BETTER TOGETHER 2015 Annual Report

The Family Partnership Counseling Education Advocacy



CORE BELIEFS

Our focus is families

We meet people where they're at

People change in the context of relationships

All individuals and families have strengths

We want a better future for the next generation

Culture matters in helping people change

We strengthen families through compassion and accountability

Our employees are our most valuable resource

Good stewardship of resources makes our efforts sustainable

Building strong families, vital communities, and better futures for children.



2015 was yet another amazing year at The Family Partnership!

- We made a powerful impact in the lives of the over 36,000 children, teens, adults, and families we supported through our counseling, education, and advocacy programs and services.
- Of all the nonprofit human service organizations nationwide, we were one of ten selected by the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities to participate in "Change in Mind," an initiative that integrates brain science research and proven strategies to help us better support children and families.
- Our Board of Directors and staff finalized our 2016-2020 Strategic Framework, setting the foundation for our vision of a Twin Cities where all children and families, regardless of income and origin, reach their full potential. We have identified five strategic priorities (found on the inside back cover) that will help to strengthen our organization, expand our reach, and deepen our impact.

Our work is never done.

Deep-rooted disparities continue to leave far too many Twin Cities' children and families behind. We intend to be the leader in closing opportunity and achievement gaps, and we will not rest until the intergenerational cycle of poverty is interrupted for good.

Thank you for your steadfast support and partnership.

The Family Partnership is the family, friend, and neighbor for children and families who don't have them – for whatever reason. We are driven to help those we support overcome disparities – one child, one family, one community at a time. If we all work together, we will build better futures for children and families for generations to come. Because we are ... Better Together.



Molly Greenman President and CEO

1 argi Soron

Margie Soran Board Chair

66THE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP OPERATES UNDER THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE THAT THE BEST SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY IS THE FAMILY. OUR FOCUS IS ON FAMILY, AND WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY AND STRENGTHEN FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

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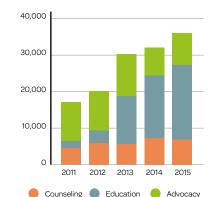
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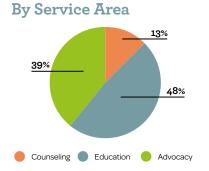
*Term ended in 2015

We supported 36,021 individuals, young and old, in 2015

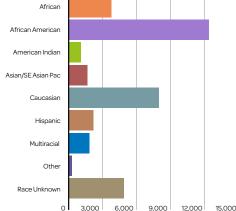
- 64% Children ages 0-17 years
- 74% People of color
- 24% People with immigrant background
- 83% Living in poverty, or on very low income
- 55% Living in urban Minneapolis/St. Paul
- 43% Living in suburbs

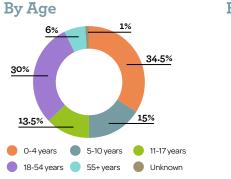


In just five years, we nearly doubled as we connected with 36,021 individuals from 23,877 households throughout the Twin Cities and its surrounding communities in 2015.

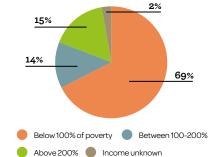








By Income



Summary of Expense*

*unaudited numbers

Program Expense	\$8,735,712.12 85%
Counseling/Mental Health	
Education	\$3,897,797.82
Advocacy	\$243,558.14
SAFE Families	\$712,664.00
Management and General	\$1,000,096.86 10%
Fundraising	\$579,991.225%
Total Expenses	\$10,315,800.21 100%

This statement is limited to operating activities only. The complete financial statements for 2015, audited by the firm of Carpenter Evert & Associates, Ltd., are available at TheFamilyPartnership.org.

Revenue Sources

United Way	
Philanthropy	
Government Grant	5,546,764.00 54%
Service Fees	
Other Income	
Total Revenue	10,323,132.00100%

Howard's Stor

Howard*, a middle-aged, African-American man, was referred to The Family Partnership after being injured in an accident. Noting that he continued to have anxiety weeks after the accident, his medical doctor suggested that he find a therapist.

Prior to coming to The Family Partnership, Howard had never sought any sort of mental health counseling. He initially began by talking about the impact of the accident, but as he continued to talk and share with his therapist, it became clear that this was not the source of his anxiety and worry.

Howard slowly began opening up more about the world he lives in – growing up without a father's guidance and in a society that sees him as dangerous and threatening. It was clear that the insidious nature of racism had worn down his sense of self and his hopes for the future. Issues of poverty and unemployment forced Howard to seek services in local homeless shelters.

Howard continued his weekly therapy sessions, stating that he felt better just having someone there to listen. He also felt that he was able to put into practice the various strategies he was learning in therapy, giving him more control of his life and his future.

