



United Way
of Northeast Florida

Full Service Schools of Jacksonville

United Way provides leadership, resources and focus to change lives in our community by creating sustainable improvements in education, income and health. United Way of Northeast Florida is a leader in ensuring:

- *Children enter kindergarten ready to succeed and students stay in school through graduation*
- *Individuals and families have the opportunity to achieve financial stability*
- *People have the opportunity to lead healthy and engaged lives*

In addition, United Way ensures that families in need have accurate, helpful information about social services through United Way 2-1-1.

WHAT: Full Service Schools of Jacksonville is a collaborative approach to meet the therapeutic, health and social service needs of at-risk students and families in Duval County. Major funding partners are Duval County Public Schools, Duval County Department of Health, Jacksonville Children's Commission, Lucy Gooding Charitable Foundation Trust, St. Vincent's Health Center and Weaver Family Foundation.

WHY: Led by United Way, these school-based neighborhood centers bring together community resources, neighbors and schools to promote the health and well-being of students, their families, and neighborhood residents. Full Service Schools provides services to 80 Duval County Schools, with 58,000 students eligible to receive services.

Since the creation of the first site in the Andrew Jackson feeder pattern in 1991, Full Service Schools of Jacksonville has grown to eight targeted neighborhoods in Duval County. They are: **Arlington Family Resource Center, Beaches Resource Center, Englewood Family Resource Center, Greater Springfield Family Resource Center, Paxon Family Resource Center, Ribault Family Resource Center, Sandalwood Family Resource Center and Westside Family Resource Center.**

Services are delivered within the neighborhood and schools to remove the barrier of transportation and are free of charge and include the following: counseling, family therapy, behavior management, substance abuse counseling, parenting classes, medical treatment and follow-up, psychological testing, tutoring, legal consultation, and outside referrals to other agencies.

RESULTS:

For the 2010-11 school year:

- 3,511 students were referred for services and 36,279 people were served by Full Service Schools.
- 96% of parents/caregivers indicated that they saw an improvement in their child's behavior upon completion of treatment.
- 96% of students completing treatment demonstrated a measurable increase in overall functioning as a result of services received through Full Service Schools.
- 20% improvement in attendance for students who received counseling.
- Math and language grades for students who received counseling increased more than 30%.
- Students who received counseling were half as likely to be retained.

SUCCESS STORY: At nine years old, Destiny was on an emotional roller coaster. Struggling to understand and cope with her parents' divorce, Destiny would lash out at those closest to her. Fear and anger made it difficult for her to concentrate in school and her grades dropped. Destiny's mother, Michaelle, knew the family needed help but didn't know where to turn. They were referred to Full Service Schools where Destiny received one-on-one counseling. Destiny is now a happy, well adjusted 10 year old and excelling in school. Destiny says, "I used to not be able to talk to anyone. Now my grades have gone up, and I can handle my parent's situation better."