

# 2017 Annual Report

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017



Children's Harbor envisions a world where it is assured all children grow up and flourish in a safe and nurturing environment

**REBUILDING LIVES ONE STEP AT A TIME**



# Letter from Board Chair

## Sherry Stein



On behalf of the Children's Harbor Board of Directors, I am pleased to share our 2016-2017 annual report. It has been an exciting year! We celebrated 21 years of providing high quality child welfare services.

With the foundation of Children's Harbor established by our founders, Bill Mahoney & Karla Nickell, and the ongoing support of a caring community, this year Children's Harbor realized significant programmatic and organizational growth.

Over the past year, Children's Harbor has served over 700 vulnerable children, youth, and families. 97% of the children residing on our campus were promoted to the next grade; 100% of youth made progress towards independent living goals; and 94% of our teen mothers improved their parenting skills. 121 At-risk young adults received services promoting healthy relationships & financial stability in True North Program and 40 at-risk young adults, ages 18 to 23, showed improved resilience against substance abuse and mental health issues.

Children's Harbor is able to achieve this incredible impact year after year because of a committed board, dedicated staff, amazing volunteers, and generous donors.

Thanks to you, and all those who support Children's Harbor with their time, talent or treasure, our children are safe, secure, happy, healthy and hopeful.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherry Stein".

Sherry Stein  
Chair, Children's Harbor Board of Directors

# Letter from President & CEO



## Stephen V. Fuller



It is truly an honor to have been selected as President and CEO of Children's Harbor. My first day, January 22, 2018, marked the beginning of what I believe will be the best career choice I have ever made. My personal life experiences and career as a Chief Human Resources Officer have prepared me for this exciting opportunity and I look forward to spending time with our dedicated board of directors, talented staff, committed donors, community leaders, and volunteers to advance our important mission.

As a 12 year member of the board of directors, five of which were as board chair of Children's Harbor, I am familiar with the history of the organization, its growth, and how the founders worked tirelessly to create a place where brothers and sisters in foster care can grow up together, and where pregnant teens can have their babies in a safe, loving environment.

Our mission is to provide safe shelter and support for at risk children, keep brothers and sisters together, strengthen families and guide youth toward independence. While we successfully impacted the lives of over 700 children this year through our diverse array of programs, there is still much to do. Children's Harbor has only just begun to realize its full potential and purpose. Through strategic planning, diversified funding streams and the creation of new partnerships, we will enhance and expand our programs even more to meet the ever growing needs of our community.

I personally thank each of you for your support and invite you to join me in helping Children's Harbor continue to fulfill its mission, for there is nothing more important in this world than caring for a child.

With gratitude and deep appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen V. Fuller".

Stephen V. Fuller  
Children's Harbor, Inc.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## Mission Statement

***Our mission is to provide safe shelter and support to at risk children and youth, keeping brothers and sisters together, strengthening families and guiding youth toward independence.***

## Board Officers



**Sherry Stein**  
*Board Chair*



**Stephen V. Fuller**  
*President/CEO, Secretary*

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Stephen V. Fuller  
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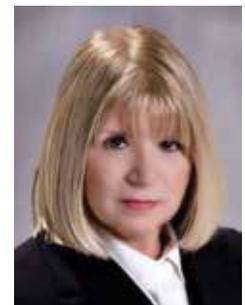
**Debra Lage**



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# Our Programs



**Siblings** Every day children are removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, and abandonment. 95% of these children are part of a sibling group and sadly, close to 50% of them will be separated from their siblings when they enter foster care. Through a partnership with ChildNet, Children's Harbor keeps brothers and sisters together by providing homes for siblings, aged 6 to 17. Over the past 11 years, more than 350 siblings have called Children's Harbor "home". Using a

house parent model with on-site therapists and a life coach, we help these children heal from their trauma and succeed in school and life.

**Eric** When 17-year-old Eric came to Children's Harbor with his brother four years ago, he was behind in school and had lost confidence in his ability to succeed. With the support of Children's Harbor staff, Eric gradually came out of his shell and began to flourish. He is now doing well in school, participates in Track & Field, and recently made the Honor Roll! After getting his first job at McDonald's, Eric was named "Employee of the Month." His House Parent is teaching him how to budget, and so far he has saved \$1,500 towards buying a car!

**Maternity** Teens in foster care have higher rates of pregnancy and child bearing than do their same age peers. Through a partnership with ChildNet, Children's Harbor has provided 100 teen mothers a safe haven to learn how to care for their babies. Residential assistants, therapists, and a life coach work with these teens, teaching parenting and independent living skills, getting them re-engaged in school, and on the road to rebuilding their lives.

