



# DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING STREAMS FOR SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

DIANE DIMPERIO



## METHOD

The original plan for data collection describing funding was to survey providers and to supplement and verify this information to submit public record requests to major funders. The provider survey was developed and distributed to over 100 potential respondents by Broward Regional Health Planning Council with a link to an electronic survey instrument. Even with more than one follow up reminder, the provider response was disappointing and resulted in only seven usable surveys. Many funders did not respond to the survey or did not provide funding data. An additional consultant re-contacted the known funders and received some additional responses. Table 1 shows the requests submitted and indicates those who responded.

**Table 1: Data Requested and Received from Funding Agencies**

<b>Funders Contacted</b>	<b>Funders Response</b>
Palm Beach Health Care District	No specific funding
Community Foundation	No specific funding
Palm Beach County School Board	Yes
Medicaid	Yes
United Way of PBC	Yes
Palm Beach County Children’s Services Council	Yes
Palm Beach County Government	Yes
Florida Atlantic University CARD	Yes
Division of Blind Services/FLDOE	No response
Division of Vocational Rehab/FLDOE	No response
Quantum Foundation	No response
Palm Healthcare Foundation	No response
Lost Tree Foundation	No response

The data on which this report is based is shown in the Appendix. The financial data used in this report are incomplete, as information from major funders at the state and federal level is missing. This report should, therefore, be considered preliminary. Obtaining a representative profile of services would take more research and time than allotted in the current project scope.

## ANALYSIS

Analysis was conducted on available data and presented in the tables and figures below. The service data is described as both “Specific Services” and, then for convenience in reviewing the data, also grouped into broader categories referred to as “Type of Service”.

Most funding entities are grouped and labeled “Type of Funding”. Table Four delineates the contribution of the specific funding entity included in each type of funding. The description of Type of Funding is somewhat arbitrary. The funds awarded by the Children’s Services Council are county tax dollars, but are collected specifically for children’s services. The Children’s Services Council awards some funds to the United Way for allocation to programs for children. The term “Local Funds” is used to describe programs funded by the Children’s Services Council and United Way. The term “Government” is used for funds allocated from Palm Beach County Government.

Table 2 displays the data describing the Type of Service by Type of Funding Source. The total amount of funding described in this report is \$124,177,370. It comes from three major sources, identified in the table as state, county and local. The state funds include Medicaid payments, which are composed of about 60% Federal funds but since rates and other key program elements are determined by the state, Medicaid is included as a state funder.

**Table 2: Type of Service by Type of Funding**

Type of Service	Type of Funding				
	County	Local	State	Other	Total
Advocacy/I&R	311,157			75,000	386,157
Assessment and Diagnosis			1,071,974		1,071,974
Assistive technology	83,161		944,671		1,027,832
Behavioral Health	699,988	300,000	7,409,522		8,409,510
Case Management	59,311		3,947,584	562,399	4,569,294
Day Care/Respite	250,337	647,359			897,696
Dental Care			2,660,580		2,660,580
Early Intervention		4,252,090	802,640		5,054,730
Employment Related Services	878,502	362,163	50,000	5,000	1,235,665
Equipment/supplies		100,486	1,213,807		1,314,293
Medical Care	400,887		57,257,142		57,658,029
Medical Foster Care			317,394		317,394
Residential services	307,411				307,411
School Based Services			37,952,747		37,952,747
Therapy	49,500	127,120	748,160		924,780
Transportation			329,278		329,278
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,040,254</b>	<b>5,789,218</b>	<b>114,705,499</b>	<b>642,399</b>	<b>124,177,370</b>

The state contributes over 114.7 million dollars toward services for special needs individuals in Palm Beach County (PBC). About 60 million dollars are spent on medical and dental care. School based services receive almost 38 million state dollars. About 7.4 million dollars are spent in behavioral health, almost 4 million dollars are spent on case management and over 1 million is spent on assessment and diagnosis. Local funding represents almost 5.8 million dollars. Over \$4.2 million are used to support early intervention services.

Figure 1 displays the relative distribution of funds by source. The State of Florida provides 92% of the documented funds specifically targeting individuals with special needs. Local Funds supply 5% of the funds and County Government supplies 2%.

