



ANNUAL REPORT
2017



Dear Friends,

**RESPECT – DEDICATION – INTEGRITY – OPTIMISM – COMPASSION –
COLLABORATION – CONTINUOUS LEARNING – INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY**



Values aren't something we typically develop by discussing them but rather by what we learn and how we live. These are the core values of ECH Every Child's Hope. They are guiding principles that form the backbone of everything we do at ECH to provide hope and healing for thousands of traumatized children and their families each year.

We believe one of the best ways to instill values in children is to lead by example. Emphasize continuous learning so we may address the needs of each child. Respect every individual. Work to enlarge our perspectives and promote inclusiveness. Show integrity in our actions. These are not just words, but our commitment.

You will see it in every program, from our Early Education Center to the Transitional Living program. You can feel the compassion of a foster parent rocking a baby to sleep for the first time; see the collaborative efforts it takes our therapists to help build healthy family relationships; and recognize the impact of a teacher's optimistic attitude when she finally breaks down a child's barriers to learning through creative art.

As you read the report, I hope you feel good as our partner in teaching these values to the children we serve – values that will guide them to become productive citizens in our community.

Thank you for all you do for children and families who need us.

With gratitude,

Michael Brennan
CEO

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

ECH Every Child's Hope offers a state-of-the-art residential program specializing in care for up to 49 youth at a time, ranging in age from 6 to 18. Many of these young people have experienced trauma, abuse, or neglect. Often they have a history of aggression and mental illness.

Each child receives individualized attention to help deal with their specific needs. While in treatment, youth receive individual, group, and family counseling, case management, and psychiatric consultation.

The young people in care have all their basic needs provided, including attending the ECH School or a community-based school, transportation to medical appointments, clothing and personal care items, and all meals.

When James first moved to ECH's residential treatment program, he was placed in the Social Behavior Learning Unit. He struggled with anger issues and learning disabilities. James began attending the ECH School. He was behind in school and needed to work hard to catch up to his age-appropriate grade level. At first it was hard for James. He didn't want to be here and he was fighting with everyone. But his goal was to move into a less restrictive setting and possibly move into a foster home. With guidance and support from his therapist and teachers, he started making friends and improving in all areas. His grades improved, his behavior became more controlled and he started opening up about his anger issues. James has shown so much improvement! He has been given more privileges and is hoping to find a foster family soon.



NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **94**

AVERAGE AGE: **15**

70% OF YOUTH DISCHARGED TO A LESS RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

