

9-30-1974

## Juvenile Welfare Board Annual Report : 1973 - 1974

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

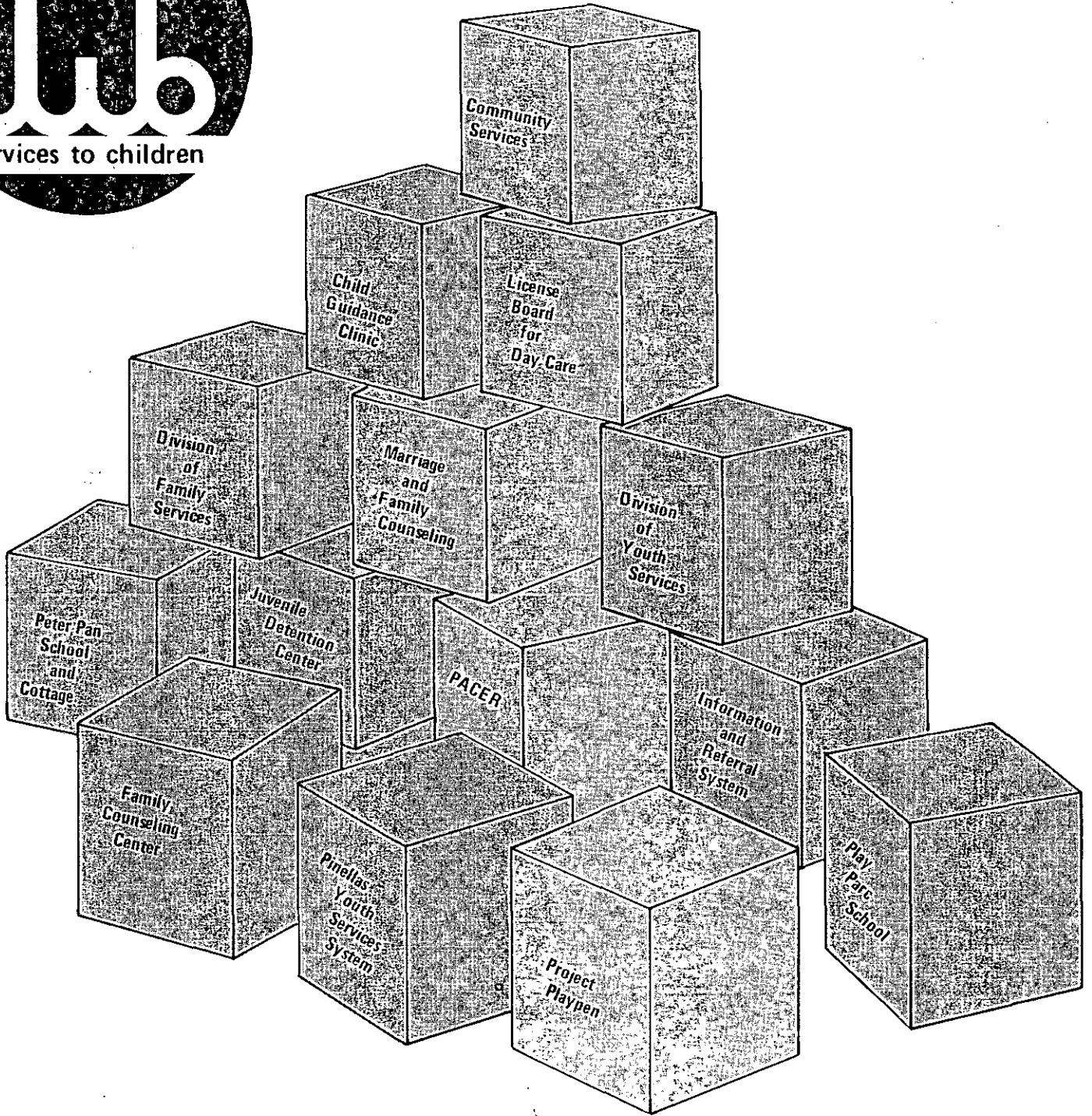
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juvenile welfare board of pinellas county

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# ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending September 30, 1974

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Having served on your Board for many years and as its chairman several times, I can fully appreciate the work and progress made this past year in behalf of our Pinellas children. Most importantly, we have been able to aid, in a multitude of ways, many more children than in the past — over 22,000 of them. Through our increased staff we have been made more aware of our children's needs and of avenues to satisfy them. We have delineated a precise policy for the Board's actions and have spelled out directions for improved social services to children. It has been a busy and rewarding year.

