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IN THIS EDITION

Focused on our Kids P.1

The Right Dose by Dr. Vijapura P.2

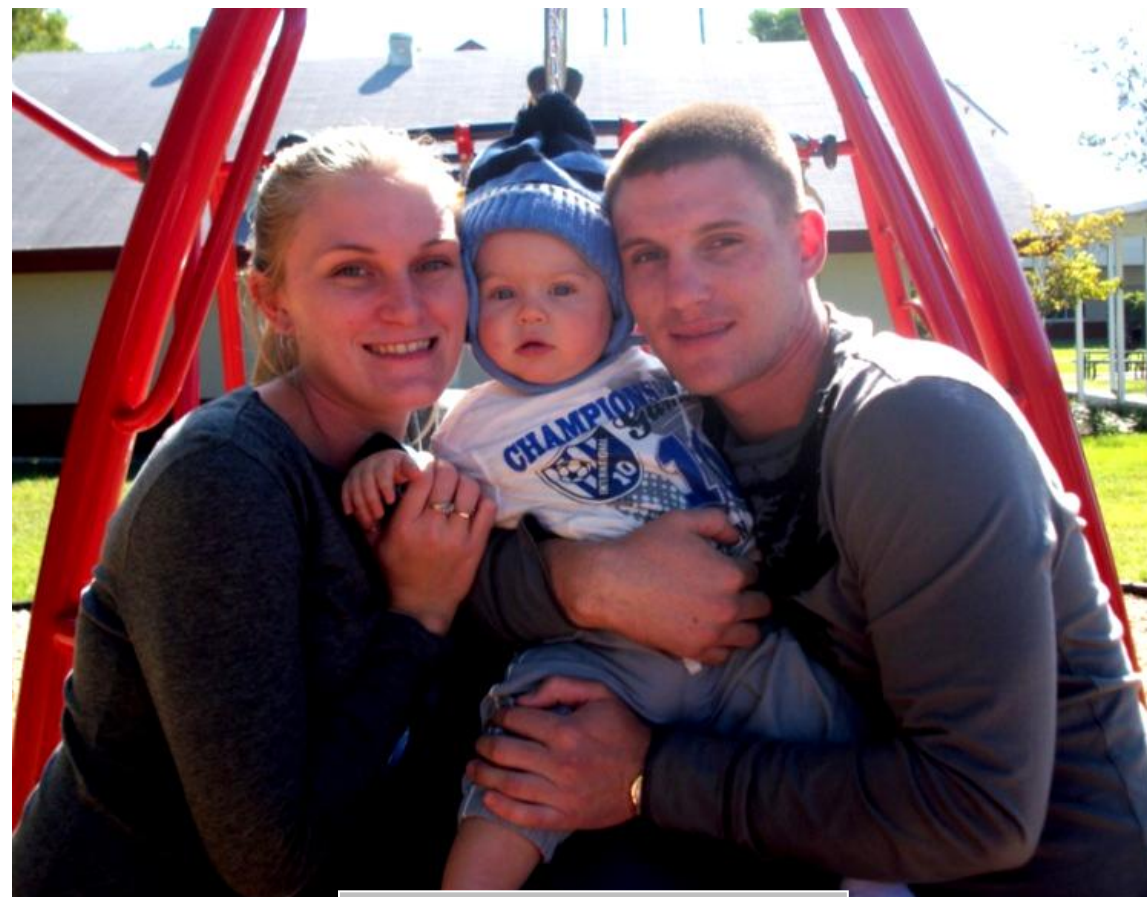
Teen in Trouble? P.3

Creating Memories P.4

## Focused on Our Kids

Let us introduce you to Jeremiah and his parents - Savannah and John. Jeremiah was born March of 2011 to parents addicted to prescription drugs. The medication became available to them after Savannah was in a car accident that left her with severe fractures in both legs. Titanium implants were necessary and oxycodone was prescribed for the pain.

After Jeremiah's birth, John and Savannah sought treatment for their addiction so they could provide a stable life for Jeremiah.



Savannah, Jeremiah and John

They found that the treatment programs at DACCO provided them with the support and structure that has led them to take

responsibility for their own actions.

It is estimated that it costs Florida taxpayers \$65,000 a year to care for an abused and neglected child. However because Jeremiah's parents had the opportunity to seek treatment at DACCO and were provided the necessary incentives and support, the odds are that Jeremiah won't become another statistic. Now he will be able to grow up in a stable environment with two drug free parents who are motivated to provide him a safe and drug free home.



## The Right Dose By Dr. Vijapura

DACCO Medical Director

Jeremiah and his parents, along with 438 infants and children of patients in treatment, have taken advantage of the many programs available at DACCO which include:

- Onsite child care for infants & toddlers.
- Assessment of child development and needed services
- Parenting education with focused teaching on child rearing
- Development of parenting attitudes & practices

Recognizing that pregnant women and their infants are most at risk, this program

focuses on providing the additional support & resources necessary to increase the chances that babies are born substance free. Last year, 22 women delivered drug free babies while in the program & three months after treatment, with individualized case management support and monitoring, demonstrated behaviors consistent with remaining sober & achieving family safety and stability.

With studies reporting up to 83% of all children having died or almost died because of either abuse or neglect due to a parent's or caregiver's substance abuse disorder, DACCO's is committed to providing services that are child centered while finding opportunities to grow and

continue to add to this focus.

