

# The Enduring Power of Hope



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



## Mission Statement

Partnering with the community to assist children, youth and their families in their individual quest for health and wholeness through quality, faithful, professional services.

## Dear Friends,

We felt wonderful about what the future held for Every Child's Hope at the end of 2019. We successfully kicked off our capital campaign to create a new ECH Youth Development Center for children and families, forged new partnerships with local leaders and funders to serve more youth than ever before, and built new capacities within our staff to move us forward as a caring and committed organization. It was one of the best years in our long history.



And then the world in which we operate seemed to flip. We had to make some big changes in a hurry.

Of course we felt the stress, and it's undeniable that ECH had been tested as never before. But we've also been given the gift of seeing what our agency does so very right.

In a time of highest emergency, our staff has steadfastly been there to care for children and families. While the largest economic upheaval of our lifetime seemed to happen overnight, our donors continued to give. Supplies began to run low and volunteers stepped forward with the assistance we needed to keep everyone safe. When we questioned how we'd be able to continue services while maintaining the health and safety of our clients, staff and volunteers, technology and the people who make it work showed up to usher us forward into a new era of care.

**I believe the reason we have been able to stay the course is because of the enduring power of hope.** It's in our name, our mission statement, and in everything we do. We share hope with our clients and inspire it in our supporters. We create hope within our community and will continue to do so, no matter what.

We're working tirelessly to address the unique challenges ECH and our clients are facing at this moment in time. I look forward to seeing the incredible things we will do for children and families in the coming months and years.

With gratitude and optimism,

Michael Brennan, CEO



# HIGHLIGHTS

**1858**

Year ECH was founded

**1,447**

Clients served in 2019

**1 of only 15**

youth-serving agencies in the nation to be invited to explore a new model of care, which will be delivered at our new ECH Youth Development Center

**203**

Employees throughout Missouri



**23** Years since last capital campaign

ECH SERVES OUR CLIENTS THROUGH FOUR

## Primary Program Areas:

### Educational Services

Includes Early Head Start, Head Start, and an alternative K-12 School

### Residential Treatment Services

### Family Connections

Community-based services include in-home therapy through Family Solutions for Kids, foster care case management, and outpatient psychiatry

### Steppingstone Transitional Living

Located in St. Louis and Kansas City



# Hope Gives the Power to Believe in Yourself

“Thank you for your help, support, calls, emails, and patience to get my daughter back on track. I didn’t think it possible, but she has grown even more during her last ECH stay. Thank you for helping me bring her back and get her stable; you hold a special place in our hearts. Thank you for going above and beyond for my daughter and all the kids at ECH. We wouldn’t have made it the past several years without you!”

– Parent of client who took part in Residential Treatment and attended ECH School



## 4.4

on a 5-point scale  
rating on ECH  
residential services  
from participating  
youth







## Residential Treatment Program and Educational Services

Children have been learning and healing on the ECH main campus since the mid-1860s. Today, it is home to our Residential Treatment Program as well as the ECH School and Early Education Center.

Residential Treatment provides a safe, full-time space for youth as they work to overcome years of significant abuse or trauma. We gather a team of professionals who wrap them in care—providing consistency and routine—and then help them build the resilience they'll need to be successful, no matter where life takes them.

Our Educational Services offer learning opportunities from the cradle to the cap and gown, creating a one-on-one relationship with each child that reveals their unique strengths. We develop customized learning plans that combine top-notch education with expert social-emotional care.



# 89%

of students in the ECH School increased their scores on wide-range achievement tests within one year of attendance



# Hope Builds Harmony at Home

85%

of our families report  
improvement in their  
relationships



"We recently helped three children who had been removed from an unsafe home and needed immediate placement: two boys ages 9 and 6 along with their 4-year-old sister, whom they fretted over and called 'baby girl.'

The small but strong Family Connections team swung into action across all departments. Our mental health staff provided a gentle and soothing space for the children to process the situation, foster care staff called family members and foster homes that might be a good fit, and case workers took them to Urgent Care so their medical needs could be met.

Even other departments within the ECH organization stepped up! Residential Treatment found clothes and showers for the children. The maintenance staff got involved, making sure our buildings stayed open after 5 pm.

I had such a great feeling about ECH during all this. Not only did our Family Connections team rally, but the entire agency jumped right in where needed. **I am so proud to be part of an organization that cares so much about the clients we serve."**

– Eve Dyson





## Family Connections

Nearly all families deal with a difficult period at one time or another. It's never a mistake or a failure to ask for help, but rather an opportunity to take a huge step forward. Our ECH team stands with families at these moments with three programs: Family Solutions for Kids in-home therapy, Foster Care Case Management, and Outpatient Psychiatric Services.

Our highest goal is to offer understanding where there is confusion, comfort where there is unease, and growth when there is adversity.





# Hope Lights the Path Ahead

“This is the second time I’ve been at Steppingstone. The first time I just wasn’t ready and I left after one month. I’ve been back for over a year now.

I have been diagnosed with PTSD, bipolar disorder, and personality disorder. I didn’t want to meet with my psychiatrist or take my medicines because they made me not feel right, but I also didn’t fit at school and couldn’t keep a job. I didn’t have anyone to talk to and help me figure things out. I felt trapped.

My medical case manager helped me schedule and keep my appointments and figure out how to take my medicines. I was able to move from the female group living home to one of ECH’s off-campus apartments. I have been finishing my GED, have had a job for 6 months, and would like to get a driver’s permit.

