

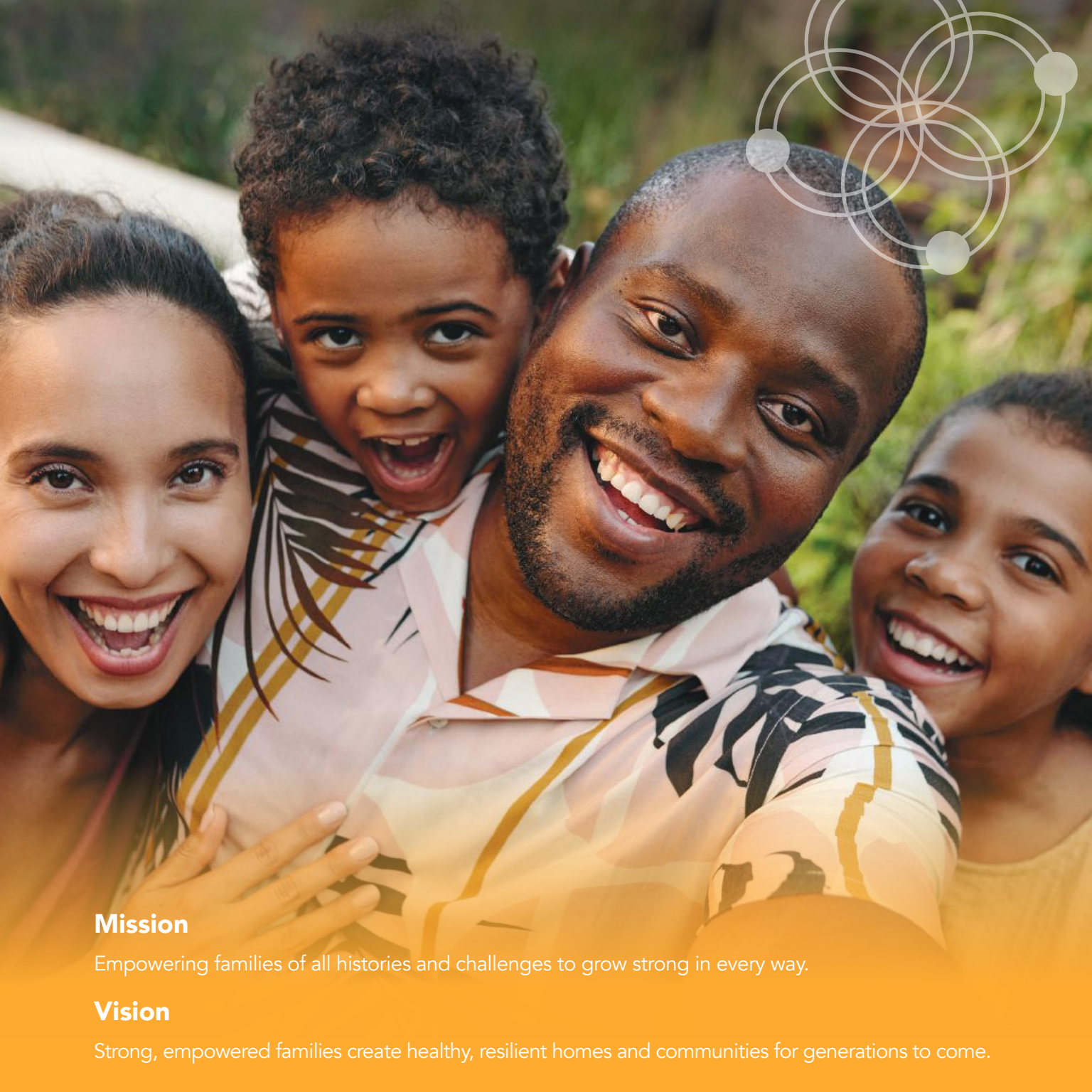
# Strengthen support



**Families  
First**  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

2022





## **Mission**

Empowering families of all histories and challenges to grow strong in every way.

## **Vision**

Strong, empowered families create healthy, resilient homes and communities for generations to come.

