

Good Shepherd
Children & Family Services
2017 Annual Report

challenges





challenges

A Word from the Executive Director

"Our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change." – *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Throughout much of 2017, Good Shepherd Children & Family Services faced the challenging reality of being asked to do more with less. As announcements were being made by government and some private sources that funding reductions were inevitable, the demand for our services remained high. In particular, the needs of an increasing proportion of our foster youth included residential treatment and other intensive interventions aimed at addressing

histories of unspeakable trauma. Our Maternity Shelter and Transitional Living Program continued to experience a waiting list, and demand for pregnancy and parenting support, particularly in the area of concrete assistance to poor moms, continued to increase.

Fortunately, we have remained alert to these sorts of risks and made them a deliberate part of our strategic planning. As a result, we've ramped up our Treatment Foster Care Program, and we've enriched our Maternity programming to include a partnership with Mercy Health to provide an innovative, evidence-based pregnancy program called Centering, which brings group-based obstetric care and education to our mothers here on our campus, both before and after

delivery. A partnership with colleagues Lutheran Family and Children's Services and Family Forward is helping us expand home visitation services to at-risk mothers and children, and aggressive outreach and marketing have helped connect more birth moms and hopeful adoptive parents. In addition, our development efforts have benefitted from the 2016 addition of a communications coordinator and the very recent addition of an annual fund director to help tell our story and garner greater financial and volunteer support for our mission.

It is our responsibility to adjust to new ideas and to face new challenges with courage, as Dr. King counsels us, because the well-being, and sometimes the very

survival of our clients depends on our ability to serve them amidst such challenges. We hope this report demonstrates the success of our collective efforts and the impact of your investment in our mission, because we're meeting these challenges – together and with vigilance.

Michael P. Meehan, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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A Closer Look

The Good Shepherd story for 2017 is that we served more people across all programs while facing reductions from several traditional funding sources. Our approach is to count these twin challenges as blessings. If there are more people in need, we are blessed to be in a position to help them. If there is less funding available, we are blessed for that support we do receive from long-standing partners and for the opportunity to make new friends in support of our mission. We helped 909 people in 2017 who were enrolled at any time with one or more of our services (direct clients) and assisted 2,231 of their family members and others with a specific interest related to their needs (indirect clients). This was an overall increase of 10% over the previous year and a 14% increase in the number of indirect clients.

Our **Adoption Services** assisted 114 direct clients in 2017 – infants and toddlers whose biological parents are choosing to make an adoption plan for their children, single persons and married couples seeking to grow their families through adoption, and persons forming an adoption triad (adoptees, birth parents and adoptive parents). Our staff also helped 561 indirect clients. In 2017, 100% of children placed in adoption achieved and/or maintained permanency (remain with the family).

Foster Care is our largest program and in 2017 we served 564 clients and 1,110 indirect clients. We helped young people ages 0-21 in the custody of the Missouri Department of Social Services/Children's Division find safe and loving homes and the many caring people involved with and impacted by their placement experiences. Most, if not all, of our young clients experienced abuse or neglect or both. We facilitate safe, permanent family placement through reunification with the birth family. In 2017, 99% of foster youth in our care were free from substantiated incidents of child abuse and/or neglect.

Our **Pregnancy and Parenting Support program** helps any pregnant woman and her family finding herself in a crisis pregnancy and needing support, as well as any newly parenting family facing challenges that place their children at increased risk for abuse and neglect. In 2017 we served 163 direct clients and 572 indirect clients through our PPS program. In 2017, 100% of the children under our care in the PPS program did not experience an out-of-home placement due to a hotline call.

Our **Maternity Shelter** and **Transitional Living program** experienced another busy year for teen moms since expanding the

service in 2014 to meet the growing need of pregnant/parenting women aged 12 to 21 with nowhere to go. In 2017 we sheltered 68 young clients and their babies and 102 indirect clients. In 2017, 81% of our young moms enrolled in their educational programs and demonstrated progress toward their degree and 87% demonstrated progress or achieved 50% of treatment objectives within two months of being in the program.



Matt and Lauren have been married for five years and had an incredible experience with adoption in 2016 when they were chosen to be parents to their daughter, Claire. In 2017 they began assisting Good Shepherd reach out to those considering adoption.



Pregnant for the fifth time with twins and a life filled with financial and emotional challenges, Sandra was at wit's end about what to do. Sandra now recommends Good Shepherd's Pregnancy & Parenting to young pregnant women that she knows as a program they can trust.



Juan and Dessá realize that foster parenting is not for everyone and how hard it can be to care for kids that come from trauma. "Most of these kids come from really hard places, and they just need unconditional love."



After 713 days Taylor met all her goals at Good Shepherd's maternity shelter and in 2017 moved into her new apartment with her 3-year old son.



"My brothers and I had our world rearranged ... where we were just another child in the system. Everything in my life fell apart in a matter of seconds. Once they picked me up from school, I didn't know what to think. All I wanted was to see my brothers. Because my mom was staying in the woods, we were all at different places."



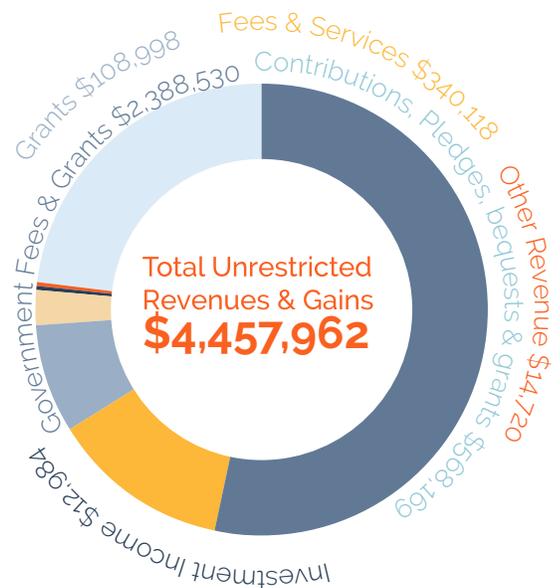
**Good Shepherd
Children & Family Services**
Schedule of Activities
for the year ended
June 30, 2017



Mission Support

Net assets released from restrictions:

Government Fees & Grants	\$2,388,530
Contributions	\$568,169
Fees and Services	\$340,118
Grants	\$108,998
Investment Income	\$12,984
Other Revenue	\$14,720
Total net assets released from restrictions	\$1,024,443
Total Revenues & Gains	\$ 4,457,962



Mission Investment

Expenses

Program	\$3,523,481
Management	\$292,042
Fundraising	\$222,450
Total expenses	\$4,037,973

<i>Change in unrestricted net assets from operating activities</i>	\$419,990
Change in Board Designated Assets	\$116,638
Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$12,454
Change in Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$1,358,865
Change in Restricted Net Assets	\$1,487,957
Change in Net Assets	\$1,907,947