Much of our progress is reflected in the able leadership of Mrs. Roy M. Speer, our chairman throughout most of this year. Growth and innovation require hard decisions and we were most fortunate to have her strength and direction to rely on. I am proud to have been selected to serve out her term and to carry on the programs she worked so hard for.

The report that follows simply touches on how vastly the Juvenile Welfare Board has improved its capacity to seek out and provide those very necessary adjustments to the fabric of our society to assure our children a chance to mature in a beneficial environment.

May God continue to favor us with His wisdom so that our children may enjoy the increasing benefits bestowed upon them, by you, twenty seven years ago.

*Robert Coleman, Jr.*



juvenile welfare board  
of  
pinellas county



board

<b>chairman</b> Robert E. Coleman, Jr., D.D.	<b>members</b> William Dockerty Mrs. H.W. Holland Robert Michael Jack A. Page Gus Sakkis Mrs. Roy M. Speer, Chairman Emeritus
<b>vice-chairman</b> Mrs. Stephen D. Mullins	
<b>secretary</b> Mrs. James D. Eckert	

**executive director**  
Raymond L. Edwards, ACSW, Ph.D.

**business administrator**  
William M. Markman

**executive secretary**  
Mrs. Mary L. Broadwater

**PACER**

**director**  
Charlene G. Bennett  
**asst. director**  
Carol J. Nofen

**community services**

**training**  
Muriel E. McCord  
**public affairs**  
Edward W. Hale  
**planning & funding**  
Carl E. Meisner  
**research & evaluation**  
William M. Michaels  
**day care**  
William E. Neet, ACSW

**marriage & family counselling**

Mrs. Ruth Coppinger, ACSW  
Mrs. Nenabelle G. Dame, ACSW  
Victor Graziano, ACSW  
Mrs. Ruth G. Mayos, ACSW  
Mrs. Beatrice Sincox Reiner, ACSW  
Roy W. Tibbetts, ACSW



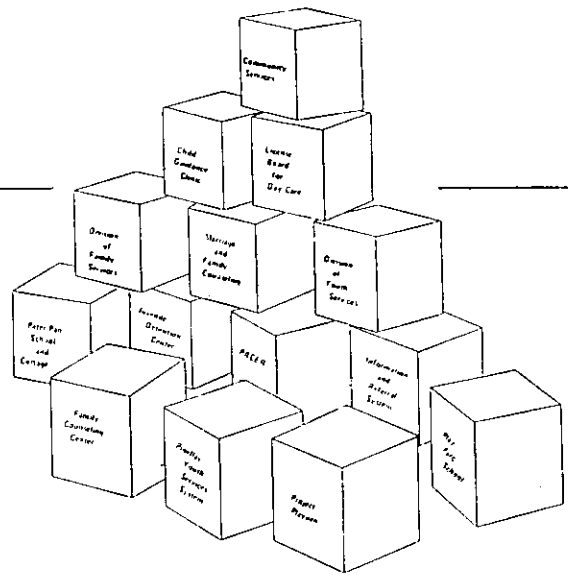
## juvenile welfare board of pinellas county

