

One Church One Child of Florida, Inc.
Since 1988

"Linking Partnerships for Children in Florida"

Annual Report to the Legislature
2013-2014



Rev. Beverly Lane, President
Dr. Arie Sailor, Executive Director



The Honorable Rick Scott, Governor
Mike Carroll, Interim Secretary



One Church One Child of Florida, Inc.

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Table of Contents

Letter from the President and Executive Director	1
OCOC's Vision, Mission and Values	2
Executive Summary	3
Summary of the Organization	4
Community Awareness and Involvement Activities	5
Development of Beneficial Program Activities.....	6
Summary of the Provision of Training and Technical Assistance	7
Summary of Fund Raising Activities	7
OCOC Board of Directors	8



Message from the President and Executive Director

Increasing permanency for children in Florida's foster care system is what One Church One Child has been doing for over two decades. The past year, One Church One Child continued to address the crisis of minority children waiting in foster care for adoption and the practice of supporting waiting children. One Church One Child's focus is on the effective grassroots approach of partnering with churches to recruit families interested in adoption.

One Church One Child has a lot to be proud of. We continue to help increase the number of families coming forward and leverage communities in efforts to ensure permanency for children. One Church One Child signed up additional churches to partner in local communities throughout Florida.

One Church One Child stepped up efforts to further engage the faith community in adding prevention, intervention and promotion of adoption and support for families.

Recognizing the resourcefulness of the churches, One Church One Child continued a series of Education Forums in all six (6) Department of Children and Families Regions. The accomplished goal was to educate church leaders on the plight of children waiting in foster care and to engage churches across the state in promotion of adoption by allowing display stands and photo-listings with pictures of waiting children to be placed in the church, encouraging families to consider adoption and referring interested families to One Church One Child.

These accomplishments are possible thanks to continued support from churches, individuals, communities, business, foundations and governmental partners. We deeply appreciate your commitment to our work.

Sincerely,

Rev. Beverly Hills Lane
President

Dr. Arie Sailor
Executive Director/CEO

Vision

One Church One Child of Florida's vision is to be the premier leader in providing permanency for minority children through prevention, intervention, adoption promotion and support for families.

Mission

Our mission is to partner with churches and the greater community to increase permanency for minority children through prevention, intervention, adoption promotion, and family support services.

Values

- *A holistic/faith approach*
- *The varied dimensions of individuals and families*
- *The importance of relationships*
- *Empowering those we serve*
- *Partnerships and collaborations in communities*
- *High quality, sufficient, consistent, integrated, timely and transparent services*

Executive Summary

One Church One Child's (OCOC) legislation and its corporate mission cite the adoption of minority children as its primary goal. To that end, Board Members and staff predominately reach out to communities through pastors and churches to recruit families to adopt children from foster care. The basic principle of the organization is to "find at least one family per church to adopt at least one child from foster care."

Plans for the year included:

- **Organizing resources** - determining regional adoption goals based on the number of children on the Explore Adoption website.
- **Referring families** - to Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies or other child placing agencies in Florida for adoptive parent training prior to completion of an adoption home study.
- **Recruiting churches within regions** - presenting OCOC's case for support, explaining procedures and support tools, answering questions, and confirming participation with churches signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- **Publicizing the need via photo-listings and media kickoffs** - photos of available children with brief information on the children and related information are shared with local media and with participating churches; and sponsoring major adoption recruitment kickoffs events educating and engaging churches and other community leaders in addressing the crisis of waiting minority children.
- **Reporting results** - tracking and monitoring all referrals of families with reports to Department of Children and Families (DCF) and CBC and completing a year-end report.

In planning, preparing and implementing the goals for the year, the board members not only donated countless hours of time and effort participating in board meetings but also in, subcommittees, workgroups and small session meetings.

Historically, One Church One Child was first implemented in the State of Illinois when the Secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services, Greg Coler, and Deputy Secretary Gordon Johnson sought out Father George Clements to help them in addressing the disproportionate number of minority children lingering in foster care. In 1988, Greg Coler became Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families and implemented the successful minority adoption recruitment program in Florida. In 1990, the Florida Legislature passed the One Church One Child of Florida Corporation Act (s.409.1755, F.S.). This Act mandated OCOC too operationalize as a non-profit corporation with a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor. The program currently has a 13-member Board of Directors, to carry out the intent of the law. Board members serve a minimum 3-year term. The current

Board was appointed/reappointed August 1, 2013 by Governor Rick Scott, filling 13 of the 23 slots. The next board appointments/reappointments are scheduled for December 2014.

