

F F T A



Foster Family-based Treatment Association

**FFTA Annual Report  
2010**

*The Foster Family-based Treatment Association  
strengthens agencies that support families  
caring for vulnerable children.*

## I President's Report I

Frank H. Crawford, Jr., M.Ed., Children's Home Society of North Carolina

It is with a great sense of pride that I present this Annual Report to you from FFTA. Reflecting on where we are and where we have come from, I am honored and humbled to serve you through this outstanding association.

In a time when many associations are struggling, and some are shutting their doors, FFTA is strong and growing. With over 400 member agencies, we have seen constant growth both in numbers and in the ways we serve you. One example is our strong presence in public policy matters that impact treatment foster care. This past May, we convened our 9th Annual Public Policy Institute and Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., attended by some 70 professionals from across the nation. Not only strong in content, the event also provided us an opportunity to visit Capitol Hill to advocate for federal policies and legislation. We also conducted our very first Congressional Briefing, yet another significant milestone!

Our 25th Annual Conference on Treatment Foster Care will be well attended, and the training and networking opportunities for our membership will be tremendous. The conference serves as another tangible example of how FFTA provides your agency with opportunities to support and enhance your work with vulnerable children and youth.

FFTA is blessed to have dedicated leadership throughout our association, beginning with our members. Many of you have taken advantage of opportunities FFTA has made available. Others have taken leadership roles in our committees. Our state chapters have been quite successful in a variety of ways and are powerful tools that support our work on the regional level.

FFTA's Board of Directors is comprised of an incredibly talented, dedicated, and resourceful group of professionals. Our board members have stepped up for all of us over the past year, stretching to make the association viable and of value to your agency in times when we all have to "do more with less."

Included here are reports from each of our committees and chapters. I invite you to review these carefully. If you are not involved in committee work, I challenge you to consider plugging into FFTA's strong committee structure. Participation can only strengthen the work you are doing in your community.

Thank you for *all* you do to support FFTA and make it the incredible association it has become. Just look around . . . great things are happening within FFTA!

# I Executive Administrator's Report I

David A. Schild

With the 25th anniversary of the FFTA Annual Conference on Treatment Foster Care upon us, we have spent some time reflecting on our history and remembering where we started. It is interesting to read the FFTA history and see that the commitment initially made by our pioneers has been sustained by the many leaders who have brought us to where we are today.

In the 1980s the number of treatment foster care (TFC) programs began to expand rapidly, and our founders saw the need for an organization that could help TFC programs “facilitate contact and the exchange of information among those interested and involved in TFC.” FFTA’s initial steering committee envisioned an association that would strengthen the TFC model through program standards, public policy, research, newsletters, publications, professional development, and networking.

Although FFTA has evolved and grown significantly since that time, your association remains committed to providing these resources and more. We continue to work together to advance treatment foster care and to empower agencies that work with vulnerable children to thrive, both within families and in the community.

FFTA is the *only* North American association for treatment foster care programs, and we are proud of our uniqueness. Although our focus is on treatment foster care, most of the information and resources that we provide to our members and the field at large can be applied in any family-based service setting. We continue to explore new ways to help our members succeed, and we invite you to recommend resources that will help your agency provide the best and most cost-effective services possible.

FFTA is a membership-driven organization, and we are grateful for the support of every single member, large and small. FFTA thrives most when its members take advantage of its membership benefits and become involved in the association’s work. The professionals who are involved in FFTA’s chapters, committees, or Board of Directors often speak of the professional and personal satisfaction they receive by being a part of our great association. Positive impact has been made, careers have been advanced, and lifelong friendships have been developed by those who have been actively involved in FFTA. Expand your horizons by getting involved with your local chapter, joining an FFTA committee, presenting at a conference, attending our annual advocacy day, or joining the Board of Directors. Your leadership will impact treatment foster care in new and rewarding ways.

## I Committee Reports I

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**Sally Buchanan**, Creative Community Services, Inc.

The Conference Committee has been honored to take part in the planning of the association's 25th Annual Conference on Treatment Foster Care this year. Professional development is a rich part of FFTA's history. Our founders conceived the idea of an association of treatment foster care (TFC) agencies at the first treatment foster care conference 25 years ago. A conference that started with 120 participants from 24 states has grown into a program offering over 100 workshops to more than 600 professionals from around the world. Today, TFC professionals, foster families, and other child welfare professionals attend FFTA conferences to share ideas and experiences with colleagues and enjoy a special camaraderie.

