



## Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Gannett Foundation/FLORIDA TODAY Awards Grant to Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard**

Brevard County — The Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard (CACB) received a \$2,500 grant from the Gannett Foundation/FLORIDA TODAY for the Clinical Intervention Program, a unique onsite program that provides free crisis and short-term counseling to victims of child abuse and their non-offending family members.

The Clinical Intervention Program is the only program of its kind in our community and in fiscal year 2008-2009, one full-time counselor and one part-time counselor provided 1,010 counseling sessions to child victims and non-offending family members—without a waiting list. "This very generous grant will be extremely useful in helping the program's counselors continue to assist children and families who are dealing with the difficulties associated with sexual or severe physical abuse," said Charles Biehl, the Children's Advocacy Center's Director. "The Clinical Intervention Program is extremely important in helping child victims resolve what can be complex issues of their abuse, issues that, if left unresolved, could hinder their growth into productive adults."

The cases handled through the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard are the most severe cases of abuse found in Brevard County—all child sexual abuse and the worst cases of physical abuse and neglect. In fiscal year 2008-2009, 1,178 cases were assessed by Advocacy Center onsite partner, the Child Protection Team.

Established in 1996, the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard is a nonprofit organization affiliated with Wuesthoff Health Services. CACB is a multi-agency collaboration of the Child Protection Team, the Florida Department of Children and Families, both of which are onsite at the Advocacy Center; Brevard County Sheriff's Office and municipal law enforcement agencies; the Office of the State Attorney and community mental health professionals. Major onsite services provided by the Child Protection Team include medical exams, medical consultations, and specialized and forensic interviews.

For additional information about the Children's Advocacy Center of Brevard, call 321.637.7652, or visit our website at [www.cacbrevard.org](http://www.cacbrevard.org). Tours available by request.

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