



Annual Report 2017-2018

A Safe Haven For Abused and Neglected Children

**A kid's
Place**





Not too long ago, a four year old boy named Devon left A Kid's Place to be with his Aunt. What a wonderful day it was for this young man. After he left, many of us shared a story or two about his time here. For me, every morning I saw him, he asked me for a piece of gum and would then do the Seminole chant, knowing I was a fan. Is there anything more heartwarming than when you put a smile on a child's face? Yes our mission is to provide a safe, loving, and nurturing environment for these kids, but what inevitably happens is they have a long lasting impact on us. I am so thankful for the children as each one of them touches our hearts.

Brad Gregory, CEO

A note from our CEO:

In my short time here, it did not take long for me to see the vision of A Kid's Place in action. I am so proud to be part of this dedicated team and moved daily by the incredible support of our community! We are proud to set such high standards for ourselves and work very hard to make each day better than the day before for the children in our care. There may be other programs that serve siblings, but none that are so dedicated to keeping brothers and sisters together through love, healing, and hope, especially as they enter foster care for the first time. It is our priority that during their brief stay with us, we use this precious time to impact and influence them emotionally, academically, and physically.

As we move into our 10th year we will focus on new initiatives that will sustain A Kid's Place for years to come. We will explore opportunities to purchase property and offer more robust services. These services will help us build a richer program to include a virtual learning center for students struggling in school, additional independent life-skills training, technical training, and extracurricular experiences to impact and influence our children. We will also build our endowment so we can continue to take care of brothers and sisters for decades to come.

I am so grateful to our Board of Directors, staff members, and our community that provide the resources and support so we can continue to make an impact. Together, we will be making a meaningful difference in the lives of foster children across the greater Tampa Bay!

Sincerely,
Brad Gregory, CEO





Our mission is to provide a safe, loving and nurturing home for foster children.



We are a 24 hour facility that operates 365 days a year



Hillsborough County is currently ranked #1 in the state of Florida for reported cases of child abuse and neglect.



87% of the children we serve are part of a sibling group.

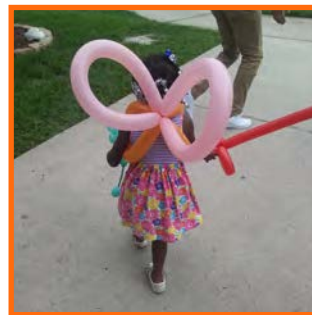
A Safe Haven For Abused and Neglected Children



A Kid's Place is a safe haven for abused, neglected, and abandoned children. Since inception, we have provided a nurturing and loving home for over 1,400 children and 600 families. The children who come into the foster care system are traumatized, and they have endured life experiences that most of us can't fully comprehend. These are innocent children who grow up with abuse and neglect and, for some, even abandonment by the very people whom they look up to for love, protection and guidance. At A Kid's Place, with the support of our staff, these children are provided the love and guidance to aid in their healing.

"Over a decade ago we envisioned A Kid's Place as warm and welcoming homes for foster children. I am infinitely pleased that our dream was realized so thoroughly, but that it also included that A Kid's Place would manifest itself into an organization that operates with integrity and an unparalleled commitment to creating a positive culture inclusive of children, staff, and this community."

DeDe Grundel, Founding Board Member



A Place to Heal



The purpose at A Kid's Place is to provide superior residential services to children of all ages – infancy to adulthood – who have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, and abandonment. With our community partners, we provide a variety of services which meet the social, educational, medical, and psychological needs of each child.

Our primary focus is to keep sibling groups together in a safe, home-like environment until a more permanent placement can be provided. Together with their siblings, these children are anchored in love and support, and are given the chance to experience the security of a compassionate family.

Children in foster care often times experience fear, frustration, and hurt. The staff at A Kid's Place works with a special understanding of what this can mean for each child. From the youngest toddler who can't quite express their feelings to the older teens who feel that they are unable to share their thoughts and fears, we allow a safe space where these children can work through their emotions. Guided by trained and loving staff, our children are able to build relationships, share experiences, and build memories with one another.