## Strong in Every Way

2022 was the first year where things started getting “back to normal” as our Nation persists to work through the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the ongoing challenges, our staff and families continued to prove how strong they are in every way. Families First is now in its 32nd year of partnering with families to realize their goals. The parents we serve want the very best for their children but find that life circumstances and situations sometimes interfere. Some families face seemingly unsurmountable obstacles, such as domestic violence, poverty, homelessness, addiction, or physical or mental health issues. Families First helps families find and build on their strengths – giving them the tools they need to provide safe, nurturing homes for their children. We work with the whole family, recognizing that every child is part of a larger unit, and, when you help the family, you help the child flourish. Many times, all a family needs is a hand-up to gain independence; other times, more intensive services are needed. We believe that families know best what they need to be healthy and functional. By responding to needs - health care, behavioral and mental health services, housing, child development education, and help for grandparents and others raising a loved one’s children – Families First continues a path of prevention and early intervention.

This year saw continued growth across all programs. Some highlights include an expansion of our Kin Support Program in the western communities with the addition of a full-time designated case manager to better meet the relative caregivers needs. Our ongoing strong relationship with the Palm Beach County School District has allowed the addition of two more schools to our Behavioral Health Services program, expanding our impact in schools with a vulnerable population of students. Additionally, our Behavioral Health Services Program has created a relationship with the Department of Juvenile Justice to work with teens and young adults reentering society and needing mental health counseling. We remain focused on prevention and early intervention which assists families to remain together, and our children and youth out of the dependency and criminal justice systems, as well as thrive in school and at home. Taxpayers also benefit to the amount of \$7.00 for every \$1.00 invested in our comprehensive programs.

We are grateful to the funders, donors and community allies who partner with us and allow our organization to carry out our mission to the vulnerable children and families who need us most.



Barbara McQuinn  
President of the Board



Julie Swindler, LCSW  
Chief Executive Officer



strength in numbers...



182

Pregnant Women received a health assessment which consists of HIV testing, substance abuse treatment if needed, and access to prenatal care. **100%** of HIV-exposed infants tested HIV negative.



100%

of the **455** Families served in our **Healthy Families** program improved their parenting skills and increased their family stability and self-sufficiency – ultimately eliminating abuse and neglect for the 843 children served by this program.



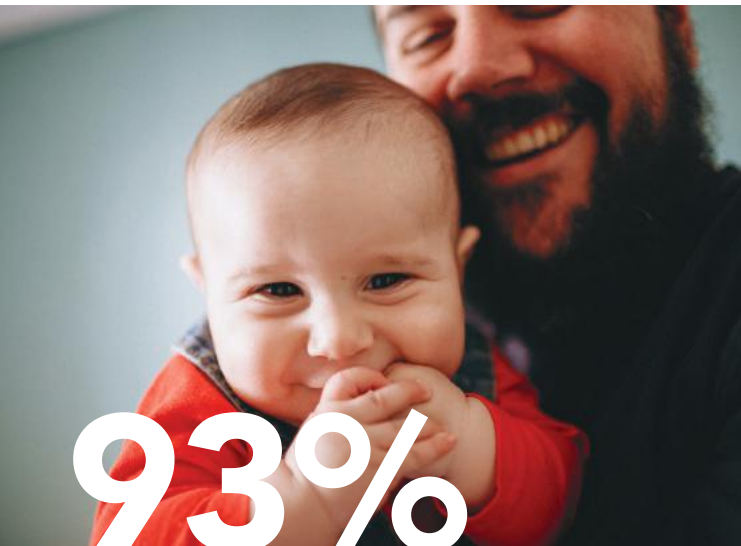
1747

total children served through our 7 impactful programs.



100%

Families First Infant Mental Health program served **25** child-caregiver dyads. 100% of the caregiver-child dyads increased in safety and security within the parent child relationship so the child will return to a normal developmental trajectory.



93%

In 2022, Child First program served **253 children** and **219 adults**. 74.3% of the families completed services successfully. Of the families discharged, 93% of those families improved in at least one domain.



99%

Behavioral Health Services served **301 children** and **191 adults**. 99% of children served improved their behavior at home and school.





**stability can  
produce self-reliance**

Mariyane was just a young girl, age 8, when her family was on the verge of homelessness. Her mother was not in the picture because of drug addiction and her father had recently become physically disabled and unable to maintain employment. Mariyane and her father bounced around from home to home within their church community to keep from living in their car or a shelter. One day, someone from their church recommended that they reach out to Families First and specifically their stable housing initiative, Bridges to Success (BTS). Within a short time of being introduced to Families First, Mariyane and her father were placed in an apartment and have maintained stable housing ever since.

Our program coordinator has worked with Mariyane and her father over the past decade with a specialized plan to put them on the path to self-sufficiency. This past year, Mariyane graduated from Glades Central High School, the first one in her family to graduate high school. Mariyane is now attending Palm Beach State College through a scholarship from one of the Families First supporters. Mariyane is pursuing a career in nursing, has a very bright future, and is on the path to a lifetime of self-sufficiency.