I want to be independent. I want to live in my own place and have my own car. I’ve been able to see what I need to do to make that happen. I’m so glad ECH didn’t give up on me.”

– Kansas City Steppingstone Client







## Steppingstone Transitional Living Program

ECH's Steppingstone programs in St. Louis and Kansas City are there for youth ages 16-22 who are exiting the foster care system, experiencing homelessness, or who find themselves "on their own" for a variety of reasons. We offer stability and a team of experienced, trustworthy partners as they navigate life's choices. We empower them as they work toward personal goals, build skills, and learn how to care for their own mental and physical health.

Our ultimate goal is to provide the tools youth need to successfully transition into a life they want and deserve.



# 81%

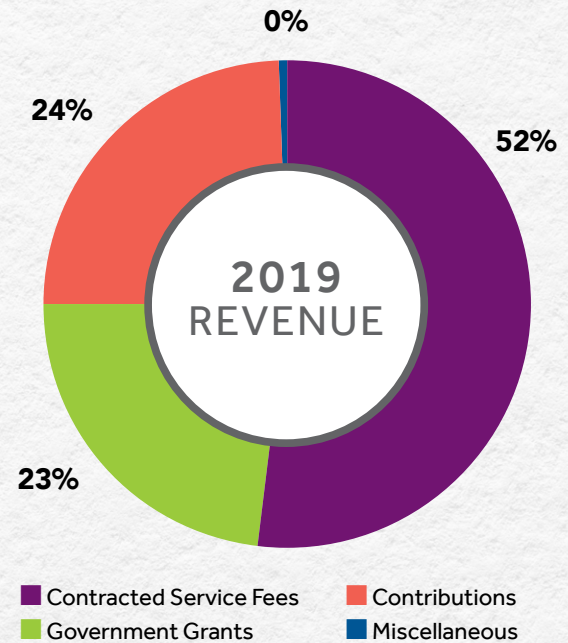
of youth are  
discharged into a less  
restricted setting



# FINANCIALS

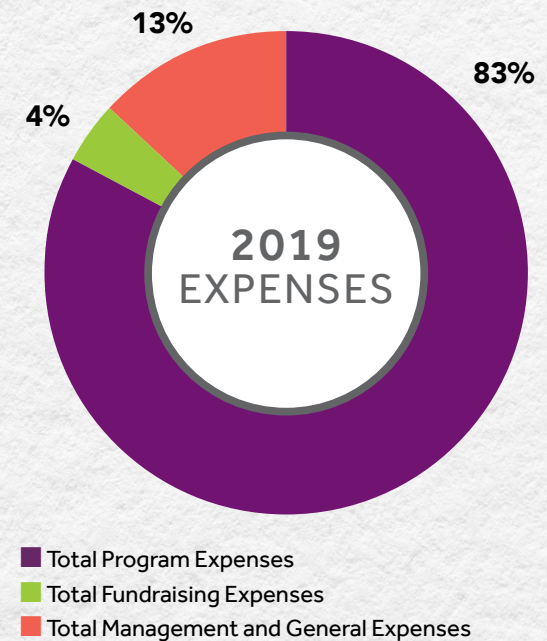
## 2019 REVENUE

Contracted Service Fees	\$6,955,520	52%
Government Grants	\$3,113,262	23%
Contributions	\$3,271,434	24%
Miscellaneous	\$31,962	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$13,372,178</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 2019 EXPENSES

St. Louis Residential Program	\$3,678,591	
Kansas City Steppingstone	\$1,905,101	
St. Louis Steppingstone	\$1,470,258	
Outpatient Psychiatry	\$497,805	
Family Solutions for Kids	\$536,383	
Family Case Management Services	\$1,144,797	
Early Education Center	\$613,676	
ECH School	\$1,292,670	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,139,281</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Total Fundraising Expenses</b>	<b>\$593,327</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Total Management and General Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,725,852</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,458,460</b>	<b>100%</b>





# 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Shari Smith**

*President*

**E. David Viehmann**

*Vice President*

**Paul G. Flynn**

*Treasurer*

**Stephen R. Schroeder**

*Assistant Treasurer*

**Dennis B. Mertz**

*Corporate Secretary*

## **DIRECTORS:**

**Oliver A. Berwin, Jr.**

*President Emeritus*

**Regina Berwin**

**Jeremy Fettig**

**Gerhard K. Glassl**

**Ron Hail**

**Gail Saxton**

**Susan Shelton**

**Lucille Smith**

**Selena Vaughn**

**Annie L. Williams**

**Dr. Robert Baur**

*Executive Director Emeritus*

**James W. Smith**

*Board Member Emeritus*

**James L. Brooks**

*Board Member Emeritus*

**David R. Frensley, Esq.**

*Board Member Emeritus*

**Robert H. Becker**

*Board Member Emeritus*

## **LEADERSHIP STAFF:**

**Michael P. Brennan, CEO**

**Duane L. Lewis, COO**

**Brandi Behne, CFO**

**Sherry Gerke, CDO**

**The next chapter in our story of hope:**  
the ECH Youth Development Center







Hope for Every Child,  
Healing for Every Family,  
Every Day.

**St. Louis Campus**

Every Child's Hope St. Louis Campus  
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

**Family Connections Office**

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

**Jefferson City Office**

1026 Northeast Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
(573) 635-9194



St. Louis County  
Children's Service Fund  
*Keeping Kids First*

[everychildshope.org](http://everychildshope.org)