### Powers & Duties

The Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County was uniquely established by special state statute in 1945 and approved by Pinellas County voters in 1946. The statute, as subsequently amended, states that there be created for Pinellas County, Florida, a Board of Juvenile Welfare consisting of nine members. Four of these members shall be the County Superintendent of Public Instruction, two judges from the Circuit Court Juvenile Division, and the Vice Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. Each will serve on the Board during his term of office. The other five members shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of four years: This Board should have the following powers and duties: (1) To provide and maintain in the County such child guidance, psychological or psychiatric clinics for juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of the County; (2) To provide for the care of dependent juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of the County; (3) To allocate and provide for other agencies in the County which are operated for the benefit of juveniles, provided they are not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the public school system; (4) To collect information and statistical data which will be helpful to the Board in deciding the needs of juveniles in the County; and (5) To consult with other agencies dedicated to the welfare of juveniles to the end that the overlapping of services will be prevented. In order to provide funds for the Board there shall be an annual ad valorem tax of up to .5 mills and the budget prepared by the Board shall be certified and delivered to the Board of County Commissioners on or before July 1st of each year.

### Surveys & Studies

A sound foundation for the work of the Juvenile Welfare Board was provided through a countywide survey of child welfare needs by Mr. J. Gordon Crowe in October 1947. Then in 1964 this early survey was supplemented with a survey by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency focusing on children in trouble. After a quarter of a century of effective operation, the Juvenile Welfare Board contracted in 1971 with the National Study Service of New York for



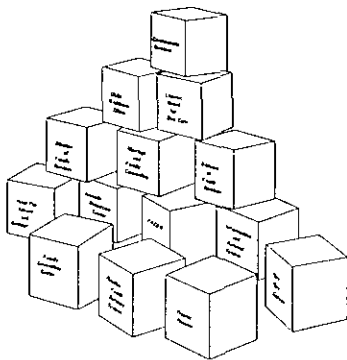
**ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES FINANCED  
IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITH  
JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD FUNDS**

<u>Children Served</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
1,744	Child Guidance Clinic	\$146,550	\$208,195
—	Community Services	58,500	104,554
N.A.	Detention Center	—	15,754
390	Diagnostic Center	48,294	5,084
1,151	Division of Family Services	—	219,466
135	Division of Youth Services	—	12,271
6,713	Family Counseling Center	—	99,641
2,912	Information & Referral System	—	10,015
7,808	License Board for Day Care	—	179,441
762	Marriage & Family Counselling	—	80,388
96	Peter Pan School & Cottage	—	29,983
85	Pinellas Youth Services System	154,574	53,663
51	Play Parc School	54,989	6,185
259	Project Playpen	186,700	44,240
—	JWB Administration	—	114,830
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22,106	TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED	Totals \$649,607	\$1,183,710

# 27th year

## . . . of jwb

Throughout the past 27 years the Juvenile Welfare Board has actively pursued its public mandate from the citizens of Pinellas County to assure our children a considered place in our society. This past year has been exceptional in this regard for the Board itself, with increased staff, has initiated a program that heretofore was but a gleam in our eye. We are proud of our accomplishments. We want you to know about them.



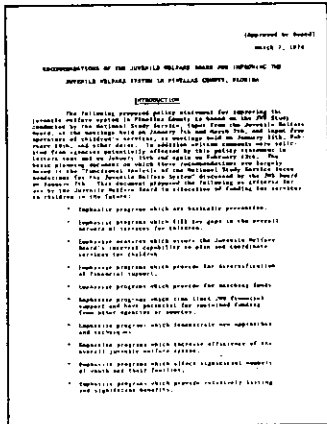
Not being a direct provider of services to children for the most part, much of our work is that of providing grants to those agencies which do. This year was no exception. On the opposite page is an accounting of your tax funds as expended by JWB from October 1, 1973, through September 1974. This apportioning of funds, approved by the Board in June 1973, is not considerably different from that of last year. We continued to fund most of the same programs in day care, retardation, marriage and family counseling, mental and emotional illness, group homes, adoption and delinquency prevention. Most programs were expanded and we continued to supplement state agencies where necessary services were insufficiently funded. As a direct result of meetings initiated by JWB in January 1973 and cooperation from other funding agencies, a Homemaker - Home Health Aide Program came into being. Two other new programs were the establishment of the first Intensive Care Group Home in Pinellas and aid to the Peter Pan Cottage for the mentally retarded child. Consistent with our policy of spinning off programs to other agencies when possible, the state assumed responsibility for the Detention Center (with the exception of the Diagnostic Unit), the Non-Secure Group Homes and the Com-

munity Youth Leader Program in January, thus freeing JWB funds to fill other gaps in services to children.