**Lauren** Seventeen-year-old Lauren arrived at Children's Harbor shortly after she became pregnant. At that time, she had not attended school in over a year, but with the help and encouragement of her Children's Harbor Life Coach and House Parent, Lauren was able to successfully obtain her GED, and enroll in Broward College. Children's Harbor annual graduation ceremony took place on the evening of Lauren's very first day attending college! She inspired her peers by taking the stage and reading an inspirational poem about choices. Lauren shared her excitement about starting college, and encouraged them to never give up on their dreams. Lauren and her baby recently transitioned into their own apartment. She is majoring in Marketing and Communications, and is determined to make a better life for herself and her son.



**Family Strengthening** Children and families across our community struggle with family conflict and stress. Children's Harbor, with the support of the Children's Services Council of Broward County, offers in-home counseling services to families in Broward County. More than 4,000 families have been provided evidence-based interventions to help improve family relationships, communication, and parenting skills.



**Laine** "I was depressed and also very anti-social. My parents were always fighting and that added to my depression, so one day I decided to go to my school guidance counselor and told her. My school counselor talked to my Mom and told us to call Children's Harbor Family Strengthening Program. Slowly things got better when my Children's Harbor Counselor would come and teach me and my family the needs I had that weren't being filled...She also helped my Mom and Dad's marriage. They weren't fighting as much and slowly they got better and so did I. I started socializing with my friends more and started opening up more to my parents building a closer relationship with them. So in conclusion your services helped me and my family a lot."

## Grounded For Life

G4L is an intensive educational mentoring program designed to make sure that youth in the foster care system graduate high school. Each student is connected with a Graduation Coach/Mentor to help them overcome barriers, build confidence, and inspire lifelong learning. Quarterly academic enrichment activities like college tours and career field trips spark their interests, a summer immersion camp develops a sense of belonging, and an array of relationship and technology based engagement strategies support student retention. Graduation coaches collaborate with caregivers and teachers to help each student set and achieve his or her goals.

**Destiny** I am so happy to be a part of G4L. The program has provided me with tutoring and guidance that helped me improve my grades and GPA. I was able to visit a university and learn about attending college and living in a dorm. Because of this program, I am confident that I will finish high school. Thank you so much for helping Grounded for Life help me.



## True North

Children's Harbor was awarded a \$5 million, 5 year grant (October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2020) from the Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Grants. The True North program will guide 200 young adults, age 17 to 23, with current or former foster care involvement, towards a successful transition to adulthood.

True North was designed as a collaborative research project using evidence-based interventions including healthy relationship sessions, strengths-based case management and motivational interviewing, financial literacy sessions, job coaching, and employment opportunities. 120 young adults are randomly assigned into treatment and control groups each year. Prosocial activities and incentives are used to engage and ensure their ongoing participation in the program. Study results will advance the child welfare community's understanding about how to best serve youth transitioning out of the foster care system.

**Anne**, a 17 year old teen mother, struggled to develop positive relationships with others in her life, and focus on her educational goals and her future. True North helped Anne explore healthy relationship skills, set career goals, and prioritize her education so that she can be her best self. During the program, she completed a paid part-time internship with the Urban League of Broward County. At the end of the program Anne stated, "I want to say thank you to the True North program for the opportunity to get an internship... I was 8 months pregnant when I received an internship at the Urban League. I'm so grateful because in the condition I was in I could not find a job...it was a great learning experience, something I will never forget." Anne recently passed her GED exam and plans to enroll in a social work program. She wants to share her story to inspire other youth in foster care to succeed. Anne continues to check in with her Navigator each month, to share her big and small successes.



# Our Programs



## Lifeline

Children's Harbor launched Project Lifeline supported by United Way of Broward's Commission on Substance Abuse and Broward Behavioral Health Coalition in 2015. The program provides mental health and substance abuse prevention services to 36 at-risk Caribbean young adults, ages 18-23 (former foster care and community) and seeks to increase resilience, well-being and positive attitudes about accessing services. The program utilized the evidence based Nurturing Program for Teens, an interactive curriculum designed to increase positive self-worth, personal empowerment, self-discipline, empathy and healthy attachments. Young adults are connected to a trained, experienced and inspiring Success Coach who meets with them weekly to achieve established goals.

**Rick**, age 20 spent his adolescents bouncing around to different relatives care until he became a young adult. Rick and his family experienced a multitude of impacts of untreated mental health issues and diagnoses and limited treatment for his parent. Due to the lack of stability in caregivers Rick fell behind and was affected academically. The introduction to Lifeline and a Lifeline Success Coach, Rick has refocused his attention on the importance of an education. Through the support of individual and group sessions, Rick has gained a better understanding of having a family member with mental health and the impact it has taken on Rick. Rick is currently pursuing his GED.