Summary of the Organization

One Church One Child operates out of a statewide headquarters located in Tallahassee and has satellite offices in Jacksonville (Northeast Region), Tampa (SunCoast Region) and West Palm Beach (Southeast Region).

Staff in the headquarters office include a full-time Executive Director, Deputy Director, Community Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, and volunteers. The Executive Director and Community Coordinator were hired in January 2003; the Deputy Director was hired in October 2007, and the Administrative Assistant was hired in September 2013. The satellite office in Jacksonville and Tampa include a Recruitment Coordinator in each site. The Jacksonville staff was hired in October 2013 and the Tampa staff was hired in September 2010. The West Palm Beach office is staffed by a part-time Volunteer Adoption Recruiter.

OCOC works in partnership with churches, local businesses, agencies and entities such as, Daniel Memorial, Jacksonville Community Council, Chapters of Buffalo Soldiers in Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Tampa, Governor's Office on Adoption and Child Protection, local Heart Galleries, Florida A&M University and Florida State University Social Work Programs, Florida Coalition for Children, Family Support Services of NE Florida, Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Partnership for Strong Families, OurKids Miami Dade and Monroe, Children's Network of Southwest Florida, Families First Network, Florida Baptist Children's Home, Children's Home Society and other Community-Based Care Agencies and continues its partnership with the Department of Children and Families.

State Board Members, advisory committee members and staff, in conjunction with members of the community, are involved in efforts to recruit adoptive and foster families. Volunteers also work with the state board members to support local recruitment efforts and their volunteer hours are captured on OCOE time tracking logs. Statewide statistics show this year that 4,093 volunteer hours were logged by advisory committee members, university interns and other volunteers, and 1,513 hours of volunteer hours were logged by state board members for a total year-to-date of 5,606 volunteer hours. The total volunteer hours were valued at \$72,878. Volunteer hours were calculated from the number of hours State Board Members and local Advisory Committee Members donated to One Church One Child through recruitment activities. The total dollar value was calculated multiplying the total number of volunteer hours by the allowed \$13.00 an hour.

As indicated above, One Church One Child has experienced changes and transitions from a program of the Department of Children and Families, to a licensed child placing agency, and currently to a nonprofit adoption recruitment organization. In fulfillment of our role, One

Church One Child has implemented this innovative campaign to increase adoption resources and involve more churches in partnering to recruit families interested in adopting, fostering, and/or mentoring. The report also highlights the agency's overall accomplishments for state fiscal year 2013-2014.

Community Awareness and Involvement Activities

The One Church One Child State Board of Directors and Local Advisory Committees continue to engage churches and communities in activities to heighten awareness and increase recruitment of potential adoptive and foster families. Activities conducted during this reporting period included:

- Meeting with local churches and pastors and conducting presentations with congregations and community audiences to invite them to partner with OCOC in highlighting the needs of children in foster care.
- Advertising in various media markets including radio stations, television stations through their community calendar, and newspapers.
- Distributing approximately 10,000 brochures, posters, flyers and partnership information packets.
- Managing One Church One Child Information booths at various community activities, such as Local Community Awareness Day, community festivals, Christmas Market, Unity in the Community Day, Martin Luther King Holiday Celebrations, Emancipation Day Celebration, Church Conventions and Conferences, Vacation Bible School, Family Day, Homecoming Activities, Annual Fair, and Market Day. One Church One Child Board Members, Local Advisory Committee members and staff participated in approximately 434 community events/sponsored activities this fiscal year.
- Participating in National Foster Care Month in May and National Adoption Month in November with local recruitment events.
- Creation and broadcast of public service announcements to encourage individuals, communities, pastors, churches and congregations to explore adoption of a foster child.
- Participating in observation of "One Church One Child Sunday" on November 10, 2013. Distributing resource packets to over 600 church congregations across the state of Florida focusing attention on children waiting for adoption. These packets provided sample announcements that can be read during services or published in bulletins in lobbies, libraries and vestibules.

- Coordinating, in partnership with the Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Tampa Chapters of Buffalo Soldiers, the distribution of bicycles and Christmas gifts for children in foster care.
- Coordinating Community Awareness Events such as The 4th Annual Perfect Match Tennis Tournament for Adoption and Foster care, and Annual Church Recruitment events.

****Major Accomplishments:**

Recruited and referred 100 families interested in adopting children from foster care.

Accomplished adoption recruitment goal, realizing a 100% in the number of families identified to recruit.

