

# Better Tomorrows

An Annual Stewardship Publication of Family & Children's Center **2021**

**Child Abuse  
Through The Eyes  
Of An Officer**

**Treatment Foster  
Care Family Spotlight**

**2020 Program  
Outcomes**



**Family & Children's Center 2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

# Making a Difference Together

Greetings,

Our community faces tremendous hardships every day, especially as we navigate our way through the COVID-19 Pandemic. Individuals are suffering from mental illness. Too many children are experiencing neglect and abuse in their lives. Families are struggling with the financial and emotional demands of raising a child. Unfortunately, these challenges can spread and create even more problems if not detected, treated, and supported.

We at Family and Children's Center strive to help those who are struggling. By giving them the care they need to adapt to their community, to face their misfortunes, and to cope in a healthy manner, they gain a more profound sense of worth and develop healthier relationships.

By believing in and carrying out our mission, our programs have been able to create better tomorrows for our clients. When you support Family & Children's Center, you are also helping our clients find the strength to persevere and become stronger individuals in the community.



Thank you for helping Family & Children's Center continually provide better tomorrows to all that receive our help. Together, we are making a difference.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tita'.

Tita C. Yutuc, LCSW, LICSW  
President/CEO

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To learn more about the center's services and community impact, or to inquire about making a charitable gift, please visit us at [fconline.org](https://fconline.org) or call the Development Office at

**(608) 668-2235**



**Family & Children's Center**  
Better Tomorrows Start With Us

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## Be the Village

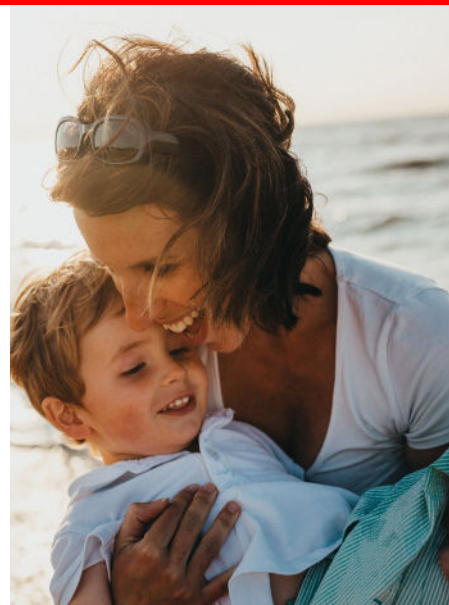
Every two minutes a child goes into Foster Care. Kids in our community need you.

We currently have more children in need of foster care than we have foster care parents. We are having to turn away youth every day. If you have room in your heart to love, consider being a foster parent.

**To learn more, call 608.785.0001 or visit [fcconline.org](http://fcconline.org).**

### **WE OFFER:**

**Training • Intensive Support • Flexible Schedules • Competitive Compensation  
Trauma-Informed Care model • Multi-Disciplinary team**





# A Few of Our Program Outcomes

3,276 individuals served in 2020

## Children

### Child Advocacy Services

502 victims and their families supported.

### Host Homes

100% of our supported youth finished high school or pursued post-secondary education or training.

### Respite Care

147 children supported.

## Healthy Families

97% of children were current on well-baby exams and immunizations.

## Treatment Foster Care

89% of children returned home or to a less restrictive placement.

## Domestic Abuse Placement

100% of clients had a safety plan after their first visit with the DAP Coordinator.

## Families

## Adults

### Supported Employment

90% of clients who are employed maintained their job for 90 days post hire.

### Independent Living

92% of eligible young adults obtained their high school diploma or equivalent.

### The Other Door

1,722 mental health and sobriety peer support visits.

# FCC Provider Spotlights

Meet Anne and Larry, foster parents for nearly 10 years. They have provided a safe and loving home for 18 different foster children, changing not just the children's lives, but their own in the process. Anne often says that she had no idea what she was getting into when they first applied to become foster parents, but they have become skilled in working with children from all different backgrounds and locations in the last decade. As of today, Anne and Larry have adopted four children from foster care and are now beginning the process to adopt their fifth child out of foster care. Anne says that she and Larry never expected to adopt five kids, but they see every child as a member of their family regardless of how long they stay.

Today, Anne and Larry's family is made up of nine children: four biological children, who are now all adults, and the five children they have fostered to adoption.