For the first time, we are also reporting to you the amount of grant monies we obtained by "matching" JWB funds with state and federal monies. You will note that our agencies were able to utilize an additional amount of money equal to 54.9% of the total JWB allocation. This means that for every JWB dollar, an additional 55¢ was secured elsewhere to be spent on behalf of Pinellas children. This is a source of accomplishment and an indication of the increased sophistication of your agency.

Probably the most significant single accomplishment the Board undertook this year was the development and adoption of a Statement of Policy. This evolved from a thorough analysis of the JWB Study conducted by the National Study Service and published last year as **The Welfare of Juveniles and their Families in Pinellas County**. In addition, child serving agencies were also consulted for validation and additional input. This was quite a task for it involved months of Community Services time as well as that of the Board. The Statement's importance lies in the Board's first major attempt to delineate what might be called "the state of the child in Pinellas County". It has provided far keener insight into the problems within our child services system including the indentification of service deficiencies. It has pointed out inequities in state funding of social services to children. It has given us the basic tools with which we can chart our course. To the left you see the first page of this document that spells out the Board's criteria for funding services to children. They are primarily preventive and speak to non-crises needs. This document will be continually honed through insights expressed by the child serving agencies of the county. It should continue to provide an up-to-date work- ing paper for us all.

In an attempt to seek out ideas and identify serious gaps in services, JWB actively solicited funding requests from Pinellas agencies this past year. As a result, the Board received 34 distinct program requests from 17 agencies.

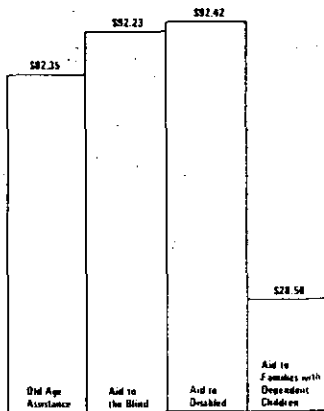




Having adopted its Statement of Policy in March, the Board then used the adopted criteria in evaluating these requests. This was another first.

To further the Board's intent of spinning off programs when they are mature and can find a home elsewhere, the Board initiated its own matching fund approach by suggesting to certain agencies that they assume 25% of the cost of a program with JWB picking up the remainder. Such programs would eventually become the total responsibility of the parent agency after a three-year demonstration period with the agency assuming an additional 25% each year. We hope this will prove to be an effective method of proving programs, as well as freeing up JWB funds for additional services to our children.

Through its Statement of Policy, the Board emphasized the need for a long-range legislative program at the local, state, and federal levels. It authorized staff to register as state lobbyists so as to affect and effect legislation in a more direct and productive manner. It also brought out a number of the present inequities in welfare assistance to children. This graph comparing the average payment per month per recipient in Florida in four categories point this up clearly. It further advised that recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) receive only 68% of a 1969 subsistence standard (74% in 1975) resulting in a total monthly allowance of \$151 for a family of four. Payments for adults are made at 100% of standard. Correcting this gross inequity is a high priority for JWB.



One successful foray into the legislative arena resulted in a day care licensing law for the state of Florida. Through cooperation with our local legislative delegation and exhaustive efforts on the part of JWB, the Pinellas County License Board, and other local agencies, the bill was enacted. It does not provide state funding for Pinellas nor does it match our local law, which is a model to be followed; but it does take a long stride in the right direction for all of Florida's children.

While gathering supportive material for the policy statement, an initial data base was developed. Throughout the year this base has increased considerably. We are now able,

as never before, to make evaluations on hard facts, not just estimates. In addition, JWB has developed evaluation designs to assess the effectiveness of its funded programs. This should help us further assure value for local tax dollars spent and hopefully provide each agency with useful material to better manage their own programs.

