



**CARING
TODAY
FOR
BETTER
TOMORROWS**

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

**20
15**

OUR MISSION

To provide, promote, assist, and facilitate a community-based, structured process of counseling, socialization, recreation, educational assistance, and an emergency youth shelter for youth and their families who have been identified as in need of assistance in adjusting to current life situations.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hi Friends,

Thank you all so very much for another great year! This year has seen growth in our foster care and counseling programs. Foster care staff have recruited more families and placed more abused and neglected children than ever. Not only that, our unique model is now being replicated throughout other youth service agencies statewide! Our counseling team has been providing targeted group services throughout many area schools, specifically providing concrete tools to children and youth in response to traumatic events. Not only that, we have



been asked to assist an international charity to develop an extended program that will be used around the world with adolescents! All of our other programs have had an equally successful year. We have more friends, more volunteers, and more donors than ever.

We could not have completed this year with such success without each and every one of you. Thank you for believing in us and for joining the cause for our community's children and youth.

We are a charity, not a unit of government, and we depend on YOU to help us with our mission.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$3,189,784
Accounts Receivable	\$265,470
Land, Buildings, and Net Equipment	\$5,113,701
Total Assets	\$8,568,955

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$73,333
Total Liabilities	\$73,333
Net Assets	\$8,495,622
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$8,568,955

REVENUE

Program Funding/Grants	\$2,230,186
General Contributions	\$146,007
Loss on Investments	\$21,575
Other	\$23,821
Total Revenue	\$2,378,439

EXPENSES

Community Based Youth Services	\$749,467
Smart Start	\$52,942
Foster Care	\$280,084
Counseling Services	\$490,531
TLP	\$533,397
Homeless Prevention	\$67,156
Support Services	\$432,987
Total Expenses	\$2,606,564

Increase in Net Assets	\$626,371
Net Assets, Beginning	\$7,869,251

Net Assets, Ending **\$8,495,622**

CLIENT SERVICES

SERVICE	HOURS	SERVICE	HOURS
Arts & Crafts	68.21	Living Skills	6,134.69
Assessments	469.89	Recreation	2,932.95
Case Management	10,365.04	Shelter Care	32,000.79
Consultation & Supervision	3,379.57	Special Needs	200
Crisis Intervention	275.16	Tutoring	167.36
Education	5,324.12	Individual - Youth	1,333.67
Family Counseling	134.59	Mentoring & Leadership Training	5,629.09
Group Counseling - Youth	2,376.76	Community Development	653.45
Group Education - Youth	360.90	Program Development	8,276.61
Group Education - Parent	113.46	Prevention Relationship Enhancement	1,235.42

TOTAL SERVICES HOURS = 81,431.73

OVERSIGHT

In addition to the governance provided by the Youth & Family Services, Inc. corporate Board of Directors, numerous outside entities provide program audits and reviews, certification, licensing and inspections. Among these reviewers are the Federal Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Families, Oklahoma State Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Canadian County Health Department and the El Reno Fire Department.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC.
CARING CENTER

EMERGENCY SHELTER

The YFS Caring Center provides safety, security, food, and shelter to children ages 0-18 who are in the care of DHS, OJA, or a parent or guardian. The 145 children and youth served in the Caring Center during the year received health screenings, counseling, academic and living skills education and recreational opportunities. Care days totaled 2,784. YFS provides a trauma sensitive environment.

Safety, security, food, and shelter to an average of
150 CHILDREN PER YEAR
from throughout the state of Oklahoma!



FOSTER CARE

The YFS Foster Care Program provided 48 children with loving foster homes. Our foster care program provides Traditional Foster, Respite, and Shelter Host Homes all while building supports for the children and strengthening the foster family through stabilizing the relationships and assisting both child and family throughout the foster experience.

A seamless connection between
48 CHILDREN THIS YEAR
and loving, supportive foster homes!

YOUTH LEADERS RAISE \$18,000 FOR CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY SHELTER!

This year, we were chosen by Leadership Oklahoma City's young leaders program, Youth Leadership Exchange (YLX), to receive their annual grant of at least \$10,000 to provide new, properly fitting clothing for all youth staying in our emergency shelter.

The young leaders of YLX analyzed the potential needs of citizens of central Oklahoma and deemed the social, emotional, and physical wellbeing

of youth as the most critical needs. Then, they researched the nonprofit groups specializing in youth services and selected us as their charitable cause!

The students of YLX enlisted the help of local business people to raise funds of over \$18,000! Because of their help, we are able to give more to the

homeless, abused, and neglected children entering our emergency shelter.

"It's powerful to see youth helping their peers!"



EL RENO FOSTER CARE MODEL TO BE REPLICATED STATEWIDE!

