

Covenant House Florida



Nelson Bogren, left, Loreen Chant, James M. Gress, Arthur Finkle, Peter N. Wood and Stacey Amodio

Health Foundation of South Florida recently granted \$100,000 to Covenant House Florida to launch a Trauma Informed Care initiative that will provide additional expertise to staff members in dealing with the trauma often experienced by homeless teens and young adults served by the organization.

“We’re very grateful to the Health Foundation of South Florida for funding

our Trauma Informed Care initiative,” said James M. Gress, executive director of Covenant House Florida. “Because so many of the homeless youth and young adults we serve have experienced significant traumatic stress — sexual abuse, brutal violence, substance abuse, human trafficking and more — we feel strongly our young people will benefit from this program.”

The grant will train 100 staff members in Seeking Safety, a Trauma Informed Care model endorsed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which offers best practices and interventions to address the consequences of trauma and to facilitate healing.