



*Achieving
Solutions
Together*

THE CENTER FOR
YOUTH & FAMILY
SOLUTIONS

Annual Report 2018



Letter from the Board President



American Novelist Herman Melville recognized, “We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads.” Melville acknowledged what we all implicitly know. The actions each one of us takes affect other people who, in turn, respond in ways that impact us. We are all in this together. **As a community we are much stronger when we recognize the threads of our common humanity and work together with one another to achieve solutions.**

At Center for Youth and Family Solutions, that’s exactly what we do. We work together. Throughout our programs we connect helping professionals with families, children with their foster parents, teenagers with therapists, seniors with supportive volunteers, and staff with agency, governing board, and community. The common thread that runs through all of our services is our commitment to achieve solutions together.

Life is difficult for many people. The trauma of abuse, the deprivation of neglect, the bleakness of depression, the loneliness of grief, the disruption of family crisis – these are some of the challenges that bring people to CYFS. In response, we provide the necessary tools and support for healing, to help people learn new skills, and to link them to the life-enhancing resources necessary to achieve a better future.

As Board President, I feel privileged to share with you the successes achieved by the staff and clients of The Center for Youth and Family Solutions as they worked together during Fiscal Year 2018. When you review this year’s annual report, note the numerous ways your support helped to bring critical assistance to families in crisis, to ensure the well-being of children in foster care, and to facilitate seniors living independently.

We are pleased with our efforts to keep families together. The Intact Family Program provides intensive intervention to help families provide their own children a safe and loving home as an alternative to placement in foster care - 85.93% of families successfully completed this program and 96% of those are still doing well a year later. Keeping families together makes sense emotionally, and it’s cost effective too. Stronger families mean stronger communities.

CYFS is successful in championing independence - 99% of seniors served by our New Day program continue to live independently. New Day provides in-home counseling and volunteer companion services to older adults who face loss, depression, and social isolation. We are also proud of our accomplishments in stabilizing families and communities - 100% of youth served in our Crisis Intervention Program moved off the streets and returned to a safer living environment.

These are only a few salient examples of the impact of CYFS. I invite you to look closely at the next several pages to see how each of our programs contributes substantially to individual, family, and community well-being. We are making a difference. But, we are not doing it alone.

We value your support of our mission. It takes a community. Thank you for being part of the CYFS community as we work to achieve solutions together.

Respectfully,

Michael O’Melia
CYFS Board President



We Are Building Resilience

18,758

children, individuals and families who experienced life changing trauma, abuse and neglect, or other significant life challenges were served by CYFS in FY18.

213 Providing Hope

infants and children were adopted.
Every child deserves a loving place to call home and a forever family.

“Our Adoption Worker was extremely supportive! We are so thankful to have such a kind and understanding support system at CYFS.”

Adoption client and first time mom



Positively Influencing the Future

CYFS helped 7,533 families heal, cope and thrive.

FY 2018 *annual report* | 3

We Are Championing Independence

99% of seniors served by our New Day program continue to live independently. Our in-home counseling and volunteer companion services help seniors facing depression, grief and loss, or social isolation by providing them support to heal, cope and thrive.

“I didn’t realize how my sadness was really affecting my whole life. My therapist helped me get through this very trying time when I felt such despair.”
Recently widowed senior receiving in-home counseling

Keeping Families Together



Parents in our Intact Family Program learned new parenting skills and made lasting changes which helped them provide their children a safe and loving home.

86% of families successfully completed this program

96% of those are still doing well a year later

Fostering Stability

313 children in foster care achieved the stability that comes with a lasting, safe and caring family through reunification or adoption.



We Are Transforming Wellbeing

Our strengths-based and goal-driven Behavioral Health Counseling program helped empower and assist **3,454** families and individuals in resolving their emotional concerns and relationship issues.



Cultivating Connection

Volunteers and Interns spent **25,189** hours helping CYFS live its mission. Whether it was teaching a child to read, visiting a lonely senior, or mentoring a teen, our volunteers are an essential and critical part of the work we do.

Stabilizing Families and Communities

Our Youth, Family and Community Outreach programs help people in crisis find stabilization and prevent future problems.

