## 2015 Annual Report

DATA





Our Philosophy

It is our belief that all children are good, and if given appropriate opportunities, they will become productive, contributing members of society. Since 1980, DATA has developed a range of prevention, intervention and treatment services designed to address the child as an integral part of his or her family and community. Our goal is to provide these children with the skills and competency necessary to achieve these positive outcomes.

Our Mission

DATA provides effective quality programs for children, adolescents and their families experiencing problems with substance abuse and/or juvenile delinquency. We provide services in Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. We are committed to providing programs that foster the skills necessary for individuals to be responsible, productive members of their communities.

# Our Vision

We envision a community that instills the importance of education and respect for self, life and property, which empowers children and their families to reject drugs, violence and other criminal activity. DATA recognizes that substance abuse affects every aspect of an individual's life and that effective programming will foster self-reliance, social competence and abstinence from substance abuse.

## Programs

## Treatment

## Outpatient

Outpatient services include screening, assessment, counseling, information and referral, and urinalysis services. DATA provides screening services for any person referred to the program. The level of care generally involves weekly sessions supplemented by participation in self-help meetings. Family therapy is an integral part of the client's treatment experience. Outreach services are provided for adolescents in their homes and at sites more accessible for the client.

## Residential

DATA operates two co-ed adolescent residential treatment centers - The Norman C. Hayslip Center in Fort Pierce with a capacity of 19 beds and the Walter D. Kelly Center in West Palm Beach with 20 beds. The average length of stay is three to six months and includes individual, group and family therapy as well as on-site education programs. The centers operate year round, 24 hours a day. Successful completion of the program is based on: progressing academically, coming to terms with the impact drugs have had on the client's life, and changing behavior that is not acceptable in society.

## Prevention

### **Project SUCCESS**

This program operates in 11 middle schools and high schools in Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties. Project SUCCESS is an evidencebased program that builds on the findings of other successful prevention programs by using interventions that are effective in reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors. Services include a universal prevention education series, individual and group counseling, parenting programs and referral services.

## Intervention

Data runs multiple intervention programs and services for individuals and families that focus on reducing risk factors generally associated with the progression of substance abuse and mental health problems. Intervention is accomplished through early identification of people at risk, performing basic individual assessments, and providing supportive services that emphasize short term counseling and referral.

#### Aftercare

The Aftercare program and activities focus on relapse prevention strategies for youth who have successfully completed DATA residential and outpatient programs. These services include relapse prevention groups, support groups, and other activities that support a drug-free existence.

## TASC

TASC is an assessment and case management program for delinquent youth dealing with substance abuse and/or mental health issues. TASC specialists conduct comprehensive assessment and provide recommendations to Juvenile Justice and the courts. The program is designed to ensure that all delinquent youth needing services are identified and afforded the opportunity to begin their journey to recovery.

#### **HIV Intervention**

HHIV intervention and outreach services are provided through confidential testing, pre- and post-test counseling, HIV 104 certification education, community outreach and enhancement groups.

## **School Based Intervention**

Intervention services are provided to youth at 17 local high schools and middle schools. Services include the identification of youth at risk through individual assessment and education of school guidance staff, individual psychosocial assessment, short-term individual, family and group counseling, and referral to appropriate services for youth who need more intensive services. It also may include science-based anger management and substance abuse education as forms of intervention.

### **Case Management**

Case management services target juvenile justice youth who are identified with substance abuse and mental health needs. The primary purpose is to increase placement rates and treatment outcomes in this difficult population.

## A-CRA Evidence-based Program

DATA adopted the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA) into its **Outpatient, Residential and Intervention** programs. A-CRA is a behavioral intervention program designed to reduce or eliminate substance use and the associated adolescent behavioral issues (i.e. poor judgment). A-CRA's evidence-based model works to improve treatment effectiveness by focusing on relapse prevention, problem solving, coping strategies, case management, family support, and family therapy.





Dear Friends, Supporters and Staff of DATA,

We enter a new year with a commitment to continue building on the progress we made in 2015, which we achieved because of the extraordinary efforts of our dedicated staff.

DATA is fortunate to have a strong executive team led by our President and CEO, John Fowler. His leadership has guided DATA through an extremely volatile transition period over the past couple of years. John and his team have never lost sight of our mission and vision. Their efforts have made DATA stronger and ready to provide needed services to our community.