COURAGE DOESN'T HAPPEN WHEN YOU HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS. IT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE READY TO FACE THE QUESTIONS YOU HAVE BEEN AVOIDING YOUR WHOLE LIFE.

Shannon L. Alder

After several months of living in the shelters, Howard was finally able to secure permanent housing and, for the first time in his life, he had a place to call his own. This security allowed him to begin exploring other parts of himself and his greater purpose in life. With a new sense of confidence and gratitude, he started volunteering with a local agency, providing mentoring to youth who are facing some of the same struggles that he faced as a young boy.

Though we see Howard less often now, he continues to see his therapist periodically. He

has a renewed sense of hope in his future, a hope that he is now able to pay forward.

*Name has been changed for confidentiality reasons.



Counseling Highlights

The Family Partnership is known for our counseling expertise and innovation in treating complex issues. Our services are intentionally designed to meet the unique needs of children, teens, adults, and families who possess few "reserves" for dealing with adversity.



In 2015, **6,870** children teens, adults, and families benefitted from The Family Partnership's counseling programs.



77% of youth with serious risk behaviors gained success in their school settings.



Our culturally and linguistically relevant counseling services continued to expand in 2015, increasing the number of Latino participants by **34%**.



In its sixth year, our DSWAP (Diversity Social Work Advancement Program) enlisted nine clinical interns, providing **98** diverse individuals with a combined **609** hours of counseling services.



84% of those who received our counseling services in 2015 reported reduced depression, anxiety, and violent behavior.



Our highly experienced therapists delivered in-depth professional training to **36** psychotherapists, expanding their knowledge on the unique mental health issues of transgender individuals and developing their skills to deliver effective counseling strategies for this particular clientele.

Sharlene & Carolyn's Story

Shortly after their premature birth, twins Sharlene and Carolyn were both diagnosed "failure to thrive," meaning that their weight or rate of weight gain was significantly below that of other children of similar age and gender. When first enrolled at The Family Partnership's Children's First Early Learning Center in March of 2013, Sharlene was still having difficulty, needing to be partially fed through a feeding tube in her stomach, and both showed moderate developmental delays.

Sharlene and Carolyn received individual occupational, speech and physical therapy services from our staff, and because both had asthma, we kept a watchful eye on them throughout the school day, administering asthma medications when necessary. Additionally, both girls received hearing, dental, and vision screens on a regular basis. During the hearing screens, chronic ear infections were found in both girls, which were then monitored by staff. Staff members also assisted their mother, Rosanna, by providing her with resources and referrals for ear, nose, and throat specialists. During dental screens, both girls also showed significant dental decay. To assist Rosanna, our staff worked alongside her to find information on local restorative services.

The Family Partnership staff also provided the family with resources and supplies, such as diapers, and soon began to build a stronger relationship with Rosanna. As her trust in us grew, so did her willingness to share her other challenges with the girls' medical needs, and frustrations she'd had with previous preschool programs.

EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN LIFE, AND TEACHERS MAKE A LASTING IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF THEIR STUDENTS.

Solomon Ortiz

As the family, friend, and neighbor for Rosanna and her daughters, The Family Partnership staff often accompanied the family to medical appointments as advocates, ensuring that Rosanna was supported and that Sharlene's feeding issues were correctly addressed. The staff also set up a process during the school day to provide Sharlene with PediaSure by mouth, reducing her need for tube feeding and resulting in weight gain. In early 2015, Sharlene was finally able to be weaned from her feeding tube.

With over two years of quality early education and care, along with individual therapeutic intervention, both Sharlene and Carolyn entered kindergarten in the fall of 2015 with above average academic skills to begin their elementary education.



Education Highlights

The Family Partnership's education programs "turn the trajectory" for babies, preschoolers, children, and teens who, due to poverty and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), have the greatest risk for poor outcomes in life.



In 2015, The Family Partnership served **3,138** children, youth, and their families in educational programs. An additional **16,559** children and their parents accessed care and support at drop-in childcare county resource centers.



85% of children graduated from The Family Partnership's nationally accredited multicultural therapeutic preschools ready for kindergarten.



70% of children in our early childhood programs improved functioning scores on a standard measure, compared with the 60% benchmark set by Hennepin County.



Our Youth on the Move out-of-school program gave **364** low-income children and youth a greater chance for success, through one-on-one school success coaching and home visits.



98% of the 1,668 youth and young adults from 41 classrooms or clubs at schools and community sites in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Richfield, avoided teen pregnancy or fathering a child, and **83%** improved their connectedness to school.

