

Focus Issue Application

Issue Title **Child Abuse**

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Submitter is a member of the Junior League of **Junior League of Sarasota**

Submitted to Taskforce: Children, Families & Education –Barda Kosovrasti (JL Orlando)

Submission Date: August 1, 2008

Junior League of Sarasota has spent the last 2 years determining a Signature project. We have chosen the prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and would support legislation aimed at protecting children and families from abuse and/or neglect.

Over the next three years, **Junior League of Sarasota's** the Child Abuse Prevention/Intervention Project will help break the cycle of abuse by organizing a broad program to educate the community on issues related to child abuse and partnering with the Child Advocacy Center to provide comprehensive services to children.

- Currently there are 3,000 abuse reports received by the Department of Children and Families annually in Sarasota County.
- Each day in Sarasota County there are seven new reports of child abuse and/or neglect.*
- More children, age 4 and younger, die from child abuse and neglect than any other leading cause of death for infants and young children. **
- 1 out of 4 girls and 1 out of 6 boys are sexually abused in the US before age 18. ***
- Florida is the third deadliest state for children. ****
- 80% of prisoners were abused children. *****

*'06-'07 DCF CPTIS Tracking System
** Prevent Child Abuse America
*** US Department of Justice
**** US Department of Health & Human Services
***** Adult Survivors of Child Abuse Organization