Substance abuse and delinguency issues continue to be significant problems. Every individual and family that DATA touches has the potential to grow stronger, become successful and recognize their full potential.

At DATA we are always looking for innovative ways to assist those who come to us for help. One of our tools is the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA)

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which has been successfully adopted into our Outpatient, Residential and Intervention Programs. This school-based intervention is provided to youth at local middle schools and high schools. It is a behavioral intervention program designed to reduce or eliminate substance abuse and related behavior issues.

Our work depends on the kindness and generosity of a caring and generous community, our business partners, our donors, the dedication of our board of directors, and the tireless work of our staff.

Which brings me to the sad news of the passing of Pieter Stryker, a long-standing, hardworking, dedicated member of the DATA board of directors. We remember Pieter and his service on page 7.

DATA inspires me. I am proud of our organization, the work we do, and the lives we help. During the coming year, DATA will continue to provide hope for the many children and families, and I want to thank you for being part of our mission.

Sincerely - 11 100 100 100 100 10.00 10.00

#### Dear Friends,

When a parent first encounters DATA, they are often filled with worry and despair. They come to DATA sometimes believing that this is their child's last chance. So later, when a mother hugs her child for the first time in a long time, we at DATA know they are headed on a new and rewarding path.

For more than 30 years, DATA has been an island of hope for children and families struggling with addiction and severe behavioral problems. Each individual and family is unique. Each requires care and attention. Each success makes the staff of DATA enormously proud of what we do.

This is who we are, and why we are here.

Our dedication to helping these families is unwavering despite difficult changes and expectations of companies like DATA. During the past three years, we have had to work with the establishment of the Managing Entities, Health Care Reform, Managed Care, and significant workforce issues. These have challenged even the strongest companies. These challenges place stress on the employees, the people who do the work, the people who are DATA.



We succeed because of the hard work and dedication of our staff.

DATA is a leader in the field of substance abuse. We excel at everything we do, despite the barriers and challenges that are thrust upon us. Requirements, demands, and expectations continue to increase. In response to increased accountability, our staff continues to rise to the occasion. We have endured more audits and reviews in a single year, than I can ever remember. I know at times, it seems like a lot. We continually are asked to "prove" that we are doing our job and are doing it well.

You - our staff - consistently do that. You are the reason that our reputation is one of leadership, competency, ethics and success.

The loyalty, dedication and commitment of the staff and Board of Directors are unmatched. You have every reason to be proud of the work you do and to find joy in renewing the lives of children and families.

Friends, please join me in thanking and celebrating the exceptional men and women who work and volunteer at DATA.

I am proud to be a member of this team. Thank you.



## DATA intervention counselor named CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR



Shaun Hutton was enjoying an August vacation in Mexico when Kathy Florack, her boss at DATA, called long-distance. "Shaun," Florack said to her, somberly, "we have some concerns we have to talk about with you."

Hutton held her breath, listened to her pounding heart, and waited to be fired. And then Florack burst out laughing. "I'm just kidding," she said. "You're the FADAA Clinician of the Year."

The Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association had named DATA's intervention counselor at Jupiter Community High School the best in the state. "It's an awesome recognition," she says. "It means a lot just being recognized for something I love to do."

Hutton was surprised, but her colleagues at DATA and Jupiter High School were not.

"Students are captivated by her composed manner and great sense of humor," the school's assistant principal, Raymond J. Collum, wrote in a lengthy letter recommending her for the award. "She has, without a doubt, intervened and literally saved the lives of several students this past year alone."

The students know her smile, her calm manner and her willingness to listen, but that's about all they know.

They don't know she came to The Bronx from Jamaica when she was 13. They don't know she has a master's degree in counseling and substance abuse administration from Pace University, or that she is working on her doctorate in clinical psychology. They don't know she came to DATA as an outpatient therapist in August 2005 and has been the school's in-house intervention counselor since March 2006. They don't know if she's single or married, a mother or not.

"I don't reveal anything about myself," she says, "so every kid has a story of me in their head, and that's fine." After all, who Shaun Hutton is isn't nearly as important as who she isn't.

When new students seeking a friendly smile, listening ears and a nonjudgmental demeanor appear in her office, Hutton tells them, "I'm not a cop. I'm not your mom. I don't go on TV. I don't even work for the school."

