



## **2009 Program Highlights**

- The GAL Program represented 3,959 children in 2,175 cases; recruited and certified 143 new Guardian Ad Litem volunteer advocates and supported a total of 517 GAL volunteer advocates throughout the year.
- The GAL Program advocated in Criminal Court on behalf of 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 2009, the TYP served 335 teens.
- The GAL Program continued its Kinship Care Project, another expansion of representation to children placed with caretakers other than their parents who have a family relationship bond with the children. In 2009, the KCP served 686 children.
- Voices For Children provided over \$1,655,740 to the GAL Program, which is 38% of their total operating budget.
- Through the various programs in the Children's Need's Fund, Voices For Children provided:
  - \* Over 1,223 unduplicated children with direct financial assistance, totaling \$227,886.
  - \* Birthday celebrations for approximately 294 children who otherwise might not have had their own party.
  - \* Over 3,700 children in foster care with toys and 601 care packages to youth transitioning out of foster care during the annual Toy Drive, which raised over \$46,000.
  - \* Financial emergency housing, food and utility assistance to 193 families.
  - \* A complete summer camp experience, through Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation, for 116 children.
- Voices For Children raised over \$685,000 in revenues and in-kind support from their annual events: the Gala, held at Mandarin Oriental, Miami and the Be a Voice Luncheon, held at Jungle Island. Additionally, Voices spearheaded National CASA's Forgotten Children Campaign followed by A Children's Celebration, which raised over \$195,000 in revenues and in-kind support.
- Became designated as the recipient of various fund raising events within the community, such as Diamonds and Lace, Pomellato's unveiling of their exclusive POM POM collection and other community events all of which raised over \$140,000.
- The Be An Angel Program, an annual giving program, raised over \$85,000.