We touched on our ability to secure outside funds by providing matching JWB monies. We now have the capacity to remain more acutely aware of external available funds and assist all child serving agencies in the county to take advantage of them. We suggest that the Governor's office have similar capacity with relation to federal funding so that all of Florida may receive optimal benefits. We caution, however, not to permit federal funding to dictate our children's programs but simply to compliment the needs as determined locally or statewide.

To further ease the development of program plans for individual agencies, as well as providing a coordinated look at needs and program evaluations, JWB is exploring, with other funding bodies, the concept of a planning and funding coalition. Sometimes we pursue the same ends through diverse programming without adequate coordination. We tend to require the same data input and accountability yet cause funded agencies duplication of effort through varied reporting procedures. And we seldom rely on each other's expertise to improve our own funding decisions. We hope such a coalition will be a working reality in the year ahead for we believe such an approach would be cost-effective and will provide more comprehensive services.

JWB is now offering consultant services in various areas. Over this past year we have spent many hours with Head Start, the Child and Family Resource Program (federally funded and one of eleven in the country), Big Sisters, the Florence Crittenton Home, and Florida State University's field service work, just to name a few. JWB consultants have also participated in area and statewide planning sessions and conventions. In several cases, new groups have been formed to bring together agencies with like interests and problems. One such group, the Child Welfare Committee, now meets on a regular basis.



UNMARRIED PARENTS  
and ADOPTION  
WORKSHOP

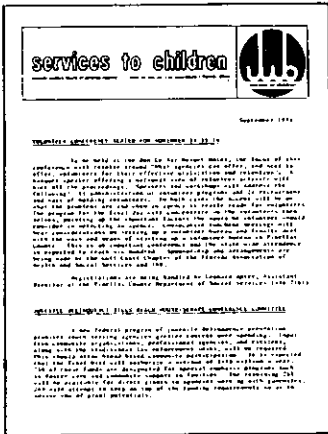


Training, a constant necessity in maintaining quality services, has been offered to numerous agencies in varying degrees. Among those benefiting most have been the Division of Family Services, St. Petersburg General Hospital, and again Head Start. In addition, workshops and institutes were planned and presented with nationally qualified leaders officiating. Two very successful such workshops dealt with the problems surrounding unmarried parents and the techniques of family therapy. A somewhat different sort of workshop was presented, in conjunction with the United Way and St. Petersburg Junior College, on the in's and out's of revenue sharing. Such training and informational programs can go a long way in keeping Pinellas in the forefront of employing new techniques and having the funds to try them.

It was the result of the Battered Child Workshop presented by JWB last year that caused a committee of agency executives, under the leadership of JWB, to seek a means to child abuse prevention. JWB developed a grant proposal for a demonstration project in this area and submitted it to the federal government for funding. Out of the 157 proposals submitted from throughout the United States, 11 received grants, ours among them. With this three-year grant in hand, project PACER (Parent and Child Effective Relations) is now a reality and working on the problems of child abuse in Pinellas. With a most competent staff on board and an able Advisory Council (composed of many of the same agency executives mentioned above) helpful components like Child Trauma Teams, Parent-Aides, and Parents Anonymous are providing answers to this lamentable problem.

From the files of JWB's Marriage and Family Counseling group came original research on adolescent marriages. The result of this research was presented as a paper to the National Council of Family Relations in Toronto, Canada and just published in the professional journal **The Family Coordinator**. Such a contribution to man's need for knowledge can only come from stable long-term agencies like ours.

In a further effort to provide useful information and to improve communications between the child serving agencies,



JWB started publishing a newsletter, **Services to Children**. So far we have been able to alert Pinellas agencies to federal bills and their status in Congress; upcoming workshops of value; funding becoming available from local, state, and federal sources; missed funding possibilities and suggestions for corrective action; new programs and policies. It is designed to be quickly and easily read, containing only that which can have an impact on successful agency functioning in Pinellas.

The major thrust of this past year has been to work out the means for effective assistance to and coordination of all services to children. Though we have accomplished a great deal, there is still much to be done. With the aid and continuing cooperation of our many fine children's agencies, we can see the Juvenile Welfare Board serving as an ever more valuable model for services to children.



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annual  
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