



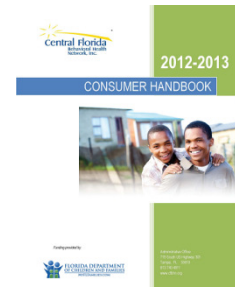
A personal note from Linda McKinnon, CEO.

### **E-News This Week January 16, 2013**



*As we move rapidly into the New Year please note that CFBHN offices will be closed in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday on Monday, January 21. Dr. King gave this country many words of wisdom to live by and we join the nation in remembrance of his life's work and the challenges we face as a nation to continue seeking dreams that provide hope and encouragement for everyone in this great nation.*

*Please review a new publication from CFBHN – our Consumer Handbook for 2012-2013. This handbook provides the basic essential information for consumers and families as they seek services in our network of care. It is designed to be electronic and is posted on our website and Facebook page. Please send us your feedback concerning this handbook via our webpage or through Facebook.*



*We are pleased to provide a “get to know” opportunity via our ENews This Week of our current Board Membership. Our complete Board Membership is listed on our website, but this week we would like to profile Craig Latimer, our President Elect, who has also recently been elected to serve as the Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections. His Investiture Ceremony was held January 7 at 3:00 pm at the Edgecomb Courthouse, where the Administration of the Oath of Office was performed by the Honorable Judge James V. Dominguez following welcome comments by Harry Cohen, City Council Member District 4 and Chairman Pro Tem. Mr. Latimer assumed duties of the office January 8.*

*Thanks to those who have visited our Facebook page and **LIKED US!** Your comments are helping us develop this useful communication tool to meet audience needs. Facebook continues to be a dynamic communication vehicle. Did you know:*

- 1 in every 13 people **ON EARTH** use Facebook with half logged on any given day!
- 48% of 18-34 year olds check Facebook when waking up, 28% before getting out of bed!



- The rapidly growing 35+ demographic represents over 30% of the Facebook user base.
- 57% of people talk to people more online than they do in real life?

Along with the social connectedness provided, it is also rapidly becoming a trusted source for health information. We thank you in advance for **LOGGING ON** and **LIKING US**!

As always, this week's E-News features timely information on special events that recognize people and issues we are passionate about. I hope you will have the opportunity to participate in some of these. Here's hoping your week goes well!

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## CFBHN Introduces 2012-2013 Consumer Handbook

Electronic handbook available on our website and Facebook page

This handbook provides basic information for consumers and families who are eligible to receive Department of Children & Families funded substance abuse and mental health services. It provides information about the responsibilities of CFBHN as the Managing Entity for the SunCoast Region and Circuit 10 and the rights and responsibilities of those persons seeking care. The handbook can be accessed via [Link](#).

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## Craig Latimer is a CFBHN Board Member

[E-Meet our President Elect](#)



Mr. Latimer is one of the twenty-two CFBHN Board of Director members and serves as President Elect. Recently elected Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Latimer has a long and distinguished career as a public servant. He has been Chief of Staff in the Supervisor of Elections office since 2009 and has led turnaround efforts to restore integrity, efficiency, and confidence in the elections process. He was the only recent candidate for the Supervisor position that had conducted elections. He previously served for 35 years in law enforcement, beginning as a crime scene investigator with the Tampa Police Department where he supervised homicide and major crimes investigations and also implemented a county-wide system for child protective investigations to improve child safety. He retired as a Major from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in 2008. He is passionately committed to community involvement having served as Honorary Commander at MacDill Air Force Base, working at "A Kid's Place" emergency shelter, the K9 Assistance Network, and on the USF Collaborative for Children, Families, and Communities. He is a graduate of Tampa Catholic High School and the University of South Florida. He was born and raised in Hillsborough County and is married to Sharon. They are parents of one son and one grandson (and BizLee!)

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## National Council Website Links to Live Webinars

January is an action packed month for free learning opportunities

Click on [http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/cs/national\\_council\\_live/upcoming\\_webinars](http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/cs/national_council_live/upcoming_webinars) to find out about Improving Functioning for Persons with Schizophrenia, CPT Code Changes, WHAM: Eight Weeks to Whole Health through Peer Support Groups, Operationalizing Behavioral Health Homes, Peers as Partners; How Englands' Recovery Colleges are Changing Culture, Ready, Set Go: Employer's Responsibilities and

Opportunities under Health Reform, and Treatment Trends for Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders.