We staff each home with caring House Parents who live on-site with the children. This allows us to create a loving and normal family-like atmosphere. Family style meals, outings, support at school functions, medical and dental appointments, and other day-to-day activities provide a healthy and impactful time for children in our care.



Together with our community partners,
A Kid's Place offers:

- ♥ A loving home-like environment
- ♥ On-site therapy services
- ♥ Case management to support children and their families
- ♥ On-site dental services
- ♥ Educational services
- ♥ On-site elementary, pre-kindergarten and toddler programs
- ♥ Off-campus experiences
- ♥ Independent living skills for teens

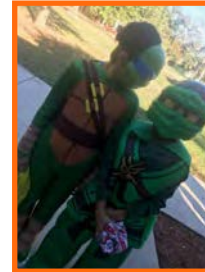
Siblings Staying Connected



Approximately two thirds of children in foster care in the United States have a sibling in foster care as well. Sibling relationships are emotionally powerful and critically important, not only in childhood but over the course of a lifetime.

Our Siblings Connected program and House Parent Model are what makes A Kid's Place unique, as brothers and sisters are allowed to be placed together and begin to heal from the trauma they've endured in a loving home-like environment. Since inception we have helped over 1,400 children.

Prior to A Kid's Place, children were often separated and sent to different foster families or group homes depending on availability, but studies have shown that it is more detrimental to split siblings than it is to separate them from their parents. For children entering foster care, sibling relationships may take on even more importance because they provide support and nurturing that are not consistently provided by the parents. Being with their siblings can enhance their sense of safety and well-being and offer mutual support. 87% of the children we serve at A Kid's Place are part of a sibling group.





Care provide meaningful family engagement-which is an integral part of the healing process.

As I was putting Ashley down for bed one night she said, "Ms. Kellie, I love you so much, will you please hold my hand until I fall asleep?" It was a special moment that I'm sure she forgot all about, but it really stuck with me, just how much these kids bond with us.

Kellie, House Parent

The live-in House Parent Model is the cornerstone of our program, allowing brothers and sisters to live together in a healthy, nurturing environment. Family togetherness provides a feeling of safety and comfort, but each child is also provided an individualized plan to best meet his or her needs. House Parents and staff trained in Trauma-Informed



This year at
A Kid's Place we have:



Served 180 children



Provided a loving home for 55
sibling groups



Implemented I-station a reading
comprehension and math program



Became members of the
Florida Coalition for Children



Educational Programs:



“As a teacher for 40 years, I’ve always taken pride in the fact that I don’t teach curriculum; I teach children! Providing opportunities in a positive environment helps our kids develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically, and linguistically. Daily, I aspire to bring joy and to make them feel as special as they are!”

Cathy Simmons, Toddler Time teacher

Our Toddler Program allows our youngest learners to spend time in a classroom setting and learn basic skills such as manners, sharing, and interacting with others. Simple lessons that will set these children up for success as they begin structured educational programs are introduced to each child. We start by showing them appropriate and loving ways to live, while instilling in them a love of self and others as they play and learn in a safe and encouraging environment.

Our Pre-School Program is a fun-packed experience where children learn while playing. This class serves as a springboard for our children to succeed in public school kindergarten. From the alphabet and numbers, to science and imaginative play, our three and four year olds are steeped in fun while learning-blossoming as they are stimulated both educationally and socially.

“It’s a wonderful thing, to see a young child blossom and become confident of themselves and their experiences and abilities.”

Alice Gray, Pre-K Teacher

The Hillsborough County Classroom at A Kid’s Place is a place where children in grades kindergarten through 5th can be given the extra attention they deserve in order to catch up with their classmates at grade level. Small classes and individual attention by a Hillsborough County teacher allow these children to thrive-better enabling them to succeed once they return to the main campus of public school.



Jacob's Story

“When asked ‘What do the classrooms mean to our children?’ One story came to mind. Four year old Jacob had just come in the night before and he was brought to my classroom. He was so frightened, he had never been in a class before and didn’t understand or know what to expect. I started to talk to him about ocean animals and asked him what his favorite animal was and he said a shark. I asked him if he wanted to make one. He got wide eyed and said yes. So I took out our blue Playdoh and a shark cookie cutter. I took the Playdoh out of the container and broke it

in half. All of a sudden, he bursted into tears and started sobbing that I had broken it and it could never be fixed. I realized that he had never seen, or played with Playdoh and simply didn’t understand. I consoled him and showed him it wasn’t broken, and how to roll it out and make his shark. He was amazed and so excited! Playdoh became one of his favorite things and he would explain to the new children coming in that they couldn’t break it, so they would not worry.

