

From the CEO, Vickie Scanlon

Charlotte Behavioral is so excited to be sharing the news of full funding of a CAT team.

CAT, or Community Action Team, provides comprehensive, community-based services to children aged eleven to twenty-one with more significant mental health or substance abuse diagnoses. CAT Teams deliver intensive individualized services where children and their families live, work and learn with the goal of promoting resiliency in the child and strengthening the family unit. The proposed



CAT Team will fill a current gap in the Charlotte County continuum of care for children who are at risk of foster care placement, have two or more hospitalizations, involvement with Juvenile Justice or multiple episodes involving law enforcement, or poor academic performance and/or suspensions.

Charlotte County's children face many unique challenges. In 2016, Charlotte County's graduate rate for High School was only 77%. Currently, 15 out of our 20 schools are participating in the Community Eligibility Program where 100% of students are eligible for FREE breakfast and lunch, and 82% of our students are classified as Economically Needy. Even though a smaller county as of 2011, suicide rates in Charlotte County were at 16.6, clearly above the Florida rates as a whole. This number has continued to increase of the past several years remaining above the average Florida rate each year. Additionally, in the 2015 fiscal year, the Department of Juvenile Justice reported a total of 569 arrests in Charlotte County, with almost one hundred (100) arrests specifically related to alcohol/drug related charges.

Charlotte County has been advocating for several years for this critical state-funded program, and we have been passed over each year. We are very grateful to Representative Mike Grant, Senator Denise Grimsley, and our Charlotte County Commissioners and Government who have advocated for the children of Charlotte County and implemented a more concerted effort in this legislative session. Teamwork truly does make it happen in our hometown!

Uwhi Scant

to view past editions of the Hope Starts Here Newsletter, CLICK HERE. To subscribe, CLICK HERE. A Special thanks to the following Hope Starts Here Appeal Donors who have made this Mission Moment possible. Thank you.

Jean Barnes
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Needs Appeal: Julie's Story



Many may recall Julie sharing her story with us during our Summer Ball fundraiser. Jule has a son who has been admitted into several crisis stabilization units. She describes them cold, sterile, and a scary place. She explained that a CSU with bright colors, books, and a welcoming environment would help make a parent's mind more calm.

View her story: Click here



EΔR

from yesterday.

LIVE for today.

HOPE

for tomorrow.

- Albert Einstein

The Margo Lang Children's CSU **Construction Update**

The underwater theme for the expanded CSU Child's Wing is starting to come to life.

- Paint in blues/greens/light purple.
- Pictures/wall hangings to resemble ship portals.
- Furniture done in blues, teals, greens, with some exciting pop colors (i.e.) deep magenta.
- Flooring in multi colored carpet tiles (i.e.) Blue, teal, green, purple, & magenta - as well as hard wood flooring.



DINING FURNITURE









BEDROOM FURNITURE



Note: These are just a few samples & may not be the "exact" furniture or all of the furnishings.

CSU EXPANSION GRAND OPENING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 12, 2017. STAY TUNED FOR THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

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CSU Construction Progress







- 1. Bedroom/Bathroom
- 2. CSU Hallway
- 3. Reception Area
- 4. Kitchen





Oh, the places we grow!

CROSSROADS HOPE ACADEMY

Crossroads Hope Academy is a nonprofit home and charter school for foster boys that have had multiple failed placements in the Florida foster care system. They house up to 24 boys at any given time. In



February CBHC signed a memorandum of agreement with Crossroads to provide medication management services, and as of April 25th, CBHC signed another MOA to provide the clinical BHOS services on site for the boys living at Crossroads.

Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS) includes mental health, substance abuse and supportive services designed to meet the behavioral health treatment needs of the boys. Two therapists will be on site at Crossroads seven days per week to provide individual, group, and behavioral management services to each of the boys. BHOS allows the boys to receive the services that they need immediately, instead of waiting to get in with a therapist on an outpatient basis. There are currently 1,417 BHOS beds throughout the state of Florida, and we are extremely excited about this partnership with Crossroads and the clinical and medical services we will be able to provide to their boys.

