

## BROWARD CHILDREN'S CENTER, Inc.

By: Faye Wright-Simpson

For over 43 years, Broward Children's Center, Inc. has been a haven for children and young adults with disabilities in Pompano Beach, Florida. Founded in 1971, the program serves children with varied disabilities from all walks of life, which include autism, disabilities from birth, accidents, shaken baby syndrome, lightning strikes and other traumatic events which may have occurred in their lives. Programs and services include three developmental preschools, a Children's Comprehensive Care Center, two Group Homes, a Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center, Home Health, a Center for Innovative Technology, Nutrition Program and Respite Services for families.

Broward Children's Center has provided services to children and young adults with disabilities from as far away as Oregon the Caribbean and South America, throughout the last four decades. Medical, health and wellbeing services, are provided to some of the most technologically dependent medically fragile children in the nation. BCC is nationally accredited by the National Accreditation Commission for Early Care & Education Program and Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), which exemplifies our dedication to providing the highest level of professionalism and program quality. In addition, the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County has awarded BCC's Pompano Beach Preschool a Five Star "Quality Counts" rating. For many years, the Florida Department of Children and Families has also recognized our north and south preschool locations with the Gold Seal of Excellence. Today our nationally accredited non-profit Center provides services through 12 programs. Last fiscal year, Broward Children's Center served 846 children and youth from all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Our Children's Comprehensive Care Center is the only pediatric free standing skilled nursing facility for infants, children and young adults who require unique sophisticated medical treatment in the Southeast United States. As the only Children's Comprehensive Care Center, our program provides a valuable service in the Broward County Community to meet an unmet need in South Florida. The goal of our program is to stabilize each child's medical condition while providing opportunities for educational, psychological, social and developmental growth. Referrals for the program are received from hospitals nation-wide, community

service providers, pediatricians, families, and the state foster care system. In order to be eligible for services, a child must meet a fragile level of care as determined by our multidisciplinary assessment team. Upon admission, our medical doctor completes an assessment to determine the needs of each child. A care plan is then completed for each child by our team which includes individual goals and objectives. Because each child's medical condition is unique, individual goals vary based upon needs.

If you would like more information on programs and services available at Broward Children's Center, Inc., or wish to make a donation, please call 954-943-2253 x 113 or visit their website at [www.bcckids.org](http://www.bcckids.org).