Data Source: One Church One Child Family Tracking Spreadsheet Fiscal Year 2013-2014

One Church One Child of Florida Tracking Log Fiscal Year 2013-2014						
MONTH	Partner Churches	Family Referrals	Support Activities	Board Hours	Community Support	LAC
July-13	7	9	1	97	122.5	145
August-13	5	5	2	102	27.5	256.5
September-13	8	3	1	173	59.5	143
October-13	8	6	-	214	66	184
November-13	5	5	1	101.5	164.5	243.5
December-13	5	10	3	127.5	214	266
January-14	5	6	1	131.5	261.5	313.5
February-14	3	8	-	86	248.5	322
March-14	8	9	-	78.5	155	261
April-14	5	10	1	152	9	213
May-14	9	7	2	93.5	-	188
June-14	22	22	3	156.25	-	229.5
TOTAL	90	100	15	1513	1328	2765

Development of Beneficial Program Activities

This fiscal year, the One Church One Child Board not only recruited churches to become partners in recruiting of adoptive and foster families, but to consider serving as resource centers for families in local communities.

****Major Accomplishments:**

The Adoption Events generated 88 additional resource churches making a total of more than 402 churches and growing.

Data Source: Monthly Activity Report for Contract #LJ931

Summary of the Provision of Training and Technical Assistance

One Church One Child conducted its Board of Directors' Orientation Meeting and Training on September 9, 2013 for the OCOC Board Members who were newly appointed or reappointed by Governor Scott on August 1, 2013.

One Church One Child co-hosted the 26th Annual National One Church One Child Conference and Training in Tampa, Florida, October 23-25, 2013. This conference provided training and technical assistance to churches, community based care lead agencies and provider agencies. The National One Church One Child Conference also provided a forum for strategy development in cooperative and collaborative recruitment of homes for children.

One Church One Child conducted its Board of Directors' Annual Meeting on June 28, 2014. The meeting provided an opportunity for board members, administrators, and staff to develop and review plans for next fiscal year as well as strategize about how to better serve children who are waiting for a permanent home.

In addition, One Church One Child coordinated at least one Partnership Training event for churches, community based care organizations, and community members in each of the six (6) Department of Children and Families Regions over the fiscal year.

****Major Accomplishments:**

Building and linking partnerships with CBCs and Churches in each of the Six (6) DCF Regions. This partnership resulted in meeting strategic plan goals for OCOC by increasing 100 new families interested in adopting as well as 88 new available resource churches.

Summary of Fund Raising Activities

Fundraising activities have included Tennis Tournament for Adoption and Foster Care (\$2,047), Community Kick-off events (\$2,611), donors (\$15,686) and in-kind contributions (\$18,520). In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, funds and in-kind contributions received, excluding state contract monies, total \$38,864.

****Major Accomplishments:**

In-kind and cash contributions in bicycles, computers, gifts and other supports provided to children in foster care valued over \$38,864.

This report is submitted pursuant to section 409.1755(3)(b)5, Florida Statutes, which directs the One Church One Child of Florida, Inc. Corporation in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families (formerly the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services) to submit an annual report to the Legislature by September 1, each year.



One Church One Child of Florida, Inc.
Board of Directors

<p>Reverend Beverly H. Lane, President Bethel A.M.E. Church Tampa SunCoast Region</p>	<p>Bishop Eustace Douglas, Vice President Church of The Living God West Palm Beach Southeast Region</p>
<p>Mr. Gregory Brown Tampa SunCoast Region</p>	<p>Reverend Emmett Wiseman, Treasurer Bethel Missionary Baptist Church Plant City SunCoast Region</p>
<p>Reverend Dr. Marian Tucker Voice of Deliverance Ministries Vero Beach Southeast Region</p>	<p>Dr. Sharon Patterson Getting Your House In Order Ministries, Inc. Sanford Central Region</p>
<p>Chaplain Deanna Smith Tough Love Ministries Stuart Southeast Region</p>	<p>Ms. Carmelita Hawkins Chosen For A Purpose, Inc. Tallahassee Northwest Region</p>
<p>Mrs. Joanne Solley-Hansen Melbourne Central Region</p>	<p>Mr. Admiral Henderson Florida Department of Children and Families Tallahassee (at large)</p>
<p>Rev. Lee M. Sapp Shepherd's Heart A.M.E. Church Loxahatchee Southeast Region</p>	<p>Reverend Luke Harrigan Grace Haitian Baptist Church Pembroke Pines Southeast Region</p>
<p>Dr. Kimberly Thomas Daughters of Destiny Tallahassee Northwest Region</p>	



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Rev. Al Williams, Deputy Director

Paulette Glover, MSW, Community Coordinator

Dr. Mari Hope, Northeast Region Recruitment Coordinator

LaKayFayson, CPP, SunCoastRegion Recruitment Coordinator

Cora Perry, MSW, Volunteer, Southeast Region Part-time Recruitment Specialist

Shemeka Jones, Administrative Assistant