



## **LITTLE LEAVES BEHAVIORAL SERVICES OPENS NEW CENTER IN SOUTHERN FLORIDA TO SERVE CHILDREN WITH AUTISM AND DOWN SYNDROME**

*Fifth Location Overall Marks the Organization's Move into the Southeast Region*

**March 9, 2020, Camden, N.J. and Weston, Fla.** – Little Leaves Behavioral Services, a leading provider of center-based behavioral health services for children, today announced the opening of its new center in Weston, Florida. Little Leaves is dedicated to helping children with social, communication, and behavioral challenges grow and succeed so that they can actively participate in their families and communities.

The Weston center is the first Little Leaves location in Florida and marks the company's expansion beyond the Mid-Atlantic region. Little Leaves centers provide evidence-based, high quality Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services to children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or Down Syndrome diagnosis. The program is specifically designed for children aged 1-6 years, and run in a pre-school like setting to help improve their communication, play, social, and school-readiness skills, as well as build independence. Little Leaves' clinical staff partner with each child's family to develop and implement individualized therapeutic plans.

"Our passion is helping young children with social, communication and behavioral challenges achieve continuous improvement and growth," said Marina Major, president of Little Leaves Behavioral Services. "We are delighted to now serve children in South Florida and become a trusted resource for the community. Expanding the number of Little Leaves' centers and areas where we operate is a critical part of realizing our vision of making high-quality therapy accessible to all families."

Now accepting clients, the Weston location was designed to provide an ideal environment for learning – one that combines individual therapy, small group, school-readiness, and daily living activities in a child-friendly way. The 6,800 square-foot center includes specialized therapy spaces, dedicated therapeutic playrooms, and many other types of social and gross motor rooms, as well as an outdoor play area. Staff will be bilingual in English and Spanish.

"The expansion of Little Leaves to the Southeast is an important step forward in our mission to serve children with autism and other challenges in a comprehensive, holistic way," said Jeffrey Cohen, CEO of FullBloom, the parent company of Little Leaves. "As a partner to local Broward County families, we are committed to delivering the most effective, research-based ABA therapies for children, in a preschool-like setting, to prepare them for the next step in their education and life journey."

The new Little Leaves location, located at 2873 Executive Park Drive, Weston, FL 33331, will provide employment opportunities for jobseekers in the community, including Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), students in their Master's coursework, and Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs). The center will create over 50 new positions and have the capacity to serve up to 30 clients.

The center will be led by Barbara Davis, Ph.D., BCBA-D. Barbara holds a B.S. in psychology from the University of Florida, an M.A. in applied behavior analysis, and a Ph.D. in developmental psychology – both from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Little Leaves Behavioral Services has earned its Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence® accreditation. ABA is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, National Academies of Science and the Surgeon General.

Planning is underway for additional Little Leaves locations in Florida, Maryland, and Virginia. For more information, please visit [www.littleleaves.org](http://www.littleleaves.org).

### **About Little Leaves Behavioral Services**

Little Leaves, a division of FullBloom, is a center-based ABA program for young children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder run in a preschool-like setting. It is designed for children up to age 6 who have been recommended for intensive ABA services. Each client works one-on-one with a trained behavior technician on individualized goals with a focus on social communication, social interactions, and school readiness skills. The company operates centers in Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and Florida. Little Leaves is accredited by the Behavioral Health Center of Excellence. [www.littleleaves.org](http://www.littleleaves.org)

### **About FullBloom**

FullBloom provides education and behavioral health solutions for children and their families, leading to better life outcomes, regardless of the learning obstacles and other challenges they face. The company's team of more than 5,000 education and healthcare professionals works to achieve measurable and sustained academic and behavioral gains through evidence-based programs that include specialized education, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapies, intervention services, and professional development. Founded in 1976 and headquartered in Camden, New Jersey, FullBloom supports more than one hundred thousand children, partners with more than 500 school districts, and trains more than 25,000 teachers annually through its three operating divisions – Catapult Learning, Specialized Education Services, Inc (SESI), and Little Leaves. [www.fullbloom.org](http://www.fullbloom.org)

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