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# Jacksonville Children's Commission 2007 Annual Report



## Helping Jacksonville Grow Great Kids

# Letter from our Leaders

Dear Sirs and Madams,

To: The Honorable John Peyton, Mayor, City of Jacksonville  
The Honorable Daniel J. Davis, President, Jacksonville City Council  
Honorable Members of the Jacksonville City Council

We are pleased to present the annual report for the Jacksonville Children's Commission highlighting services provided for children and their families during fiscal year 2006-2007.

As we look across the country, we find that the most successful communities invent their futures and embrace opportunities in a deliberate and consistent way. Becoming a first-tier city doesn't happen by accident or blind luck. In Jacksonville, our greatest opportunity has always been the positive development of our youngest citizens, and since children cannot wait, we must seize that opportunity today and every day.

The Jacksonville Children's Commission is highly accountable not only to the children and families we serve, but also to the taxpayers, other funding partners and community stakeholders. Our goal is to support programs that produce measurable outcomes proven to contribute to the development of healthy and productive adults; in other words, what did we do? How well did we do it? Was anyone any better off?

We cannot meet the total demand for quality services provided to children in Jacksonville without the help of citizens, businesses and stakeholders. We join you in our mutual concern for our children and their well-being and welcome your involvement in our work.

Sincerely,



Michael Munz, Board Chair



Linda M. Lanier, Executive Director







## About Us

Since 1994, the Jacksonville Children's Commission has been charged by city ordinance to assess the needs of our city's most vulnerable children and to invest in prevention and early intervention strategies for their benefit and that of the community.

With funding from the city and guidance by a volunteer board of directors, the commission provides:

- \* support for new mothers and infants
- \* after school programs
- \* high-quality summer camp grants
- \* programs for children with special needs
- \* alternative education opportunities
- \* mentoring opportunities
- \* behavioral health services

For detailed program information, see our Services & Activities Management Information System (SAMIS) Report at [www.jaxkids.net](http://www.jaxkids.net).



# Highlights

## Family Services

- \* 13,018 children, from newborns to nine-year-olds, received child care tuition assistance
- \* 129 children received child care assistance through matching funds provided by their parents' employers through the Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP)
- \* 63 children of refugee families received child care tuition assistance

## Healthy Families Jacksonville

- \* 946 families served
- \* 100 percent of children linked to a medical provider
- \* 97 percent of children up-to-date on immunizations and well-baby checkups at 24 months
- \* 97 percent of children tracked did not experience abuse, neglect or abandonment more than one year after completion of the program

## School Readiness

- \* 116 early learning centers received coaching and technical assistance in partnership with Episcopal Children's Services and the Early Learning Coalition of Duval's *Guiding Stars* initiative

## After-school Programs

- \* 6,538 students attended
- \* 47 sites - 23 community-based and 24 at schools

## Male Involvement

- \* 2,000 dads, caregivers and children participated in the First Annual *Fathers Make a Difference Fun Day*

## Homework Zones

- \* More than 1,300 students attended
- \* 185 adults and youth volunteered as tutors



## Summer Camp

- \* 4,083 children and youth experienced summer camp because of funds provided by the city and donations from local businesses and individuals

## Summer Lunch

- \* 157 sites located throughout the city in areas where many children qualify for free and reduced lunch
- \* 340,213 lunches served
- \* 275,421 snacks served

## Mentoring

- \* 1,595 children's lives were linked with mentors

## Special Needs

- \* 409 children and youth with special needs received therapy, behavioral health, self-help skills and normalized activities through in-home and after school programs

## Behavioral Health and Education

- \* 1,176 children received behavioral health services and access to family services in their neighborhoods through Full Service Schools
- \* 1,778 children and youth received outpatient mental health services
- \* 1,038 youth received behavioral and education intervention

## Research

- \* *The 2007 Profile Report: Jacksonville Child Trends and Statistics, 1990-2005* was released as the third in a series of annual publications highlighting the state of Jacksonville's children

## Training and Workforce Development Department

- \* 1,300 professional youth workers attended classes and workshops to learn best practices and enhance their skills
- \* 350 summer camp directors and staff attended the annual Camp Summit
- \* 150 professional youth workers completed the 28-hour Advancing Youth Development training



Our greatest  
opportunity  
has always been  
the positive  
development of our  
youngest citizens.







# Program Changes

## Jacksonville Network for Strengthening Families (JNSF)

Research indicates that many social issues impacting our community stem from the deterioration of the family unit. The Jacksonville Network for Strengthening Families provides training, services and support to help families stay on target for success as they negotiate the many challenges presented by today's world. Relocated from the Office of Faith-based Initiatives, JNSF was a natural fit in the Family Involvement team.

- \* 1,262 parents, caregivers and children attended Strengthening Families workshops

## Mentoring

One of the most powerful forces in a child's life is the presence of a caring adult. Several mentoring initiatives were initiated or expanded during the fiscal year.

