



# Annual Report



**2013**

# Our Mission



We strive to **STRENGTHEN** and **EMPOWER** children and families through prevention, early intervention, and treatment services that **SUPPORT** their social-emotional **WELLNESS** and **GROWTH**.

# MESSAGE

## From the Chief Executive Officer

2013 was a year of tremendous change and opportunity at the Center for Child Counseling. At the end of May, I came on board as the new CEO, stepping into Jane Robinson's shoes...with the vision of continuing her legacy of supporting the youngest, most vulnerable children in Palm Beach County.

Early Childhood Mental Health has been the foundation of the Center for Child Counseling's mission since 1999. Research shows that period from birth to age five provides the foundation for health, learning, and relationships throughout the lifetime. It is the most critical period of life, when the "return on investment" is greatest. That is the focus of our mission.

Children do not 'forget' or 'get over' early, adverse experiences. Early, effective intervention is the key to healthy outcomes throughout the lifespan. Astonishingly, about 73% of children never get the help they need. We are passionate about our work and hope you will join us in our mission to make an impact for youngest children in our community.

Warm regards,  
*Renée Layman, LMHC*



In May, 2013 Jane Robinson, who founded the organization as All Bout Children in 1999, retired.

Renée Layman, a leader with over fifteen years of experience in children's mental health was recruited as the new CEO to continue Jane's vision.

**A new name...but the same mission.** With a board comprised of community leaders, the focus turned to expanding the organization's mission, sustainability, and impact in Palm Beach County.



# Board of Directors and Management Team

## **Executive Committee:**

William Lynch, Chair  
Denise Bleau, Vice Chair  
Karin Kurtz, Treasurer  
Dr. Shannon Fox-Levine, Secretary  
Renée Layman, CEO

## **Directors:**

Dr. Eugenia Millender  
Jessica Cecere  
William Foman

*"I have seen firsthand the incredible work this organization does with children as my grandson has received services through them. He has made wonderful progress and development. The therapists are passionate about their clients and are wonderful advocates for them."*

Grandmother

## **Senior Management Team:**

Lauren Scirrotto, M.Ed, M.Eds, LMHC  
Clarissa DeWitt, MS, LMHC

## **Founder and Expert Consultant:**

Jane Robinson, LMHC, RPT

## **Finance:**

Cynthia Rosenbaum

## **Development Chair:**

Jennifer Hardiman



# Promoting Early Childhood Wellness

## Childcare and Community Social-Emotional Wellness (CCSEW) Program

CCSEW provides multilayered prevention, early intervention, and targeted treatment for children attending childcare centers in high-risk neighborhoods. Services include all caregivers, promoting the use of effective strategies to promote social-emotional health and positive relationships.

- In 2013, the program was expanded to Apostolic Child Development Centers in West Palm Beach and featured in the [Palm Beach Post](#) on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Through this program, generously supported by the [Quantum Foundation](#), hundreds of high-risk toddlers and young children receive early mental health intervention at **no cost**.

Young children who live in environments characterized by ongoing exposure to violence, abuse, and neglect are at enormous risk for the development of persistent symptoms that lead to negative health outcomes later in life. **1 in 4 young children** in Palm Beach County live in poverty, a significant risk factor for exposure to an array of adverse experiences that negatively impacts brain development. Early intervention is the key to healthy outcomes.



450

at-risk children,  
living in high-risk  
neighborhoods,  
received  
prevention  
and early  
intervention  
services in 2013.





[Click here](#) to play the video.

*No one else is doing what the Center for Child Counseling is doing. Their therapists are such a huge help...over the years, it has changed the culture of the childcare center. This is such important work."*

*Lethara Millner, Director,  
YWCA Child Development Center, West Palm Beach*

Lethara Millner, pictured with a quilt made by the St. Mark's Quilters for the children at our centers.



# A safe place for children and families to heal

## Child and Family Center

Located in Palm Beach Gardens, the Child and Family Center opened in February, 2013.

The Center has developed programs based on the latest research about the impact of trauma on brain development in early childhood, providing effective interventions for children struggling with an array of social-emotional concerns related to abuse, trauma, and stress. To address this need...

- The Center for Child Counseling is an approved provider through [ChildNet](#), the agency that oversees children in the foster care system.
- The Child and Family Center offers a warm and supportive environment for children and families to receive counseling. Our therapists are trained in a variety of individual and family interventions considered best practice in the field of mental health.