Habira 1

Sixteen-year-old Fahira*, a member of the West African community, was introduced to The Family Partnership's PRIDE (Promoting Recovery, Independence, Dignity, and Equality) program after meeting a man online. This man had convinced Fahira that he was all she had, and in some ways, he was. She didn't have proper identification due to her immigrant status, and her nearby family provided limited support.

He posed as her boyfriend for a few months, and then approached her about selling her body for sex. To express her loyalty, and because she thought she loved him, Fahira made the decision to jeopardize her safety, and her health, by complying with his request.

He did terrible things to her.

Fortunately, Fahira was rescued during a sex trafficking sting, and shortly afterward was referred to The Family Partnership. In addition to enduring the trauma of forced sexual exploitation, she was now also pregnant.

Our TeenPRIDE advocates built a relationship with Fahira that allowed her to explore her trauma and heal at her own pace. Additionally, as she encountered struggles in school, our staff coordinated and mediated meetings with the school social workers and other members of the faculty. When she faced challenges within other systems of support, our staff worked alongside her to prepare for meetings and helped her to create models for self-advocacy. Soon, Fahira began to advocate effectively for herself.

During one-on-one meetings, our PRIDE staff helped Fahira focus on goal planning, taking small steps toward large accomplishments. Fahira came to terms with what had

••NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS. ••

Margaret Mead

happened to her, and became motivated to be the best self she could be. As a mother, she was very attentive to her son's needs, and proudly accepted assistance from The Family Partnership and other community programs.

To assist her with immigration issues, our staff accompanied Fahira to the library, where both did research to learn more about the immigration process and which type of visa she needed to apply for. During the application process, Fahira found out that she already had a social security number, and was indeed already a naturalized citizen. However, there was still more work to be done. PRIDE staff worked alongside her over the following three years to complete a number of additional government forms, and even helped financially by taking care of fees associated with the process.

Today, Fahira has a driver's license, is living on her own, has two jobs, and is working on completing her GED. Most of all, she is enjoying time with her family.

In a recent phone call from Fahira, she had this to say to one of the PRIDE staff members: "They

are so lucky to have you. I am so lucky to have you. I am a better woman and mother today because 'you go hard' and never gave up on me. I've never had anyone 'go hard' for me like that."

*Name has been changed for confidentiality purposes.



Advocacy Highlights

Since 1878, The Family Partnership has remained true to the two-pronged principle of helping individuals break down the barriers keeping them from leading healthy and productive lives, while changing systems and policies that create those barriers.



In 2015, The Family Partnership engaged **8,827** teens, adults, and families in our advocacy programs.

75% of women and teens who escaped sexual exploitation with the help of our PRIDE program strengthened their support networks, preventing them from future victimization.

Following participation in our Financial Literacy Program, **217** lowincome Latino families improved their financial stability and saw incomes increase by \$1,500-\$2,000.

Over the course of the year, our Alcohol and Drug Abuse Recovery program helped **274** women and men maintain sobriety and move forward from troubled pasts.

Our Healing Generations program engaged with **142** men returning to the community from prison and jails, helping them understand and heal from past childhood traumas at the root of their stormy domestic relationships today, and gain skills to change abusive behaviors.

308 adolescents and young adults dealing with LGBTQ identity issues and issues related to bullying, harassment, and family violence due to being gay, bisexual, or transgender, received support from our MN Q Youth program. **89%** of those involved increased their school engagement and connectedness in 2015.

Volunteers: 1,443 people hours of service,

53 corporations, school groups, civic organizations, families, and faith

communities mobilized to help support the over 36,000 children, youth, teens, and adults we served last year. Our volunteers provided a variety of services, including cultivating our preschool learning garden, making handmade blankets, assembling homework helper kits, reading in classrooms, assembling healthy snack bags, creating handmade flashcards, making stress balls, rehabbing dollhouses, donating laundry soap, sanitizing play therapy rooms, organizing closets and storage areas, and providing professional advice and services regarding dental care, healthy eating habits, and health

screenings. Volunteers also organized drives for books, clothing, toys, school and art supplies, and childcare items, and assisted our staff with events, data entry, proofreading, event photography, general office work, and so much more.

Our 22-member volunteer Board of Directors tirelessly

rolled up their sleeves this past year, providing 1,321 hours of service. Board members not only shared their vast expertise and talents on important business issues to lead our organization, monitor its functioning, and plan for our facilities, but they also enthusiastically shared the stories of our work at venues and events to secure resources for our work, and talked with policy makers about reforms needed by the children and families we serve. Board members also showed their support by introducing The Family Partnership to new Board members, donors, and volunteers.

Our interns contributed 1,435

hours of service learning, working side-by-side with our professional staff to provide preschool occupational therapy, mental health counseling, and social services for our children and families.