As our legislative representatives and local decision makers reconvene to make tough decisions about funding programs, like the Family Centered Substance Abuse Services Program, I urge you to please take a moment to remember Jeremiah and how his family has now been provided the foundation to allow him to not become yet another victim of abuse and neglect.



**In 2009, Florida ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation**

**for the highest rate of child death by maltreatment/abuse/neglect.**

Dr. Vijapura, as DACCO's Medical Director, provides medical oversight of all of DACCO's Treatment programs. The Family Centered Substance Abuse Services is an innovative program that provides an array of services and support to children, like Jeremiah, whose parents are in treatment.

Knowing that addiction does not promote a healthy family system, this program works to reestablish one where the parents learn how to support the child at home, school & in the community. This program is proven to reduce the potential that involvement in the child welfare system will be necessary.

# Teen InTrouble?

## DACCO Offers New Adolescent Program

We all know how difficult the teenage years can be.

Faced with peer pressure and other influences your child can sometimes go down a road that includes drugs and alcohol.

### We can help

Our 8 – 12 week Day Treatment Program is specifically designed for adolescents age 12 -17 and includes:

- Minimum 12 Hour a Week Program
  - Individual counseling
  - Group counseling
- Family Therapy with support & guidance for parent
- Psychiatric Evaluation & medication management performed by a physician as needed
  - Educational support services
  - Nursing and health care education
  - Random Drug Screens
  - Snacks & Dinner provided
- Transportation may be arranged to treatment
- Transition and Relapse prevention planning
- Structured recreational activities



**Call us at today at 813-384-4079**

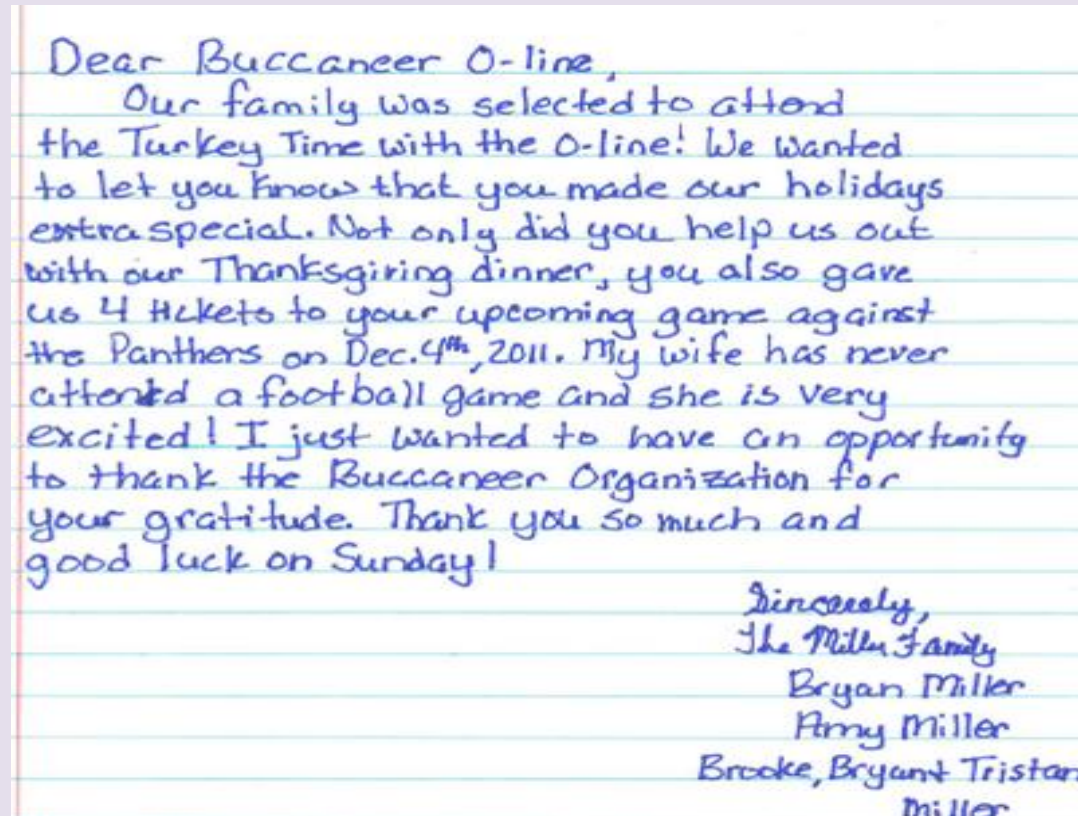
# United Way & the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Creating Memories for Kids and their Families

Thirty families were selected to attend the annual Turkey O'Line event at One Buck Place on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Miller's, one of the lucky families receiving a turkey dinner, not only met some of the players but also received tickets to one of the games!

In addition to this annual event, which is coordinated through the United Way of Tampa Bay, Jeremiah and his mom, along with 65 other adults and kids, also were provided free tickets to Lowry's Park ZooBoo event.

Two lucky families were also selected to participate in the Annual Day of Giving. On December 19<sup>th</sup> they arrived at One Buck Place and spent the day at Target shopping for Christmas with one of the Buccaneers!

Thank you Tampa Bay Buccaneers and United Way for supporting our greatest resource – our kids and their families – during the holidays when many would not be able to enjoy the season without your kindness and generosity!



## What can I or my organization do to help?

We are always in need of office furnishings, clothes, shoes, toiletries, and household items for our patients and their children.

Donations are tax deductible. For more information on how you can help, please call 813-384-4216.

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DACCO's Registration is #CH410. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 1-800-435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. DACCO is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.



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