

a publication from Boys Town Florida - Central Region

town talk



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Boys Town Florida - Central Region Opens Doors to New Services



On May 13, 2008, Boys Town and Seminole County leaders help cut the ribbon for the latest addition to the Boys Town Continuum of Child and Family Services, an Intervention and Assessment Center for Boys. (pictured l to r) Bob Dallari, Seminole County Commissioner; Father Steven Boes, Boys Town National Executive Director; Laura Richeson, Boys Town Florida – Central Region Board of Trustees Chairwoman; Greg Zbylut, Boys Town Executive Director; Lauryn Migenes, Boys Town Board of Trustees Secretary; Sara Demetree, Boys Town Board of Trustees; (back) Ray Bradick Boys Town Board of Trustees Chair-Elect.

Boys Town Florida and its Demetree Campus is growing with the addition of a new facility, expanding its critical services to children and families.

The new Intervention and Assessment Home will help Boys Town provide aid to boys, age 10 to 17. "The new shelter will assist us in offering a safe place for Florida's youth" said Greg Zbylut, Boys Town Florida - Central Region Executive Director. "It will offer assistance to those children who have been abandoned, neglected, or abused and are in need for an emergency placement option that wouldn't previously have been provided."

The new shelter will replace the existing boys' shelter in Sanford, Florida, and help further the 10-year growth plan for the Demetree Campus. The second oldest and largest site outside the National Headquarters in

Omaha, Nebraska, Boys Town will bring all Central Florida's programs in the Continuum of Child and Family Services to the Demetree Campus.

"Going forward, it is our plan to put all programming on one large campus like Home Campus, allowing us to further our Continuum of Child and Family Services in a village setting," said Zbylut.

The Continuum of Services provided by Boys Town allows children and families to access the right care at the right time—what they need when they need it most.

The Continuum of Child and Family Services ranges from Treatment Family Services and Intervention and Assessment Services to Support Services such as the Boys Town National Hotline.

Results Speak Volumes

Youth Challenge	At Admission	At Departure
Problems in School	85%	18%
Drug/Alcohol Use	57%	2%
Problems with Peers	55%	4%

Boys Town National Research Institute Five-Year-Follow-up Study, 2006

From the Executive Director



On December 12, 2007, a record number of 600 friends and neighbors gathered at the Boys Town Demetree Campus to celebrate several momentous events. That evening marked the 90th anniversary of the inception of Father Flanagan's Boys Home, and it also was the launch of the new national and local branding identity for Boys Town.

The organization is returning to its roots as planted by Father Edward Flanagan, and has adopted Boys Town Florida, Central Region, as its official name. This move will help differentiate Boys Town and avoid the confusion with other youth organizations. The organization is firmly committed to helping boys and girls, and this is thoughtfully reflected in the logos image, which feature a boy carrying a girl, with the strong backing of Boys Town behind them.

Greg Zbylut, B.S.
Executive Director
Boys Town of Central Florida

90 Years of Second Chances

Looking ahead to our next 90 years, the Boys Town Florida-Central Region will work to identify opportunities to expand our continuum of services and serve twice as many children and families within the next five years! We feel this is what Father Flanagan had in mind. In fact, this growth has already begun. In May, the Jim Moran Foundation awarded Boys Town- Central Region, a grant of \$50,000 to expand our In-Home Family Services. This grant will provide needed services to an additional one-hundred children and families in Seminole County. This is just the beginning! Future plans include: a campus clinic for mental/physical health needs; further expansion of In-Home Family Services; and, potential educational and foster-care services.



Continuum of Child and Family Services



What We Do

In our mission to change the way America cares for her children and families, we provide a continuum of care that strengthens them in mind, body and spirit. Our integrated continuum of family services includes these programs at Boys Town Florida – Central Region:

Treatment Family Services

Treatment Family Homes for Adolescents is a family-style, community-based residential program which can serve six to eight males or females, usually age 12 to 18. Married couples called Family-Teachers are the primary treatment agents, along with a full-time Assistant Family-Teacher. Family-Teachers are responsible for structured supervision of youth in daily living and treatment activities. The couple and their assistant work on both treatment and skill building in the home, and with community and family resources in the child's life. A major focus of this program is teaching older youth functional skills – often referred to as independent-living skills – that can help them achieve success in school, their families, and work settings. Boys Town Florida has four Treatment Family Homes in Oviedo.