In partnership with the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services (OAYS), we will be replicating our unique model of foster care throughout the state of Oklahoma! The replication is part of a contract between the Department of Human Services and OAYS to subcontract with local community-based youth services agencies to provide local foster family recruitment, support, and retention services.

Since 2009, we've been working to develop a continuum model of foster care for children who are homeless, neglected, and abused that allows families to engage in the foster care

process in multiple ways depending on their comfort level and ability to be involved.

Our program provides consistency and support for children while simultaneously allowing foster families in our network to do what works best for them. The YFS foster care program has placed 150 children in loving homes with 19 of those placements resulting in adoption.

Our program has a 90% foster family retention rate and successfully demonstrates 96% stable placements for children until reunified with a family member or adopted!

"We couldn't be more excited about impacting the lives of children across our great state!"



YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC. **INDEPENDENT LIVING**

INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

YFS Independent Living Services provide youth, up to the age of 21, with safe and loving relationship training, tutoring, life skills training, mentoring, job training, incentives for achieving goals, and follow up services.

YFS Independent Living Services reached
519 YOUTH THIS YEAR
promoting successful transitions into adulthood.



TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

The Transitional Living Program provides housing and life-skills training for youth and young adults ages 16-21 who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Housing is the foundation for a comprehensive program designed to promote healthy lifestyles, financial independence, and job readiness.

Assistance resolving at risk behaviors provided to
73 YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES
to help making better choices for their futures!

SAFE & LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

Safe & Loving Relationships is a program that promotes and supports healthy marriages and relationships. Participants are provided with a series of training modules including communication skills, emotional understanding, conflict resolution, and stress & anger management.

Communication and conflict resolution skills to
218 STUDENTS THIS YEAR
who are now prepared for healthier relationships.



Support provided to
40 RURAL HOMELESS & RUNAWAY YOUTH
who needed a place to go!

YOUTH DROP-IN CENTERS

YFS Youth Drop-In Centers supported 40 rural homeless and runaway youth in Blaine & Kingfisher counties between the ages of 16 to 21 years of age. These young adults, who are approaching independence, have few or no connections to a supportive, family structure or community. Youth Drop-In Centers work to improve service coordination and create additional support for rural youth in the areas of housing, youth/adult partnerships, mentoring, peer support, educational support, life skills, and job readiness. "The SPOT" in Watonga is part of this program.

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY YOUTH IN A BIG WAY!



Believe Dream Imagine

This year, we celebrated our 9th annual Celebration of Success, an awards banquet honoring the hard work, dedication, and accomplishments of youth within our care!

This year's Celebration of Success recognized 14 youth from 5 different communities, acknowledging their achievements in attaining their high school diploma or GED, completing career programs and certifications, maintaining employment, and making positive life transitions.

This is a big day for the youth we serve. It's crucial to celebrate the success of kids, they are our future and we have to

be there to support them as they transition from adolescence to adulthood.

“We have to help youth celebrate in a big way so that they can begin to see success in themselves!”

Many of the youth involved are participants in our Transitional Living Program (TLP), a program dedicated to helping youth be successful in living as independently as possible.

Transitions can be difficult for anyone and we want to be here cheering our kids on as they make positive life decisions. The celebration serves as an example to all involved that real change is being effected in the

lives of the youth and families of our communities.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC. COUNSELING SERVICES



YFS Counseling Services reached
**509 INDIVIDUALS
& FAMILIES**
*promoting emotional stability
and positive behaviors!*

GENERAL COUNSELING

Our person centered counseling services promote emotional stability and positive behaviors in individuals and families in the community, including children residing in the Caring Center and those participating in YFS programs. YFS provides crisis intervention services and treatment for ongoing behavioral and emotional disorders and substance abuse and dependency.

COMMUNITY AT-RISK SERVICES (CARS)

Through a contract with the Office of Juvenile Affairs, this program provides services to at-risk youth that have become involved in the juvenile court system. In-home counseling and social services, family counseling, individual counseling, tutoring and mentoring are all included in this program to assist youth and families with resolving at-risk behaviors and make better choices in their future.

Assistance resolving at risk behaviors provided to
73 YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES
to help making better choices for their futures!

OUTREACH COUNSELING

YFS outreach counselors move from school to school reaching children and adolescents in three counties with crisis intervention, individual counseling, group counseling, and educational programs. Behavior management consultation is also made available to school personnel.

Crisis intervention, counseling, and education to
149 CHILDREN AND TEENS
for an improved childhood and educational experience!

FIRST TIME OFFENDER PROGRAM

This program was established through the Juvenile Justice Reform Act to provide both consequences and a positive learning experience for first-time juvenile offenders. This year, 73 youth participated with their parents. The program is promoted and monitored statewide by the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services.