Meet Kaitlyn, a respite care provider since March of 2021. Kaitlyn is a 4th-year student at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and is majoring in psychology with a minor in at-risk child and youth care. She is excited to continue her education by pursuing a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Kaitlyn enjoys being a respite provider and applying what she has learned in her classes to the families and children who she works with to provide the best and most informed care possible. Kaitlyn's favorite part of being a respite provider is seeing clients grow and develop into young adults as they work to achieve their goals. Besides being a direct respite care provider, Kaitlyn has recently taken a position at Family and Children's Center as the respite intern. She appreciates being able to understand respite care from both a provider's perspective as well as an administrative perspective and is excited about the opportunities each of these positions hold.



# Through The Eyes Of An Officer

Family & Children's Center's Stepping Stones Program (La Crosse) and Matty's Place (Winona) are vital in helping prevent child abuse. The mission and programs are critical to the community as well as the people who are trained to help the children and families who are accessing the services. In addition, Stepping Stones and Matty's Place serve as sites where a Multi-Disciplinary Team can work together to investigate a child abuse report. One of the officers that works on the MDT team is Andy Rosenow.

Andy has worked with the La Crosse PD for 19 years, and his expertise lies in the Sensitive Crimes Unit as an Investigator. He handles a wide variety of cases, including maltreatment of children in the La Crosse area. Andy also handles all Internet Crimes against children involved in sexual exploitation.

This year, all the attendees at the 2021 Monte Carlo Event heard his perspective on child abuse and what it means to be a part of Family & Children's Center Child Abuse Prevention Programs. "I feel so grateful to be a part of a team that allows a child a safe place to share -- possibly their most traumatizing experience, help them understand it is not their fault, begin the healing process, and most importantly, hold those offenders accountable for their actions. I have often nearly come to tears when listening to a child disclose abuse and when talking to their mom and/ or dad. This happens because I care and because I believe that these horrible things happened. I have a sense of duty to be there for these families and put offenders away for as long as legally possible."

After the investigation, what isn't mentioned is what the child and their families had to endure.

The prevalence of social media in today's world can hurt these children and their families. People may recognize this family and make a conscious decision not to allow their own children to play with the child victim. This is not done because of what the child victim did. It is a direct result of what this perpetrator did to this child.

Child abuse is reported almost daily. Andy states, "To prevent these crimes against children, we need to talk about the problem, the statistics, and the solutions."

*“Investigator Rosenow is a valued member of our Multidisciplinary Team. Investigator Andy goes above and beyond to ensure that victims' rights and needs are met. The efforts that he puts in to ensure that children and vulnerable adults in our community are protected and treated with respect is fantastic and so appreciated.”*

Danielle Swedberg, BS  
Program Coordinator



Unfortunately, child abuse is an under-reported crime - only 1 in 3 victims get reported, which means 2 of 3 victims never receive the help they need to move forward and heal from the abuse that occurred. Most often, people may think of physical signs of abuse - not the neglect, trafficking, sexual abuse, online sexual abuse - which kids face.

Having Child Advocacy Centers in La Crosse and Winona has a tremendous benefit to our communities.

“These programs allow the Criminal Justice system to hold offenders accountable. It enables the police to work faster and more efficiently to bring about arrests and the DA to bring charges. Stepping Stones and Matty’s Place are the backbone of these child maltreatment cases. Without disclosure from the child, a criminal case is very difficult to proceed with. This is precisely what Stepping Stones and Matty’s Place provides,” according to Andy. More importantly, the centers can help victims understand that it is not their fault.

This can be a time where children and caregivers often blame themselves. Counselors teach victims and their support system the importance of what a healthy relationship looks like.



*Andy Rosenow and our Child Abuse Prevention team (Tami, Danielle, and Nicole) at our 2021 Monte Carlo Event.*

The centers provide a place where children and families can turn for support. Counselors at the centers give them the tools to break the cycle of abuse.

Andy confirms, “I am very passionate about the work I do and the work that the Multi-Disciplinary Team can accomplish. I am proud to be a member of Family & Children’s Center’s team to ensure the best possible care and support for physical and sexual abuse survivors.”