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## **Holiday Lane Transforms to Market Place for Year Round Help**

**Resource for those in need provided by PEMHS**

Holiday Lane Market Place was set up to help families in Largo who were unable to register and process all the needed paperwork for organized traditional toy and gift programs during the holidays. PEMHS converted their unused Children's Crisis Unit into a marketplace open for two weeks before Christmas. Rooms were setup for Toys, Teen, School Aged, Babies, Women's, Men's, Shoe, and Housewares. The large open Day Room showcased available furniture and the back porch became a wrap center! During the holiday season 172 families shopped Holiday Lane - 251 adults and 516 children for a total of 767 individuals! While not fancy, Market Place accepts gently used donations that are gift appropriate, as well as new items (typically toys). They also accept hangers, plastic grocery bags, and donations from "Spring Cleaners." They are open for any family needing assistance and there is no requirement for that family to be associated with a program or agency. It is located on the PEMHS Palm Way Campus, Bldg C in Largo. Call Courtney Covington (727) 362-4289 if you need more information.

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## **Local Doctor Published in Global Journal**

**Dr. Mark A. Vargo, Operation PAR, speaks to Neonatal Syndrome and community effort to reverse trends**

The Journal of Global Drug Policy and Practice, a joint effort of the Institute on Global Drug Policy and the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse, is an international, open access, peer-reviewed, online journal with the goal of bridging the information gap on drug policy issues between the medical/scientific community, policymakers, and the concerned lay public. Dr. Vargo and Jackie Griffin of Operation PAR submitted a commentary piece on the problem of the high prevalence rate of substance exposed newborns. The study discusses the changes in perceptions, structural supports, and policies that are needed to adequately address the problem. The link to the article is <http://www.globaldrugpolicy.org> or it can be read on our website at [link](#).

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## **Renaissance Board Chair Recognized by Tampa Bay Lightning**

**Charley Richards honored as community hero**

In December, at the Sarasota Community Assisted & Supported Living Center, Charley was chosen as the 11th Lightning Community Hero of the Year. He received a \$50,000 donation from the Lightning Foundation and the Lightning Community Heroes program and donated the money to Community Affordable Supported Living. Richards was the father of a developmentally-disabled son and knew first-hand the troubles they faced in regards to housing, support services, and basic activities to live happy, productive lives. After his son and wife were both tragically killed in a car accident, he dedicated his life to create the opportunities for others that his son did not have. In his search for answers on how to cope with the loss of his son, he decided to create opportunities for other disabled persons that his son was not able to enjoy. In 1997 he founded Community Affordable Supported Living, a non-profit that provides affordable housing for adults with disabilities and was initially involved with purchasing, repairing and managing some of the 40 Tampa Bay area dwellings himself. Richards understood that more than half of disabled people's income was

spent on housing, so he offered rent in his houses for only \$300. Richards has made it his mission to supply independence for the less privileged segment of the population for 15 years. For more information click on <http://lightning.nhl.com/club/news.htm?id=647058>

Fans are encouraged to log on to [www.tampabaylightning.com/heroes](http://www.tampabaylightning.com/heroes) to receive additional details about the program, as well as to nominate deserving individuals who are making the Tampa Bay area a better place to live, work and play. The next cut-off date for nominations is **Tuesday, January 15**. Once a nomination for a Lightning Community Hero has been submitted, the nominee will be asked to provide information about the 501 (c) (3) organizations to which he or she would like to designate the award, should he or she be selected.

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## Adolescent Brain on Alcohol

Expert research will be shared January 17 3:00-4:15 pm ET on effects of alcohol on the developing brain

Aaron White, PhD, from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and Abuse, will bring together a developmental understanding of the adolescent as well as the structural changes that the brain undergoes that affects behavioral choices. Registrants will learn how early alcohol use can be damaging to the critical developmental process occurring in the brain and the necessity to deter underage drinking. Register online at: [www.udetc.org/audioconfregistration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/audioconfregistration.asp).

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## Registration for 2013 Adolescent Conference Now Open

Slated for February 19-20 in Orlando

You can register now to attend the conference entitled "Public Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families, and Communities". To learn more [Click here to respond](#) or call Lynn Redmond at 850.671.3442.

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## Sarasota County Reports Reduction in Drug Related Deaths

Medical Examiner's report recently released

Mike Drennon, the Epidemiologist at the Sarasota County Health Department, provides the attached [fact sheet](#) based on the recently released Medical Examiner's 2011 drug related death data. The data illustrates decreases in drug related deaths in Sarasota County. While there are still many deaths due to prescription drugs it is promising to see this reduction. According to Pamela Meunier, Behavioral Health Policy Coordinator, the community can feel proud of its accomplishments over the last few years to contribute to this reduction. The strategies that have been implemented to address prescription drug misuse appear to have made an impact. If you have any questions call Pam at 941.861.2578.

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