



It's All About Family



ampersand
families
belonging · dignity · hope

The Family Tree: Branches and Roots

In 2019 Ampersand Families continued reimagining the family tree.

As in years past, we paid attention to the trunks and new branches—leading the way for Minnesota youth in foster care to join adoptive families. We provided comprehensive supports to teens and parents, helping them to become strong and flourish.

At the same time, we examined the roots of family. Just as a tree cannot survive without a healthy root system, kids are nourished by their origins—relatives, kin, community and culture.

So, we launched our initiative to intervene earlier in the lives of teens at risk of entering the child welfare system, and we started re-engaging relatives of youth who have been in care a long time. We worked with grandmas and aunts who wanted to care for a beloved young relative. And we helped kin and adoptive parents learn that, together, they can create a stronger network of support so youth can thrive. In all of this, we partnered with counties and courts to champion the rights of youth to retain critical family and cultural connections.

We are hopeful that our vision of the family tree—with roots firmly planted and branches reaching toward the sky—will reduce the number of children needing adoption services, address inequities in the child welfare system, and create environments in which youth know they belong and can succeed.

Thanks to all our donors, partners and families who support our mission and embrace this vision. And, thanks most of all to the kids. Their resilience inspires us every day.



*Michelle Chalmers
Executive Director*



*Carrie Rauschendorfer
Board Chair*



2019 Accomplishments

Restoring youth to families – new and old – is at the core of Ampersand Families' work.

Last year we:

- Provided recruitment and transition services to 75 youth, including 33 who joined adoptive families,
- Helped 28 families prepare to adopt a teen from the child welfare system,
- Consulted with 27 family members who sought to provide permanency to a relative child, and
- Partnered with county staff to identify barriers to permanency for youth who have been in care more than two years.

During 2019 we further expanded our innovative post-placements supports by:

- Recruiting and training 10 Buddy Families to provide respite to adoptive families,
- Hosting 92 youth and parents at 3 retreats where parents built skills, youth made friends, and everyone strengthened their support networks,



- Conducting Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics® Assessments and helping families identify integrative therapies to help youth heal from trauma, and
- Providing leadership development and engagement opportunities for youth through the MYVoice program.

We also continued to host the Minnesota Heart Gallery (www.minnesotaheartgallery.org/), taking professional photos of 77 children and sibling groups awaiting adoption.

For more about these and other accomplishments, visit ampersandfamilies.org or call 612-605-1904. We'd love to talk to you.

Thank You!

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through **JUNE 30, 2019**

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In honor of Katie Rathburn

Kirk Rathburn

In honor of our lost cousin who is now found

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Our mission is to recruit and support permanent families for older youth, and to champion practices in adoption and permanency that restore belonging, dignity and hope.



FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

	2019	2018
Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalent	391,579	419,748
Accounts Receivables	203,108	236,670
Other Assets	51,155	28,132
Total Assets	<u>\$645,842</u>	<u>\$684,550</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accruals	78,892	92,538
Deferred Revenue	0	0
Other Liabilities	0	0
Total Liabilities	<u>\$78,892</u>	<u>\$92,538</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	262,950	294,512
Board Restricted Net Assets	255,000	255,000
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	49,000	42,500
Total Net Assets	\$566,950	\$592,012
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$645,842</u>	<u>\$684,550</u>

Year Ending June 30, 2019

Statement of Financial Activity

	2019	2018
Revenue		
Contributions	294,762	275,205
In-kind Contributions	54,998	33,570
Government Grants	896,850	865,050
Other	2941	8814
Total Revenue	<u>\$1,249,551</u>	<u>\$1,182,639</u>
Expenses		
Program Services	1,103,718	914,337
Management & General	121,321	131,489
Fundraising	49,574	49,698
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,274,613</u>	<u>\$1,095,524</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(\$25,062)</u>	<u>\$87,115</u>

Ampersand Families encourages families to think about the perspective of the child and what the family can realistically offer the child. Ampersand commits to the family; you will never be alone even after the adoption.

*Ampersand Families'
Buddy Family*