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM COATS

CBHC will be receiving funding for a CAT team in the 2017-18 fiscal year. The CAT team is a wraparound team comprised of 8.75 FTEs including: Team Leader, Clinicians, ARNP, Nurse,



Case Managers, Therapeutic Mentors, and Administrative Support Staff. CAT's primary goal is to divert children and youth with significant behavioral health needs from residential mental health treatment, foster care, and juvenile detention facilities. This program allows for a safe and effective alternative to out-of-home placement for children with serious behavioral health conditions and assists the families in developing their own natural support systems to be successful after completion of the program. CBHC's CAT team will serve 60 children (ages 11-21) and their families each year. CAT is a 24/7 365 days a year program in which team members will be working in the community including transportation of the patient and or their family to remove any barriers to success for them and their treatment goals.

LEE COUNTY FAMILY INTENSIVE TREATMENT TEAM (FIT)/FAMILY INTERVENTION SPECIALISTS (FIS)

CBHC was given the Lee County FIT/FIS contract from Central Florida Behavioral Health Network effective May 15, 2017. We currently provide these services in Charlotte County.



The Lee FIT is contracted for

64 patients per year working with a wraparound team comprised of 8 FTEs including: Director, Clinicians, Case Managers, and Certified Recovery Peer Specialists. The team works jointly with Department of Children and Families as well as the Community Based Care

Agencies to provide community based therapeutic services to individuals involved in the Child Welfare System due to substance use. Due to the extensive nature of the program – with families having daily contacts with the team or their case managers - FIT can, at times, allow children to remain placed in the home with their parents.

Lee FIS will have 2 FTEs in order to provide linkage and referrals to individuals who are identified by the Department of Children and Families as substance involved. FIS' goal is to improve the identification of substance abuse treatment need and to support the retention and success in treatment of the DCF cases.

SOAR SPECIALIST

This Specialist is part of CBHC's new United Way funded collaborative grant with the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition and Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic to end chronic homelessness through integrated care in Charlotte County.



The Charlotte Behavioral Healthcare SOARS Specialist will assist the client with completion of the application, attaining necessary health records and diagnostic information, coordinating with Social Security, and creating a medical summary. For some individuals, this might span a 10 to 15 year history in multiple states with multiple treatment providers. The SOARS Specialist will also provide practical and financial support in attaining picture ID and Social Security Card.



Zero Suicide Mission Update

CBHC provides Suicide Prevention Intervention on four different levels:

YOUTH SCHOOL-BASED SUICIDE PREVENTION:

- Evidence-Based Signs of Suicide Program was presented to all 7th and 8th graders in Charlotte County Public Schools, including Charlotte Harbor and the Academy. During the 2016-2017 school year, we provided the program to over 2800 middle school students.
- High school parent nights were held at each Charlotte County High School, teaching parents the difference between normal teenage behaviors versus behaviors that are signs of suicide.
- After the presentations, 14 students came to presenters or school personal to ask about help for themselves or a friend.
- From this outreach, we are working to provide child mental health first aid to families that attended the family night events.

SUICIDE MATERIALS:

- Information provided across community about how to access the National Suicide Hotline, National crisis text line, and CBHC Crisis Hotline.
- Distributed to teens, parents & adults who are at risk.



SUICIDE SURVIVOR COUNSELING:

- Statistically, close suicide survivors are at an increased risk of serious emotional struggles, up to and including suicide themselves, and studies show that most suicides leave at least 7 close survivors. For student suicides, the ripple effect is greater.
- CBHC offers suicide survivor counseling free of charge, 5 sessions, to those affected directly by a suicide.
- This year, CBHC intervened with a suicide in a local workplace to offer same-day counseling to those who were present and affected by this situation. We also facilitated a grief group for a young lady that died suddenly. Although not by suicide, this death impacted her friends, and the grief group allowed them to process the event.
- The Purple Packet, a suicide postvention tool was developed, and CBHC provided training to first responders, who then give the Purple Packet to all survivors of suicide. We will be presenting our community efforts at the FADDA conference in August.