At this year's conference we will be *Honoring our Past, Celebrating our Present, Imagining our Future*. A special reception will be held to honor FFTA's founding members, past presidents, past board members, donors, and others who have contributed to the growth and success of our association.

Planning for the 2012 conference will begin this fall. We look forward to announcing the dates and location shortly. Please be on the lookout for the Call for Presentations and consider submitting a proposal to present at the *only* North American annual conference on treatment foster care.

### CULTURAL COMPETENCY COMMITTEE

**Consevilla James, LCSW, MSW**, Treatment Homes, Inc.,  
and **Doug White, LCSW**, Alaska Children's Services, Inc.

The Cultural Competency Committee has achieved a lot over the last year, including the development of a value statement: *FFTA will enhance the cultural responsiveness of member agencies by promoting cultural competence as a process of learning. FFTA will help its members to incorporate that understanding into practice by providing resources through research, training, self-assessment, policy making, and practice that empowers us to work effectively cross-culturally.*

In support of this value statement, the committee set the goals of providing training and other resources to help FFTA members incorporate cultural competency into their programs, and ensuring that cultural competency is reflected throughout the leadership of the association. The committee is in the process of expanding its membership to ensure that it is representative of the children and families that FFTA members serve. We encourage professionals who are interested in promoting cultural competency to join our committee. We also invite our members and others in our field to share resources on cultural competency through the resource bank we are creating. Please contact the FFTA office if you have tools, samples, curricula, or the like for this developing resource.

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

**Marianne L. Werth, LCSW, Adolescent & Family Growth Center, Inc.**

The Editorial Committee, comprised of a variety of creative individuals from FFTA member agencies, is primarily responsible for the production of the FFTA newsletter, *FOCUS*. Members develop theme ideas, identify potential authors, and write and edit articles. *FOCUS* themes presented to the membership this year were permanency, trauma, and risk management with contributing authors representing agencies and colleagues from across North America. In response to members' requests, the next two issues of *FOCUS* will cover foster parent recruitment and retention strategies. The committee's goals for the past year were to expand the number of members serving on the committee and to recruit authors from the general membership. We encourage you to become involved in our committee's work, either by joining the committee or by being a guest writer for *FOCUS*.

### FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Brian F. Lynch, MSW, LCSW,**  
The Children's Community Programs of Connecticut, Inc.

The role of the Fund Development Committee is to generate additional sources of revenue for the association to supplement the two primary sources of revenue—membership dues and conference revenue. Approximately two years ago, FFTA implemented an Annual Operating Campaign (now referred to as the Annual Giving Campaign) to help enhance the funding of special projects and general operations. Thanks to the generous support of FFTA members and friends, since its inception, this campaign has raised over \$26,500. Members who would like to assist FFTA outside the Annual Giving Campaign may provide financial support through dues assessments beyond their scheduled annual dues payments. The committee also assists with fund-raising for the Leadership Legacy Scholarship Fund, in memory of Ed Farmer, which was established 5 years ago. To date, the fund has awarded 17 FFTA Annual Conference scholarships to foster parents.

The committee oversees the FFTA endorsement program, which provides products and services of interest to FFTA members at a discount and provides FFTA with a royalty payment—revenue that is reinvested in the association's programs and services.

The committee is in the process of developing its goals for the next 18 months, which will include fund-raising for the Annual Giving Campaign and the Leadership Legacy Scholarship Fund and expanding the FFTA endorsement program.

**FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** *(Continued from page 4)*

The committee would like to thank The Annie E. Casey Foundation for its financial support through a grant to fund the FFTA Practice Wisdom Guide. The Board of Directors joins the committee in expressing its gratitude to the many members, sponsors, and friends that have supported FFTA in its various fund-raising efforts. This support helps FFTA keep its membership dues below that of other national associations of its size, makes membership affordable for smaller agencies, and helps all members to maintain their memberships as they are facing tightening budgets.

