

## Did you know...

- Each year approximately **2 million** children under the age of 18 find themselves in the middle of a family breakup. Many times, even the best parents are unprepared to help their children because of their own feelings during this crisis.
- Only **63 percent** of American children grow up with both biological parents -- the lowest figure in the Western world.
- According to the Florida Department of Children and Families, there are approximately **9,000** children per year who are displaced from their homes because of neglect or abuse.
- In one school year, KidsKonnnect has facilitators in **45 schools** and helps **750 students**.
- Since its inception in 2000, KidsKonnnect has provided services to nearly **6,000 children** in more than **83 schools** in the tri-county area.
- Typically, **80 percent of teachers and parents** report KidsKonnnect students display better social skills and less distracting behaviors both in school and at home.
- Based on the findings of a qualified study, the KidsKonnnect program was recommended as a national model, which confirms its effectiveness within the public school system.



KidsKonnnect has groups within designated schools throughout Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties. The main office is located at:

The George Wolly Center  
2100 Lee Road  
Winter Park, FL 32789

For further information, please call:  
407-644-7593, ext. 236

*JFS is a constituent agency of the Heart of Florida United Way and the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando and serves the Greater Orlando community regardless of age, race, religion or place of national origin.*

*In-school support groups for children experiencing family disruption.*

*The Roth Family*

# KidsKonnnect

*Program*



[www.jfsorlando.org](http://www.jfsorlando.org)

# What is KidsKonnnect?

The Roth Family KidsKonnnect program is a FREE supportive, educational group program developed for children experiencing family disruption. Children in changing families need to build a healthy sense of self-worth in order to establish good relationships in the future and perform better in school. Trained counselors with master's degrees hold group sessions in Seminole, Orange and Osceola elementary and middle public schools to address issues related to family disruption. The groups are created based on family situation and on grade level. They run for eight consecutive weekly sessions of approximately 45 minutes each.



# What qualifies as family disruption?

- Divorce/separation
- Incarceration of a parent
- Military deployment of a parent
- Death of a parent
- Children in foster care
- Children living with a relative



# What happens in a KidsKonnnect Session?

A counselor assists the group members in dealing with the difficult thoughts and feelings that result from their parent's divorce, separation or family disruption. The groups offer children the opportunity to express their feelings in a "safe environment" so the child can develop good coping skills, stronger self-esteem and the ability to focus on tasks required of them both in school and at home.

### Topics explored include:

- I am not alone
- Getting to know each other
- Coping with feelings
- Feeling good about me
- Learning about different kinds of families
- My family after divorce
- Changes within the family structure

*Confidentiality is an important component to the group effectiveness. Both facilitators and group members contract to maintain confidentiality.*

Dear Kid's Konnect company,

I just want to say how much kids Konnect helped me. This program helped me by knowing I'm not the only kid that has been through some hard things. It also helped me by knowing how they felt, and I might relate. And since I've had a great time I want to help this company get bigger and go to more schools to help kids, like me to get through things and to meet people just like them. And I would love for kids to forget that it hurts and have a good time. Also it will make kids to express there feelings. I hope you enjoyed my opinions and thanks for kid'skonnect.

# How do I get my child in this program?

Contact your child's school guidance counselor to learn if KidsKonnnect is already available through your school. If the program is not available, contact JFS at 407-644-7593, ext. 236 and speak with our KidsKonnnect Program Coordinator. We accept all children, regardless, of race, gender or religion.

