



FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
February 3, 2017

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Florida United Methodist Children's Home Opens New Foster Care Office In Broward County

Enterprise, FL – Florida United Methodist Children's Home has announced the opening of their third foster care office in Florida. Currently, the Children's Home operates one office on their Enterprise campus for Volusia and Flagler counties, and one in Hillsborough county. These offices served 391 children last year in foster care, and expect to see this number grow for 2017.

According to the Florida Department for Children and Families (DCF), there were 12,478 children in licensed foster care in the state last year, but the need for foster homes is far greater than this number would imply. DCF reports that 135,728 children were involved in an investigation of abuse, abandonment or neglect during their most recent fiscal year. Many of these would then be in need of a foster home.

In an effort to better serve this need, the Florida United Methodist Children's Home is opening its newest location at New Horizon United Methodist Church, 5741 South Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches. According to Cedric Davis, Director of Foster Care Services for the Children's Home, "We already have two licensed families, and expect to have at least ten families licensed by June of this year. Overall, we expect to serve a minimum of 30 foster children in 2017."

The Broward County Foster Care office will be hosting a grand opening on Friday, February 10 at 2:00 pm. The office is located at the New Horizon United Methodist Church, 5741 South Flamingo Road in Southwest Ranches, (954) 514-7000.

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For more information about the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, please contact Mark Cobia, Manager of Marketing and Communications at 386.668.4774 or mark.cobia@fumch.org.

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 in Enterprise, Florida on the banks of Lake Monroe. The Children's Home provides services to families and children from childhood to adulthood. Our Residential Care Program provides school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, abandonment, or neglect with a family-style home environment cared for by loving

houseparents, and includes education, counseling, recreation, and ministry opportunities. The Children's Home also provides Foster Care, an Emergency Shelter, an Independent Living Program and early childhood education to the community, and is supported primarily through the generosity of churches with the United Methodist Florida Conference, individuals, and legacy gifts. For more information, visit www.funch.org.