In Palm Beach County, children under the age of 5 are being abused, neglected, and placed in foster care at a faster rate than all other ages combined. **73% of these young children never get the help they need**



Over **150 children** and families received services through our Child and Family Center in 2013, including groups at the **Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA)** shelter through funding from Bethesda-by-the-Sea.







*We realized very quickly after Alex came home that we needed help. The Center has provided invaluable help, support and guidance to us. Our family is such a strong family unit today in large part because of their staff. We were able to provide the nurturing and support he needed, guided by experts in early childhood development and trauma."*

*Jennifer, Mother*

Alex was born in Russian in October, 2002. Records indicate that his birth mother had an affinity for vodka and Alex was placed in an orphanage only one month after his birth. He stayed in the orphanage until July, 2005. In the first two years of his life, Alex did not receive the proper healthcare, nutrition, learning, nurturing or stimulation critical for positive development. In July 2005, Alex was adopted and came to live with his forever family in Palm Beach Gardens. He had no language skills, hearing problems due to chronic ear infections, and developmental problems due to neglect. His new parents were at a total loss. They did not know where to get the best early intervention and therapies Alex desperately needed, after he had been given an alphabet soup of diagnoses...PTSD, OCD, ADHD, developmental delays and sensory processing disorder. Fortunately, in addition to speech and language therapy, Alex's parents were able to find a Play Therapist with clinical expertise in early childhood through the Center for Child Counseling. Initially, Alex did not know how to play. He hid food in his room. He lined his shoes in neat rows. All behaviors related to his experiences at the orphanage...hunger, deprivation and social isolation. As Alex started to engage in play, his parents learned a lot about his early life experiences...how he would line up the baby dolls in a row to sleep, eerily reminiscent of the rows of babies in the orphanage. Alex learned social skills through Play Therapy, individually and in group sessions with other young children. He learned how to engage socially and interact. Play Therapy taught Alex's parents how to communicate with him and nurture his emotional development. They learned parenting techniques that they continue to use today.

Alex is now 12 years old now. He continues to get speech and language therapy at school and takes medication for ADHD. As he enters his pre-teen years, Alex is on track academically, has made tremendous progress socially, and is thriving in every way a child his age should. He plays on a travel soccer team, loves to read, and builds Legos with the precision of an engineer.



As a result of her family's personal journey, Jennifer Hardiman volunteers many hours for the Center for Child Counseling as the Development Chair.

**The Hardiman Family**



# Improving Clinical Practice

## Institute for Clinical Training

The Center for Child Counseling is dedicated to improving how therapists in our community work with children. Through our Institute for Clinical Training, we offer a variety of training opportunities and supervision focused on helping therapists learn to work with children experiencing grief, depression, anxiety, trauma, and a range of emotional and behavioral issues.

- In 2013, interns and trainees worked with our licensed therapists to provide parenting workshops and therapy to over 250 children and their families.
- The Institute provided over 1,500 hours of supervised clinical experience in the area of early childhood mental health.

The victimization rate for children ages birth to 5 is higher than all other age groups combined, with children under the age of three being especially vulnerable due to critical and rapid brain development during this period of life. It is important to for professionals to learn effective ways to help young children.



Provided over **180 hours** of didactic training and more than **1,500 hours of supervised clinical experience** and **11 workshops for 400** professionals on a variety of topics, including the Impact of Trauma in Early Childhood.



*The Center for Child Counseling has extremely talented professionals sharing their knowledge with the trainees, with a unique training experience where we were able to put what we were learning into hands on experience with children. I have never been to a training that takes you into the field to practice the skills you are being taught."*

*Christie, Therapist*

## Healthy caregivers make for healthy children...

It is impossible to have healthy children without healthy caregivers. In fact, young children's mental health is completely dependent on the adults responding to their needs. Research shows that children with depressed caregivers often have adjustment problems, and are vulnerable to clinical depression, academic difficulties, social withdrawal, and aggressive behaviors.

The children we serve spend most of their waking hours in childcare centers...their teachers have an immense impact upon their lives, for better or worse. Through our training program, interns and volunteers offer classroom-based teacher support, teacher workshops, support groups, and parent workshops to ensure that caregivers have the necessary skills to promote social-emotional health and wellness for the young children in their care.

A clinical intern in the Play Therapy room with a young child at **YWCA Child Development Center** in Royal Palm Beach.