“Sometimes we forget that just the simplest childhood experiences are denied our children, for instance having a six year old giggle getting her hand painted because it tickles and she didn’t realize that because she had never experienced it before. Our classrooms allow us to correct this and help round our children out and allow them to experience these simple pleasures.”

Alice Gray, Pre-K Teacher



I was recently able to work alongside the fine staff at A Kid's Place with some of my coworkers. As someone who went through the foster care system, separated from my siblings, I know the importance and value of a place like this. Please keep up the phenomenal work and I look forward to volunteering with you all again.

Summer Camp Corporate
volunteer

For many children Summer Camp is a rite of passage. Here at A Kid's Place, it is no different. Sharing stories of all the fun and exciting things they do over the summer is a highlight on the first day of school. It helps to create normalcy for the children here.

During Summer Camp, excitement, explosions, and laughter can be heard all over campus. With the help of our energetic volunteers, the children transform into scientists by conducting egg osmosis experiments, botanists by planting terrariums, astronauts by launching rockets, and artists by creating masterpieces!

"Mrs. Alice's summer camp is an incredibly fun and educational program! It exposes our youth to animals, science, history, food, and community members in new and positive ways. It is a hit every year and we are all blessed to be a part of it!"

Victoria, Systems Navigator

And of course we couldn't make it happen without the generous support of our community partners! They get dirty, covered in paint, and soaked in water balloons, while still managing to bring lunch for the children!



Special thanks to our Toddler Classroom sponsors!



Margaret Fowler
Gulf Electric Company
Jamie and Drew Jenkins
Pam and Greg Johnson
Suzy Mendelson
Pat Moser

Patric Nassar
Scott Nolan
Cherry Ritenour
Surfaces of Tampa
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"When we treat children's play as seriously as it deserves, we are helping them feel the joy that's to be found in the creative spirit. It's the things we play with and the people who help us play that make a great difference in our lives."

Mr. Rogers

Thank you Leadership Tampa Class of 2016 Alumni for gifting our children with a fun and amazing space where our children can feel safe, secure, and ready to learn! This outstanding group raised over \$65,000 in monetary and in-kind support to turn our drab patio, into a bright and playful environment for therapy and learning.

"The toddler classroom is the best because I play dress-up and I cook for the dolls."

Christie, age 4





Growing up with a single mother, my brother and I had to rely on each other. No matter what hardship we went through, my brother was always there to lean on. At A Kid's Place, siblings have that same opportunity, to stay together and lean on each other through their most vulnerable times. Seeing siblings staying together, healing from the trauma they've endured, makes me proud to be a part of this incredible team that strives for excellence every day.

Adam H. Palmer,
Chairman of the Board

Board of Directors



We are grateful to our Board of Directors for volunteering their time, talents, and resources to further the mission of A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay, Inc.

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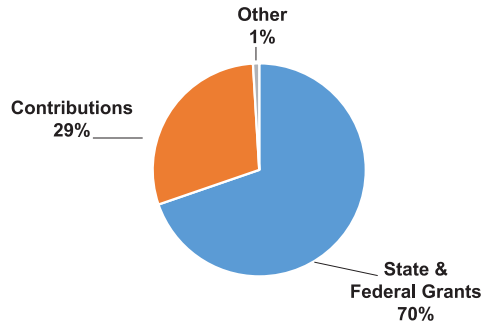
Financials



Our vision is to create, implement, and sustain a program which raises the standard of residential care for foster children.