The Fund Development Committee would greatly benefit from having new members with fund development experience who can give a small amount of time to help FFTA enhance its fund-raising capabilities.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Phyllis Stephenson**, Easter Seals UCP North Carolina & Virginia

As of July 1, 2011, FFTA had 420 member organizations, compared to 403 members one year ago. The Membership Committee is excited about the association's growth in this economic climate. FFTA's members represent 43 states, the District of Columbia, Bermuda, and Canada. This level of FFTA membership allows us to form a unified voice to advocate for treatment foster care services both nationally and internationally.

The committee, currently comprised of 12 TFC professionals, meets monthly by conference call. Each committee member is committed to contacting member agencies at least once a year to assess their use of membership services and solicit ideas for ways to enhance the benefits of FFTA membership. Information gleaned from this feedback is shared with the Board of Directors and other FFTA committees so that we can work together to meet our members' needs and enhance the value of their membership.

The primary goals of the Membership Committee are to keep FFTA relevant to chapters and members and to fulfill their needs as primary customers of the association. In addition, the committee is working with the Board of Directors, chapters, and individual members to promote FFTA as the premier resource for those providing treatment foster care services and to attract agencies that haven't yet joined our great association. The committee has developed a membership recruitment challenge for the Board of Directors and chapters to ensure a collective focus on membership growth. Because our chapters are an important asset to FFTA and provide significant benefits to members at the local level, the committee works closely with the Council of Chapter Chairs and interested agencies to develop new chapters around North America.

## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

**Kenneth A. Olson, LCPC, KidsPeace New England**

The Public Policy Committee continues its efforts to proactively advocate on behalf of FFTA members. These efforts to inform legislators, policy makers, and regulators about the perspectives of treatment foster care professionals are spearheaded by Laura Boyd, Ph.D., FFTA's Public Policy and Government Relations Consultant. The active and diverse committee, with representation from Alaska to Florida and Maine to California, meets monthly to review the status of federal initiatives and to report on policy trends that are impacting our members at the state and local levels. The committee has further broadened its influence with the creation of a State Liaison Network with representatives from all 50 states. This network meets by conference call as needed and serves as a grassroots constituency capable of reaching out to specific members of Congress who might serve on particularly relevant congressional committees. Liaisons further "spread the word" if there is a "call to action" on a particular issue.

In 2010 and 2011, much of the committee's work revolved around legislation and regulation pertaining to the Medicaid program. With a stated goal of ensuring that states continue to be able to fund therapeutic foster care (if they so choose) under the Medicaid program, FFTA has worked diligently to develop relationships with officials at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and has provided consultation to members who are engaged in discussion with their own state Medicaid officials. Working collaboratively with colleagues from advocacy organizations, such as the Child Welfare League of America, Alliance for Children and Families, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, First Focus, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, and others, has also proven to be an effective strategy for expanding our sphere of influence on policies and regulations important to our members and to the children and families they serve. FFTA is also an active member of the Children's Leadership Council and the National Foster Care Coalition.

Other recent activities include the following:

- Hosted the FFTA 9th Annual Public Policy Institute and Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., which included a presentation by Bryan Samuels, commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families. Attendees participated in a successful TFC Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill that included over 70 individual meetings with members of Congress or members of their staff to discuss treatment foster care.
- In conjunction with the Institute, held the first FFTA Congressional Briefing on Treatment Foster Care on Capitol Hill. The event, sponsored by Senator Debbie Stabenow, was well attended by congressional staff and Institute attendees.
- Supported efforts to expand the Title IV-E waiver program in federal legislation.
- Supported face-to-face meetings in Washington, D.C., between Laura Boyd and key members of Congress, Medicaid leaders, administration officials, and collaborative partners.
- Held the annual public policy conference workshop providing attendees with the latest information on the legislative front both in Washington, D.C., and in the states.

Members are encouraged to contact the committee if they would like to be included on the State Liaison Network's distribution list. Those with greater interest and the ability to participate in monthly calls are similarly encouraged to contact FFTA about joining the committee.

