## THE FLORIDA MESSENGER

Official newsletter of Phoenix House Florida



A Message from the CEO

As we near the end of summer and head into August, I am looking forward to the fall and all of the new opportunities it brings. I am reminded every day how honored I am to work with so many committed and professional staff here at Phoenix House Florida and partners in the community. The strength and resilience our communities have shown during these past several months during the pandemic is extraordinary and a true reflection of our commitment to the care of those who need it most.

We continue to follow the guidelines of the Florida Department of Health, while providing services and protect our staff and patients at both of our locations in Brandon and Citra.

Thank you for your continued support of Phoenix House Florida, stay safe and well!

Maria Alvarez, President & CEO



#### Check out our new video!



https://watch.wave.video/bf8b de5e9b0ab926d17d48cf

#### In this month's issue:

- A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO
- INTRODUCING OUR NEW CLINICAL DIRECTOR
- PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT
- BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH UPDATE
- JOB OPENINGS

# Welcome to our new Clinical Director of Residential Services!

#### Dr. Kathleen Pracht, NCC, LMHC

Kathy Pracht has a doctorate in social and behavioral sciences from Walden University. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from The Ohio State University and a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Central Florida. Throughout her career, Dr. Pracht has used her expertise to build systems of care that promote the integration of mental health and addiction services. She previously served as a health care Administrator, and then a Clinical Director and Program Supervisor for community behavioral health organizations where she led initiatives to expand evidence-based practices, integrate peer leadership in treatment models and increase access to care in non-traditional settings. Dr. Pracht has extensive experience using the Scholar Practitioner Model to facilitate community-based organization administration.

She developed and implemented a trauma focused mental health program for the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) through Children's Home Society of Florida in Polk, Highland, and Hardee Counties. She collaborated with the Child Protection Team and Forensic Team to create and implement the training curriculum, "What is Trauma Informed Care?" regarding trauma and its effect on individuals. She also provided training and consultation to the Department of Children and Families, the Sheriff's Crisis Negotiations, and Homeland Security. Dr. Pracht worked for the Department of Justice in Orlando as a correction's professional responsible for the Thinking for Change program under a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) for medium to high risk inmates.

In 2018, Dr. Pracht became the Founder and COO of Le Mind Aid Counseling where she was responsible for oversight of the company, performance management, operational standardization efforts and efficiencies, annual budget development and monthly financial statement analysis.

Today, she finds ways that research and data can improve community-based prevention and intervention. Dr. Pracht brings over 20 years of experience and research to her role as Clinical Director of Residential Services at Phoenix House Florida.

## Program Spotlight

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

## **END THE STIGMA NOW**

Phoenix House Florida Derek Jeter Center

ADDICTION TREATMENT

## TEEN OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS

Programs to fit your schedule in Brandon, Florida

SCAN NOW FOR MOR INFORMAITON

Contact us now for help.

Email: fladmissions@phoenixfl.org

Phone: 813-881-1000, option 1

## Business Development & Outreach Welcome to our new team member!

## Your Eastern Florida Representative

#### **Brett Bowen**

Brett was born in Fernandina Beach, FL where he lived until he entered the United States Air Force in 1991. His military service included being stationed at eight different locations in the U.S. and overseas. He considers the highlight of his military career the time he was assigned to the U.S. Embassy to Nigeria. He retired from service in 2013 and returned to his roots in NE Florida. Soon Brett realized he missed being part of a team and needed to have a "mission." So, in 2014, he entered the world of mental health and substance use disorder business development. Brett's favorite hobby is aviation - he's currently a student pilot who hopes to have his pilot certificate by July. He also loves going to Walt Disney World with his two favorite people; his wife and daughter.



## **Contact Brett Anytime!**

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