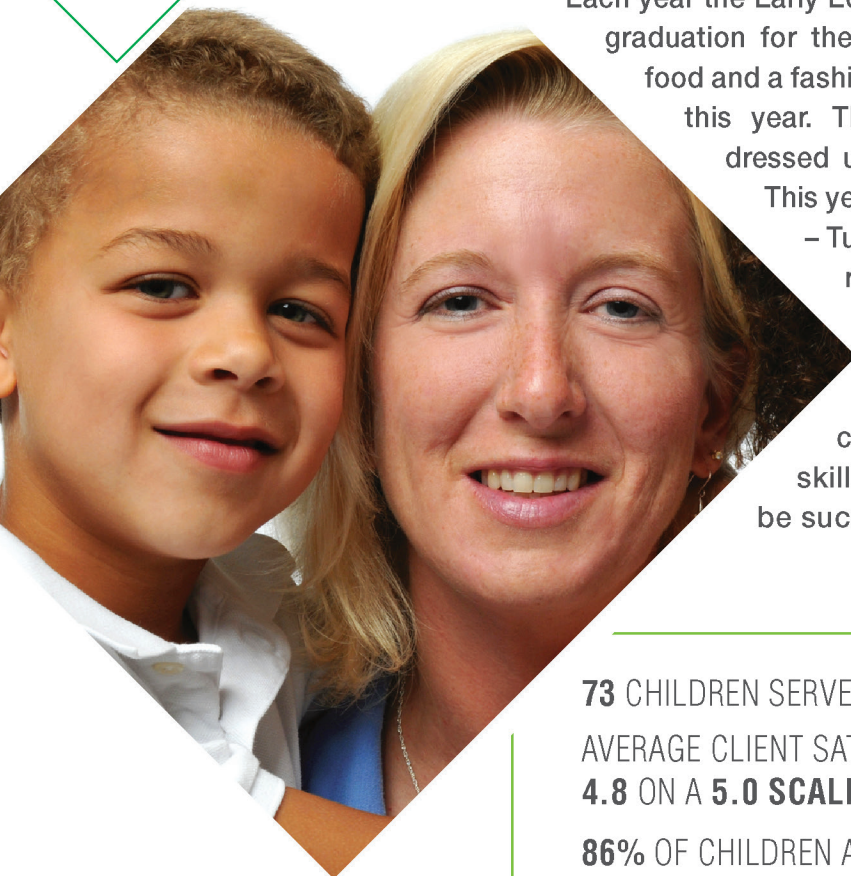


EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

The Early Education Center provides quality education for low-income families and their children through a partnership with Early Head Start and Head Start. Accepting children ages six weeks to five years, each teacher builds a curriculum that is theme based, hands on and encourages children to use resources to find answers to questions. Stations are set up around the classroom urging children to use their imagination and stimulate learning.

At the Early Education Center, parents are encouraged to participate in their children's education. Parent meetings and special parent/child activities are offered on a monthly basis.

Each year the Early Education Center has a prom and graduation for the children. Decorations, special food and a fashion show was the hit of the Prom this year. The children and their parents dressed up and enjoyed music and fun. This year's theme was Tiaras – Tuxedos – Tutus. At graduation, 10 children received “diplomas” and were declared ready for Kindergarten to the delight of the parents in attendance. These children are equipped with the skills and foundation they need to be successful in school.



73 CHILDREN SERVED

AVERAGE CLIENT SATISFACTION SCORE:
4.8 ON A **5.0** SCALE

86% OF CHILDREN ACHIEVED DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES AFTER PARTICIPATING IN PROGRAM COMPARED TO 71% AT ENTRY



ECH SCHOOL

The students attending the ECH School are children from our Residential Treatment Program as well as several school districts in the community, mainly the Special School District. Children, grades second through twelfth, are not always successful in the traditional school setting. Students receive individualized and small group instruction based on their Individualized Education Plan and other educational needs.

Classrooms have no more than 10 students each with a teacher and teacher assistant in elementary, middle school and high school classes. Once a young person is ready, they are moved back to the community schools to finish their education.

School is sometimes hard for kids in care, that's why the ECH School is committed to helping young people learn their true potential. The goal at the ECH School is to help the students get caught up in their education and transition back to community schools.

For John, the plan was not the same as for the other young people. John had severe learning disabilities and had difficulty being understood when he communicated. He also had high levels of anxiety and his teachers knew that it would be extremely difficult for John to transition to a community school. He told the school's principal he wanted to graduate from ECH and asked if the school would give him a party. Every day, John reminded the principal and his teachers that he wanted a party when he graduated. So on the day John finished his work at the ECH School, the staff and students held a big graduation party, gave him his certification and helped him celebrate. John was thrilled. Today, John has a job that is appropriate for him. He is doing well and will always remember his graduation party.

NUMBER CHILDREN SERVED: **113**

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE: **52**

TOTALS DAYS OF SERVICE: **10,427**

89% STUDENTS INCREASED THEIR
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN 2 OF 4 AREAS



FAMILY SOLUTIONS FOR KIDS

Family Solutions for Kids is a program designed to help parents and children who are facing challenges in their family functioning. The program is funded through a grant from St. Louis County Children's Service Fund in collaboration with Every Child's Hope and Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services of Missouri. Family Solutions for Kids is a free, in-home intervention tailored to meet the distinct needs of every family served. FSK is available to any St. Louis County family with children ages 4 thru 19. Therapists visit the families in their home for up to 16 weeks and help them work through everyday issues such as depression, anxiety and behavioral issues.

Erika began receiving services from Family Solutions for Kids (FSK) because of depression and anxiety. She was spending more time alone and crying often. She was also having suicidal thoughts many times a day. The therapist at FSK introduced Erika to practicing mindfulness. She quickly found that it worked for her and it was helpful in dealing with worrying or negative thoughts. As time went on, Erika became more confident and started reaching out to other kids at her new school. She began to accept her mistakes and weaknesses with a more positive attitude. At the end of FSK services, Erika's mother said Erika was more self-assured and responsible and came home from school happy, something that had not happened often before. Today, Erika feels happy and positive most of the time and hasn't had suicidal thoughts.