## Brown's Harbor

Brown's Harbor is a unique housing program helping young adults, ages 18-23, successfully transition out of the foster care system. The Selfless Love Foundation, the City of Pembroke Pines, ChildNet, and Children's Harbor collaborate together to provide these youth with affordable housing, on-site support and guidance, and most importantly, a vibrant community where they feel they belong.

**Kienisha** and her 4 younger siblings entered foster care when she was 15. She came to Brown's Harbor when she was 20 years old, and brought her younger siblings with her after winning custody of them at age 22. She recently received her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and just purchased a home for herself and her siblings! Kienisha states that "No matter what you have been through, it is up to you to decide where you want your life to take you. Your past does not determine your future... Brown's Harbor provided me and my siblings a stable place that we felt comfortable to call home. Staff helped me plan the next steps for me and my family by encouraging and rewarding me for completing different milestones in my life. Brown's Harbor has led me to the road of independence."



# Beacon Award Winners

Each year Children's Harbor presents the Beacon Award to corporate and individual supporters who have helped us shine a light of hope for children in the foster care system. Children's Harbor was proud to present the 2017 Beacon Award to Charnley Conway, HR Vice President of UPS Americas Region and Lisa Lutoff Perlo of Celebrity Cruise Lines.



Since 2011, UPS and the UPS Foundation have donated time, energy and resources including more than \$80,000 towards the security and beautification of our campus. From the Soccer Field to the Playground mulch to our soon-to-be-security gate, UPS's generosity has inspired us to dream big. And, every year, local UPS employees participate in a day of service on the Children's Harbor campus. We are so grateful for the dedication of their employees and the incredible generosity of the UPS Foundation. Our children's lives are much richer because of their involvement in this community.

For more than 10 years, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and Celebrity Cruises have offered Children's Harbor truly outstanding fundraising support. By providing more than a dozen cruises for our Annual Raffles as well as five Sea What a Difference You Make Annual Luncheons aboard a Celebrity ship, RCCL has helped Children's Harbor change the lives of our children for the better. As a loyal partner in our endeavors, Royal Caribbean has also enlisted their senior management to sit on our board of directors. Former board member Gregory Purdy along with current board member Patrik Dahlgren were honored as well.



## Thank you to our current Safe Harbor Society Members

### Harbor Members

Sadaka Family Charitable Trust

### Hope Members

Ashley & Ed Brown

Erin & Patrik Dahlgren

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Susie & Paul Smith

Sherry Stein

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Elaine Wheatley



## Safe Harbor Society

Children's Harbor annual giving society, entitled Safe Harbor, was established to help the organization bridge the funding gap between what the state provides and what it truly costs to care for 35 children on our campus. These generous donors have made an investment in the future of Children's Harbor. By sponsoring a children, sibling group, or home, Safe Harbor Society members get a chance to know our children, enjoy special recognition, and exclusive networking opportunities throughout the year.

*"The Safe Harbor Society allows people that care about children who have been abused, abandoned, and neglected to provide hope for a better tomorrow. Children who come into foster care don't feel safe. We provide that, as well as a temporary home with loving and nurturing house parents, therapy and a fresh start." ~ Sherry Stein, Children's Harbor Board Chair*

*"How many know it feels like to be a child and feel unloved, or to believe you are unloved. That's what happens to some children who come into foster care. That's what your donation will help change." ~ Bob Rodriguez, Safe Harbor Society Member*

For information on becoming a Safe Harbor Society Member; please contact Stephen Fuller at 954-252-3072 or [sfuller@childrensharbor.org](mailto:sfuller@childrensharbor.org).