# TRUE BLUE PARTNERS

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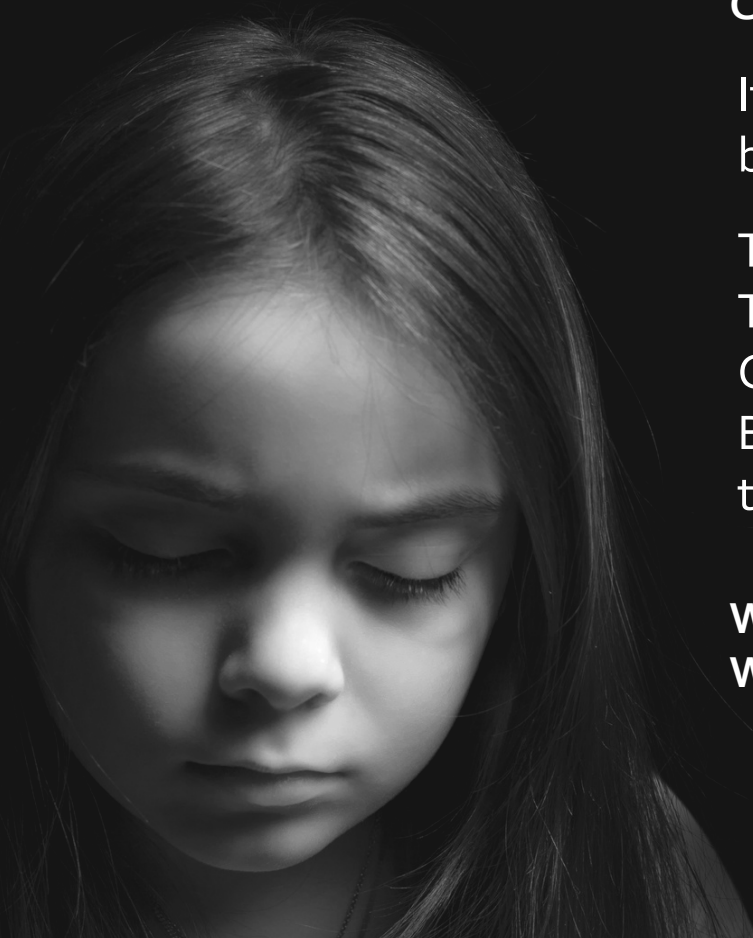
# TAKE A STAND!

**WE CAN ALL TAKE A STAND AGAINST  
CHILD ABUSE IN OUR COMMUNITY**

It shouldn't happen here....  
but it does.

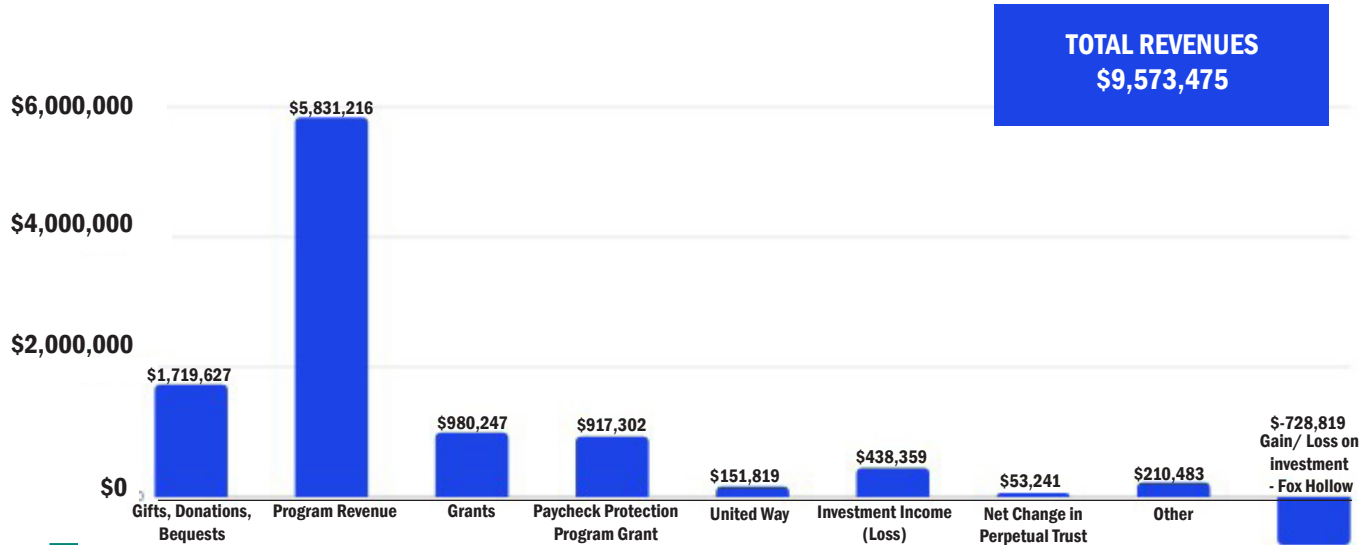
These companies have had enough.  
They partnered with Family &  
Children's Center in 2020 to be a True  
Blue Partner by sponsoring programs  
that give children better tomorrows.

