

# DeSoto County Health and Human Services Resource Guide



*Reaffirmation of the Local, State, and  
Federal Commitment to Full Inclusion in  
Society of, and to Equal Opportunity for  
All Individuals*

Spring 2014

Local Resources Quick Guide		
Agency	Phone	Address
Arcadia Police Dept.	(863) 993-4660	721 N. Brevard Ave. Arcadia 34266
DeSoto Co. Sheriff's Dept.	(863) 993-4700	208 E. Cypress St. Arcadia 34266
State Attorney's Office Public Defender's Office	(863) 993-4881 (863) 993-4891	115 E. Oak St. Arcadia 34266
DeSoto Memorial Hospital	(863) 494-3535	900 N. Roberts Ave. Arcadia 34266 www.dmh.org
DeSoto Health Dept.	(863) 993-4601	34 S. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia 34266 519 W. Hickory St. Arcadia 34266

## Early Childhood

**Children's Medical Services (CMS)**-A collection of programs for eligible children with special needs. Each program and service is family-centered and designed to help children with a variety of conditions and needs.

6055 Rand Blvd., Sarasota 34238, (941) 361-6250 or (800) 235-9717  
www.cms-kids.com

**Gulf Central Early Steps**-Early Steps is Florida's early intervention system that offers services to eligible infants and toddlers (birth to 36 months) with significant delays or a condition likely to result in a developmental delay. Early intervention is provided to support families and caregivers in developing the competence and confidence to help their child learn and develop.

4630 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Sarasota 34235, (941) 487-5400 ext. 114  
Fax (941) 487-5430

**Healthy Families Florida** - a nationally accredited home visiting program for expectant parents and parents of newborns experiencing stressful life situations. The program improves childhood outcomes and increases family self-sufficiency by empowering parents through education and community support. Parents voluntarily participate in Healthy Families so they can learn how to recognize and respond to their babies' changing developmental needs, use positive discipline techniques, cope with the day-to-day stress of parenting in healthy ways, and set and achieve short- and long-term goals.

10 S DeSoto Ave, Suite E, Arcadia 34266  
(863) 491-9832, Fax (863) 494-2761

**Early Learning Coalition** - goal is to ensure young children have access to high quality early care and education programs in Charlotte, De Soto, Hardee and Highlands Counties. A high quality early care and education program is filled with rich experiences, a developmentally appropriate environment and nurturing teachers who know how to connect with children.

4 W. Oak St., Suite H, Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-5233  
www.earlylearningcoalitionsarasota.org

**DeSoto County Safe Children**-A collaboration between the Sarasota YMCA and community agencies who together provide a continuum of child welfare services for dependent children who have been abused, neglected or abandoned. Child protection services provided include case management, foster care, independent living, adoptions, foster parent recruitment, licensing and training.

925 N. Mills Ave., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-5082  
www.safechildrencoalition.org

**Child Protection Center**-Provides case coordination, crisis intervention, education, treatment, prevention and professional training in all areas related to child abuse and neglect. The emphasis of these programs is to provide timely services to children and families in abusive or potentially abusive situations by strangers, neighbors, friends, juveniles, or anyone who is in a caretaker role.

310 W. Whidden St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 993-0033  
www.cpcsarasota.org

## Pregnancy Assistance

### Breath of life Pregnancy Center-

PO Box 1892, Arcadia 34265, (863) 491-5528

**First Step Mothers and Infants Program**-Over 18 years, pregnant, alcohol/drug residential treatment while pregnant and postpartum, up to 1 year.

(800) 266-6866

**Our Mother's Home Of SW Florida**-A privatized 501(c)3 organization, Our Mother's Home raises 50-60% of its own funding to provide teen moms a supportive environment to stay with their children, learn life skills, and finish their education. Depends heavily on our dedicated volunteers, contributions of funds, commodities and services. Success rate generated great interest among those interested in decreasing the rate of children in foster care.

7838 Carrier Road, Fort Myers 33967  
(239) 267-4663, Fax (239) 267-4575

## Pre-School

**The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System of Heartland (FDLRS/Heartland)**-Provides diagnostic, instructional, and technology support services to district exceptional education programs and families of students with disabilities. The network supported educators, families and agencies working with children with disabilities and special needs for over twenty years.

1076 US Highway 27 N., Lake Placid 33852, www.efdlrs.net/heartland  
Parents Only (800) 316-7057, FL only (863) 531-0444 Ext. 234,



## Special Needs Services

**Hand of Angels, Inc.**-Information, resources, educational materials, and training on inclusion and issues that affect people with disabilities. Benefits individuals, children, parents, teachers, school administrators, service providers, businesses, therapists, recreational facilities, and other areas of our community.

