

Hi! My name is Linda Gainer and I am CCE's new Guidance Counselor. I am excited to be here at Cleveland Court and look forward to helping you and your child through the elementary school years. I have always worked with children and parents and I truly love helping others be successful and reach their potential!

After I graduated from Florida Southern College, I began working for Peace River as a Children's Case Manager. I started graduate school to pursue a degree in counseling. Since I had experience in the mental health setting, I decided to explore the school setting. I started out teaching third grade at a local elementary school, and then began my first school counseling job in 1999 at Hillcrest Elementary in Lake Wales. I also served on the Polk County School Board Crisis Team, which responds to crises at local schools. I worked at Hillcrest for two years before transferring to McKeel Academy to work with middle and high school students for eight years. While I thoroughly enjoyed that experience, I am glad to be back working in an elementary school, especially here at Cleveland Court!

I grew up in South Lakeland, and I know that our school has always had an excellent reputation. I am finding that I know many parents from my earlier school years, work, or church. You and the staff have been warm and welcoming, and I truly appreciate that. That has made the transition that much easier. I knew Susan Lovell professionally, and I know how truly committed she was to this school and what a loss it was for her to retire. However, I told Mr. Lunn that I will do my best to ensure that CCE remains a warm, friendly, environment that nurtures students and their love for learning.

I have been married for almost 10 years and have a bright, athletic son who is the 2nd grade. I enjoy reading, puzzles and being with family and friends in my spare time. I also volunteer at First United Methodist Church, which I have been a member of for 11 years.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you for sharing your children with me!