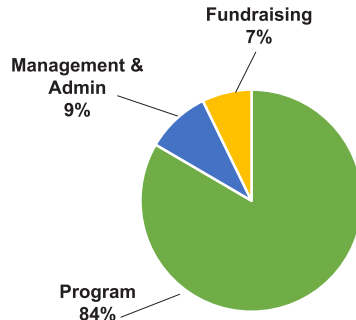
2017-2018 Revenues As of June 30, 2017

State & Federal Grants	\$2,410,975
Contributions	\$1,014,113
Other	\$32,564
Total	\$3,457,652



2017-2018 Expenses As of June 30, 2018

Program	\$2,877,555
Management & Admin	\$323,062
Fundraising & Marketing	\$248,911
Total	\$3,449,528



This year, your dollars helped us:



Purchase a 15 passenger van.



Build a new toddler classroom.



Invest 1 million dollars for our long-term sustainability.

Since opening in 2009, our independent auditors, Rivero Gordimer & Company P.A., have found our financial statements to be fair and accurately presented. A Kid's Place 2017-2018 fiscal year ended June 30th and, as such, financials in this annual report are unaudited. Once available, A Kid's Place audited financial statements, along with an IRS Form 990, may be obtained through our website www.akidsplacetb.org.



“Our kids have had a rough time before they came to us, and chances are they will have a rough time after they leave – maybe for a long time. Somewhere down the road they are going to remember that there was a period in their lives when life was good, when people cared, and there were loving people in this world who made them feel special – because they are. That’s A Kid’s Place. WE all do our little part to make these children feel loved.”

Dottie Berger MacKinnon
Visionary and Founder

The Guardian Society



A “Guardian” is a protector or guard; often, a keeper for children who are unable to protect themselves.

Generous philanthropic support is crucial to the success of A Kid’s Place. With extraordinary commitment from our donors, we are able to give foster children the resources they need. Through your contributions, you are a guardian to our children. By being part of The Guardian Society, you are supporting Dottie Berger MacKinnon’s vision of caring and giving to children who have been abused, neglected, and abandoned.

Sustainer Pledges

Our Sustainer Angels are an elite group of philanthropic individuals and companies who have committed to make a significant annual contribution to A Kid’s Place each year for three to five years.

Dottie’s Guardian Angels - \$50,000 and above

Lazydays Employee Foundation

The Archangel - \$10,000 and above

Cornelia and Dick Corbett

Laura and Fred Lay

The MacKinnon Family Foundation

The New York Yankee Foundation

Debbie and Joseph Troy

The Angels - \$1,000 and above

The Stacy Borell Family Foundation

Our annual contributors include individual donors, corporations, grants, and foundation gifts during the fiscal year of July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

“A Kid’s Place values every donation and if we have inadvertently misspelled or not included your name, we sincerely apologize.”

Dottie’s Angels \$50,000 and up

Lazydays Employee Foundation, Inc.
Homes By WestBay LLC

Angels Wings \$25,000 - \$49,999

ECMC Foundation
Krista and Art Schultz
The MacKinnon Family Foundation
The Spurlino Foundation
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Jennifer Roberts
Kristie Ross
Brenda and Clyde Rouse
Gayla and James Russell
John-Edward Alley and Anne Rutberg
Jerome Sachs
Dara Santora



In Loving Memory

This year we gained another angel to watch over our children and staff at a kids place. Mr. Fred always had a huge smile, kind words, and a big heart for all those he came across. Though we will miss him dearly his presence and joyful spirit will always be here with us.

Elaine Santos
 Heather Sauls
 Linda Schilling
 John Schonewald
 Lisa Scott
 Elizabeth Seifert
 Selective College Consulting, Inc.
 Fran and Paul Senory
 Sew 'N Sews
 Joyce Shaefer
 Share Your Wish
 Josh Shinkle
 Matthew Simmons
 Michele and John Small
 Darrell Smith
 Anne and Mathew Smith
 Wanda Snavelly
 Stanley CSS
 Jeff Stewart
 Sheree Stone
 Jeffrey Stupp
 June Sumner
 Samantha Surdovel
 Kim and Ben Sverdlow
 Paulette Tavares
 Johnny Taylor
 The Jewish Community Foundation Of St. Louis
 The Scandia Group, Inc.
 The Tower Foundation
 Laura Thomae and Ray Alzamora
 Kimberly Thresher
 George Traugh

Turkey Creek Masonic Lodge No. 248
 Turn 2 Sports Restaurant LLC
 J.A. Turner
 Maria Turner
 Ann Turner
 Anastasia Usher
 Hormuz Wadia
 William and Kwan Wang
 Brenda and Thomas Watson
 Wayback Burgers
 Raina Webb
 Donelle White
 Joshua Wiggins
 Philip Williams
 Woodland Partners, Inc.
 Woodlawn Presbyterian Church



Memorial and Honorary Gifts



During this fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 friends and family members made donations in memory of departed loved ones or in honor of those who mean a great deal to them personally.