**Figure 1. Special Needs Funding Sources**

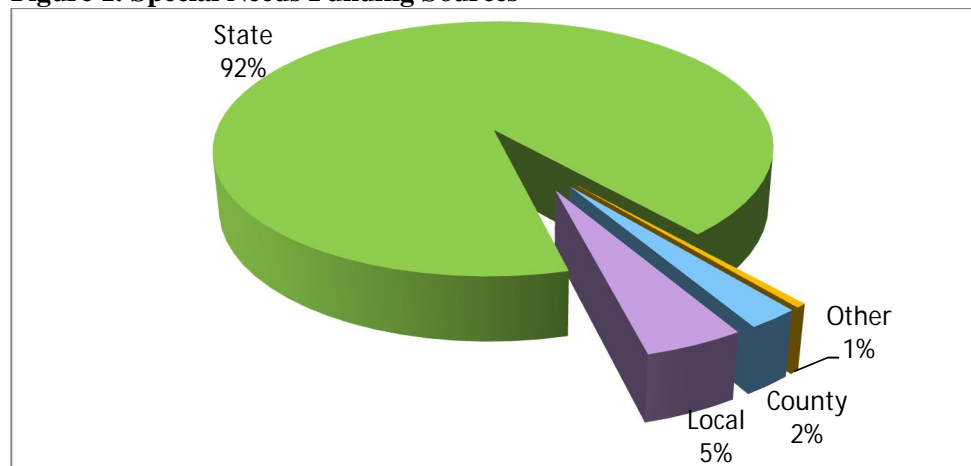


Figure 2 shows the distribution of funds by type of service. Payments for medical care consume 42% of the funding and school based services account for 31% of the funds.

**Figure 2. Percent Special Needs Funding by Major Service Category**

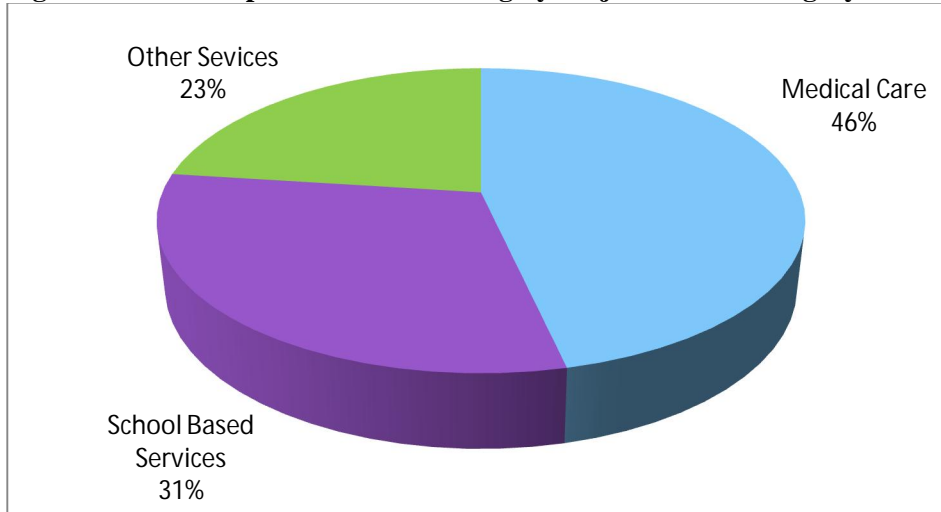


Figure 3 displays the distribution of the remaining 23% of the funds under the “Other Services” category. Thirty percent are spent on behavioral health services, 18% on early intervention, 16% on case management, 9% on dental care, 5% on equipment and supplies, 4% each on assistive technology, assessment and diagnosis, and employment related services, 3% on therapy and 1% on each of the remaining services.