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

**Gail Biro, MSW**, Arrow Child & Family Ministries of Texas,  
and **Ben Kerman, Ph.D.**, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

The Research Committee continues to focus on supporting FFTA members' integration of relevant research findings and building capacity for data-driven quality improvement. With a diverse roster including agency administrators, quality assurance leaders, evaluators, and academic researchers, the committee applied the generous contributions of agency staff time, with the support of FFTA and two external grants from The Annie E. Casey Foundation, to accomplish several goals and to advance ongoing activities, including the following:

- Completed the *Resource Guide on Practice Approaches in Treatment Foster Care* to share promising models that are being used in treatment foster care, adding to the discourse around alternatives to the shorter list of models already established as evidence-based practices. Thirty-eight agencies responded to a Call for Submissions, providing information on practice rationale, development, and application.
- Advanced work on the FFTA *Practice Wisdom Guide* a practical compendium of strategies for adaptation amid challenging system changes. Alongside a general description of reforms (e.g., performance-based contracting) and trends (e.g., shrinking state budgets), the guide will summarize strategies offered by seasoned FFTA agency leaders. Completion is expected in late 2011.
- Analyzed and reported on multiagency benchmarking data, revealing that compliance with FFTA program standards was associated with positive outcomes such as reduced premature exit and increased timely permanence.
- Continued ongoing services that include supporting FFTA response to requests for technical assistance; sponsoring a research track at the annual conference; producing brief annotations from the research literature; and disseminating past products, such as the *User's Guide to Measuring Consumer Satisfaction in Treatment Foster Care* and *Implementing Evidence-based Practice in Treatment Foster Care*.

To access these publications electronically, visit the FFTA Web site at [www.fftta.org](http://www.fftta.org) and click on "Research and Outcomes."

## I Chapter Reports I

### ALABAMA CHAPTER

Stacey Marlowe, LCSW,

Brewer-Porch Children's Center Therapeutic Foster Care Program

The focus of the FFTA Alabama Chapter has been to strengthen the practice and cohesiveness of therapeutic foster care programs throughout the state. A continuing focus throughout the year was collaboration with the state Department of Human Resources and the Alabama Medicaid agency in regard to billing procedures and a complete change in the way that providers are reimbursed for treatment foster care (TFC) services.

Our focus for the upcoming year is to continue collaborative efforts with the state Department of Human Resources. The chapter held its 2nd annual therapeutic foster care providers' conference in Orange Beach, Alabama, in October 2010, and planning for the 3rd annual providers' conference has begun. There are currently nine FFTA member agencies in the state of Alabama, and all but two TFC providers in the state are FFTA members.

### ALASKA CHAPTER

Douglas White, LCSW, Alaska Children's Services

The first meeting of the FFTA Alaska Chapter was held on April 19, 2010. At that time there were four member agencies in Alaska. Since inception, there have been six chapter meetings, and membership in the state has grown to eight agencies.

The focus of the Alaska Chapter has been to strengthen the practice, awareness, and presence of treatment foster care in the state of Alaska. The chapter supported bringing the Pressley Ridge Treatment Foster Care Curriculum training to Alaska, and two agencies completed the training. The chapter has addressed standardization of practices that include reviews of preservice training, placement capacity, respite, and use of restraint. Recruitment and retention ideas for treatment foster parents have been shared, and sharing resources for cross-training has been broached. Transition from treatment foster care to permanency is being addressed to ensure that the social and emotional needs of children and youth are being appropriately considered during this vulnerable time.

A continuing focus will be on building membership, strengthening TFC agency ties to FFTA, standardizing and improving TFC practices, developing a common voice for advocacy, and increasing awareness of TFC as a viable treatment alternative in Alaska.

**ARIZONA CHAPTER****Sally Jones, ACSW, LCSW, Human Resource Training, Inc.**

The six member agencies in the state of Arizona have been excited and enthusiastic about the formation and development of the FFTA Arizona Chapter, which was officially formed in May 2010. Since that time, the chapter has held 10 meetings. The chapter plans to rotate meeting locations around the state and is encouraging member agencies that are less involved to participate in chapter meetings. The chapter is trying to engage state representatives and nonmembers in its meetings. In between meetings, regular contact with members is maintained via e-mail. Meeting highlights include the following:

- Ongoing research and discussion about federal, state (AzDHS and AzDBHS), and Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) rules regarding TFC; TFC providers' skills, qualifications, and training; and TFC client profiles (needs, criteria, LOS, etc.).
- Planning for a proposed open house as well as a membership campaign.
- An ongoing project proposal to define and develop chapter goals, such as: best practices, defining quality TFC services, various position papers, increased state and RBHA involvement, open house event(s), and increased chapter membership and support.

