance for staff that they choreographed themselves” says Jean Giebler, Manager of Children’s Outpatient Services. “The teachers were amazing and able to get the kids engaged in the activities.  It was great hearing the music in the halls and seeing the project that they made.  We as a team learned a lot from this first year hosting camp that we will use to make next year even better.”

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