



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

IT TAKES A VILLAGE



2023 WAS A ROBUST YEAR FOR MISSION DELIVERY AT SOS

Message from the Board Chair and CEO

The African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" is evident here at SOS children's Villages Florida. It takes the support of many people to provide a safe, healthy environment where children are given the security they need to develop and flourish. In 2023 we accomplished so much with the help of so many. From staff, Board members, donors, volunteers, supporters, and even the children themselves - we are proud to share our accomplishments and grateful for your support.

The construction of the new annex of our administration building was a highlight of the year. This project featuring 2000 square feet of space, will allow our staff the opportunity to do the very important work they do more efficiently. We are grateful for the support received to make this project come to life.

Finding gainful employment is often an area of difficulty for former foster youth. These young adults as they transition towards becoming fully functioning self-sufficient adults, need to have well developed social and self-efficacy skills to equip them to manage relationships in multiple contexts, including in an employment setting.

Through our partnership and philanthropic efforts, Seminole Casino Coconut Creek's "Coco Cares" program, provided numerous benefits to children in the community, especially our young adults aging at of care at

eighteen by offering training and employment opportunities.

ACCREDITATIONS

We are honored to have received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. This is their highest possible rating and demonstrates strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. This 4-star evaluation reflects our exceptional and continued commitment to providing compassionate, cost-effective, and innovative programs in urgent response to the needs of the children, young adults, and families we serve.

We also were reaccredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) through May 31st, 2027. This is a significant achievement as it represents the fulfillment of countless hours of hard work and the dedication of our staff and Board members. This accreditation and accompanying

report are important and provides a unique view of our organization, addresses ratings for all Purpose, Core, and Practice standards, and noted organizational strengths and areas for opportunities.

OTHER UPDATES

Florida Certified Child Welfare Dependency Case Managers were responsible for providing services for 69 children and their families. Once children are reunified, adopted, or placed with a relative/non-relative, SOS Dependency Case Managers continue to provide support to the families until the Courts close the case. In 2023, there were a total of 21 family cases which were closed out by the courts and no longer need additional supervision by the SOS DCM or department.

Our annual gala held at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in November raised a record breaking \$765,000.



JILLIAN SMATH, MSW
Chief Executive Officer



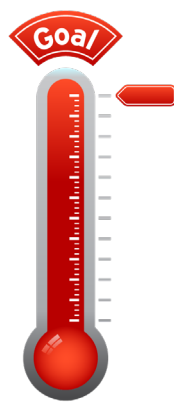
IVAN VELEZ-LEON, CFE, CPA
Board Chair

THANK YOU TO OUR BUILDING DONORS

- Caring Friends Fund
- In Memory of Barry Glick
- The Frederick A. Deluca Foundation
- The Jim Moran Foundation
- Leo Goodwin Foundation
- Harry T. Mangurian Foundation
- Marion Wells Foundation

2023 PROGRAM GOALS AND OUTCOMES

Our program goals and outcomes allow us to assess and measure the success of the work we do while illustrating the progress of our children and young adults.



GOAL: 75% of the children will improve or maintain their academic level.
RESULT: 90% attained this goal.

GOAL: 75% of the children will improve or maintain their independent living skills.
RESULT: 91% attained this goal.

GOAL: 75% of the children participating in the Next STEPS Program will be enrolled in school or employed full time.
RESULT: 97% attained this goal.

GOAL: 90% of the young adults participating in the Next STEPS Program will not be homeless.
RESULT: 99% attained this goal.

NUMBERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WHO RECEIVED CARE

SOS cared for 69 children in the Village in 2023 and over 1100 have been served since our doors opened in 1993.

Our Next Steps program served 160 young adults in the community who have aged out of the foster care system by offering services to include financial management, assistance with securing affordable housing, life coaching, education, and employment assistance, to name a few. The program is open to individuals, both former SOS Village residents and those who were in other foster care or dependency involvement in the community.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

- 23 New Admissions
- 31 Discharges
- 26 Reunifications with Parents and Family Members
- 4 Adopted or Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes
- 25 Number of Sibling Groups Served
- 1 Child Aged Out at 18 Years Old



SOS NEXT STEPS

Stepping towards a bright future

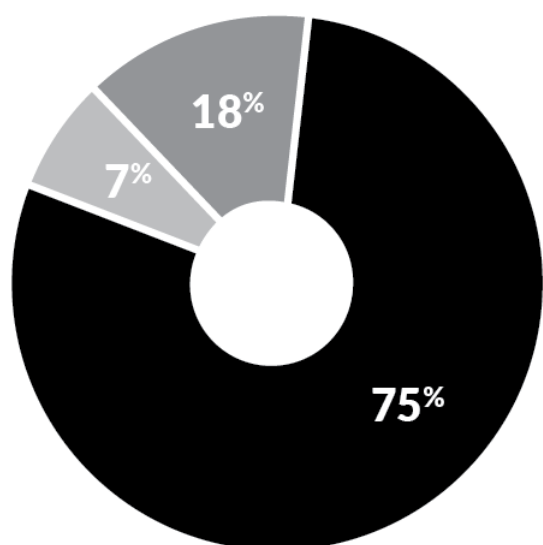
NEXT STEPS

- 159 Young Adults in The Program
- 14 Employed
- 19 Attending School and Working
- 56 Post-Secondary Education
- 6 Unemployed and Seeking Employment

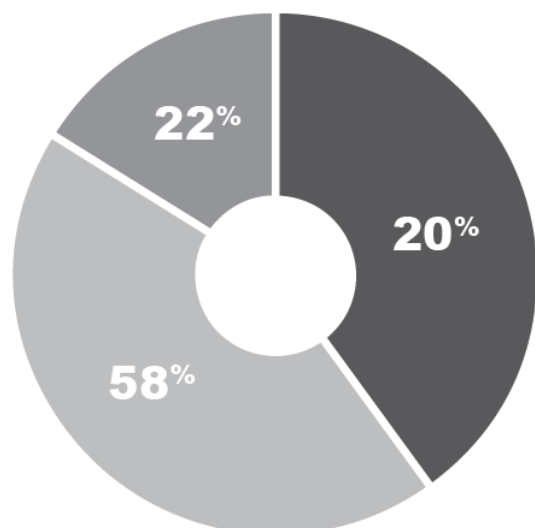
NEXT STEPS is a program designed to provide a continuum of services to young adults who have aged out of foster care. Our program supports both SOS and non-SOS young adults in the areas of employment, affordable housing, financial literacy, education, and more.