The challenges in Arizona include the following:

- Involving Native American agencies and organizations in the chapter.
- Recruiting, training, and licensing Native American TFC providers.
- Severely diminished referrals by RBHA for TFC since July 2010 (by as much as 80% during some calendar months).
- Challenges associated with the decision of RBHAs to reclassify TFC as an out-of-home level of care instead of a community-based service initiated at the request of the Child and Family Team.
- A series of budget cuts from the state and RBHA levels that continue to impact service availability, delivery, and growth.
- Prior and reauthorization processes that have negatively impacted the previous TFC referral base, length-of-stay options, and overall utilization of TFC.
- A significant decrease in TFC referrals from Child Protective Services by as much as 50% from July 2010 to the present.
- Initial referral issues stemming from a lack of clarity regarding the referral and documentation process required by some RBHAs.
- Shortened length-of-stay related to misinformation in the reauthorization process, which has been perceived by some agencies as a limitation of TFC and services.

## ARKANSAS CHAPTER

**Jackie Scarborough, MS, ACS, BCPC, LPC,**  
Western Arkansas Therapeutic Children's Homes

**Arkansas therapeutic foster care programs are being challenged by a 50% cut in their room/board reimbursement rate.** This budgetary cut by no means aids us in our ongoing efforts to recruit and retain therapeutic foster parents.

In April, several program directors attended a Train the Trainer program in Little Rock titled "Juvenile Sexual Offending: Goal Oriented Prevention and Intervention." Our goal is to better train and equip our therapeutic foster parents to work with this population.

The chapter once again sponsored a workshop geared toward our foster parents and clinicians in the state. The workshop theme this year was "Traumatized Children and Youth: Strategies for Dealing with Challenging Behaviors," presented by Richard Delaney, Ph.D. Approximately 65 staff members and foster parents attended, and favorable comments were received from all who participated. There are currently 13 members in Arkansas.

## GEORGIA CHAPTER

**Chena Blanchard, Georgia MENTOR**

**Providers in Georgia continue to educate individuals within both the public and private sectors on issues surrounding child welfare.** This year, five representatives from Georgia participated in the FFTA 9th Annual Public Policy Institute and Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. Next year, the goal is to have even more participants.

As chair of the Georgia Chapter, I was pleased to have the opportunity to share information about FFTA with the director and staff of Georgia's Office of Provider Management. Participants learned about treatment/therapeutic foster care and about the FFTA Program Standards. This was just one of many invitations that the Georgia Chapter has received from the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. FFTA is out front working collaboratively with the state's child welfare agency and with other Georgia associations on behalf of all children; however, there is still a lot of work to be done! Conversations are just beginning again about the possibility of "re-bundling" as it relates to TFC.

As FFTA is becoming better known in the public and private sectors, we hope the current membership of 25 agencies will increase approximately 20% over the next 12 months. With a new performance-based contracting system in place, we are sure that many other agencies can benefit from the wealth of knowledge and support of the Georgia Chapter.

**KENTUCKY CHAPTER**  
**Lydia Akin, MSW, LCSW, SAFY**

The FFTA Kentucky Chapter has been struggling for the last couple of years; however, the current officers have conducted two in-person meetings and several conference calls to explore ways to rejuvenate the chapter. We have defined our role as one of complementing the work of the well-established Children's Alliance in Kentucky, which has been the lobbying force for TFC providers in Kentucky.

As a chapter we decided to focus on how to help agencies with therapeutic training for staff and foster parents. We are in the process of setting up training in September 2011 for agencies and foster parents in the western part of our state in collaboration with Rivendell Behavioral Health. We will also set up training for the eastern and central parts of the state later in the year, in collaboration with Ridge Behavioral Health.

The chapter continues to support the Alliance in its lobbying efforts with the state, and the two organizations have a mutual interest in working together to advocate for treatment foster care on the federal level. Finally, we continue outreach to FFTA's 13 Kentucky members and encourage nonmembers to join FFTA.

**MAINE CHAPTER**  
**Denise Card, KidsPeace New England**

The FFTA Maine Chapter, which currently represents 10 FFTA members in the state, collaborated this year with Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine (AFFM) for their annual conference. The chapter assisted with the East Coast's largest Blue Ribbon event at Fort Knox. The chapter treasurer, Jo Bradeen of SMART Child and Family Services, was named Agency Administrator of the Year by AFFM.