**“The Families First Bridges to Success Program has changed my family’s life for the better.”**

– Mariyane David

## **Bridges to Success**

- Of the 10 families served in our Bridges to Success Program, 100% maintained stable housing or successfully exited the program and moved to safe, permanent housing.
- 80% of families-maintained income, including wages and benefits as they continue to work towards self-reliance.
- Stable housing helps families cope with frequently interrelated problems of chronic homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and other disabilities impairing functioning.



# community inspires us all



Families First  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

FUNDING  
WORKING FAMILIES

5 CHANGING HOW WE  
THINK ABOUT  
PROTECTING AND  
SUPPORTING OUR  
CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES

- 1. Most children live in low-income households.
- 2. Most children live in low-income households.
- 3. Most children live in low-income households.
- 4. Most children live in low-income households.
- 5. Most children live in low-income households.

ALPHA FAMILIES FIRST OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

BIRDIES FOR CHILDREN

Families First  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Families First  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY









**KIN**  
Support



Ana is a client that was displaced in August 2021, when her landlord decided to sell the townhome, where she and her three grandchildren resided in Greenacres. Prior to being displaced, one grandchild was preparing for college and had a job as a manager at a local fast-food restaurant. The client's second grandson was attending middle school and was doing well academically. The 3rd grandchild was a student and was hired to work at a local pizzeria. After the disruption, the family went from a hotel room, to being separated and living with various family members until they were able to locate a new place to live. During their separation, the client's grandson moved into a shelter due to unstable placement. The journey from home was a trying one for the grandmother and grandchildren, who wanted so desperately to gain their independence again.

The story for this family began a long time ago when the children came into the care of Ana. The biological mother battled an addiction to drugs, is in recovery, and is currently learning to stand firmly on her own. The relationship between the grandchildren and their biological mother isn't an easy relationship because the biological mother isn't secure enough to parent again on her own.

During the grandson's shelter placement, Kin Support advocated for extended placement and collaborated with staff to work with Ana to assist her with finding a rental apartment before her voucher expired. Kin Support reached out to Ana's mental health team to help her maintain safety during times of feeling hopeless, powerless, and defeated during the apartment hunting process. Ana had limited informal supports to help her through the time of transition, but for those who were a constant in her life, the Kin Support Program worked

with them to ensure continued safety and stability, especially during times when the grandmother felt hopeless.

The next eight months were ones of uncertainty and disappointment for the family and case manager working alongside them. During this transition period, Kin Support taught Ana how to sharpen her skills of advocacy, by reaching out to her Housing Worker to fine tune communication, discuss what goals Ana had in mind for her family, and changing the entire team's approach in working together more swiftly to obtain housing.

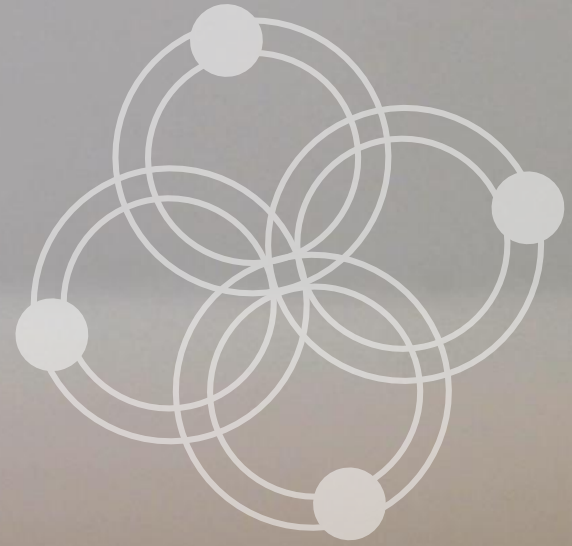
Finally, just as Ana's housing voucher was set to expire in April, another apartment became available. Kin Support worked with Ana and property management to ensure the client's application went through swiftly, fees were paid to secure the apartment, and a move in date was given in early May 2022.

Ana informed Kin Support that she was amazed by how much the program invested time in her because they wanted to see her family together again. Families First of Palm Beach County leadership made sure the Family Service Coordinator in Kin Support gained a better knowledge and understanding of what was taking place in the housing market, learn what resources were available to the client, including the Section 8 program.

Ana's story is about navigating the terrains of life, that can easily break someone if they didn't have the right supports in place. The staff from Kin Support made sure that Ana had all the tools she needed, including external and internal supports, to realize her goal of stable housing and reunification of the family.