**Figure 3. Percent Special Needs Funding by Other Service Category**

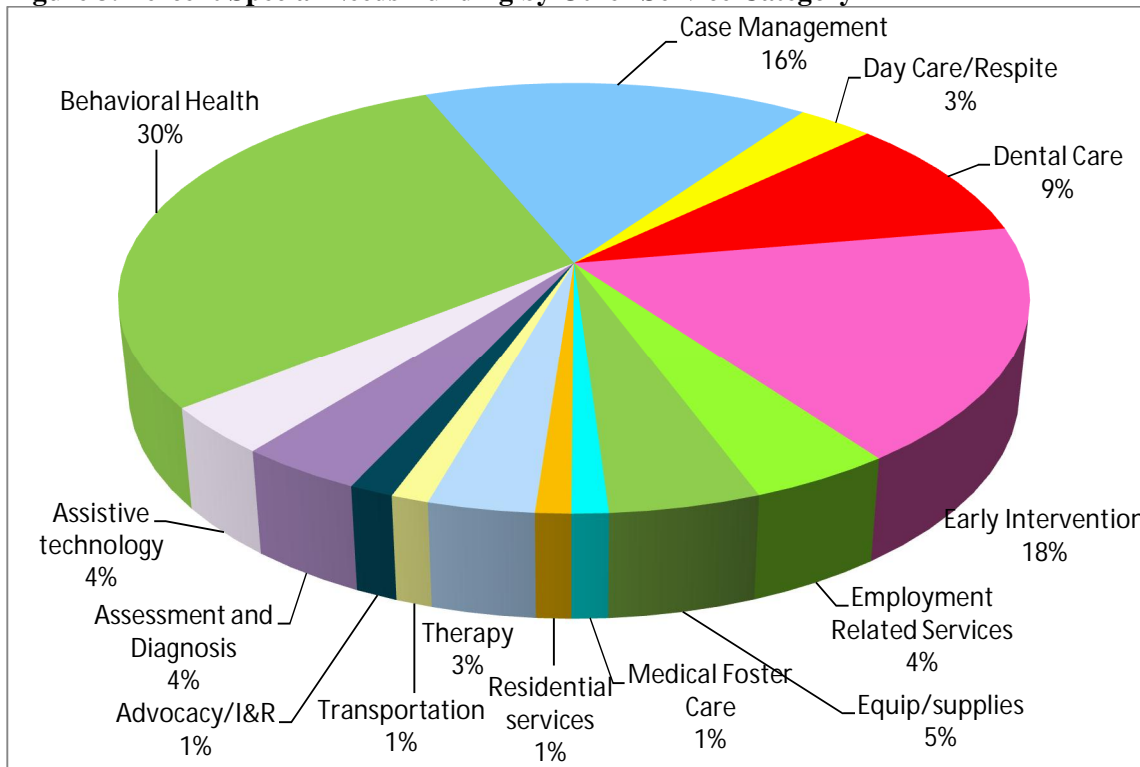


Table 3 shows specific services funded by the type of funder. The county, which spends just over 3 million dollars, invests its funds in behavioral analysis and intervention (\$699,988), transition services (\$452,599), employment training (\$401,165), medical care (\$400,887), residential services (\$307,411), advocacy (\$221,157), day care (\$185,337), I&R (\$90,000), assistive technology (\$83,161), respite (\$65,000) and other services.

**Table 3: Specific Service by Funding Source**

Specific Service	Funding Source				
	County	Local	State	Other	Total
Advocacy	221,157			25,000	246,157
Afterschool care		144,065			144,065
Assessment and Diagnosis			1,071,974		1,071,974
Assistive Technology	83,161		944,671		1,027,832
Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	699,988	300,000	7,409,522		8,409,510
Case Management	59,311		3,947,584	562,399	4,569,294
Day Care	185,337				185,337
Dental Care			2,660,580		2,660,580
Early Intervention		4,252,090	802,640		5,054,730
Employment-placement		65,000			65,000
Employment-training	401,165	139,661	50,000	5,000	595,826
Employment-placement	24,738	35,000			59,738
Equipment and supplies		100,486	1,213,807		1,314,293
I&R	90,000			50,000	140,000
Medical Care	400,887		57,257,142		57,658,029
Medical Foster Care			317,394		317,394
Residential services	307,411				307,411
Respite	65,000	503,294			568,294
School Based Services			37,952,747		37,952,747
Therapy-Occupational			115,473		115,473
Therapy-Hearing			103,523		103,523
Therapy-Nutrition			162,708		162,708
Therapy-Physical			89,149		89,149
Therapy-Physical, Speech	49,500				49,500
Therapy-Recreational		127,120			127,120
Therapy-Respiratory			6,064		6,064
Therapy-Speech			271,243		271,243
Transition Services	452,599	122,502			575,101
Transportation			329,278		329,278
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,040,254</b>	<b>5,789,218</b>	<b>114,705,499</b>	<b>642,399</b>	<b>124,177,370</b>

In addition to support for early intervention services, local funders provide \$503,294 for respite, \$300,000 for behavioral analysis and intervention, \$144,065 for after school care, \$139,661 for employment training, \$127,120 for recreational therapy, \$122,502 for transition services and \$100,486 for equipment/supplies, as well as funding other services.

In addition to supporting medical, dental care and school based services, the state pays over \$7.4 million dollars for behavioral analysis and intervention, over \$3.9 million on case management, over \$1.2 million for equipment and supplies and over \$1 million in assessment and diagnosis.

Table 4 (page 8) breaks out the contribution of each organization within funding types. The County is a single funding entity so is not included in Table 4. The PBC Children's Services Council is the dominant local funder, contributing over 4.55 million dollars toward early intervention and behavioral health. The United Way of PBC contributes \$362,163 toward employment related services. The two agencies together support day care/respite services (\$647,359), therapy (\$127,120) and equipment/supplies (\$100,486).

The State of Florida Agency for Health Care Administration pays over 74 million dollars in services to the special needs population through the Medicaid program. Over \$57 million pays for medical care, and over \$7 million for behavioral health, over \$2.7 million for case management, \$2.66 million for dental care, more than \$1.2 for equipment/supplies and \$944,671 for assistive technology. Medicaid also pays for early intervention (\$802,640), therapy (\$748,160), transportation (\$329,278), medical foster care (\$317,394), and assessment and diagnosis (\$738).

The Department of Education contributes over 39 million dollars toward services for the population, of which almost 38 million is for school-based services. They also support over \$1 million in assessment and diagnosis and \$128,000 for behavioral health.

A provider survey indicated state funding of 1.2 million dollars for case management services without defining the specific agency. Documented donations amounted to \$248,631 and were used for case management (\$243,631) and employment related services (\$5,000).

### **Observations and Recommendations**

It is unfortunate that limited data were available for the financial analysis, as a clear financial picture would have provided a better starting point for planning an improved system of care. Knowing how much is being spent, on what, and by which organization would be helpful to improving access, utilization and integration of resources. However, looking at the funding data in Table 3 provides an encouraging distribution of funding. It appears from the limited data, that local funds are more likely to be paying for services not being supported by the state.

Although developing a comprehensive funding picture is a common feature of a community analysis, the resources needed to complete the data collection may be better spent in other ways. The collection and analysis of financial data is not an end in itself. It is only meaningful within the context of the needs and experience of the population of people and families who are the intended consumers of services.

An economical approach to future assessment of funding might best begin with the areas identified in the needs analysis as gaps. A practical approach would be to amend the work plan submitted in the Business Plan to include an inventory of services and assessment of funding streams for each targeted area. This may affect the projected time frames in the business plan but would be more economical and faster than delaying implementation of the Business Plan until the collection of financial data is completed.

In addition to documenting current spending on services perceived as inadequate, the project approach should include at least two additional dimensions. One is to determine if services are truly underfunded or if the perceived gap is a lack of knowledge about resources. Focus groups and surveys reflect the experience of participants, which are valid, but based on their ability to obtain and process information. The recommendation in the SWOT analysis to expand I&R services will be key to addressing the observation that the target population need easy access to needed services.

Another issue to explore is: are all currently available program benefits actually accessed by the population? One issue raised in the assessment was the need for more early and continuous screening for disabilities. In Palm Beach County, 49.9% of births are covered by Medicaid, which should mean roughly half the infants and young children are enrolled in Medicaid throughout childhood. In the first 18 months, infants enrolled in Medicaid should be evaluated by a medical provider at least 10 times for developmental progress and on a regular basis thereafter. Palm Beach County has four Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) responsible for services. The proposed ASO could approach the MCOs to discuss the issue, to see if they do or could track the number of referrals and perhaps offer in-service training on screening techniques and referrals.

Data on insurance payments and coverage were not included in the assessment but another opportunity for improving utilization of resources is to study the health insurance plans most commonly available through employers and those available through the federal insurance marketplace to see if the various benefit packages commonly available to residents offer any more benefits in services for special needs populations.

The examples above and others given in Objective 4.e. of the Business Plan present efficient and quick ways to increase access to needed services without seeking new funding sources.

**Table 4: Type of Service by Funding Organization**

Type of Service	Funding Type and Organization											
	Local Funding				State					Other		
	Children's Services Council (CSC)	United Way (UW)	UW/CSC	Total	FDOE	Scholarships	Medicaid	Not reported	Total	Donations	Grants/contracts/other	Total
Advocacy/I&R											75,000	75,000
Assessment and Diagnosis					1,071,236		738		1,071,974			
Assistive Technology							944,671		944,671			
Behavioral Health	300,000			300,000	128,000		7,281,522		7,409,522			
Case Management							2,747,584	1,200,000	3,947,584	243,631	318,768	562,399
Day Care/Respite			647,359	647,359								
Dental Care							2,660,580		2,660,580			
Early Intervention	4,252,090			4,252,090			802,640		802,640			
Employment Related Services		362,163		362,163		50,000			50,000	5,000		5,000
Equipment/supplies			100,486	100,486			1,213,807		1,213,807			
Medical Care							57,257,142		57,257,142			
Medical Foster Care							317,394		317,394			
Residential services												
School Based Services					37,952,747				37,952,747			
Therapy			127,120	127,120			748,160		748,160			
Transportation							329,278		329,278			
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,552,090</b>	<b>362,163</b>	<b>874,965</b>	<b>5,789,218</b>	<b>39,151,983</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>74,303,516</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>114,705,499</b>	<b>248,631</b>	<b>393,768</b>	<b>642,399</b>

\*County Funding is not included in table as it is a single funding stream

\*\*State Funds the School Board sub contracts out



## APPENDIX. Detailed Data of Identified Funding by Agency

Funded Agency	Program Name	Specific Service	Type of Service	Amount (\$)	Funder	Funding Type
211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast	Special Needs 211	I&R	Advocacy/I&R	50,000	Multiple	Unknown
Autism After 21, Inc.		Advocacy	Advocacy/I&R	25,000	Grant (not specified)	Unknown
Autism After 21, Inc.		Employment-training	Employment Related Services	5,000	Donations	Unknown
Coalition for Independent Living Options	ALERT	Transition Services	Employment Related services	54,841	County Government	County
Coalition for Independent Living Options	SAIL	Transition Services	Employment Related services	188,811	County Government	County
Coalition for Independent Living Options (CILO)	ALERT	Employment-Training	Employment Related Services	37,661	United Way of PBC	Local
Coalition for Independent Living Options (CILO)	TEAM	Transition Services	Employment Related Services	45,194	United Way of PBC	Local
Coats Learning Center		Employment-training	Employment Related services	50,000	McKay and Step Up Scholarships	State
Deaf Service Center of PBC	Client assistance/advocacy	Case Management	Case Management	59,311	County Government	County
Deaf Service Center of PBC	Resource & community education	Advocacy	Advocacy/I&R	87,410	County Government	County
Deaf Service Center of PBC	Assistive communication equip	Assistive Technology-hearing	Assistive technology	83,161	County Government	County
Easter Seals of Florida	Early Steps	Early Intervention	Early Intervention	1,799,697	Children's Services Council	Local
Easter Seals of Florida	Intervention & advocacy	Advocacy	Advocacy/I&R	44,647	County Government	County
Epilepsy Foundation of Florida		Case Management	Case Management	318,768	Grants/contracts (Not Specified)	Unknown
Epilepsy Foundation of Florida		Case Management	Case Management	118,631	Donations	Unknown
FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities		Case Management	Case Management	1,200,000	Not reported	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Assessment and Diagnostic services	Assessment and Diagnosis	738	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Assistive technology	Assistive technology	944,671	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	7,281,522	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Dental Care	Dental Care	2,660,580	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Early Intervention	Early Intervention	802,640	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy-hearing	Therapy	103,523	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Equipment and supplies	Equipment/supplies	1,213,807	Medicaid	State

Funded Agency	Program Name	Specific Service	Type of Service	Amount (\$)	Funder	Funding Type
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Medical Foster Care	Medical Foster Care	317,394	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Medical Care	Medical Care	57,257,142	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy-Nutrition	Therapy	162,708	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy -Occupational	Therapy	115,473	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy-Physical	Therapy	89,149	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy-Respiratory	Therapy	6,064	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Therapy-Speech	Therapy	271,243	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Case Management	Case Management	2,747,584	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Transportation	Transportation	329,278	Medicaid	State
Fee-for-Service Providers	None	Employment-Training	Employment Related Services	60,000	United Way of PBC	Local
Housing Partnership	Supportive housing	Residential services	Residential services	68,870	County Government	County
Jeff Industries	School to Work	Transition Services	Employment Related Services	35,308	United Way of PBC	Local
Jeff Industries	Job Placement	Employment-Training	Employment Related Services	42,000	United Way of PBC	Local
Jeff Industries	Lets go to work	Employment-training	Employment Related services	132,264	County Government	County
Jeff Industries	Job placement	Employment-placement	Employment Related services	24,738	County Government	County
Jerome Golden Center for Behavioral Health	Healthy Beginnings - MH	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	200,000	Children's Services Council	Local
Jerome Golden Center for Behavioral Health	Mobile crisis program	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	154,809	County Government	County
Kinder Project at Clinics Can Help	Equipment	Equipment and supplies	Equipment/supplies	5,000	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local
Legal Aid Society	Guardian Advocacy Project	Advocacy	Advocacy/I&R	89,100	County Government	County
Mental Health Association	Barriers for Behavioral health	I&R	Advocacy/I&R	90,000	County Government	County
Palm Beach County School Board	SEDNET	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	128,000	FDOE	State
Palm Beach County School Board	IDEA	School Based Services	School Based Services	37,877,747	FDOE	State
Palm Beach County School Board	FDLRS	Assessment and Diagnosis	Assessment and Diagnosis	1,071,236	FDOE	State
Palm Beach Habilitation Center	Life Skills Coaching	Transition Services	Employment Related Services	42,000	United Way of PBC	Local

Funded Agency	Program Name	Specific Service	Type of Service	Amount (\$)	Funder	Funding Type
Palm Beach Habilitation Center	Supported Employment	Employment-Placement	Employment Related Services	65,000	United Way of PBC	Local
Palm Beach Habilitation Center	Computer training program	Transition Services	Employment Related Services	7,088	County Government	County
Palm Beach Habilitation Center	STARS	Transition Services	Employment Related Services	201,859	County Government	County
Parent-Child Center	Healthy Beginnings - MH	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	100,000	Children's Services Council	Local
Parent-Child Center	Not Specified	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	240,824	County Government	County
Rehabilitation Center for Children and Adults	Pre-K Support for Special Needs Kids	School Based Services	School Based Services	75,000	Palm Beach County School Board	State
Rehabilitation Center for Children and Adults	Not Specified	Therapy-Physical, Speech	Therapy	49,500	County Government	County
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services		Case Management	Case Management	125,000	Donations	Unknown
Seagull Industries	Academy for Independent Living Transition	Employment-Placement	Employment Related Services	35,000	United Way of PBC	Local
Seagull Industries	Academy for Independent Living Transition	Employment-Placement	Employment Related Services	35,000	United Way of PBC	Local
South County Mental Health	Intake and Mobile Crisis Team	Behavioral Analysis and Intervention	Behavioral Health	304,355	County Government	County
South County Mental Health	Psychiatric services	Medical Care	Medical Care	400,887	County Government	County
The Arc of Glades	Not Specified	Day Care	Day Care/Respite	185,337	County Government	County
The Arc of Palm Beach County	Respite Program	Respite	Day Care/Respite	407,808	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local
The Arc of Palm Beach County	Recreation Program	Therapy-recreational	Therapy	127,120	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local
The Arc of Palm Beach County	Special Needs Equipment Fund	Equipment and supplies	Equipment/supplies	95,486	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local
The Arc of Palm Beach County	First Steps to Success	Early Intervention	Early Intervention	1,574,412	Children's Services Council	Local
The Arc of Palm Beach County	Healthy Steps for Young Children	Early Intervention	Early Intervention	877,981	Children's Services Council	Local
The Arc of Palm Beach County	Residential program	Residential services	Residential services	238,541	County Government	County
United Cerebral Palsy	In-home Respite	Respite	Day Care/Respite	65,000	County Government	County
United Cerebral Palsy	Respite Program	Respite	Day Care/Respite	95,486	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local
United Cerebral Palsy	Afterschool Program	Afterschool care	Day Care/Respite	144,065	United Way of PBC/CSC	Local