The chapter has been working diligently with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on a treatment foster care tracking form that will aid us in developing an outcome measurement tool.

Maine's new governor has named Mary Mayhew as DHHS commissioner. Ms. Mayhew has shown great interest in treatment foster care and has met with staff and agency representatives. Providers have been fortunate to not have additional cuts to their budgets thus far this year.

**NEBRASKA CHAPTER****Mick Klein, MS, Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral HealthCare Services**

The FFTA Nebraska Chapter currently represents 14 FFTA members across the state. Nebraska is continuing to experience rather drastic changes in foster care services. The eastern and southeastern parts (Omaha and Lincoln areas) of the state's Health and Human Services in- and out-of-home care are managed by private organizations. These entities are providing services and coordination of those services and have started conducting case management services this past year. The other providers have returned to specific contracts after the other service-managed model could not be sustained.

After three lead agencies stopped providing services, the legislature instituted a moratorium on contracting for lead agencies in the northern, central, and western parts of the state. Only individual contracts could be issued, so agencies' specific contracts will provide services to the northern, central, and western parts of the state. The contracts target individual services ranging from agency-supported foster care to trackers/mentors to drug screenings and in-home family preservation services.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services titled its new program "Families Matter" with their stated goal of "having fewer children in the state's care and more safely in their homes. It is driven by improving services and achieving the federal outcomes of safety, permanency, and well-being." The state cites the following indications that its efforts are leading to improvements:

- The number of state wards has declined from a high of 7,803 in 2006 to 6,220 in March 2011.
- The percentage of state wards served in out-of-home care started at approximately 70% statewide and is about 65.9% as of February 2011.
- Nebraska is now meeting three of the six federal CFSR data measures.
- Challenges are met by making adjustments focused on progress.

## NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

**Phyllis Stephenson, Easter Seals UCP North Carolina & Virginia**

The FFTA North Carolina Chapter began a revival process in 2009 when a small group of treatment foster care providers met to discuss the possibility of reactivating the chapter. Since that time, the chapter has grown to 37 members, making it the largest FFTA chapter.

The chapter meets four to six times a year with attendance ranging from 30 to 50 professionals. The meeting agendas focus on the national, state, and programmatic interests of member agencies. Service delivery needs have been addressed through participation by state leadership, training information, and work groups.

Recent chapter activities have included training on trauma-informed care, creation of a service definition, and advocacy at the local, state, and national levels. Future project plans include: a work group to develop outcomes for treatment providers in North Carolina; a training event for treatment children and parents; and advocacy for a deliverable service definition with adequate funding. The chapter works closely with Benchmarks, a North Carolina association, to promote treatment foster care services and ensure a coordinated approach to addressing state and federal policy issues.

The chapter's primary goal is to continue to promote excellence in treatment foster care services to families and children in North Carolina through a network of providers whose services are enhanced as a result of their relationship with FFTA.

## OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

**Chris Gill, M.Ed., LPC, Saint Francis Community Services–Oklahoma**

Oklahoma has seen declines in the number of children placed in TFC over the past two years. This trend has correlated with declines in the number of children in state custody overall during that period. Recently referrals have increased, but fewer homes are available now than there were two years ago. Providers in Oklahoma are working closely with the state to expedite placements and decrease length of stay in shelter placements.

A statewide task force has been formed to take a close look at improving child welfare practices. This task force includes individuals from both the private and public sectors and includes a representative from TFC. Recruitment, budgeting, stability of placements, services, training, and permanency are some of the areas being addressed. Through this forum and others, we continue to strive toward a collaborative relationship with our child welfare partners. The FFTA Oklahoma Chapter, currently representing five TFC agencies, is setting goals to develop state outcome measures that will demonstrate the value of TFC to children in the state. Members continue to be active in advocating for legislation that strengthens the services available for children and families.

## VIRGINIA CHAPTER

**Krystal Thompson, Commonwealth Catholic Charities**

The FFTA Virginia Chapter has been actively involved in shaping child welfare policy, programming, and legislation in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Contributions to the child welfare community have been extensive. Due in great part to advocacy efforts of FFTA members and stakeholders in the licensed child-placing agencies' community, the Virginia House of Delegates rejected Governor McDonnell's proposed TFC budget amendment that would have reclassified TFC in Virginia as a residential service, subjecting localities to a higher match rate for TFC placements. This budget amendment would have had a significant negative impact on the localities, on private providers, and, most importantly, on the children and families we serve.

