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PROGRAMS

Youth Shelters
Programs for youth in crisis

Counseling
Services for troubled youth and people with substance abuse and mental health issues

Prevention
Educating the community, focusing on substance abuse and high-risk populations

Dear Supporter:

When kids come to our *CDS Interface Youth Shelters*, they have been through experiences that would traumatize the best of us. The economy has contributed to stress levels at home and more teens are finding themselves on the streets. Did you know that nearly two million kids run away each year and that 1 in 3 homeless/runaway kids are lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home?

CDS Interface can intervene before stress levels are so high in a family that a child runs away. CDS Interface offers a residential program for youth age 10-17 to give feuding parents and children some time to cool off and seek solutions to their conflicts. For children who are able to continue living at home, CDS Interface offers its Family Action counseling services. Counselors meet with youth age 6-17 and their families to resolve conflicts and implement strategies for success. This counseling program emphasizes client-centered goals and is very effective.

This year, 774 youth & their families were assisted through CDS Interface and Family Action. Another 2,000 people in North Central Florida received intensive assistance through other CDS programs. Volunteers assist in the shelters and have helped us expand our outreach activities. Close to 10,000 people received information about CDS services. We're working as efficiently as we can but our needs are still great.

Spotlight on Youth is the CDS signature event. On March 5, 2011, we will be partnering with and showcasing many of our region's high school students excelling in the arts by presenting our 12th annual talent show. CDS depends on the funds raised from this event to support CDS Interface and other programs that help improve the quality of life for our participants and help our communities stay safe. Please join these young people who will be performing for you by getting involved as well.

You are being asked to support the essential work of CDS in several ways:

- *Sponsorship* (corporate and individual contributions)
- Silent auction (donate and purchase)
- Refreshments (for auditions, rehearsal, and reception)
- *Volunteer* (time philanthropy)

Monetary contributions or in-kind donations are both desperately needed. Supporters will be recognized through advertisements in our program book and other ways detailed on the attached sponsorship form. But the real recognition will be the knowledge that you have made a difference in the life of a troubled youth.

Please fill out your pledge form today! And *Thank You* for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Jim Pearce

Chief Executive Officer

Wayland Clifton

Chair, Spotlight on Youth Committee



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