Intervention and Assessment Services

Intervention and Assessment Homes provide intervention during crisis situations and the assessment of youth needs. The goal of this short-term residential program is to stabilize youth behavior so youth can safely return home or to their designated placement. Youth work on established treatment plans that address problem areas. Specially trained staff members conduct behavioral assessments and provide referral recommendations and linkages to needed services. Boys Town Florida continues to work with the state of Florida to combat child abuse and neglect through short-term services at three Intervention and Assessment Centers in Oviedo.

In-Home Family Services

Children in Need of Services/Families in Need of Services (CINS/FINS) program, along with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice helps runaway, truant and ungovernable youth in Seminole County. Boys Town Florida's CINS/FINS program provides services to children and parents through screenings, assessments, referrals and counseling. As a part of CINS/FINS, Boys Town Central Florida also indirectly assists children and families through Common Sense Parenting® and Project Safe Place programs.

Child and Family Support Services

Boys Town National Hotline (800.448.3000) was established in 1989 and receives more than 400,000 calls every year. Trained, professional counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Callers' problems range from relationship and parental discipline issues to depression and suicide. In crisis situations, counselors assist callers and provide community resources and emergency intervention. The Hotline provides referrals to agencies throughout the United States and responds to anyone in need of assistance, with a special focus on children and families. Anyone in a crisis situation, especially children and families, can call 800.448.3000 for help anytime.



Orlando Magic Youth Foundation Awards \$40,000 Grant

Sometimes the biggest scores occur during halftime! At least that is how Boys Town Florida felt when it was officially awarded a grant from the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation for \$40,000 during the halftime of the January 27, 2008 game. The grant is designated for the operation of three assessment centers in Oviedo, two of which are for adolescent youth and one for infants and toddlers.

The Emergency Children's Shelter provides a safe, family environment for 12 children age newborn through 5 years while authorities seek foster homes or long-term placement for the children.

The two adolescent Intervention and Assessment Homes care for 16 youth. Boys Town also completed construction on a new Intervention and Assessment Home that will accommodate boys (read more on the front cover). This home will complete the multi-functional campus enabling all youth to be housed on a single property, the Demetree Campus in Oviedo.

"We are extremely grateful to the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, for giving this gift to help Central Florida's at-risk children," said Greg Zbylut, Boys Town Florida - Central Region, Executive Director. "These funds will allow us to extend and enhance our services to help even more children in need."

Common Sense Parenting

Common Sense Parenting® helps parents to proactively improve their family relationships and their effectiveness as parents. The program is an interactive, skill-based approach to parenting that teaches parents practical and effective ways to increase their children's positive behaviors, decrease their negative behaviors, and help them learn appropriate alternative behaviors. Parents can attend a six-week or seven-week class. During each session, parents are taught skills that can improve and enhance how they discipline and care for their children. In addition to classes, parents can purchase books and videos they can learn from at home.

Project Safe Place

Project Safe Place, a national program which runs in conjunction with Boys Town Florida, assists at-risk girls and boys in crisis. Designated Seminole County businesses and public locations display the Safe Place logo on their premises. Children who seek their assistance receive help from Boys Town professionals who work with children to identify needed services, resolve crises, and reunite them with their families if it is in the best interest of the children. Project Safe Place includes a partnership with Godfather's Pizza and Amerada Hess Corps and its Hess Express locations throughout Seminole County.



Around Town Community Support Gallery



More than a hundred golfers teed off to help Florida's struggling children and families, during the 8th annual Holland Pools Charity Golf Tournament, the Demetree Classic. The event at Timicuan Golf and Country Club in Lake Mary presented by Mike and Gloria Holland of Holland Pools and Spas, raised more than \$18,000 toward the direct care of children.

The tournament is named in honor of William Demetree, former National Board of Trustees member and long-time friend and supporter of Boys Town who passed away in January 2006. The 56-acre Boys Town Central Florida campus bears his name.



The holiday festivities included the popular annual tree lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa to the Demetree Campus. Escorted by the Oviedo Police Department with great fanfare, Santa arrived waving from the back seat of a vintage Cobra. Guests enjoyed refreshments and music by the Rick Brown Rhythm & Blues Band.

The Demetree Campus was alive with anticipation as Santa and 40 elves on Harley Davidsons arrived with a clamor! Police motorcycle officers from Maitland, Altamonte Springs, Winter Springs, Oviedo, Sanford, Long Wood and Lake Mary, came to campus bearing gifts for everyone. "Fireman Mike" from the G-Lounge sponsored a barbeque dinner for the party.