SERVED
142
FAMILIES

AVERAGE CLIENT SATISFACTION SCORE – **4.9** ON A **5.0** SCALE
4,356 HOURS OF IN-HOME THERAPEUTIC SERVICES
PROVIDED TO FAMILIES

OUTPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

Outpatient Psychiatric Services (OPS) provides a comprehensive assessment and treatment plan, along with medication management, for children by board-certified child psychiatrists.

Thanks to a grant from the St. Louis County Children's Service Fund, children ages 4-19 who live in St. Louis County receive services for free.

One of the doctors in the OPS program began seeing Tiffany while she was a junior in high school. Tiffany was diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, which caused her to harm herself. A bright and warm young woman with a lot of potential, Tiffany had difficulty managing her emotions throughout the day and was a patient at OPS for several years. Now, Tiffany is attending college locally and doing extremely well. She still sees the doctor through OPS but seems to be improving every day. Tiffany's symptoms have become manageable and she is one of the founding members of a support group for people that have BFRB (Body-Focused Repetitive Behavior).



NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED: **673**
BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS ARE REDUCED
AS A RESULT OF TREATMENT IN
64% OF YOUTH

SERVED
673
CHILDREN



FOSTER CARE MANAGEMENT

The Foster Care Case Management (FCCM) Program offers foster care services for children and families in need. Contracted with the State of Missouri, the FCCM program works to assess the needs of children and families, arrange and provide appropriate services and move children into a safe environment within a short period of time.

A family of three, Jim, Jenny and Sam, all under the age of 9, was placed in Foster Care through our Foster Care Case Management program. Because Sam, the youngest boy, had anger issues and continually acted out, it was decided that the youngsters would be better in two different homes. The ECH staff worked to have the youngsters' mother involved in their care in order to get the family reunited, but mom was resistant and never showed up to meetings or counseling. So ECH made the decision to apply to terminate the mother's rights in order to give the children a chance at a Forever Home, not just a Foster Home.

After many discussions and meetings, each child's Foster Care Manager decided to keep Jim and Jenny together and to find a different adoptive family for Sam. Two families were identified for the children and their current foster families were told. Sam's foster mom, however, had some concerns. She and her husband had come to adore Sam and decided they wanted to keep him for their own, despite his anger issues.

Jim, Jenny and Sam's story has an even happier ending. Their adoptive parents are committed to keeping the children together and preserving the family even though they live separately. And all three are thriving in their new families.

NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **292**

AVERAGE AGE: **8**

106 PERMANENT PLACEMENTS

SERVED
292
CLIENTS

STEPPINGSTONE

Steppingstone in both St. Louis and Kansas City offers young people ages 16 to 21 a chance at independence. By offering life skills training, guidance in finding employment and educational opportunities, and safe stable housing, Steppingstone gives young people the tools they need to be successful on their own.

Jeanie recently graduated from the St. Louis Steppingstone program. She did well while in the program and was ready for the next stage of her life, attending classes at Southeast Missouri State University to work on her degree in elementary education.

Just before she left for classes, she told staff she may change her degree to social work.

When staff gently told Jeanie she wouldn't get rich as a social worker, she told the staff that she might be able to help change a life, like they helped change hers. The Eugene Carroll Scholarship Fund, a scholarship fund that was set up at ECH to help young people with their education, is helping Jeanie make her dreams come true.

Mandy has been in the Kansas City Steppingstone program for over a year. During her time at Steppingstone, she has maintained steady employment and currently holds three part time jobs. She has consistently saved money. Mandy was succeeding and doing very well, but there was one thing missing, the knowledge of who she was and where she came from. With the help of her Care Manager, Mandy was able to reach out to her biological mother, who was from Peru. By having this contact, she was able to get some answers about why she was adopted and could begin healing. Mandy is almost 21 and will be finishing up the program very soon. The Steppingstone staff are helping her look for an apartment in the community where she can live with her sister. She has enrolled at the local community college and is planning to major in Dental Hygiene. When she leaves Steppingstone, Mandy will have the tools she needs to succeed as well as the healing she needs to move forward.