CHILDREN'S CRISIS UNIT/TEEN SUICIDE SURVIVORS & CUTTERS:

- CBHC provided inpatient services to approximately 200 children & teens who are at risk of suicide, cutting, or had already attempted suicide.
- Intensive group therapy services are provided to these children ten hours a week, in addition to other programming.
- Performed by a Master's level therapist in our CSU

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care took part in Prevent Child Abuse Florida's Pinwheels for Prevention campaign by planting pinwheels and distributing information on healthy child development and community services for families.

The pinwheels are a symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention nationwide. Pinwheels are a positive and loving symbol of childhood. As a campaign symbol, a pinwheel conveys the

message that every child deserves the chance be raised in a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment.







United Way Collaboration Grant funded at 100%

CBHC partnered with Virginia B. Andes and the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition on a collaborative grant through Charlotte County United Way. The grant, which was funded at 100%, was created to end chronic homelessness through integrated care in Charlotte County.

Over the past 7 years, The Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic, The Homeless Coalition, and Charlotte Behavioral Health Care have successfully worked collaboratively as community partners. This long-standing, strong existing partnership will significantly contribute to the ultimate success of its collaborative grant program.



CBHC's Presentation Team



An Integrated Care Model was selected for the United Way of Charlotte County's Collaborative Grant Program to ensure:

- Improved access to care
- Increased coordination of care
- Improved health status
- Housing and financial stability for the chronically homeless individuals in our community

The goal of the collaboration is to provide health, housing and financial stability for our community's most vulnerable through integrated care. View the collaborative grant video here: http://bit.ly/CBHCUnitedWay

CBHC Chosen to Present at Annual FADAA Conference

Three employees at Charlotte Behavioral Health Care (CBHC) have been chosen to present at the 2017 Florida Behavioral Health Conference being held August 16-18 in Orlando.

The Florida Council for Community Mental Health and the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association selected CBHC to present on suicide postvention as prevention. Kim Sanderson, Northside and DeSoto Psychiatric Manager; Jean Tucker, CBHC Assistant Vice President of Outpatient Services; and Jennifer Reed, CBHC Director of Crisis Services will be presenting on the topic.

The presentation will highlight our area's Purple Packet. The Charlotte County Purple Packet was developed by CBHC and Healthy Charlotte's Mental Health Subcommittee to help get resource information in the hands of those at first contact with new survivors of suicide (those that have lost a loved one to suicide) to promote healing and understanding.

"Research has shown that family members of individuals who die by suicide - including parents, children, and siblings - are at increased risk of suicide," said Sanderson, who performs the trainings throughout Charlotte County. "We distribute these packets to funeral directors, law

enforcement, EMS, schools, counselors, and others throughout the community, and we train them on the importance of getting resources into the hands of survivors quickly."

Tucker continued, "The goal of the Purple Packet is to give survivors the support, tools and resources they need immediately after a loved one's passing. Postvention is prevention. We are honored to speak at the FADAA conference and share with our peers this important postvention tool so that it may be adapted in other communities across Florida."

Known for years as the FADAA/FCCMH Annual Conference, this event has grown into the largest behavioral health conference in the Southeast and attracts more than 1,300 professionals, executives, exhibitors, and volunteers each year. The conference provides attendees with opportunities to learn and apply the most current technology, research, and trends to their daily jobs and to network with other professionals.

To view the Purple Packet materials or see the training video, click here: http://www.healthycharlottecounty.org/subcommittees/mental-health/purple-packets





SANDERSON



TUCKER



REED



CBHC Agency News

EMDR THERAPY NOW OFFERED AT CBHC

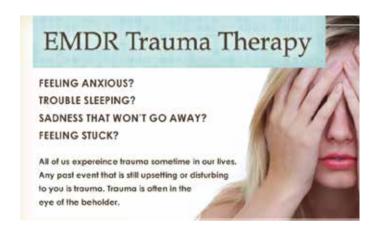
Feeling anxious? Trouble sleeping? Sadness that won't go away? Feeling stuck? Everyone experiences a stressful or disturbing event at some point in their life; however, a past event that is still upsetting or disturbing is a trauma.

Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy, now offered at Charlotte Behavioral Health Care (CBHC), is considered an "A" level treatment for trauma and is recommended by the World Health Organization for children, adolescents, and adults.

EMDR therapy enables people to heal from symptoms and emotional distress resulting from disturbing life experiences. Using EMDR therapy, studies show that people can experience immediate benefits from psychotherapy that once took years to make a difference.

"When a disturbing event occurs, it can get locked in the brain with the original images, sounds, thoughts, feelings and body sensations," explains Randy Cisne, LHMC. "If the traumatic event is not effectively processed and stored in memory, it can result in maladaptive thoughts, feelings and behaviors. EMDR therapy is used to address adverse life experiences that contribute problems of daily living. EMDR therapy shows that the mind heals from psychological trauma in much the same way as the body recovers from physical trauma. For example, if you cut yourself on an object, your body works to close the wound. If something irritates the wound, it reacts by swelling and causing pain. Once the irritant is removed, healing resumes.

In the same way, if your mental processes are imbalanced by a traumatic event, the emotional wound festers and may cause intense suffering. EMDR aims to reduce distress and strengthen positive cognitions related to a traumatic event. Through EMDR therapy, clinicians can help clients activate their own natural healing process, thereby removing the irritant and resuming the healing process.





CBHC hosts Mental Health Awareness Walk - My Story Isn't Over Theme

Amy Bleuel, founder of Project Semicolon (www.ProjectSemicolon. com), struggled her entire life with abuse and depression. After losing her father to suicide when she was 18, she continued her struggles throughout college before realizing her calling. She wanted to leave her mark on the world though the creation of Project Semicolon, setting out to help others who struggled with a mental illness and didn't realize their true worth.

The semicolon serves as a symbol of the perseverance of dealing with a mental illness. Bleuel once was quoted as saying, "In literature, an author uses a semicolon to not end a sentence but to continue on. We see it as you are the author and your life is the sentence. You're choosing to keep going." Her mantra became "My story isn't over yet; neither is yours."

Sadly, Bleuel lost her battle with depression on March 23, 2017. She was 31 years old.



Welcome new Board Officers & Directors

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care is excited announce its newest board members and directors.



2017 CBHC Board Officers:



Tina Narr *President*



Donna Worthley Vice President



Bill James *Secretary*

New 2017 Board Directors:



Paul Andrews Charlotte County Airport Authority



Roger DavisCharlotte County Budget & Administrative Services

Returning Board Members:

Mary Kay Burnes, RN, BSN, MBA (Health Officer, DeSoto/Highlands); Keith Callaghan (Lee Health Foundation);
W. Cort Frohlich, Esq. (Frohlich, Gordon & Beason); Dr. Karyn Gary (Loctrane Consulting, Inc.); Major Earl Goodwyne (Charlotte County Sheriff's Office); Michael Grant (Ambitrans); April Prestipino (Charlotte County Public Schools);

Larry Stewart; and Ed Wotitzky, Esq. (Wotitzky, Wotitzky, Ross & McKinley).



2017 Fred Lang Foundation Board Officers:



Miranda Fields Interior Resources *President*



Keith Callaghan Golisano Children's Hospital Immediate Past President



Liz Green Harbor Style *Vice President*



Cathi DryburghIntegrity Employee Leasing
Secretary



Paul Lioon Independent Trust Services of SWFL Treasurer

New 2017 Board Directors:



Jacqueline Benjamin Charlotte State Bank & Trust



Patti GuerzoGuerzo Business
Consulting, LLC



Colleen Wright Strang, Olsen & Lynch CPAs

Returning Board Members:

Marjorie Benson (Friendly Floors); Sherri Dennis (Charlotte Sun); Jill Ferguson (Allegiant Air); Ed Wotitzky, Esq. (Wotitzky, Wotitzky, Ross & McKinley)





Every Day Heroes



CBHC'S FIT TEAM PROVIDES TOOLS FAMILIES NEED TO THRIVE

WHAT IS FITT?