She works for DATA, not the school, and that's one more fact that helps troubled teens relax and confide. The walls of Hutton's small office at Jupiter High School are adorned with posters bearing words of wisdom -

Don't let people rent negative space in your head. The worst truth is better than the best lie.

The most important sentiment, however, is framed on her desk where no student can miss it -*Sometimes People Just Need To Be Heard.* 

"I can still be shocked by some of the things I hear," she admits. "It's hard not to pass judgment sometimes, but my role here is not that. It's to help the students get to where they want to be. Judgment does nothing to realize that goal." From 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., five days a week, she's at the school, meeting individually with about 15 students at any given time and mingling with the rest so they know she's there if they need her. Some are referred by the guidance counselor, some the assistant principal, a surprising number by other students who know how much help she can be.

They sit, they talk, she listens, and the stories she hears do not always center on drug or alcohol abuse. Students want to talk about divorce, their grades, their anger issues, their relationships, domestic violence, selfesteem.

"My boyfriend says I'm too fat," they tell her. Or, "I'm gay, should I tell my parents?"

And then they make a list of pros and cons. What if you broke up with your boyfriend? What might happen if you told your parents? What would happen if you didn't?

"I don't take sides," Hutton says. "I tell them, 'It's your decision,' and we discuss the possible reactions they might encounter. It's not my place to tell either the students or the parents how to react."

Sometimes she tells them frankly that she doesn't know the answer. An adult who doesn't know all the answers, imagine that. And so they work them out together.

The students learn from her, and she learns from them.

"You think you have it bad," she says, "and then you listen to a student and hear that, despite the trauma in their lives, they came to school every day despite the fact that life at home is so crazy. They persevere, because school has become their safe place."

And Shaun Hutton is one of the people at Jupiter High School who helps make it safe.

## Making a connection through SCHOOL BASED INTERVENTION

As an intervention counselor, Shaun Hutton deals with the challenges and crises of students at one large high school. Kathy Florack oversees the intervention counselors at 17 schools in Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties.

As DATA's Director of School Based Programs, she visits two schools a day, checking in with her counselors, observing their interaction with students, conferring with principals. She meets with the area's substance abuse coalitions and school advisory boards. She prepares the monthly report, tallying the number of students seen, the number of admissions to DATA's outpatient or inpatient programs, the outcomes and discharges and, of course, the crises.

"I probably get four calls a week of reported abuse or crisis situations," she says.

Fortunately for DATA and its clients, she's prepared. After a career counseling adults in Broward County, Florack came to DATA in 2006, commuting to Belle Glade as an outreach counselor and court liaison. In 2007, she became a supervisor of eight in-school counselors, and then, in 2009, became the program director.

"Our goal is to have 60 clients in a school each year," she says, "but with a limit of 20 at any given time, because our counselors have to build relationships."

A counselor needs a master's degree in behavioral science, psychology or social work. A counselor needs to be a team player. But most of all, Florack says, a counselor needs to be someone to whom middle and high school students can relate. "The best counselors are the ones the children trust and seek out," she says, "because they'll refer their friends. You can't sit on your hands. You don't want someone who's isolated in their office. You have to be out there, interacting, having lunch. You can't be just another adult droning on."

An excellent counselor also needs an excellent school-based program, and Florack knows DATA has found one with the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA).

Now in its second year at DATA, the program teaches students the communication skills that can lead to better relationships at home. Through weekly meetings with the counselor, students learn problemsolving techniques, assertiveness and how to set positive goals.

"Students come in with the drama of the week and then practice role-playing with the counselor to discover the skills to deal with that drama. They ask, what are the possible outcomes of this or that reaction."

In a school like Jupiter High, with more than 2,800 students, establishing a nurturing connection to the school is essential, Florack says, and A-CRA helps with monthly Environmental Awareness projects.

"Every month, the students create posters, art work, skits or write pledges revolving around national awareness days linked to tobacco awareness, depression, dating violence or suicide prevention," Florack explained.

Overall, the A-CRA model teaches students to recognize their "triggers," she says. When are



they most vulnerable to depression, acting out or abusing drugs or alcohol? Is it when they're stressed or excited? When someone has been mean? When they follow the crowd? Or even in a certain place?

"It's an evidence-based program that's been tested with groups of adolescents over the years and proven to reduce abuse," Florack says.

