

# Court Care...A Better Place to Be

## Be

**What is Court Care...A Better Place to Be?**

Court Care...A Better Place to Be provides a temporary respite for children who come to court due to lack of child care alternatives, adults/children being witnesses or unintended victims of domestic violence or involved in family disputes, or family members involved in criminal court matters.

### How is Court Care Funded?

Court Care...A Better Place to Be is made possible through Miami-Dade County, contributions of the YWCA and the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Administrative Offices of the Courts and members of the legal community.

To learn more about YWCA of Greater Miami-Dade and the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida go to

[www.ywca-miami.org](http://www.ywca-miami.org)

[www.jud11.flcourts.org](http://www.jud11.flcourts.org)

### Center Locations ...

Thomas E. Lawson Courthouse  
175 NW 1st Avenue, 11th Floor  
Miami, Florida 33128  
305-349-6020

Provides Services to Children Ages Infant – Age 12  
Hours of Operation  
8:00AM – 5:00PM

Richard E. Gerstein Courthouse  
1351 NW 12th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125  
305-548-5128

Provides Services to Children Ages  
Infant – Age 5  
Hours of Operation  
8:30AM - 4:30PM

Child Support Enforcement Division  
Overtown Transit Village  
South Tower  
601 NW 1st Court, 1st Floor  
Miami, FL 33136  
786-469-3948

Provides Services to Children Ages  
Infant – Age 12  
Hours of Operation  
8:00AM - 2:00PM

Miami Dade Children's Courthouse  
155 NW 3rd Street, 4th Floor, RM#4318  
Miami, Florida 33128  
305-679-2730

Provides Services to Children Ages  
Infant – Age 12  
Hours of Operation  
8:00AM – 4:30PM

### Days of Operation ...

Monday – Friday Excluding Holidays



## COURT CARE... A Better Place to Be

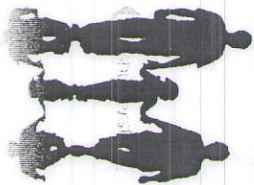


A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE  
YWCA OF GREATER MIAMI DADE  
AND THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

## The Benefits ...

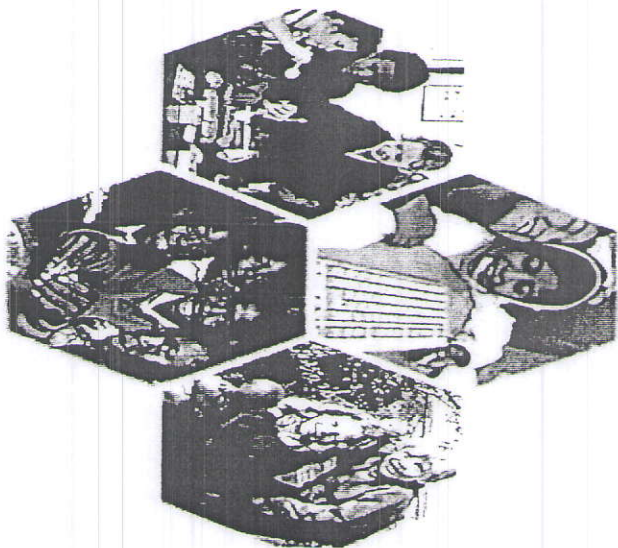
Research reports that the effects on children who have had exposure to trauma, especially high conflict and violence in the family include aggressive behavior, anti-social behavior, conduct disorders, anxiety, and a negative effect on academic achievement. The short-term effects have been reported as depression, withdrawal, somatic complaints, and aggressive behavior.

Court Care centers provide children with a positive and nurturing atmosphere; families with support services; and both with an appropriate and responsive referral system should families have additional needs.



## Our Goals ...

To create and foster opportunities for children to avoid additional exposure to adult aggression, or descriptive testimony; as well as minimize disturbances within the courtroom.



## Frequently Asked Questions ...

*Who watches my children?*

- ❖ YWCA staffs this program with trained childcare providers. Two trained staff are present during the hours of operation.

❖ *May anyone other than myself pick-up my children from the center?*

- ❖ No. Only you or a person of your designation or of the courts may pick-up your children

*How long may my children remain in the Center?*

- ❖ Children may remain in the center as long as the parent or guardian is conducting court business. At the conclusion of court business, all children must be picked-up to ensure availability of services for other families.

*How much does it cost?*

- ❖ Absolutely free.

*Where will my children be in the event of an emergency?*

- ❖ In the event the center is required to evacuate the building, the location of your children will be provided to you at the time of intake.

*What if my child is sick, will they be accepted?*

- ❖ No. Any child who is sick or has any contagious disease will not be admitted to the center.