**WE are most grateful for their support.  
WE hope that you are too.**

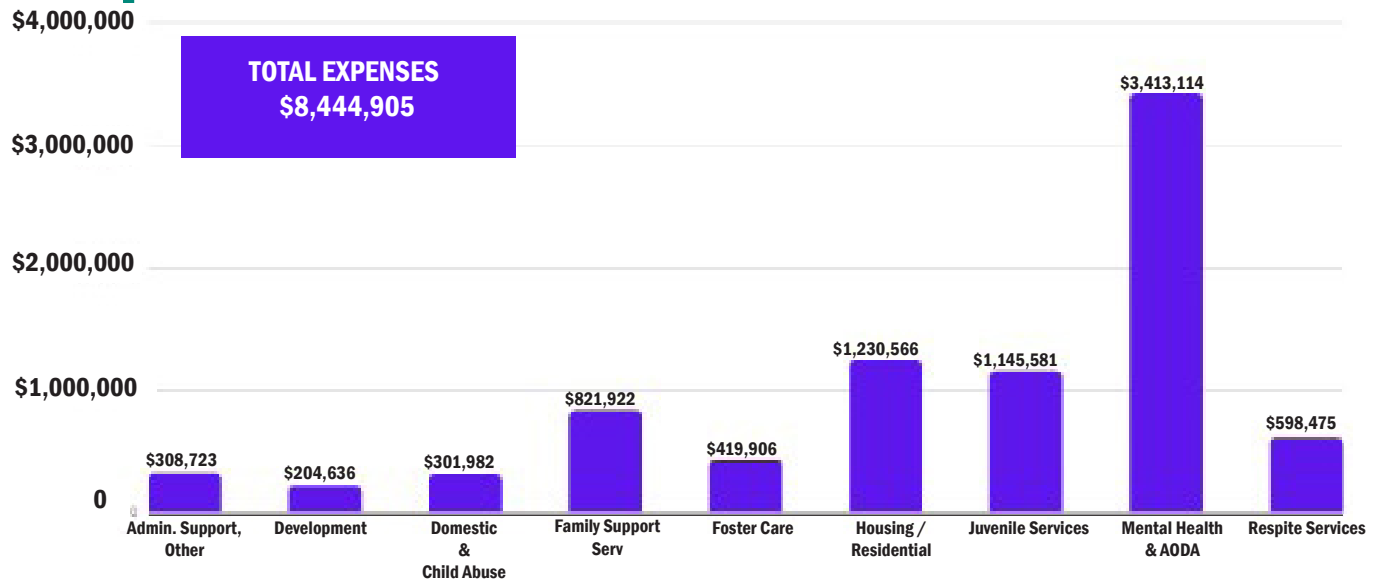


# 2020 Annual Report Financial Highlight

## Sources of Support



## Expenses





# Change Lives for Good

**Help Family & Children's Center Open Doors  
to Better Tomorrows for Children, Families,  
and Generations to Come.**

A gift to Family & Children's Center is quite literally the gift of a lifetime. When you give to Family & Children's Center, you break cycles of poverty and abuse. You give babies and children a healthy start in life, help families find stability, and make communities safer.

Planned giving provides a way for you to support that work, while also improving your own financial and tax situation today. It is a way for you to partner your financial goals with your personal values to create lasting change and a personal legacy.

**We Gratefully Accept the Following**

**Bequests in wills • Charitable lead trusts • Charitable remainder trusts  
Retained life estate • Life insurance • Retirement assets**

To learn more about how you can give the gift of a lifetime, contact Family & Children's Center at 608-668-2235, or email [jkorn@fccnetwork.com](mailto:jkorn@fccnetwork.com)



## Family & Children's Center

Better Tomorrows Start With Us

1707 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

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601 Franklin Street  
Winona, MN 55987



**Because of the generosity of our donors, we are able to help families, children, and individuals gain a better tomorrow. Our highly effective life-changing prevention and intervention programs strengthen families and promote individual well-being.**