



Dr. Barbara Weinstein has devoted her life to ensuring Florida's children are given a fair start in life. Her goal is to eliminate the increasingly long wait list for services, to get every child in need financial assistance for a child-care program, and provide a support system for their parents. She is committed to education and always has a child at heart. Barbara is a true champion for the children, a leader, a mentor, and an inspiration to all.

Education has been central in Barbara's life; from teaching children to going back to school and earning her doctorate in education at Nova Southeastern University, to ensuring that Florida's most precious resource, its children, receive the best possible start in life. As president of the Sigma Delta Tau, (SDT) sorority, Barbara developed the skills for motivating and managing people, and her passion for community service was born. Barbara's husband, Peter, served in the Florida Senate for 14 years and now serves as Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit. She has two sons, Andrew and Michael, who are both attorneys in Broward County, and she is also the proud grandmother of three.

Prior to coming to Family Central, Dr. Weinstein worked for IBM Corporation as an Educational Instructional Assistant; prior to that she worked as a Teacher at Nova Southeastern University. In 1985, a small agency in Broward, founded by the Junior League & the United Way, welcomed her as the "person in charge, CEO, troubleshooter, & child comforter".

Barbara has seen Family Central grow from 23 employees in Broward to over 450 in Broward, Palm Beach, & Miami-Dade, and from having a budget of less than \$2million to one of more than \$200million. Now no longer a small agency, Family Central serves more than 135,000 children a year. Family Central also serves the parents of these children, many of whom are single parents by providing them with support systems. It is through Barbara's vision, leadership, energy, risk taking, and can do attitude, that Family Central has maintained a steady success, and it is able to continue catering to the ever changing complex needs of today's families.

Barbara has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout her career such as:

- American Diabetes Woman of Valor
- Broward County Council of Fire Fighters
- Care and Share Award; The Spirit of Life Humanitarian Award, The City of Hope
- Child Advocate Heart Award, Children's Consortium, Humanitarian Award
- Giraffe Award, Women's Advocacy Majority/ Minority, Sharon Solomon Child Advocate of the Year
- Human Services Professional
- Humanitarian of the Year, Broward County
- Silver Medallion Award Recipient from The National Conference for Community and Justice
- United Way Human Services Professional
- Woman of Achievement
- Women Hall of Fame.

She also belongs to numerous organizations and charities such as:

- Association for Childhood Education International
- Broward County Association for the Education of Young Children
- Child Care Action Campaign
- Coalition for America's Children
- Coral Springs/Parkland Rotary Board of Directors
- Early Childhood Association of Florida
- Florida Association of Children under Six
- National Association For Female Executives
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Women's Executive Club
- Florida Early Learning Leadership Institute