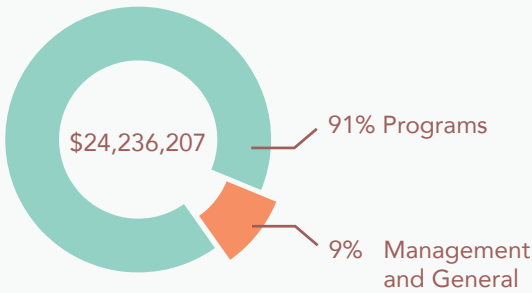
3,520 weekend food packs were provided to children in the Peoria area who may not be getting enough food at home.

100% of youth served in our Crisis Intervention program are now off the streets and returned to a safe living environment.

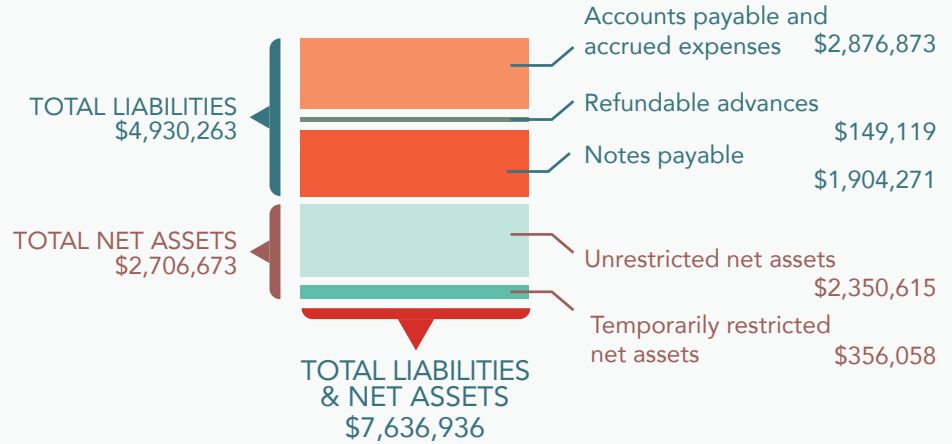
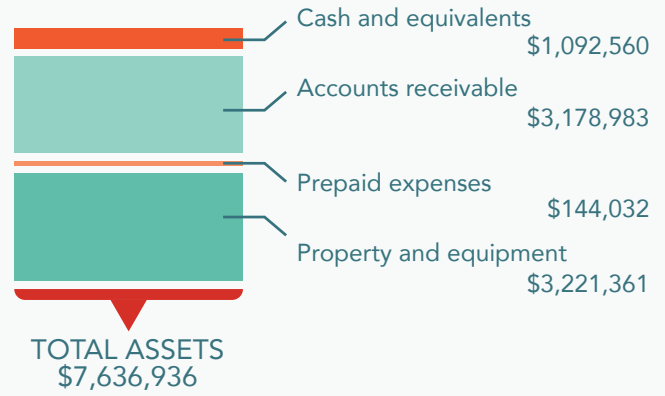
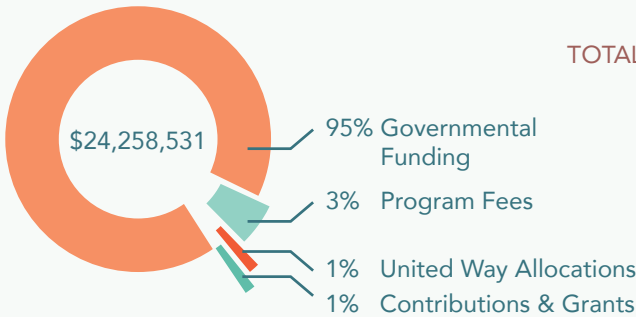


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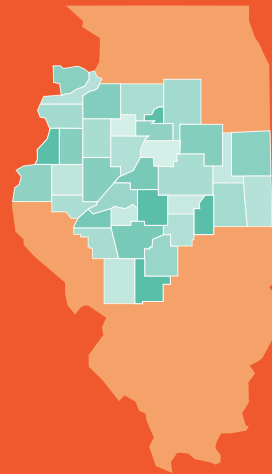
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