HOW WE USE OUR FUNDS

Your support gives SOS the means to provide a warm, caring, and supportive environment where every child and young adult has access to a variety of enriching programs designed to help them thrive.



- Care & Services for Kids
- Fundraising & Outreach
- Village Management



- Contributions
- Government Contracts
- Event Proceeds

HOW WE ARE FUNDED

In addition to the daily stipend SOS Florida receives from the state for the daily care of our children, we rely upon the support of friends like you to fill the cost gap for our programs and services. Funding through grants and foundations, special event income, third party events, and individual giving account for additional revenue streams.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT AUDIT



TOTAL REVENUES \$5,173,020

Grants And Foundations	\$487,779
ChildNet/Government Grants	\$3,034,632
Special Events	\$1,114,229
Other Income	\$536,380

EXPENSES \$4,933,309

Program Services	\$3,680,613
Management And General	\$378,879
Fundraising	\$556,090
Special Events	\$317,727

FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash And Cash Equivalents - Operations	\$3,348,844
Cash And Cash Equivalents - Building Expansion	\$261,590
Property And Equipment Net	\$1,483,328
Other Assets	\$2,664,490
Liabilities	\$484,805

TOTAL NET ASSETS \$7,273,447

A THERAPIST'S VIEW OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



KRISTA VECCHIONE
SOS Therapist

At SOS Children's Villages Florida, we place a strong emphasis on academics resulting in a 100% high school graduation rate for the past fifteen consecutive years.

Meet our onsite therapist for some Q&A's, as she shares her interactions with our children and their academic performance.

Q. How are children performing academically in general?

A. In general, most of our children are performing well in their academic areas. For the ones who struggle a bit, bi-weekly tutoring services in reading and

math helps them reach their full potential.

Q. What are the barriers to high academic performance?

A. Many have experienced extensive trauma which hinders their ability to focus and learn. Some have missed weeks and months of school because they had to take care of siblings or themselves. All our children are smart beyond their years, however after experiencing trauma and missing school, their cognitive abilities undergo many changes. It takes the work and dedication of the child and the SOS team to reverse some of these changes.

Q. How do you work with them to remain focused on their education?

A. In therapy we do a lot of trauma focused work. This allows the child to understand their past and reframe the way they

think and feel about it, helping them move from a constant state of fight or flight to a state of calmness, allowing the child to focus and look forward to their academic future. For our ADHD children, a combination of behavior modifications, focus work, and additional services help these children gain better thinking and concentration skills.

Q. What if any social barriers exist for a child in foster care attending school?

A. I think for most of our kids, the stigma of being in foster care creates several social barriers. A lot of our children, unfortunately, feel shame or guilt and blame themselves. This interferes with social growth and interactions.

Q. How do they overcome these?

A. To overcome some of this, they work hard in therapy and in other areas to better understand their past and to recognize that their trauma does not define them. This type of reframing allows a child to gain self-confidence and self-worth; it gives them hope, and this helps increase

social growth, confidence, and interaction.

Q. What age group is most impacted?

A. All age groups are greatly impacted however our teens are affected the most. Our teens long for normalcy and while SOS provides our children with as much normalcy as possible, when we cannot, our teens are affected in a more complex way. A lot of teens are also faced with the reality that they may never be adopted and may have to age out of the system. Imagine having to take a big state test while worrying about that!! They are my heroes. A lot of people call us heroes, but they are the REAL heroes.

Q. Any other meaningful insight you can provide will be appreciated.

A. From the therapy team to the office staff, and every department in between, we are constantly looking for ways to teach and provide support and love to all our children so that they may reach their full potential in and out of the classroom.

BOARD MEMBERS TAKE ORGANIZATION TO NEW HEIGHTS

SOS Children's Villages Florida's Board members unflinchingly devote their time, money, and professional resources to ensure our children and young adults served have access to programs, services, and opportunities to thrive. SOS Board members' financial contributions in 2023 amounted to close to \$1,000,000 of the overall budget which represented an increase of approximately \$225,000 over the previous year. Much of this increase resulted from strong performance at the annual gala chaired by Board members Famous Rhodes and Marc Bell.

Ivan Velez-Leon
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KPMG, LLP

Famous Rhodes
Chair Elect
Blue Compass RV

Greg Zeigler
Immediate Past Chair
JM Lexus

Veronica Bautista
Finance Committee Chair
Memorial Healthcare System

Larry Buck
Fund Development Chair
Seminole Casino Coconut Creek

Rocki Rockingham
Secretary
GE Appliances, Haier

Amy Lee
Governance
Committee Chair
Aetna a CVS Company

Matthew Abraham
The GEO Group

Brett Aks
iPower Technologies

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UBS Financial Services, Inc.

Marc Bell
Marc Bell Capital

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CohnReznick

Catherine Walker
Philanthropist

A special thank you to our partners:

