

COUNTY OF NUECES – OUTSIDE FUNDING  
Evaluation / Funding Report

FY 12/13  
Outside  
Agency  
Report

**Name of Organization:** Spaulding for Children **Phone:** (713) 681-6991

**Completed By:** Vikki Finley **Title:** President and CEO

**Year of Funding:** 2012-13 ✓ **Amount:** \$600 **Multi-year** \_\_\_ yes X no

**Date of Grant Received:** July 9, 2013

Commissioner Pct 2

**Name of Program:** Special Needs Adoption and Post Adoption Program, South Texas

**Major Activities and Accomplishments**

Thanks to the support of the County of Nueces and other generous donors in 2013, our Special Needs Adoption Program in South Texas was able to:

- Place 21 children from state care in adoptive homes. These children ranged between the ages of 6 to 17 years old. In total, Spaulding for Children placed 55 children in adoptive homes in Houston and South Texas through the Special Needs Adoption Program.
- Finalize the adoptions of 10 children. In total, Spaulding for Children finalized the adoptions of 53 children in Houston and South Texas through the Special Needs Adoption Program.
- Serve approximately 1,623 individuals
  - Children from Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS): 55
  - Individual inquiries: 1,172
  - Individuals who attended an orientation meeting: 315
  - Individuals who completed pre-requisite Parent Resource Information Development Education (PRIDE): 81
- Leverage grant to attract and acquire additional program funding from major sources including:
  - TDFPS
  - John G. and Stella Marie Kenedy Foundation
  - Valero Energy Foundation
  - Grande Communications
  - Bay Ltd.
  - Coastal Bend Community Foundation
  - Earl C. Sams Foundation
- Provide all services free of charge to prospective adoptive families. Clients received free background checks, adoption preparation and mandatory training from a Spaulding for Children family coordinator, home study visits, regular monitoring of placements until legal finalization, and ongoing support services including monthly support groups for both parents and children. Providing services at no charge helped to remove socio-economic barriers to adoption, allowing interested and qualifying families the opportunity to open their hearts and homes to a child in need.

RECEIVED

Jcm DEC 3 - 2013  
Nueces County  
Commissioners Court  
Administration

- Raise awareness of children in state care who are in need of adoptive families through public service announcements; presentations at local civic groups and churches; information booths at numerous community events; distribution of brochures; networking through local chambers and other agencies; and executing three (3) special events including:
  - Spring Family Recruitment Event
  - Fall Day of Giving
  - Annual Heart Gallery

Thanks to the support of the County of Nueces and other generous donors in 2013, our Post Adoption Program in South Texas was able to:

- Provide 865 hours of case management to special needs children and their adoptive families.
- Provide therapeutic care for 125 special needs adopted children, along with 87 adult members of their adoptive families for a total of 212 individuals served.
- Offer respite, education, and other support services to 49 adoptive families.
- Provide quality care assistance at no financial cost to clients.

### **Program Continuation Plan**

Spaulding for Children's plan to continue the Special Needs Adoption and Post Adoption programs in South Texas will focus on expanding our level of service and recruitment efforts to reach prospective adoptive families. Spaulding for Children will identify community resources available to support adoptive families and help them cope with the needs of children who have experienced abuse, neglect or abandonment. With the addition of the Post Adoption program in our South Texas offices, Spaulding for Children is better equipped to prepare families for their journey and help identify their needs as issues arise. Another part of the continuation plan for the Special Needs Adoption program is a requirement for additional trauma informed care training to better prepare adoptive parents for the unique issues associated with special needs adoption. Finally, in 2014 Spaulding for Children will increase recruitment efforts in South Texas in order reach more individuals with the capacity and willingness to open their hearts to a child in need.

With your continued support, along with other generous donors, the 17-year old in the photos below finalized his adoption just the day before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and the sibling group of three found the loving family they deserve. Thank you for making a difference in their lives!

**Pictures:**