CBHC provides a variety of Family Safety and Prevention programs designed to educate and guide parents in the skills needed for safe home environments with nurturing interactions. One program is the Family Intensive Treatment Team (FITT). This program provides in-home services to parents with substance abuse problems with child welfare involvement.

One recent couple graduated the FITT Program and wrote this letter about their accomplishments:

WHAT THE FITT PROGRAM MEANS TO ME

-by Ashely Eares

Me and Kyle [became] parents at a very young age, so our maturity level in life had to drastically change. I would say it changed...better than what we thought. As Kyle and I grew older, we have missed out on many of the teenage party life years. Although when you have children, [to say you don't] miss those days is a down right lie – you are exhausted and just need a break. Being in our 20s, we felt we just needed sympathy for ourselves, and we were actually selfish with one another.

As for the many mistakes we have made, we have learned our lesson through a very good wake-up call in life on parenting our children. It is definitely for the better as family is now the most important thing we live for. This [FITT] parenting class & workbook taught me and Kyle how to copy and to deal with our children in a better manner.

...Our class also bettered us as a married couple. We [tend] to agree upon more acceptable disciplining for our children. An example: We used to put our children in time out in their room. We were notified that might not be the best place for them, because they know their room as a safe place. [This was a] shock to us, so we used a different technique like a time out chair. We also made a weekly scoreboard for our children. This is where you write down specific tasks, and if they do that task in a kind manner with no troubles, they receive a treasure box by the end of the week (which consists of a prize).

Taking these classes and improving ourselves, we see a drastic change in our children's behavior. I can never be

thankful enough for the support that my husband and I received, knowing we were on our last limb. Looking back, I know that we were still good parents, we just needed a reminder on how good we can truly be.

For the last few weeks, Kyle and I have been just sitting back, focusing on our children, and thinking to ourselves just how much we really did miss being there everyday [by] being under the influence of drugs – which I am proud to say we have been completely clean since January 22, 2017. That's the day God gave us that second chance to become better parents.

Some of the parenting lessons we have learned and talked about while in this program were different approaches, using the hands-on and hands-off methods, overviews of different parenting skills, trying not to say no (which was our biggest challenge), not using our pointy finger, watching our actions and the way we speak to one another [in order] to set good examples as our children look up to us as the number one role model in their lives.

Today, Kyle, I, and our two beautiful children [have come] a long way and are living happily in our own home again; it is the most wonderful feeling in the world. I would definitely say I am blessed and ready to accomplish my every goal in life including succeeding in this program with our certificates, knowing we came a long, hard, but amazing way into a better life because of the FITT program. We are truly honored for everyone and everything that came into our lives.

-Ashley and Kyle Eares





CBHC News



Welcome to Northside!

Northside Psychiatric Services, a division of Charlotte Behavioral Health Care, relocated just a few doors down from its original location into a much larger unit to better serve the needs of our North County residents. The new location is: 1032 Tamiami Trail, Unit 7, Port Charlotte, FL 33953. For more information, visit www. northsidepsychiatricservices.com or call (941) 639-8300.