Memorial Gifts

Mel Belisle

Leslie Poppell

Penny Duke

Judith Ramey

Fred Edmondson

The Yerrid Foundation, Inc.

Dottie Berger MacKinnon

Janet and James Zimmerman

Leonora Maggio

Julia Adams

Dorris and Raymond Bass

Jo Ann Delrosal

Rose Lee and Alfonso Garcia

Richard Muga

Brett Hill

Jana and Gary Hill

Kandie and Robert Hill



Billy and Corine Merrell

Connie Hughes



“I took 15 year old Rosie and 16 year old Alex clothes shopping the week they got to A Kid’s Place. When we were checking out at Walmart they told me how every new item they received prior to staying with us was taken away from them the next day and returned for money. They were so happy to be able to keep all the new items they got that day, even after they leave A Kid’s Place.”

Phil Gatenby, House Parent



Did You Know...



Every Week We Use:



40 gallons of milk

55 pounds of potatoes

70 pounds of fruits and vegetables

80 pounds of chicken

95 boxes of cereal



Every Week We:



Run 70 load of dishes

Wash 210 loads of laundry

Use 400 gallons of gasoline

Memorial Gifts

Marie Norton

Barbara and George Baker

Hannah Rupp

Mary Emma Howard

Roxy and Sammy

Connie Hughs

David Stevens

Nancy and Gary Beauchamp

Kathleen Carr

Leila and Elmer Leverett

Judith Marks

Keith Moffett

Brenda and Thomas Watson

Sammy Sullivan

William and Christa Luke II

Lokey Charities, Inc.

Jerry Sweatt

CRI Screening

Susan Woods

Charlotte Diliberto

Al Kistlantz

Donna LaPrade

Teresa and Robert Richardson

Richard Smith



Honorary Gifts

Walt Anderson

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Jenn Andrelczyk

Beatty Mathew

Dr. Robert and Shannon Aprile

Robert and Leslie Berger

Marc Brown

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Regina Coronia

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Jose Colon

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Cornelia Corbett

Barbara and Jim Major

Dylan Davis' 3rd Birthday

Lisa Davis

Jennifer Valdivia

Janet Davis

Donna Arrieta

Natalie Davis

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Bob Dikman

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Tiana Easow

Sony and Shomy Easow

Ken Edmonds

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Edgardo Fabregas

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Paula Ferguson

The Green Botique, Inc.

Melanie and Erik Fischer Anniversary

Janie and Marty Borell

Ken Franklin

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Shelly Griffin

Jay Houghton

Mary, Mark and Brian Haseltine

Joycee and William Haseltine

Troy Hawkins

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Marcy and Derek Hennecke

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

IP Capital Partners, LLC

Josh Procacci

Jason Isaacson

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Kevin Johnston

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Bryan Jones

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Charles Kard

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Bryan Lewis

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Jeanne Machin

Clark Air Services, Inc.

Chad Mark

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Rob Mitchell

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa



“We are proud to partner and support the work at A Kid’s Place of Tampa Bay. The positive impact they make with the children and families they work with is just amazing!”