1224 SW Scott Dr., Arcadia 34266 www.hand-of-angels  
(863) 494-0972

**Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD-formerly Department of Children and Families Developmental Disabilities Program)**-An agency distinct from the DCF since 2004, specifically tasked with serving the needs of Floridians with developmental disabilities. The APD works in partnership with local communities and private providers to assist people who have developmental disabilities and their families. APD also provides assistance in identifying the needs of people with developmental disabilities for supports and services.

De Soto Co.:

1313 N. Tampa St., Suite 515, Tampa 33602-3328  
(813) 243-4318 apd.myflorida.com

**Center for Independent Living of Central Florida**-Serving Central Florida since 1976, CIL is the only local nonprofit dedicated solely to helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence. The belief is everyone has a right to dignity and respect, and the work is based on the philosophy of people with disabilities empowering one another in an environment of support and acceptance. De Soto, Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties:

115 Traders Alley, Lakeland 33801, (863) 413-2788

**Epilepsy Services of Southwest Florida**-Medical and diagnostic testing services to uninsured adults with epilepsy, case management services, prevention and education, and information about epilepsy and referral to other community services. Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties:

1900 Main Street, Suite 212, Sarasota 34236-5952  
(941) 953-5988, (941) 366-5890 fax

**Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)**-Information and consultation to individuals diagnosed with autism and related disabilities. Instruction and coaching to families and professionals through a training and assistance model. Charlotte, De Soto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota Counties:

USF Dept. of Child and Family Studies, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, 1330 Bruce B. Downs Blvd MHC 2113-A, Tampa, 33612-3899, (813) 974-2532, In FL (800) 333-4530, Fax (813) 974-6115 card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu

**CHADD of Sarasota (Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder)**-Monthly support group meetings held the first Tuesday of each month from 7-8 pm.

Sarasota Memorial Hospital Room 3C  
1700 S. Tamiami Trl., Sarasota 34239

**Brain Injury Association of Florida**-The safety net for survivors of brain injury and their families. BIAF's programs and services help Floridians connect to important resources and help.

165 E. Semoran Blvd., Suite # 8, Apopka 32703 www.biaf.org  
(800) 992-3442, (407) 889-8588

**Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program's (BSCIP)**-*Referrals may be called into the Central Registry at the toll free number above or faxed to (850) 410-1975.* Florida law (F.S. 381.74) requires that all hospitals, attending physicians, public, private, or social agencies refer all new traumatic moderate-to-severe brain or spinal cord injuries to the Central Registry. Eligible individuals that require services and supports to sustain their health and safety in the community may refer themselves to the BSCIP Central Registry.

**United Cerebral Palsy of Sarasota-Manatee, Inc.**-Established in the late 1970's to meet the needs of children at risk of developmental delays and adults with developmental disabilities. Assists people who have developmental disabilities including cerebral palsy, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, intellectual disability, Down Syndrome, autism, and other disabilities.

2203 30th Ave. West, Bradenton 34205 www.ucpsarasota.org  
(941) 201-1466

**Family Network on Disabilities (FND)**-A national network of individuals of all ages who may be at-risk, have disabilities, or have special needs; and their families, professionals, and concerned citizens. The mission of FND is to ensure thorough collaboration; and that individuals have full access to family-driven support, education, information, resources, and advocacy and to serve families of children with disabilities, ages birth through 26, who have the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

(800) 825-5736 www.fndfl.org

**Shriners Hospital for Children**-Provides specialized care to children under the age of 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.

(800) 237-5055 www.shrinershospitals.org

**Easter Seals Southwest Florida**-Provides exceptional services for persons with disabilities and their families across a lifetime by empowering individuals with special needs to live their lives to the fullest extent.

(941) 355-7637 easterseals-swfl.org

**ARC**-Provides a variety of training for developmentally disabled adults. All clients must reside in DeSoto County, be 18 years of age or older, and must have a primary disability.

5871 SE Hwy 31, Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-2328 www.arcdesoto.org

## Bullying Prevention

**International Bullying Prevention Association**-Mission is to support and enhance quality, research-based bullying prevention principles and best practices in order to achieve a safe school climate, healthy work environment, good citizenship, and civic responsibility.

www.stopbullyingworld.org

**Kids Against Bullying**-A creative and informative resource to educate students about bullying prevention and provide methods to respond to bullying situations. The site features an animated cast of characters, information, celebrity videos, Webisodes, games, animation, contests, and other activities. Parents and professionals will find helpful tips, intervention strategies, and resources for use at home or school.