In the fall of 2007 Boys Town Florida - Central Region, was again honored to be taken under the wing of Kathy and Tony Gautsch as the recipient of a check for \$70,292 from the Wings of Hope Foundation. Kathy founded Wings of Hope with her husband, Tony, following the death of her son, Brian Lanier, at the age of 19. The organization shares a 12-year relationship with Boys Town.



With nearly 300 participants, including staff and residents from Boys Town, the first Jingle Bell 5K Run and Elves Walk was a jing-a-ling success! Sponsored by Oviedo-Winter Springs Regional Chamber of Commerce, City of Winter Springs and Legacy of Leadership, the event proceeds were donated to Boys Town.

Leadership Seminole Reenergizes Homes and Lives on Demetree Campus



Every Leadership Seminole class is presented with the challenge: What will your legacy to the community be? For classes 15 and 16, Boys Town provided a compelling sense of purpose and diverse set of challenges.

Class 15's vision, set forth in early 2007, was to re-energize the homes and lives of the children being cared for on the Boys Town Demetree Campus by renovating its five group homes. The plan called for replacing old carpet and tile, installing new light fixtures and cabinets and painting the interior of the residential homes.

Realizing the ambition of this effort, Class 16 embraced this legacy as well for its class project that continued into the fall of 2007. The collaborative approach resulted in the generation of \$35,000 in cash contributions, an additional \$20,000 in in-kind donations and 750 volunteer hours.

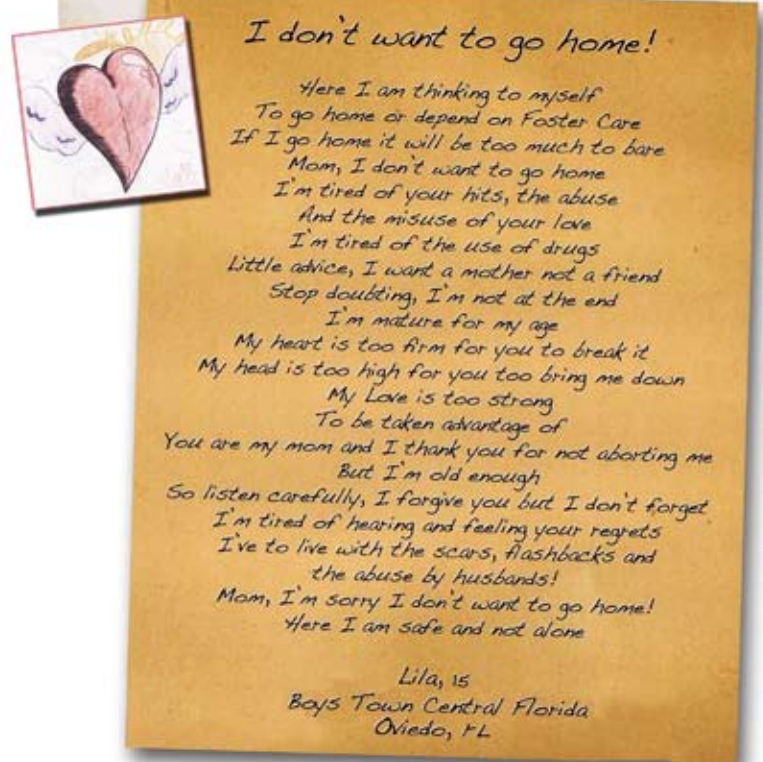
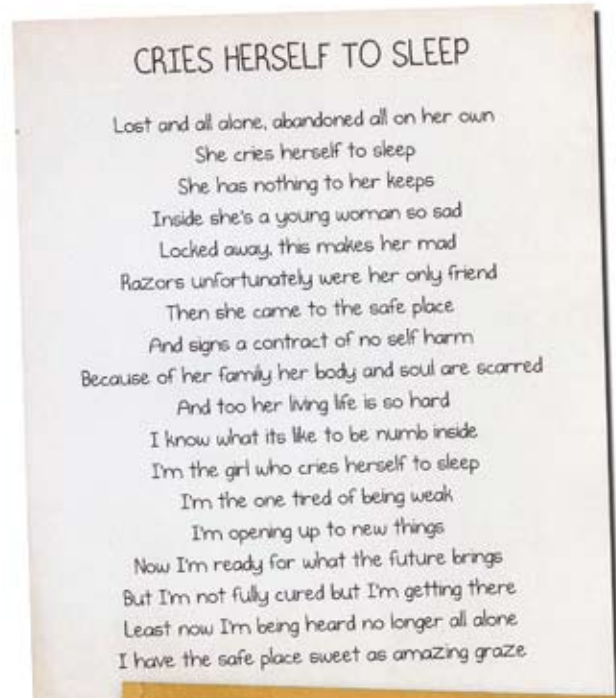
Young Poet Gets to the Heart of the Matter

The latest edition of Heart of the Matter – Reflections of Safe Place Youth, Volunteers and Staff includes two poems by Lila (age 15), who submitted her work for the Safe Place publication while spending time at Boys Town in September 2007.

