



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard Operations Advisory Board Elects Officers

Brevard County, Fla.—The Operations Advisory Board of the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard elected its officers for fiscal year 2009-2010 naming Kathy Short as Chair; Lt. Tod Goodyear as Vice Chair and Jeanie Bondy as Secretary.

Kathy Short is Program Administrator, Department of Children and Families; Lt. Tod Goodyear is the Supervisor of the Criminal Investigations Division for the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, and Jeanie Bondy is the Casework Supervisor for the Child Protection Team.

Also serving on the Board are: Andrea Alford, Director, Office of District and School Security Brevard Public Schools; Catherine Barmore, Ph.D., Licensed Mental Health Counselor; Kim DelGaudio, Circuit Director, Guardian ad Litem Program, 18th Judicial Circuit, Brevard County; Cassandra Elken, Supervising Attorney, Children's Legal Services, Department of Children and Families; Julia Lynch, Assistant State Attorney, Sex Crimes/Child Abuse Unit, 18th Judicial Circuit, Brevard; Mary Ellen Stockett, M.D., Medical Director, Child Protection Team and pediatrician with Pediatrics in Brevard.

Through the oversight of its Operations Advisory Board, a group of multidisciplinary, multi-agency advisors, the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard maintains a multidisciplinary approach in Brevard County that

- Coordinates the investigation of child abuse and neglect;
- Promotes therapy for victims and non-offending family members;
- Assures appropriate legal disposition of child abuse cases;
- Promotes interdisciplinary communication and training of personnel from the various Brevard County offices, agencies and departments involved in the protection, investigation, treatment and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases;
- Supervises, oversees and promotes policy for the operation of the CACB, and make such reports to the contributing offices, agencies, and departments as may be required; and
- Acts as liaison to the multidisciplinary professionals involved in the CACB program.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard is located in Rockledge and serves all of Brevard. Established in 1996, the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard is affiliated with Wuesthoff Health Services and is a multi-agency collaboration of onsite partners, the Child Protection Team and the Florida Department of Children and Families; and off site partners, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and municipal law enforcement agencies, the Office of the State Attorney and community mental health professionals. Advocacy Center partners intervene in the most severe cases of child abuse in the county—1,178 cases in fiscal year 2008-2009. Major onsite services provided by the Child Protection Team include medical exams, medical consultations, and specialized and forensic interviews. The CACB Clinical Intervention Program provides crisis and short-term counseling for child victims and their non-offending family members free of charge and with no waiting list.

For additional information about the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard (CACB), call 637-7652, or visit the CACB website at www.cacbrevard.org. CACB tours are available by appointment.

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