Pacer Center, Inc. (800) 537-2237 www.pacer.org

## Crisis Stabilization

**Coastal Behavioral Healthcare**-For more than 40 years "Caring for Our Community" by providing affordable quality behavioral healthcare services to children, adolescents, adults, seniors, and their families who struggle with mental health and substance abuse issues. Sarasota, Charlotte, DeSoto and Lee counties:

1901 Baker St., Arcadia 34266 (863) 993-2911, Fax (863) 993-9171  
www.coastalbh.org

**Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center, Inc. (SPARCC)** - formed as a non-profit agency in 1979. SPARCC is the only state-certified center for domestic violence and sexual assault services for Sarasota and De Soto Counties:

10 S. DeSoto Ave., Arcadia 34266

SPARCC 24-hour Hotline	(941) 365-1976
Florida Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 500-1119
Florida Sexual Violence Hotline	(888) 956-RAPE (7273)
National Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-SAFE (7233)
National Sexual Violence Hotline	(800) 656-HOPE (4673)
National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline	(866) 331-9474

**Community Care Counseling Center**-Provides individual and family therapy, evaluation, school-based programs, psychiatric services, developmental and behavioral assessments, and follow-up care.

725 N. 12th St., Arcadia 34266 (863) 494-1242

**Jewish Family & Children's Service (JFCS)**-The goal of the Adolescent Diversion and Assistance Program is to reduce or prevent future involvement of youth, 11-17 years old with the juvenile justice system. Each group offered will emphasize learning new skills and behaviors that will reduce the risk of repetitive destructive behaviors. Affordable individual and family counseling is available for adolescents and family support. Contact Clay Muench.

(941) 366-2224 ext.144 www.JFCS-CARES.org

**Mental Health Community Center/Selby House**-A drop-in center providing daily socialization programs to aid those with mental illness and disabling emotional problems. Selby House offers daily programs and activities that strengthen individuals' connections to the community.

513 E. Hickory St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 993-9266

**First Step of Sarasota**-Prevents and treats alcohol and drug addictions, and associated disorders. We foster fully functioning, productive individuals by offering a full array of services in partnership with our community.

10 E. Oak St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-1324 www.fsos.org

**Alcoholics Anonymous**-Meets at St. Edmund the Martyr Episcopal Church on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday of each week at 7 pm.

327 W. Hickory St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-0485



## Medical Care and Physicians

**DeSoto Memorial Hospital Center for Family Health**-Provides family-centered health care for the residents of DeSoto County and surrounding areas. Family Practice, Pediatrics, Women's Health, OB/Gyn, and General Surgery are provided by specialty physicians at the Center. Walk-ins are accepted for Family Practice and Pediatrics; but appointments are recommended to minimize wait time. Most insurance plans are accepted; a sliding payment scale is available.

888 N. Roberts Ave., Arcadia 34266 (863) 494-8401

**Community Care Family Healthcare Center** - a multispecialty medical group, Manatee County Rural Health Services strives to provide the entire family with the highest standard of accessible, affordable, quality health care. Located throughout Manatee, Sarasota and Desoto counties.

1148 East Gibson Street, Arcadia 34266 (863) 494-6222

Obstetrics/Gynecology		
DeSoto Co. Health Dept.	(863) 491-1918	519 W. Hickory St. Arcadia 34266
Dr. Mohammadboy Dr. Teodorescu	(863) 494 -8436	110 East Gibson St., Arcadia 34266
Pediatrics		
Dr. Hernandez	(863) 494- 4433	250 N. Brevard Ave., Arcadia 34266
Dr. Harrison	(863) 491- 6150	1012 N. Mills Ave., Arcadia 34266
Dr. Villanueva	(863) 491- 1553	1014 N. Mills Ave., Arcadia 34266
Dental Care		
DeSoto Co. Dental Clinic	(863) 491-6150	34 South Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 34266



## Prescription Assistance

**The DeSoto County Health Department**-Now offering free or reduced cost medication. This service seeks to help the deprived of any age or race, those with no insurance or inadequate insurance, and those who do not qualify for other programs. Staff will assist in working with the doctor and drug companies to help qualify for long-term prescription assistance directly from the manufacturer of the prescription medication.

### Qualifying

Eligibility must first be determined. A preliminary screening will be performed to ensure that you have all the necessary paperwork completed.

Documents needed to qualify:

- Photo ID and proof of DeSoto County residency (if not listed on your ID or Driver's License)
- Written prescription(s) from your doctor or medication bottle(s)
- Proof of Insurance coverage (if existing), Medicaid denial letter
- Proof of Income (for all in the household): 4 consecutive pay stubs, bank statement, W2 tax form, Worker's Compensation statement, Food Stamps statement, Income Tax statement, if available.

If these documents are not available, any appointments must be re-scheduled. The program's procedures are dictated by regulations, so exceptions are not permitted.