Living in and out of foster care for most of her 15 years, Lila is an honor student with a creative spirit. She likes to write and draw, using pen and paper to express herself and work through her feelings.

When Lila learned of the invitation for submissions from National Safe Place, she eagerly organized a packet of her poems and drawings for the publication. Two of her poems were selected: "I don't want to go home!" and "Cries herself to sleep." Along with the prestige of having her work published, she also received a gift certificate from National Safe Place.

Lila now resides in a group home in Oviedo, Florida, and attends Haggerty High School where she continues to be successful in her education and in life.





Pave the Way for a Walk of Hope

Your generous gift can help pave the way for a child's hope.

As the Boys Town Demetree Campus continues its expansion to provide a full Continuum of Care to Central Florida's children and families, you can be a part of the hope. Part of the campus will include a Walk of Hope, a program started by Legacy of Leadership and open to members of our community who believe in a successful future for at-risk children and families.

Every dollar of your gift will be used toward the Walk of Hope, the renovation of Boys Town Central Florida residential homes, and the direct care of resident children and families.

Your purchase of a brick or two would ultimately help guarantee Boys Town's role as a functioning "shelter from the storm" for another 14,100 children over the next two decades.

If you would like to help a child and buy a brick, please contact Development Director Terry Knox at 407-366-3667 or knoxt@boystown.org.

Boys Town Florida Central Region

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Boys Town National Hotline
800.448.3000





90 Years of Saving Children, Healing Families

Easy Ways You Can Support Boys Town Florida, Central Region

Bring Hope and Healing to our Kids – Our kids can't typically afford to attend special events such as Disney, dining out or sporting events. Donate tickets to events in the community for our families to enjoy.

Donation Drives – Our biggest program expenses include typical day-to-day necessities like diapers, formula, baby wipes, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, school supplies, etc. You can contribute directly to the kids by having a donation drive.

Help-a-Child – This is your opportunity to support a single child while they stay at Boys Town. You can help by buying clothes, birthday or holiday gifts, school supplies, etc.

Help-a-Home – Each of our homes have six youth who live with a married couple and their children. Help support us by donating items such as buying new silverware, dishes, flowers, plants or landscaping items – anything that will help make a house a home.

In-Kind Contributions – We are in need of items that will help our kids live independently after program completion. If you have household items in good condition, give us a call.

Financial Contributions – Your gift is always appreciated. Every dollar you give goes directly to programs that help our children and families succeed.

Leave a Legacy – Your legacy gift will ensure your spirit of giving will live on in the life of a child.

Volunteer - Perhaps you have a special way you would like to volunteer to help our children. Use your time and talents to help a child today.

Pray - For the children in need in our own communities and all across America, and for the funds to be available to continue to expand and help more children and families.

Find out more ways you can give by calling Terry Knox, Boys Town Florida - Central Region Development Director, at 407-366-3667 x243.



Boys Town Florida and its Demetree Campus is the second oldest and largest Boys Town location outside of Boys Town, Nebraska. In 2007, 1,301 children and 191 families received help from Boys Town Florida – Central Region's Treatment Family Services, Intervention and Assessment Services, and In-Home Family Services. Another 17,431 children and families in the state of Florida were assisted through Child and Family Support Services, including the Boys Town National Hotline (800.448.3000). In 2005, the Central Region campus was named after William Demetree, long-time Boys Town supporter and local philanthropist.

Children and Families Helped Locally

Boys Town is a beacon of hope for America's children and families through its life-changing youth care and health care programs across the United States. Now 90 years strong, Boys Town is embarking on a new mission to affect change in a fragmented system of youth care by building a continuum of family services to provide the right services at the right time based on a child's or family's needs. The nonprofit, nonsectarian organization provides children and families with services in their own homes, or, when necessary, family-like out-of-home services to children with special treatment needs. Boys Town works with communities and schools in order to meet the growing and more diverse needs of today's children and families. Boys Town provides direct care to more than 47,000 children and assists nearly 1.4 million each year through its youth care and health care programs.

Help | Healing | Hope



37 Alafaya Woods Boulevard
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