SAINT LOUIS

NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **74**

NUMBER OF DAYS OF SERVICE PROVIDED: **13,467**

79% OF YOUTH DISPLAY INDEPENDENT LIVING CHARACTERISTICS AT DISCHARGE

AVERAGE AGE: **18.9 YEARS**

SERVED
74
CLIENTS

KANSAS CITY

NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **79**

NUMBER OF DAYS OF SERVICE PROVIDED: **11,541**

80% DISCHARGED TO A LESS RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT FROM WHICH ADMITTED

AVERAGE AGE: **17.8 YEARS**

SERVED
79
CLIENTS

COST OF CARING 2017

Revenue

Client Service Contracts	\$ 7,812,986	68%
Government Grants	\$ 2,331,190	21%
Contributions	\$ 1,288,161	11%
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,663	0%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$11,436,000	100%

Program Expenses

St. Louis Residential Program	\$ 3,575,879	
Kansas City Steppingstone	\$ 1,707,065	
St. Louis Steppingstone	\$ 1,419,187	
Outpatient Psychiatry	\$ 516,595	
Family Solutions for Kids	\$ 516,947	
Family Case Management Services	\$ 1,133,581	
Early Education Center	\$ 587,143	
ECH School	\$ 1,321,361	
Total Program Expenses	\$10,777,758	83%
Total Fundraising Expenses	\$ 506,002	4%
Total Management and General Expenses	\$ 1,688,586	13%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,972,346	100%

Operating Deficit	\$ (1,536,346)
Investment Income	\$ 2,307,510
Agency Surplus	\$ 771,164

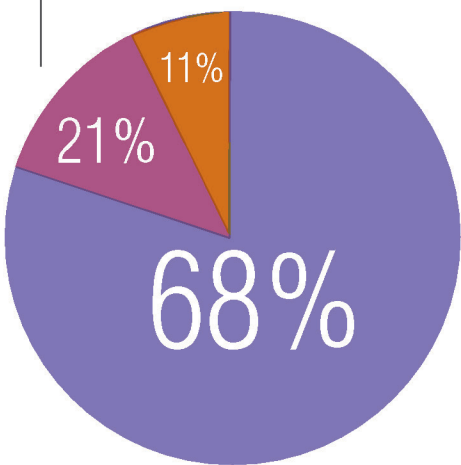
2017 Year-End Net Assets \$29,340,731



To learn about specific programs and 2017 statistics, visit our website: everychildshope.org



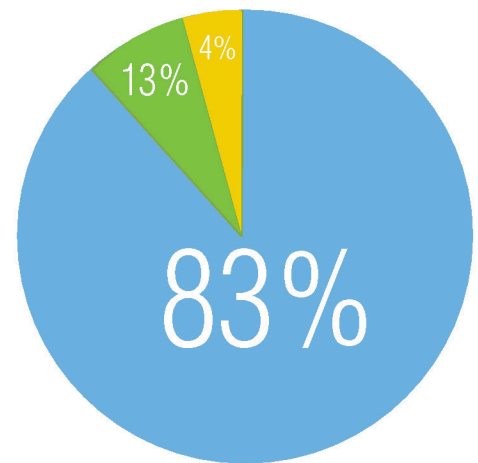
- Client Service Contracts 68%
- Government Grants 21%
- Contributions 11%



TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED CARE/SERVICES FOR 2017: \$1,269,853

DONATIONS TO RESERVE FUND : \$928,812

- Program Expenses 83%
- Management & General Expenses 13%
- Fundraising 4%



PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO ASSIST CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL QUEST FOR HEALTH AND WHOLENESS THROUGH QUALITY, FAITHFUL, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

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Editor: Laura Kilcullin
Design: GrafXWorx, Fee McCaskill

ECH EVERY CHILD'S HOPE

8240 St. Charles Rock Road
St. Louis, MO 63114
(314) 427-3755

STEPPINGSTONE KANSAS CITY

5100 Noland Road
Kansas City, MO 64133
(816) 356-0187

COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS

1220 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
(314) 427-3832

www.everychildshope.org

JEFFERSON CITY

1026 Northeast Dr.
Jefferson City, MO 65109

ECH Every Child's Hope is a private not-for-profit childcare agency, voluntarily affiliated with the Council for Health and Human Services Ministries related to the United Church of Christ. ECH Every Child's Hope adheres to Federal and State laws which prohibit discrimination in the delivery of services on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, handicap/disability or religious belief.

CERTIFIED BY: The Council on Accreditation

MEMBER OF: Missouri Coalition of Children's Agencies (MCCA), Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, & Children's Service Coalition

APPROVED BY: Charities Committee, Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis, MO Better Business Bureau.

Founding Member of the Missouri Alliance for Children & Families

ECH Every Child's Hope is not a United Way Agency.