Of the **54 families** served through our Kin Support Program. **100%** of the families were able to remain together and **127 children** were kept out of the welfare system.

# revenue and expenses



Reflects fiscal year ending  
September 30, 2022



## annual contributions and revenue

### Government Support

\$4,303,304

### Community Support

\$200,904

### Foundation Grants

\$940,300

### Other Support

\$76,463

### Fundraising

\$150,991

### In-Kind Revenue

\$9,496

### Net Investment Return

\$(200,607)

### Total Revenue

**\$5,480,851**

## agency expenses

### Program Services

\$4,730,424

### Supporting Services

\$751,774

### Fundraising Events

\$30,996

### Total Expenses

**\$5,513,194**

Families First is audited by the independent CPA firm of Templeton & Company, LLP, which conducted its examination in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards. Templeton & Company, LLP, rendered an unmodified opinion that the financial statements are fairly stated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. If you want a copy of the audit or the 990, please feel free to contact the office at 561-721-2887 or you can get them on our website at [www.familiesfirstpbc.org](http://www.familiesfirstpbc.org).

# funders and contributors



Reflects fiscal year ending September 30, 2022



## government and agency

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Florida Department of Health  
Health Care District of Palm Beach County  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Community Services  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Youth Services  
School District of Palm Beach County  
The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida  
Town of Palm Beach United Way  
United Way of Palm Beach County

## \$100,000 plus

Leslie L. Alexander Foundation, Inc.  
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation

## \$50,000 to \$99,999

Fidelity - The Great Charity Challenge  
Libra Foundation, Inc.  
Lucy's Fund  
Quantum Foundation  
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.  
The Jim Moran Foundation

## \$25,000 to \$49,999

Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin Counties  
Scaife Family Foundation  
The Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.

## \$10,000 to \$24,999

Bank of America Charitable Foundation  
Byrnes Guillaume  
C. Kenneth & Laura Baxter Foundation, Inc.  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
First Horizon Foundation  
Ibis Charities Foundation, Inc.  
Itto Willits Charitable Foundation  
Jose Antonio Grifols Lucas Foundation  
Miami Diaper Bank

## \$5000 to \$9999

BMO Harris Bank N.A.  
Boca Rio Foundation  
Castle Group  
CBIZ Insurance Services, Inc.  
Children's Healthcare Charity, Inc.  
H. E. Hill Foundation, Inc.  
Impact Deposits Corp.  
Impact Landscaping  
Jo Ann and Eddie Sears

## \$2,000 to \$4999

Clinics Can Help  
Florida Power & Light Company  
Frances & Jeff Fisher  
Julie & Ted Swindler  
Linda & Bob Jones  
Marie Bedner  
Mary & Peter Blum  
Mary & Rey Aguiar

## \$500 to \$1,999

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Ward Damon P.L.  
Wendee & Craig Backstrom  
Wesley Wiggins

"In 2022 we experienced the return of in-person interactions with our community, employees, donors, and board members. It reminds me of the importance of a face-to-face interaction and the power of a hug. It has been great seeing everyone in the community again and the amazing work by Families First. I would like to thank all the volunteers, social workers, employees, donors, and board members for their contribution to the organization's mission to help families be strong in every way.

Leaving a legacy is something that we all probably thought about over the last couple of years especially during the pandemic. We thought about the life we want to live, the impact we want to have on others, and the legacy we want to leave to our communities. Families First of Palm Beach County legacy giving provides an avenue for those who want to have a major impact on our community and leave a legacy in their honor. We will continue our endless efforts to ask for supports from those donors that would like to leave a living or lasting legacy in our communities."

**Bao Q. Nguyen**  
**Foundation Board President**







# Leave a Legacy of Love

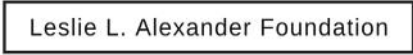
## Help Ensure the Future of Families First.

### **Join our Forever Families Legacy Society**

Help future generations of children grow up in stronger families and stronger communities. Help ensure that Families First of Palm Beach County can continue its work in preventing child abuse and help families become self-sufficient for many years to come. You can do this with a legacy gift. Legacy gifts allow you to combine your philanthropic goals with your financial needs while supporting children and their families who would not otherwise have the basic tools to lead productive lives.

To learn more, visit [FamiliesFirstPBC.org](http://FamiliesFirstPBC.org)

**funders**





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# Families First

OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

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[FamiliesFirstPBC.org](http://FamiliesFirstPBC.org)