34 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 34266 (863) 993-4601, Fax (863)993-4547



**Poison Helpline**  
(800) 222-1222



## Housing

**Arcadia Housing Authority-**

7 Booker T. Washington Rd., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494 -4343

**Habitat for Humanity-**

10 S. DeSoto Ave., Suite 200-B, Arcadia 34266 (863) 494-4118

**Casa San Juan Bosco Homes**-Affordable housing for DeSoto County farm workers.

2358 SE Arnold Andrews Ave., Arcadia 34266, (863) 884-2136

# Food Banks and Pantries

## All Faiths Food Bank-

Call (941) 379-6333 for Arcadia distribution sites.

## Arcadia Center for the Needy-

163 S. Orange Ave., Arcadia 34266, (863) 558-9450

## DeSoto County HIPPY Program-

4 W. Oak St., Suite H, Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-5233

## Nocatee Church of God-

4870 SW Highway 17, Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-4774

**Ed's Shed**-St. Edmund the Martyr Episcopal Church on second Wednesday of month from 3-5 pm and Sunday from 11:30 am-12:30 pm.

327 W. Hickory St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-0485

## Social Services

**Arcadia Center for the Needy**-Food Stamp and Social Security cards required.

163 S. Orange Ave., Arcadia 34266, (863) 558-9450

**Catholic Charities**-Emergency food, clothing, financial, immigration assistance, and after school enrichment program. Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm.

1210 E. Oak St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-1068

**Child Support (Department Of Revenue)**-(800) 622-5437, (863) 494-4681

**Department of Children and Families**-Food Stamps, TANF, Medicaid.

805 N. Mills Ave., Arcadia 34266, (866) 762-2237

**Florida Kid Care**-Health insurance for uninsured children from birth to 18 years, based on family size and income. (888) 540-8837

## Senior Friendship Center-

23 N. Polk Ave, Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-5965

**Goodwill**-Thrift store, job skills, online education.

1701 E. Oak St., Arcadia 34266 goodwillindustries.org

## Division of Vocational Rehabilitation-

1733 E Oak St. Arcadia, FL 34266-8925

(863) 993-4655, Fax (863) 993-4738

**American Red Cross**-Provides emergency assistance for disaster victims due to natural disasters. Emergency communication services for Armed Forces families. Training for CPR/AED, first aid, life guarding, HIV/AIDS education, sailing, babysitting. Information and presentations for disaster preparedness.

710 N. Brevard Ave., Arcadia 34266, (863) 494-2348

**DeSoto County Homeless Coalition**-Prevent and end homelessness within DeSoto County, Florida. Our vision is to see the homeless and potentially homeless individuals become productive citizens.

1425 M. L. King St., Arcadia 34266, (863) 491-5683



**The DeSoto County Social Services Department**-Solely focuses on improving the quality of life for people in need by providing comprehensive county-wide social services. The department's commitment to the provision of these services stems from the belief that the quality of life in our community is directly impacted by our ability to respond to the needs of our most troubled and vulnerable citizens. DeSoto County Social Services has helped hundreds of individuals and families with a wide range of needs including food, shelter, transportation, medical assistance and energy assistance through programs administered within the department.

The following are programs offered by DeSoto County Social Services:

- Transportation Disadvantaged/General Public Transportation/DART
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- USDA Commodities
- Housing Programs
- Indigent Burial
- Medicaid-County Billing
- Health Care Responsibility Act (HCRA)

Administration Building: 201 E. Oak St., Suite 202, Arcadia 34266  
(863) 993-4858, Fax (863) 993-4857



**Veterans Services**-Specialized knowledge in the optimal ways to meet the need of every individual veteran or beneficiary in the community. All information conveyed to the staff and program is privileged and will be held in strict confidence.

Administration Building: 201 E. Oak St., Suite 202, Arcadia 34266



[www.cfbhn.org](http://www.cfbhn.org)

(813) 740-4811

719 Highway 301 South  
Tampa, FL 33619



***Get Connected – Get Answers  
Conectese – Consiga Respuestas***

**Your Source for Free Information on Health  
and Human Services in Manatee, Sarasota,  
and DeSoto Counties**

Su Fuente de Información Gratis Sobre los  
Servicios de Salud y Servicios Humanos en los  
Condados de Manatee, Sarasota, y DeSoto

**Just Dial/Sólo llame al  
2-1-1 or 941-308-4357 or  
Toll Free 877-211-0444**

**Available/Disponible 24/7**

**[www.uw211manasota.net](http://www.uw211manasota.net)**

Please send updates/changes to this booklet to [datamgr@uw211manasota.net](mailto:datamgr@uw211manasota.net)

Thanks to all our community partners, including Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, Inc. and The Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc. from the Evelyn Tucker Fund in memory of Vera Tucker Gettinger and Dr. Donald Rufus for their assistance and support in compiling and publishing this DeSoto County Health and Human Services Resource Guide.