Randy Steil, Executive Director
Tijuana Flats
Just in Queso Foundation

Honorary Gifts

Don Phillips

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Kayleigh and Kyle Pung Wedding

Candace Pung

Janet Pung

Jason Reinke

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Mike Schlagheck

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Krista and Art Schultz

Beth Green

Ellen Shiver

Dorothy Farrell

Carolyn and Hank Toebes

Mary Jane and Phillip Klein

Anita Underwood

Dorothy Farrell

Nick, Stephanie, Seeley and Myles Van Slyke

Julie Magruder

Julie Weintraub & Hands Across the Bay

Donna Arenas Gonzalez

Daon Lukin

Chuck Henson

Elena Artz

Kathy Hart

Kent Walling

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Katlin White

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa

Jean and John Wilbur

Pamelazita Buschbacher

Homes By WestBay

On behalf of their home buying customers

Lakeshore Ranch, Land O’ Lakes

Connerton, Land O’ Lakes

Bexley, Land O’ Lakes

Starkey Ranch, Odessa

Union Park, Wesley Chapel

La Collina, Brandon

FishHawk Ranch, Lithia

Waterleaf, Riverview

The Reserve, Riverview

Waterset, Apollo Beach

Innisbrook, Palm Harbor

A huge shout out to those who let A Kid's Place be a part of their special day! Through Facebook Birthday Fundraisers, our social media friends and family raised over \$8,000! A special thanks to those who honored their loved ones and helped foster children too!



*Eddie Aranzazu
Krystal Bilbrey
Dee Crescini
Tammy Farina
Sara Lampp
Dan Sammons
Marie Word*

“9 years ago I started Birthday Bunch as a volunteer looking to get involved. Years later it has turned into a small community of people who believe that all kids deserve to be celebrated on their big day. Within 20 minutes of posting a wish list, each and every child is taken care of and presents are donated from Birthday Bunch supporters. It always amazes and inspires me to see the love and excitement adults have when they get to bring birthday surprises to the children at A Kid's Place. These kids really get to see how much they are truly cared about.”

Betsy Moriarty, Birthday Bunch Founder



In 18 days and over 900 miles, Craig Gage raised over \$4,000 for the children at A Kid's Place.

“I was looking for a personal challenge and, as a longtime cyclist, a trans Florida ride seemed like a good fit. My wife, Connie, and I have been supporters of A Kid's Place for many years. Connie, who was one of Dottie Mackinnon's many personal friends, helped procure the original site. I carried a sign on my bike that read “Tour de Florida for A Kid's Place” that generated a lot of interest.”

Craig Gage,

A Kid's Place Supporter



Thank you to our amazing
helping hands!



Total Volunteer hours

5,625



Total dollar value of volunteer
hours \$138,955.32



“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much”
Helen Keller

Thank You



We've all heard the saying “It takes a village to raise a child” and here at A Kid's Place that saying couldn't be any more true. Thanks to the generous support of our community, we have made a huge impact in the lives of foster children all over the Tampa Bay area. Not only do our community partners help us financially, but they also help us create memorable experiences for the children here at A Kid's Place.

They bring festivals on campus with inflatable obstacle courses, ice cream socials, and cotton candy. They take our kids off campus to go bowling, mini golfing, sporting events, and even horseback riding. Sometimes these groups host events and this year alone presented us with over \$140,000. They also organize donation drives for food, laundry detergent, and or clothing. More often though, these groups call and ask, “How and where can we help?”





And then there are our dedicated volunteers. What A Kid's Place provides for children in foster care is crucial to their healing, but we couldn't do it without the support of these very special people. They answer phones, sort clothing, shelve food, and repair and maintain our campus. They come daily to help make A Kid's Place run smoothly.

Our volunteers aren't limited to on-site assistance; many join us at our annual fundraising events. From planning committees to set up and tear down, these devoted teams are what make our fundraisers such a success, raising over \$375,000 this year for our programs!

Words cannot express the gratitude we have for this amazing community that has embraced A Kid's Place. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being part of OUR village!



"It is exciting to be a part of a team that is focused on creating a safe place for children to live and grow. It is invigorating to see staff realize that to one child and/or too many children that their relationships with the children can mean the world to them. It is also significant for all to recognize that little input can have significant influence on the children we serve."

Steven W. Wright,
Program Director



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Brandon, FL 33511
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www.akidsplacetb.org
development@akidsplacetb.org



Thank you to our partners in service

Bay Area Behavioral Services | Department of Children and Family Services | Eckerd Community Alternatives - Hillsborough County
Eckerd Community Alternatives - Pasco/ Pinellas Counties | Guardian Ad Litem | Hillsborough County School Systems | Hillsborough
County Sheriff's Office | Suncoast Dental