



Wine event raises funds for the Family Resource Center



Pictured at the Wine and Food Tasting are (l-r) Tony Bayona, Marianne Perkins, Drew Kern and Matthew Ladd.

BY BETH COHEN

In honor of Child Abuse Awareness Month, Crown Wine & Spirits near The Falls recently hosted a Wine and Food Tasting event to raise funds and friends for the Family Resource Center of South Florida, a leading child welfare agency in Miami. The event raised awareness about child abuse and neglect, and encouraged the support of children and families in need.

More than 40 people attended the tasting that included approximately 20 different wines, four tables featuring a spirit with appropriate "mixers," artisan cheeses, meats and the like. Ernie Dalvisio, a Crown Wine & Spirits chef, gave a cooking demonstration and a wine connoisseur was at each table to educate attendees about each featured wine.

One of the highlights of the night was prominent Miami attorney Mark Tobin, who introduced his own line of fine wines from Matabella Vineyards. The wine label currently produces three wines, two red and one white. A fourth wine, a French provincial style rosé, will be introduced in the summer of 2009.

The Family Resource Center is driven by

the principle that nothing is more fundamental to a community than the safety and well being of its children. Its goal is to prevent and change dysfunctional parent/child interaction patterns, promote positive self-concepts, and build healthy relationships to prevent child abuse and neglect through family support, crisis intervention, housing location, family preservation, parent education and counseling. For more information about the Family Resource Center, visit online at <www.frcflorida.org>.