For 25 years, Donaldson employees have unselfishly

donated holiday gifts to thousands of individuals and families who utilize our programs and services, many of whom do not have the means to









generously gave 6,459 valued at \$160,377!

purchase holiday gifts themselves. In 2015, Donaldson employees lightened and brightened the holiday season for 236 individuals from 56 families with their big-hearted donation of \$18,000 worth of gifts and household items. Among the shoppers and the gift wrappers were four generations of the Cannon–Hill–Thompson family, who have been involved in the Holiday Sponsorship program since the beginning.

Thank you to Donaldson, the Cannon-Hill-Thompson family, and to everyone who took part in this year's Holiday Sponsorship Program! **Aimee, Young Volunteer** Spotlight: Every year since Aimee was born, her parents have hosted an early Christmas for their immediate family. The family members all draw names a few months prior to the celebration, and instead of buying presents for the person whose name they draw, they do an act of service that would be meaningful to that particular person. This past year, Aimee drew the name of her grandmother, an early childhood education teacher who is very dedicated to helping children. When Aimee came across our online posting for homemade play-doh, she knew that it would be the perfect present for her grandmother, who uses homemade play-doh in her own

classroom, and a great way to give to the community. With the help of her mother, Aimee made 20 bags of playdoh, donating that and a large bag of toy gold coins to our Hopkins Drop-In Childcare Center.

Rasmussen College, Group Volunteer Spotlight: In mid-July,

40 Rasmussen employees descended upon The Family Partnership. The volunteers rolled up their sleeves at our Lake Street, Northwest Hennepin, North Minneapolis, and South Hennepin locations to help with everything from cleaning and yard work to organizing and making stress balls. The combined 146 hours of service work equated to over \$3,900 worth of community support.



Volunteers

Accesso Services, LLC Becky Alban Ann Allen Maria Aquino-Duran Atomic Recycling **Emily Ballweg** Melanie Baumhover BDO USA, LLP Bentley's Mow and Snow Amanda Bergman Anna Berman Pam Berry Bonnie Blodgett* Leah Bonnie **Border States Electric** Boy Scout Troop 205 Boy Scout Troop 724 David C. Brackett, Sr.* **Breck School** Ellis F. Bullock Carlson Companies, Inc. Jennifer Cedillo Kartheek Chunchu Julia Classen Community Church Richfield **DeCoster Family** Josh Del Pino Deloitte Ma. Teresa Diaz Barcenas Thaine Dirks Donaldson Company Denise D'Rozario Kelly Drummer* Margie DuPuis* Edinbrook Church Edwards Family Egge Family & Friends Enterprise Rent-A-Car Christian Erickson* Faith UMC Art & Soul FCI Free Arts Carson Funderburk Gair/Moulton Family Alejandro Gamino GE Water & Process Technologies Get Stitchy Group at **Thrivent Financial Emily Gotwals** Grandma's Bakery, Inc. Greater Twin Cities United Way **Campaign Representatives**

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* Board member

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Amra Budimlic Tenzin Dolsel Flora Hsu Faizo Mohammed Chamaera Sowell Xay Yang Inesa Zbarouskaya

Thank You Donors!

The Family Partnership appreciates the generosity of donors who help sustain our work. We would like to acknowledge the following Businesses, Corporations, Federated Campaigns, Foundations, Civic Groups, Religious Institutions, and individuals whose gifts were received from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Building for Better Futures Campaign Donors

Thank you to the following for investing in the beginning stages of our campaign.

Bruce Lilly* & Paula Schad of the River Road Foundation David C. Brackett, Sr.* & Dianne Brackett Phil & Margie* Soran Bruce & Julie* Steiner Lucy & Bob Mitchell Restricted Family Fund of the Longview Foundation Russell C. & Nancy A.* Nelson Julia Morrison Palmer* & Brian Palmer Mary Ann Nelson* & James Van Houton Candace M. Swanson

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\$499 - \$100

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MISSION:

Building strong families, vital communities, and better futures for children.

VISION:

We envision a Twin Cities where all children and families, regardless of income or origins, reach their full potential. The Family Partnership will be the leader in closing opportunity and achievement gaps for children and families living in poverty by providing high impact, multicultural services; building powerful community partnerships; and changing public policy.

2016-2020 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

COMMUNITY IMPACT: Reduce opportunity and achievement gaps for families living in poverty.

LEADERSHIP: Provide multicultural leadership, education, and training locally and nationally to build community partnerships and increase impact.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS: Heighten community awareness to reduce poverty and violence, increase educational achievement, and strengthen families.

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY: Empower and educate clients and communities through technology.

SUSTAINABILITY: Stabilize our physical environment to empower, expand, and strengthen our programs and our financial and human resources.





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