FFTA members also came together to provide a collective, thoughtful, and informed response to the New Standards for Licensed Private Child-Placing Agencies, proposed by the Virginia Board of Social Services. Working collaboratively with the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), the chapter provided training to private providers on the Family Engagement Model adopted by the state. In addition, several representatives from the chapter worked diligently with representatives from VDSS and local departments on the development of the VEMAT, a uniform assessment tool necessary for the appropriate capture of Title IV-E funds for enhanced maintenance for additional daily supervision. The chapter also developed and administered a survey to members capturing data on children in TFC placements, which will be used in reporting the impact and efficacy of TFC in the commonwealth.

There are currently 30 members in Virginia, making the FFTA Virginia Chapter the second-largest FFTA chapter in the country.

## WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

**Angie Hamilton, MA, LPC, LSW, Pressley Ridge**

West Virginia treatment foster care organizations have continued to develop the FFTA West Virginia Chapter, which has achieved 100% private provider membership of nine agencies. Other organizations are also active in the chapter and include representatives from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), the West Virginia Child Placing Licensing Agency, and the West Virginia Alliance for Children. Through hard work, perseverance, and strong partnerships, the chapter successfully advocated for a treatment foster care rate increase that was implemented July 1, 2011. This milestone was accomplished after several years of effort, the writing of the FFTA West Virginia Chapter White Paper, and countless hours spent educating state legislators and gaining the support of the West Virginia DHHR leadership.

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**WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER** *(Continued from page 14)*

Other initiatives the chapter is working on include West Virginia's Jacob's Law planning and implementation, a treatment foster care public policy agenda, a Treatment Foster Care Agency Statewide Training Protocol, continued work on the FFTA West Virginia Chapter White Paper on building TFC capacity and a statewide best practice model of care, and development of a Levels of Care Model for Treatment Foster Care at the request of DHHR. It has been a very busy and exciting time for the chapter. Our members and colleagues have worked very hard, and there is much more to be done! My colleagues in West Virginia join me in encouraging members in other states to form chapters; we are ready to offer any assistance needed in that process.

**WISCONSIN CHAPTER****Melissa Dombrowski-Boling,**

Anu Family Services (formerly Teipner Treatment Homes)

The FFTA Wisconsin Chapter, comprised of 13 agencies, continues to be active in collaboration and partnering. FFTA members have collaborated with other agencies to run an ongoing training curriculum for licensed treatment foster parents, offering an annual two-day conference as well as bimonthly training events.

The year 2011 will mark a dramatic redesign of the child welfare system in Wisconsin, with the implementation of a level of care system; overhaul of the administrative rule governing foster care and treatment foster care; implementation of the CANS assessment tool used for placement and rate setting; and administrative rate "regulation." FFTA members have worked with the state association to provide feedback, comments, and testimony to ensure quality services for youth in care and fair and reasonable treatment of licensed treatment foster care providers. The chapter meets monthly to share ideas and experiences and advocate for the treatment foster care model.

# I Financial Report I

## Foster Family-based Treatment Association

### Statement of Financial Position for the Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009(\*)

	2010	2009
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$289,903	\$223,443
Accounts receivable	64,441	103,635
Other assets	2,881	952
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>357,225</b>	<b>328,030</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	12,202	1519
Deferred dues revenue	173,144	151,592
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>185,346</b>	<b>153,111</b>
<b>Net Assets (Fund Balance)</b>	<b>171,879</b>	<b>174,919</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$357,225</b>	<b>\$328,030</b>

### Foster Family-based Treatment Association Statement of Activities & Change in Net Assets for the Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009(\*)

	2010	2009
<b>Revenue and Support</b>		
Membership dues	\$209,390	\$225,718
Program services	258,075	280,431
Investment income	14,154	20,362
Contributions	10,965	17,140
Grants	20,000	0
Other income	73,478	88,052
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>586,062</b>	<b>631,703</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program services	516,895	582,209
Management and general	72,208	71,732
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>589,103</b>	<b>653,941</b>
<b>(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$(3,041)</b>	<b>\$(22,238)</b>

(\*) The information for 2010 is based upon the preliminary results of the current audit and the information for 2009 was taken from the prior year's audited financial statements.

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