

FY 2018 Directory of Funded Programs:  
Organizational Profiles and Project Summaries  
Strengthening Child Welfare Systems to Achieve Expected Child and  
Family Outcomes  
HHS-2018-ACF-ACYF- CO-1360  
Administration for Children and Families - Administration on Children,  
Youth & Families - Children's Bureau

**Award Number:**

90CO1138

**Project Title:**

Strong Foundations, a project to enhance safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children ages 6 through 12 placed into licensed out-of-home care in Central Florida

**Community Based Care of Central Florida Inc.**

4001 Pelee Street  
Orlando, FL 32871

**Project Director (PD) and Principal Contact:**

Rebecca Leininger

**PD Email:**

rebecca.leininger@cbccfl.org

**PD Phone:**

(321) 441-2365

**Project Period:**

60 Months

**Federal Program Officer (FPO)/Specialist:**

Serena L. Williams

**FPO Email:**

Serena.Williams@acf.hhs.gov

**Target Population:**

Six to twelve year olds in license care

**Geographic Area(s) Served:**

Central Florida area: Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties

**Agency Region:**

ACF Region 4

**Community Based Care of Central Florida, Inc.**

**Organizational Description**

Since 2004, Community Based Care of Central Florida, Inc. (CBCCF) has tirelessly sought solutions and innovations to improve safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children. As the state-designated lead agency for child welfare in Central Florida, encompassing Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties – the Greater Orlando region – CBCCF oversees prevention and diversion, foster care, adoption, post-adoption, and supports for young adults as they transition from foster care to adulthood, serving approximately 3,000 children each day. The agency accomplishes this primarily through subcontracts for direct service, including case management, child placing (foster home recruitment/support), intake and placement, and kinship.

**Use of Program Funds**

The Strong Foundations project goal is to develop, implement and evaluate strategies that focus on better adoption and permanency outcomes by improving basic social work, legal, and judicial practice in order to eliminate systemic barriers to: adoption, preventing re-entry into foster care, and other forms of permanency. The project specifically seeks to reduce the number of children who transition to adolescence while in foster care or re-enter foster care as teenagers through a grant award of \$8,610,000. The benefit of this project will be a replicable model to improve permanency and positive outcomes for children in licensed care before they enter the critical adolescent years.

**Expected Outcomes**

The Strong Foundations project is designed to improve four inter-related Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) outcomes specific to the target population: 1) **Safety Outcome 2:** Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate; 2) **Permanency Outcome 1:** Children have permanency and stability in their living situations; 3) **Permanency Outcome 2:** The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children; and 4) **Well-being Outcome 1:** Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.