*Note: These programs did not operate for a full 12-month period.*

- \* 308 children were matched with mentors through *Seeds of Change* (Big Brothers/Big Sisters)
- \* 10 children were mentored through *Tipping the Scales* (The Bridge of Northeast Florida)
- \* 85 children were mentored through *Yes You!* (Wayman Community Development Corporation)
- \* 1,122 mentors were trained and screened by Kesler Mentoring Connection

## Homeless Children

This program connects homeless children and their families to important social and medical services within the local community. It also provides outreach to homeless children at various homeless shelters, as well as networks with the Duval County Public Schools.

- \* 63 homeless children received case management through Communities In Schools

*Note: This program was implemented during FY 2006-2007, but did not operate a full 12 months.*

## Funding Challenges

Due to financial challenges faced by the City of Jacksonville and subsequent budget cuts, funding for various programs was discontinued:

- \* Community Connections, *Parents as Teachers* program provided family support, parent education, family assessments, child activities, and case management
- \* First Coast Family Center (FCFC) *Family Aide* program ceased when the agency closed; JCC funding also ceased. Parent Aide was a voluntary home visitation program
- \* Jacksonville Marine Institute *Family Service* program provided supervision, intervention, and rehabilitation of delinquent youth in conjunction with the youth's family through counseling, behavior modification, and education.
- \* Communities In Schools, *Work Skills for Success*, Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology and A. Philip Randolph Academies of Technology – provided youth ages 16 to 18 with guidance and support to complete a vocational program, earn a diploma or General Educational Development certificate, and secure employment.







# Grants

## Child Care Tuition Assistance

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval utilized JCC as the fiscal agent responsible for reimbursement of subsidized child care for 13,018 children and youth, six weeks to 9 years old. \$26,976,401 passes through the Commission as direct payments to child care providers with a match of \$625,000 from the city.

## 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

The Jacksonville Children's Commission, in partnership with the Duval County Public Schools, secured grant dollars for the addition of three new TEAM UP after school program sites:

- \* John Love Elementary School
- \* Pinedale Elementary School
- \* Rutledge Pearson Elementary School

Due to award dates and initial startup, the new TEAM UP programs were not fully operational during the full 2007 year.

- \* \$1,044,000, TEAM UP 21st CCLC state grant
- \* \$879,109, TEAM UP 21st CCLC state grant (New Programs)

*Note: 21st Century Community Learning Center grants provide funding for five (5) years, and the amounts listed only reflect the funds secured for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, and not the total amount of grant dollars that will be received by the State of Florida Department of Education. Additionally, these dollars will not match the grant allocations reflected in the JCC budget, in that other partners also received funds to provide services.*

## Bringing Education and Support to Teachers, Parents and Children (BEST-PC)

A federal grant in the amount of \$997,763 was awarded from the Department of Education, Early Learning Opportunity Act (ELOA) to enhance the early education opportunities and literacy proficiency of approximately 1,000 at-risk, low-income children.

This grant was written on behalf of the Mayor's Early Literacy Partnership. Grant participants included but were not limited to: University of North Florida, Florida Institute of Education (FIE), Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Episcopal Children's Services, the Early Learning Coalition of Duval, and the Jacksonville Children's Commission.

*Note: This program started September 30, 2005 and ended November 30, 2007.*

## Nutrition Education for At Risk Children (NEAR-C)

A federal grant for \$49,736 was awarded from the Health and Human Services Administration of Children and Families to improve the health, nutrition and eating habits of over 700 low-income children attending after school programs.

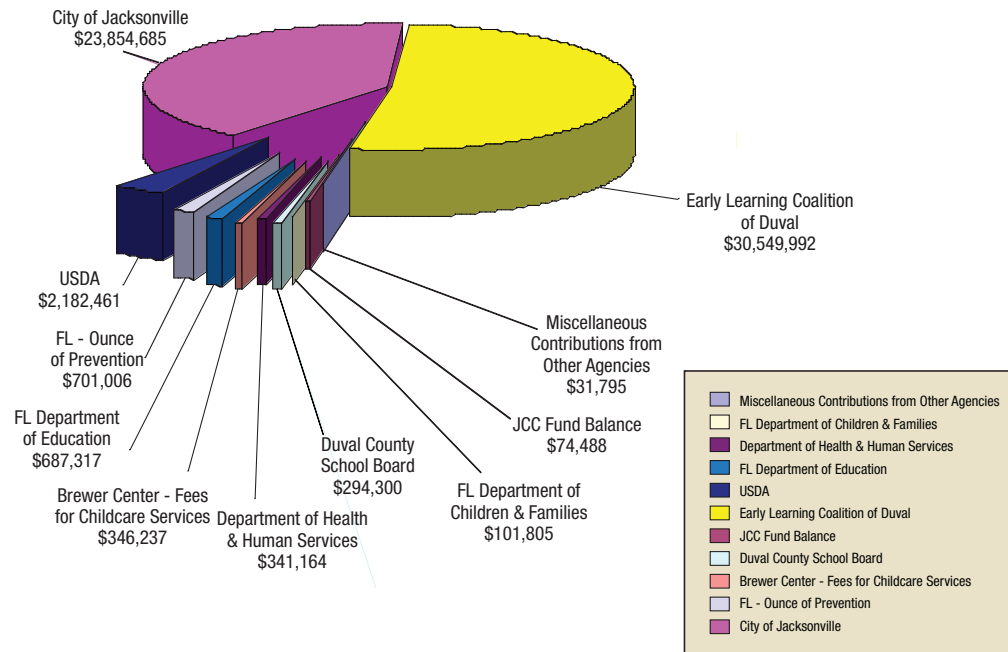
*Note: This program started September 30, 2005 and was extended to September 29, 2007 due to program start up delays.*