*A positive learning
experience for*
**73 YOUTH
THIS YEAR**
*promoting change
and positive life choices!*



PARTNERING WITH 'SAVE THE CHILDREN' FOR INTERNATIONAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM!



We've been presented with a very exciting opportunity! We're partnering with *Save the Children* for the development of an international emotional learning program specifically for teens. The program is called *Teen Journey of Hope*, and focuses on youth grades 9-12 with an emphasis on helping understand and cope with emotions caused by traumatic situations. The goal is to expand *Journey of Hope* offerings to develop a more robust teen program.

Last year, *Save the Children* worked in more than 120 countries and helped more than 166 million children. Their psychosocial support programs are designed to help children to cope, build on their natural resiliency and strengthen their network of social support with friends and caring others.

To begin the development process we hosted focus

groups to gather information from local teens about their needs. This was an important step because the program is youth empowered, meaning that the themes for group discussion and activities are determined based on what youth identify as their own emotional needs.

“This is an opportunity to affect the lives of children in both our own communities and worldwide.”

We found that teens experience a tremendous amount of anxiety and stress in their daily lives. They can articulate their barriers but could use assistance in navigating around those roadblocks to a better future.

We'll be working closely with *Save the Children* to develop curriculum units to address these issues. Then, we'll "test" them out on focus groups to get youth input on content and activities. Once we've completed the testing process, we will have a completed set of modules for "Coping with Normalizing Emotions - Teen Journey of Hope"!

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC. **SPECIALIZED SERVICES**



Bee's Knees hosted an art show event showing over
400 COMMUNITY MEMBERS
that when you think differently, you can do anything!

BEE'S KNEES

This year, Bee's Knees served 5 young adults with developmental disabilities on an ongoing basis with a pre-employment work club for a total of 200 hours of service. YFS supported two summer camps for people on the autism spectrum, serving 25 people and 20 parents. A total of approximately 300 client service hours were provided to those with special needs. The camp capstone art show event had attendance of approximately 400 community members.

Housing assistance to
33 FAMILIES & 102 INDIVIDUALS
who could otherwise be homeless!

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS

In addition to preventing homelessness through the transitional living program, YFS offers a federally funded program that assists individuals and families with Homeless Prevention and Rapid-Rehousing. Individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless are assisted with rent and utility payments. YFS served 33 families and 102 individuals with the Emergency Solutions Program.

SMART START

Smart Start is a school-readiness initiative, impacting over 1,700 individuals this year! Smart Start Canadian County provides support for early learning to ensure that all children in our community are safe, healthy, eager to learn, and ready to succeed by the time they enter school. Smart Start facilitates child care training for local child care providers and participates in community events throughout Canadian County.

Support for early learning to
1,700 INDIVIDUALS THIS YEAR
to ensure community children are safe, healthy, eager to learn, and ready to succeed!



GOVERNOR MARY FALLIN RECEIVES BEE'S KNEES MASTERPIECE!



Bee's Knees was presented with a very special opportunity this year! We were offered a chance to present a masterpiece to Governor Mary Fallin!

One of our artists, David, was invited to deliver the piece for having been a graduate of Youth Leadership Forum, a weeklong training by the Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council that focuses on

empowering high school juniors and seniors who have disabilities.

"I like how I paint different things and I feel proud of doing new things," said David, "It's just so great that I am doing it myself."

"When you think differently, you can do anything!"

We are so proud of Bee's Knees. Not only do they make beautiful art, they

demonstrate the gifts that people with developmental disabilities bring to the world.

OFFICE OF CLIENT ADVOCACY!

The Office of Client Advocacy (OCA), a division of the Oklahoma Dept. of Human Services (OKDHS), received an all new collection of artwork by the artists of Bee's Knees! The collection is comprised of 12 print replicas of original pieces created by the artists since the formation of their group in 2009.

OCA provides advocacy assistance, conducts investigations and maintains grievance programs to promote client safety and independence and the delivery of

OKDHS program and services in a fair, honest, and professional manner.

"It's hard not to cry," said an artist of Bee's Knees, "I feel so proud of what we've done together."

"A medium like art can overcome any disability!"

Bee's Knees has art scattered throughout the state of Oklahoma and in select locations across the nation.

We are so glad to have been presented with the opportunity to display our artwork in OCA. The artists of Bee's Knees have worked very hard to get this collection together.



Youth & Family Services, Inc. (YFS) is a 501(c)3 charity that has been meeting critical community needs for children since 1974. We currently provide over 10 programs to serve youth in Canadian, Blaine, Kingfisher, and Oklahoma Counties. More than 2,600 individuals receive help from YFS annually.



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*If you would like to learn more about the services we provide,
we invite you to visit us on the web at **WWW.YFSOK.ORG***

FACEBOOK: /YFSOK

INSTAGRAM: @YFSOK