Each year, DATA tries to add another school or two to its roster of A-CRA model programs, working with school districts to identify those schools where a counselor can do the most good.

Recently, a grant from the National Institute of Justice paid for a counselor at Lake Worth High School, where DATA provides statistics to Florida State University's three-year study of treatment outcomes.

"Someday I'd like to see a counselor in every middle school and every high school," Kathy Florack says. "I think there's a need, and I think the schools think there's a need, too."

## School Based Intervention helped Daphne find the way

"My mom and me didn't really get along," Daphne remembers. "She was really strict, and she would always be on me and put me down or try to find some way to start an argument. Sometimes I felt like she didn't care."

One day at school, Daphne confided in her best friend about her frustrations. She and her mother had a "hi & bye" relationship, she said. "Oh," her friend replied, "you should meet Ms. Hutton." ILLARS.

Her friend was already seeing Shaun Hutton, DATA's in-school counselor, and Daphne was intrigued. "I hadn't really thought about talking to anybody before," she says. "Not an adult."

That was in 2012, her sophomore year. Daphne's friend introduced them, Daphne's mother signed a consent form, and for the next three years she sat in Shaun Hutton's quiet office at least once a week, door closed, minds open, and talked about her life - the tension with her mother, her grades, her dreams, her college plans.

"She was nice and understanding," Daphne says. "She would try to understand and give me advice about what I can do."

In addition to seeing Daphne, Hutton also met with her mother, and in time both mother and daughter have come to understand each other better.

Daphne's mother is from Haiti. She was born in West Palm Beach. To her mother, providing food and shelter said, "I love you." But

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Daphne was seeking more. She wanted to hear "Good job" when she got good grades, "I'm proud of you." She needed to share more than food.

To explore solutions to that and other challenges, Hutton had Daphne do an exercise she calls "Pros & Cons." What would be the possible benefits of reaching out to her mother and sharing her feelings? The pros. What could go wrong? The cons.

They listed Daphne's best qualities. "My smile," she said, "and I go out of my way to help people."

And her worst. "Being too quiet. Not speaking up for myself."

They listed the pros and cons of going away to college versus staying in Palm Beach County.

"She's so understanding," Daphne says. "She looks at both points of view, you and your parents. Sometimes I know she wanted to jump across the desk and smack me or something, but she never tested my patience. She told me how to try to talk to my mom about my feelings."

In the end, Daphne decided to begin college at Palm Beach State College before moving on to a fouryear school.

"I'm more open now to my mom. I can talk to her better." she says. "And my mother has changed since I started going to college, and got accepted into Phi Beta Kappa."

Today, Daphne's taking 12 credits a semester, pursuing a career in either psychology or social work, earning a 3.2 grade point average and working 20 hours a week at Publix. She's applied to Florida State University, the University of Central Florida, the University of South Florida and Florida International University for next fall's semester. And from time to time she still finds time to drop by Jupiter High School and say hello to the DATA counselor who helped smooth her way.

"I look at her as a role model and used her in my college essay as someone I looked up to. I would advise any student to talk to Ms. Hutton because they'd be surprised how it can make a difference. I was depressed and would always put myself down. But it can change your life, because it changed mine."

Daphne won't forget the counselor from DATA who helped her find the way forward, and Shaun Hutton won't forget her, either.

On the wall beside the desk where they talked for nearly three years, Hutton keeps a snapshot of her former client, looking poised and confident in the pink gown she wore to the senior prom.

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## In Memoriam -Mr. Pieter Stryker

DATA lost a dear friend and beloved member of the DATA family when Mr. Pieter Stryker passed away in March at the age of 72. A long-time DATA board member, Pieter was one of our feature stories in the 2008 annual report. In remembrance of Pieter, below is the story. Pieter will be missed by all who knew him personally and in the community.



## FLYING HIGH...DRUG FREE

It's the same message adults have been telling kids for years – you don't have to take drugs to get high. But Pieter Stryker doesn't just tell them. He shows them.

In addition to being a member of DATA's board of directors, Stryker is also a private pilot and a volunteer with the Fort Pierce chapter of the Young Eagles Club, a national organization that works to interest the young in aviation by offering free airplane rides. Every three or four months, some of those kids who gather at the St. Lucie County International Airport for a Young Eagles flight are also DATA clients.