Interns receive intensive training and support in implementation of best practice interventions for babies, young children, and their caregivers.



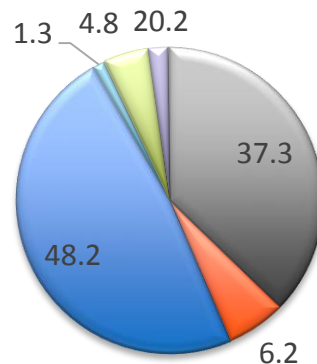
# 2013 FINANCIALS

For Fiscal Year: 6/1/2013-5/31/2014

<b>Revenues</b>	
Grants & Cash Contributions	\$172,082
Program Services	\$28,569
Donated Services	\$222,825
Contributions In-Kind	\$6,109
Fundraising	\$22,350
Rent Income	\$9,268
Other Income	\$1,021
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$462,224</b>

The Center for Child Counseling is audited by the independent CPA firm Schafer, Tschopp, Whitcomb, Mitchell, & Sheridan LLP., which conducted its examination in accordance with GAAP Auditing Standards. The firm rendered an unqualified opinion (typically called a "clean opinion") on the financial statements for the fiscal year ended May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Highlights of financial position and results of operations are presented here.

## Revenue



- Grants & Cash Contributions ■ Program Services
- Donated Services ■ Contributions In-Kind
- Fundraising ■ Rent Income
- Other Income



# 2013 FINANCIALS

Expenses	
Program Services	\$317,041
Supporting Services	\$195,351
Total:	\$512,392
Change in Net Assets	(\$50,168)
Cash Reserve at 5/31/2014	\$113,508

Financials for FYE 5/31/2014 reflect building organizational infrastructure and capacity, which resulted in 100% compliance on Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) site visit to become a Medicaid Provider.

## Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS		
Cash	\$113,508	
Accounts Receivable	799	
Inventory - Educational Materials	1,030	
Prepaid Expenses	1,899	
Total Current Assets		\$117,235
Property and Equipment		
Fixed Assets	6,353	
Accum Depr Fixed Assets	_904	
Total Property and Equipment		5,449
Other Assets		
Deposits	4,371	
Total Other Assets		4,371
Total Assets		\$127,055
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	12,769	
Payroll taxes payable	47	
Total Current Liabilities		12,816
Total Liabilities		12,816
Capital		
Fund Balance	114,239	
Total Capital		114,239
Total Liabilities & Capital		\$127,055



# THANK YOU

We would not be able to continue our mission without our donors, volunteers, and staff. We would like to thank our funders and a few special people who dedicate their time and resources to ensuring that hundreds of young children in our community get the therapeutic care they need.

- **Quantum Foundation**...thank you for the continued support. We are deeply grateful that you are on this journey with us.
- **Ruth Hartman**...thank you for your generous contribution and support, enabling us to complete the *Hartman Learning Center at our Child and Family Center*. We are truly touched by your generosity.
- **H. Kirsch Family Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties**...thank you for the generous grant to support our programs. Your support is deeply appreciated.
- **Cynthia Rosenbaum**...thank you for spending countless hours volunteering your time to make sure the Center's finances and accounting adhere to the highest standards.
- **Jane Robinson**...thank you for continuing to offer your expertise, time, and passion to continuing the mission you started 15 years ago.
- **Jennifer Hardiman**...thank you for tirelessly working and sharing your personal journey on development efforts for the Center.

Please [visit our website](#) for the complete list of our current donors, partners, and supporters.

## Major supporters in 2013



# Make a Difference Today

Join us in our mission to support the youngest, most vulnerable children in our community.

## Ways to Give:

Most contributions are made through cash or check. Checks should be made payable to Center for Child Counseling and sent to:

7731 N. Military Trail, Suite 4, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

- Making an [online donation](#) is simple. Credit card donations may also be called in at 561-244-9499.
- Sign up for our [e-newsletter](#) to learn about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.
- Visit our [website](#) and learn about our programs and how you can support young children in our community through advocacy and volunteerism.

## Corporate Matching Gifts

You can double or even triple the value of your contribution by taking advantage of your employer's matching gifts program. Consult your personnel office to get specific details and obtain a matching gift form.

## Wish List

Contact us at 561-244-9499 for a current wish list, which often includes toys and therapeutic materials to equip our Play Therapy rooms.







7731 N. Military Trail, Suite 4  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410  
Tel: 561-244-9499 Fax: 561-345-3800

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