



2006 Program Highlights

- The GAL Program represented 3,639 children in 2,029 cases; recruited and certified 106 new Guardian Ad Litem volunteer advocates and supported a total of 650 GAL advocates throughout the year.
- The GAL Program advocated in Criminal Court on behalf of almost 370 children who were witnesses to or victims of crimes committed by their parents or other adult perpetrators.
- The GAL Program continued its Transitioning Youth Project, an expansion of advocacy geared towards teens preparing to exit the foster care system. In 2006, the TYP Project served 221 teens.
- Voices For Children provided over \$1,701,940 to the GAL Program, which is 50% of their total operating budget.
- Through the various programs in the Children's Need's Fund, Voices For Children provided:
 - * Over 1,508 children with direct financial assistance, totaling \$189,000.
 - * Birthday celebrations for approximately 650 children who otherwise might not have had their own party.
 - * Almost 4,000 children in foster care with toys during the annual Toy Drive and raised over \$45,000.
 - * Financial emergency rent, food and utility assistance to 48 families.
 - * A complete summer camp experience, through Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation, for 123 children.
 - * Judges with 720 teddy bears to give to children when they appear in court.
- Voices For Children raised over \$435,000 from the three annual events: the Gala, held at Mandarin Oriental, Miami; the Halloween Luncheon, held at Parrot Jungle Island and A Festival of Voices: A Children's Celebration, held at the Village of Merrick Park.
- Became designated as the recipient of various fund raising events within the community, such as Priyanka Cup; ArtBox, Equinox Grand Opening, An Intimate Evening with Dave Barry, and Pink Elephant Party, all of which raised \$560,000.
- The Be An Angel Program, an annual giving program, raised over \$195,000.
- Voices For Children received, for a sixth consecutive time, a grant from the Florida Legislature that allows the Guardian Ad Litem Program to employ social-work trained staff to represent approximately 30% of its children.