A vice president and senior financial advisor in the Vero Beach office of Merrill Lynch, Stryker took his first flying lesson in 1959, on his 17th birthday. Today, he's the owner of a 1965 single-engine Beechcraft Debonair.

On the ground, the Young Eagles first learn about air safety, the secrets of aeronautics, and the rudiments of navigation – and then they climb into a single-engine plane for a 20-minute lesson in getting high without drugs.

"My favorite part of the flight is, while flying on autopilot, I tell the child to put their hands on the yoke," says Stryker. "Then I switch off the autopilot and say, 'It's your airplane.' "The next view is of the two largest eyeballs in the world," he says. "And I get to make that happen."

Since its founding in 1992, the Young Eagles have taken more than 1.3 million kids for a free flight, and Stryker estimates nearly a hundred of them have been DATA clients. Not long ago, one of them was Chase, 17, a resident at the Norman C. Hayslip Center in Fort Pierce.

"I've been in a big plane, but never in a small plane," he said once back on solid ground. "It was fun. He let us fly the plane and steer. I wasn't scared, but it was weird. I could feel the plane responding. I knew I had him up there with me and he would have told me if I'd done something wrong. Afterward I felt real good. It was a sense of accomplishment."

For Stryker, the elation he sees in the kids' eyes is contagious. "Usually it's their first time ever in a small plane, and it's a different experience than being in a big one, looking out a window. Two things happen when a child comes back from flying," he says. "They're beaming, and you can't get them off the phone for a week. They want to tell everybody what they did."

## How you can support DATA

We hope the stories in our 2015 Annual Report provide you with a unique understanding of who we are and what we do every day at DATA. Substance abuse remains a serious problem in Florida and it can happen to any child, no matter one's socio-economic place in society, at alarming young ages - when we least expect it.

One hundred percent of every donation to DATA goes directly to support DATA's exceptional, evidence-based substance abuse programs designed to meet the specific needs of children, teens and their families impacted by addiction, mental health and delinquency issues.

#### Ways you can help:

**Become involved** with DATA by serving on a committee, talking with friends, coworkers and lawmakers.

**Introduce DATA** to corporations and other potential donors.

#### Make DATA part of your annual giving

with a contribution in honor of a family member or friend as an enduring tribute in their honor.

DATA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are tax deductible.

To contribute to the Drug Abuse Treatment Association, Inc. by mail, please send your donation to: DATA 1016 Clemons Street Suite 300 Jupiter, FL 33477

Or visit us online at www.drugabusetreatment.org or call DATA at 561.743.1034.

## Statement of Activities Year Ending June 30, 2015

#### **Revenues and Support**

Contributions and net Fundraising Grants/Contracts In-Kind Donations Medicaid and Program Service Fees Interest Income Total Revenue and Support	\$4, \$ \$ \$	250,587 ,745,654 395,743 125,407 10,487 <b>527,878</b>
Expenses Program Services	ψU,	,027,070
Residential Prevention School Based Intervention	• •	,980,948 646,000
and Outreach HIV Outreach Community Based Services	\$ \$ \$	951,378 198,878 358,861
Outpatient Other Programs	\$ \$	585,555 121,250
Total Dragram Canvisas	<b>Ф</b> 4	040.070
Total Program Services Supporting Services	\$4, \$	,842,870 576,046
Total Expenses	<b>\$5</b> ,	,418,916
Net Surplus	\$	108,962

## 2014–2015 Board of Directors

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Vice Chairman James McInnis, CGFO

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Walter D. Kelly (1927-1996)

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## **DATA Locations**

#### **Administration**

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#### Norman C. Hayslip Treatment Center 4590 Selvitz Road

Fort Pierce, FL 34981 772.464.7575 Phone 772.464.6169 Fax

#### Walter D. Kelly Treatment Center

1041 45th Street West Palm Beach, FL 33407 561.844.9661 Phone 561.840.8716 Fax

#### **Outpatient/Intervention & Prevention**

1720 E. Tiffany Drive, Suite 102 Mangonia Park, FL 33407 561.844.3556 Phone 561.845.0316 Fax

#### **Outpatient/Intervention**

4590 Selvitz Road Fort Pierce, FL 34981 772.595.3322 Phone 772.595.3704 Fax

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