## Award

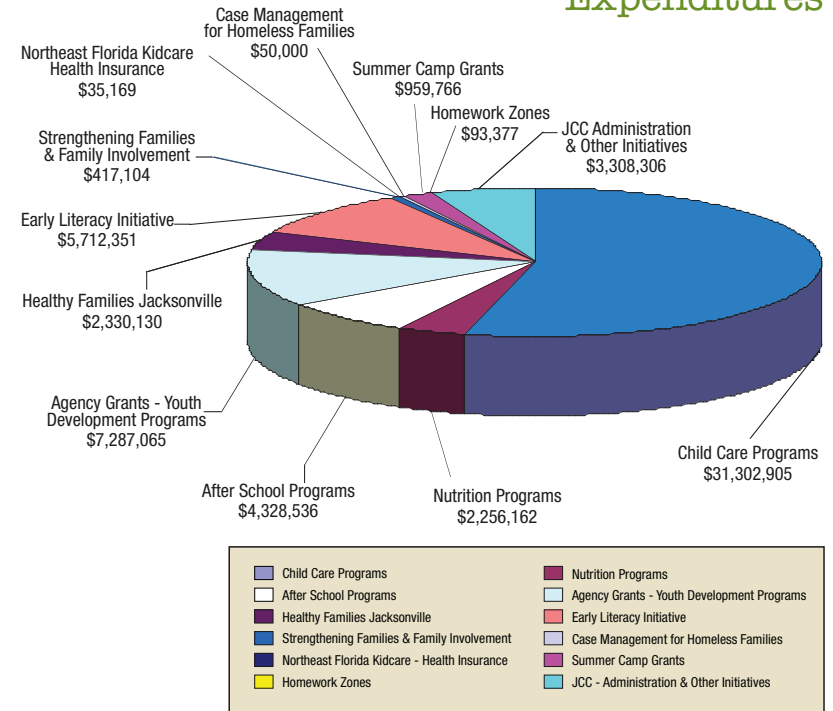
Mayor John Peyton received the James Patterson Page Turner Award in the amount of \$1,000 for the *RALLY Jacksonville!* initiative.

# Financial

## Revenue Sources



## Expenditures





# Partners

## Major Funding Partners

City of Jacksonville  
Early Learning Coalition of Duval  
Duval County Public Schools  
Florida Department of Health  
Healthy Families Florida  
United States Department of Agriculture

## Community & Contract Partners

ARAMARK  
Baptist Health  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Florida  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida  
The Bridge of Northeast Florida  
Brewer Center for Early Learning and Professional Development  
CCAR/Lighthouse Learning Center  
Cerebral Palsy of Northeast Florida  
Child Guidance Center  
Communities In Schools of Jacksonville  
Community Connections  
The Community Foundation of Jacksonville  
CSX Corporation  
daniel, Inc.  
Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment  
DLC Nurse and Learn  
Don Brewer Foundation  
Duval County Health Department  
Episcopal Children's Services  
Family Support Services  
Florida Children's Services Councils  
Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Florida Healthy Kids Corporation  
Florida Institute of Education at UNF  
First Coast Family Center  
Girls Incorporated  
Hope Haven Children's Clinic and Family Center  
Human Services Council  
Jacksonville Early Literacy Partnership  
Jacksonville Greyhound Racing  
Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation  
Jacksonville Kids Coalition  
Jacksonville Marine Institute  
Jacksonville Public Libraries  
JM Family Enterprises  
Kesler Mentoring Connection  
MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation  
Mental Health Resource Center of Jacksonville  
Non-Profit Center of Jacksonville  
Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council  
Northwest Behavioral Health  
PACE Center for Girls  
Police Athletic League  
Speech and Hearing Center of Jacksonville  
United Way of Northeast Florida, Full Service Schools  
Vision Is Priceless Council  
Wayman Community Development Corporation  
WorkSource/First Coast Workforce Development  
Youth Crisis Center





**Jacksonville Children's Commission**

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