Rebuilding lives one step at a time

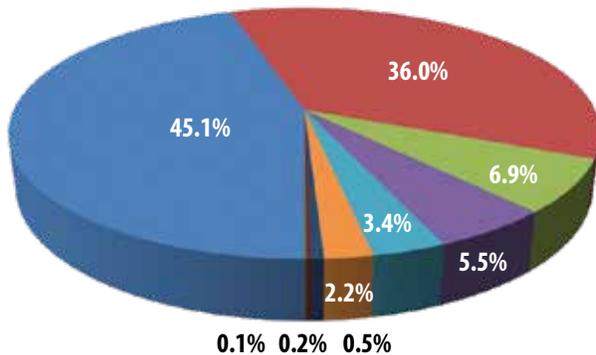
# Financial Overview

July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017



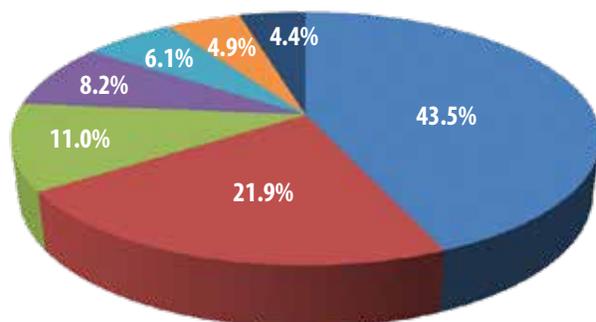
## Revenue

■ Contract Revenue.....	\$2,249,989	45.1%
■ Contributions and Grants.....	\$1,795,475	36.0%
■ Fundraising Events .....	\$342,251	6.9%
■ Donated Facilities .....	\$273,913	5.5%
■ Medicaid Income .....	\$168,578	3.4%
■ Rental Income.....	\$111,832	2.2%
■ Other Income .....	\$26,343	0.5%
■ Interest Income .....	\$11,944	0.2%
■ In-Kind Contributions.....	\$5,260	0.1%
<b>Total Revenue.....</b>	<b>\$4,985,585.00</b>	



## Expenses

■ Program Services-Residential.....	\$1,945,678	43.5%
■ True North.....	\$981,100	21.9%
■ Program Services-Family Strengthening ....	\$492,738	11.0%
■ Fundraising.....	\$368,465	8.2%
■ Independent Living Program.....	270,599	6.1%
■ Grounded for Life & Lifeline Programs.....	218,634	4.9%
■ Support Services-Management & General	\$195,048.00	4.4%
<b>Total Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$4,472,262</b>	



**Our Kids** At Children's Harbor we care for children from birth to age 18; from infants born to teen mothers to teens aging out of the foster care system. All of our kids have seen things that a child should never see and all of their stories are heart wrenching. But thanks to Children's Harbor, they have a place to heal and be kids again.

**Our Dream** Children's Harbor demonstrates the power of fulfilling a dream. One man's dream combined with a caring community has impacted the lives of hundreds of children. Our dream is that YOU will get involved in making a difference for children in the foster care system. That YOU will know the feeling of joy that comes from making one child's life better. Together we can ensure that children in our community grow up great.

For more information on how you can help please call Stephen Fuller at 954-252-3072.

# Thank you to our Supporters

## Priceless

Bill Mahoney and Associates

## \$1,000,000 +

ChildNet

## \$100,000 - \$999,999

Children's Services of Broward County

The Jim Moran Foundation

Our Kids

Selfless Love Foundation Inc

United Way of Broward

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Ashley & Ed Brown

Paul Palank Memorial Foundation

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Janet Sims

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Gloria Sires

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Regina Walker

Terry Watkins

Roshun Wheeler

Alex Zapata

This list includes financial gifts received by Children's Harbor between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

We truly apologize for any errors or omissions. Please email [fuller@childrensharbor.org](mailto:fuller@childrensharbor.org) so we may correct any error in our next issue.

**Thank you from the very bottom of our hearts for your love and support of the children of Children's Harbor**

**Rebuilding lives one step at a time**



# OUR PROGRAMS 2016-2017

**53** Siblings stayed with their brothers and sisters while in State care

- 100% of teenagers learned life skills they need to become self-sufficient
- 97% were promoted to the next grade
- 88% demonstrated improved behavior and functioning at home and at school
- 26% made honor roll

**21** Pregnant/Parenting Teens learned parenting skills to break the intergenerational cycle of abuse

- 100% of eligible teens received high school diploma or GED
- 94% demonstrated improved parenting skills

**400** At-Risk Children received in-home services to prevent child abuse

- 97% improved family functioning

**30** At-Risk High School Students were provided academic mentors in the Grounded for Life Program

- 94% showed reduced behavioral issues
- 90% showed improved study/test skills

**40** At-Risk Caribbean Young Adults received mental health & substance abuse prevention services in Lifeline Program

- 100% reported improved resiliency against substance abuse & mental illness

**121** At-Risk Young Adults received services promoting healthy relationships & financial stability in True North Program

- 100% were assessed to determine risk and protective factors

**48** At-Risk Young Adults were provided transitional housing and services at Brown's Harbor



Total Served **700**

Children's Harbor, Inc., 19425 SW 58th Manor, Pembroke Pines, FL 33332

**954-252-3072**

**www.childrensharbor.org**

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