Are you able to donate any of the following items? Our S.H.A.R.E. Spot Drop-In Center can use the following:

(all items can be new or used, unless noted otherwise)

- Magazine subscriptions -men's and women's topics
- Karaoke CDs holiday themes
- Bingo Game
- Bingo Prizes ex: dollar store items toiletries, word search books, etc. (new only, please)
- Greeting Cards variety of cards, birthday, get well, thinking of you, or blank, etc.
- Coffee we use A LOT of coffee daily
- Puzzles
- Board games ex: checkers, chess
- Books (general topics, nothing too heavy)
- Yarn
- Art Supplies (any kind)
- Clothing & Shoes men's and women's, any size
- Underwear and socks, any size (new only, please)

All donations can be dropped off to CBHC, 1700 Education Avenue, Bldg. A, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. ATTN: Kelly Pomerville





Raiser Updates



Archway Institute Charity Golf Tournament raises \$6,656.33

The third annual ARCHWAY Institute Charity Golf Tournament raised \$6,656.33 to help fund recovery at CBHC for those going through the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office's Drug Addiction Recovery Initiative. Through the program, one can turn over one's use amount of drugs to the Sheriff's Department without fear of being arrested, and they will bring that person to CBHC's Recovery Center for detox and treatment. The funds raised through the golf tournament are used to pay for the treatment of those who could not otherwise afford it.































"Dine with a Star at the Burg'r Bar" Raises \$10,000

On March 14th, the Fred Lang Foundation held its first annual Dine with a Star at the Burg'r Bar event, which raised \$10,000 to support suicide prevention and education in Charlotte County.

























GNO Back Nine Event Raises Nearly \$8,000

On April 8th, Girls Night Out (GNO) held their Back Nine BSO in Port Charlotte. This April's event raised \$7,817.00 for the Fred Lang Foundation (FLF) to support suicide prevention & education for programs through Charlotte Behavioral Health Care.







1st Paint Night Fundraiser Raises \$240

The first paint night fundraiser was held on April 28th at Bisque IT Studio in Port Charlotte to raise funds to expand the yoga program into the recovery center's addiction programs. The event raised \$240.









Charlotte Behavioral Health Care 2017 Calendar of Events





Paint Nite - Painting for a Cause

Paint two beautiful flip-flop wine glasses to raise funds for the special underwater-themed decor in our new Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit.

Cost is \$40 and you take your masterpieces home with you! Bring your own beverages and snacks.

Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Address: Bisque-It Studio, 1931 Tamiami Trail Unit #3, PC

Cost: \$40. Open to the public.

Tickets: Visit www.BisqueltStudio.com - click on their event

calendar and scroll to our event to book it!





14th Annual Fred Lang Foundation Summer Ball: A Night in Tahiti, the French Polynesia

Dinner, dancing, and an exciting auction. Black tie or dress to theme encouraged. Reservations required by 7/15/17. For sponsorship information, tickets, or more information, visit www.chbcfl.org/summerball

Time: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Address: Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center,

75 Taylor Ave., PG

Cost: \$100 per person

Tickets: www.chbcfl.org/summerball





Recovery Month Candlelight Vigil

September is National Recovery Month. This celebration is to increase the awareness and understanding of mental & substance use disorders and to celebrate those people in recovery. This is a celebration of those family and supports that are valuable to those in a recovery and also to highlight all of the community support available for a successful recovery. Free t-shirt to first 100 attendees. Live music. Free refreshments & snacks. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. For more information, contact Kelly Pomerville at kpomerville@cbhcfl.org or (941) 347-6407.

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Address: Laishley Park, 120 Laishley Court, PG

Cost: Free. Open to the public.



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Health Officer, DeSoto/Highlands

Paul Andrews

Airport Authority

Roger Davis

Charlotte County Budget and Administrative Services



Our Mission

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care's mission is to provide high quality, compassionate, cost effective health care services to the individuals and families we serve.



Our Accreditation

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care underwent its fourth accreditation review by the nationally recognized and highly respected CARF (Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities).

CARF accreditation indicates CBHC's commitment to continually improving treatment serices, encouraging feedback, and serving the community. CBHC's programs and services received the highest possible level of accreditation.

Contact Us

Call our office at (941) 639-8300 or visit www.CBHCFL.org

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care

1700 Education Ave. Punta Gorda, FL 33960

Northside Psychatric Services

1032 Tamiami Trail, Unit 7, Port Charlotte, FL 33953

DeSoto Psychatric Services

201 Gibson St. Arcadia, FL 34266

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