



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & UNAUDITED INTERNAL REVIEW



Kinship of Morrison County

107 2nd St SE - Little Falls, MN 56345

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Greetings from the staff and Board of Directors of Kinship of Morrison County. I am pleased to provide you with this program & financial overview of 2023. Kinship has been serving youth in Morrison County through mentoring and group activities since 1974. We strive to live up to our Mission Statement; "to provide a one-to-one friendship in the most wholesome way possible with the intention that the child could show noticeable improvement in personal development." The youth we serve come from homes where they don't live with both parents and benefit from the influence of another positive adult in their life.

Kinship's youth development efforts focus on group mentoring activities and on 1:1 or family-based matches. In 2023 we hosted 13 activities including 2 fundraisers & 2 service projects, all of which brought our youth & adults together to share a variety of experiences side-by-side. Details on these activities are provided on pages 6 & 7.

Kinship's matches shared many everyday adventures beyond sponsored activities, several of which are highlighted through pictures in this report. The relationships formed during these times together is what Kinship is all about!

Financially, Kinship did well in 2023. The "Friends of Kinship" tables sponsors at the Cook-off continue to increase, making this year's the most successful yet! Kinship also received a number of large donations or grants (\$1000+) which were gratefully received. Donors included: Aloys Meyer, BNSF Railroad Foundation, Bruce Pederson, Crow Wing Power Round Up, Flensburg American Legion, Great River Energy, Harding Sportsman's Club, Laura Jane Musser Fund, MMFCU, M&M Turkeys, Sourcewell, United Way of Morrison County, Walmart Foundation & a Youth Intervention Program grant. These are on top of the many smaller donations, both cash & in-kind, that keep Kinship operating.

I deeply appreciate all of the efforts of our volunteers, donors & sponsors. Your giving of time & resources make positive youth development through Kinship a possibility. In 2024, we look forward to forming new friendships, and maximizing the impact that our group mentoring activities have on Kinship's participants & the community.

Sincerely,

Aaron Olson

Executive Director
Kinship of Morrison County

KINSHIP OF MORRISON COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT

Kinship of Morrison County is dedicated to the premise that kids need, and can benefit from the guidance and companionship of a mature adult friend. Our purpose is to provide this one-to-one friendship in the most wholesome way possible with the intention that the child could show noticeable improvement in personal development.

2023 Kinship Board of Directors

Directors:

Corey Fink, Little Falls Radio
Collin Backowski, MC Social Services, mentor
John Maleski, CLC Instructor, mentor
Mike Costello, Self-employed, mentor
Brielle Harris, Little Falls Schools, mentor

Executive Director:

Aaron Olson

Staff:

Becky Olson - Match Manager

Kinship's
FISH FRY
FEBRUARY 23, 2024 (4:30 - 7:00 PM)
LITTLE FALLS VFW

*Alaskan Pollack - Rolls - Coleslaw
Tater Tots - Hush Puppies
Milk - Coffee - Ice Cream*

Tickets at the Door
Adults (age 16+) \$12
Youth (age 5-15) \$7

Thank you sponsors & donors!



Soup & Chili Cook-off
Monday, October 21, 2024
5:00 - 7:00 PM
Falls Ballroom in Little Falls



*"Friend of Kinship"
Full Service Tables Available*

*Ticket's Available
at the door...*



2023 Year in Review

Youth Served

Total: 70

Male: 41

Female: 29

Age 9 & under: 16

Age 10-15: 35

Age 16 & over: 19

Youth in traditional mentoring: 48 Youth mentoring in family matches: 19

Youth in Firearms Safety only: 3 New Youth in 2023: 15

Graduations from Kinship in 2023: 18

Volunteers & Mentors

Mentors (1:1 & Group Activities): 53

Firearms Safety Volunteers: 6

New Volunteers in 2023: 8

Volunteer Hours in 2023: 1480

Youth / Volunteer times together (either 1:1 or at activities) in 2023: 367

Matches

Total Matches: 33

New Matches: 7

Match Closures: 9

Kinship Activities

Number of Activities: 13

Ave. Attendance: 17 youth / 12 adults

Kinship Youth who attended at least one activity during 2023: 81%

Involvement in the Community

Firearms Safety Program: 11 participants 11 instructors, 27 hours

Soup & Chili Cook-off: 350

Fish Fry: 390



Kinship youth & volunteers at Northland Kart Kountry

Kinship's Group Mentoring Activities

Kinship staff organizes monthly activities at no cost to our youth and volunteers. For un-matched participants, activities are an opportunity to experience new things side-by-side with other youth and volunteers. Matches are also welcomed to attend the monthly activities as an option for getting together.

Activities focus on three categories; fun, education or service. In 2023, 81% of Kinship' youth participated in at least one of the 13 hosted activities. Total attendance ranged from 12 to 55 and averaged 17 youth & 12 volunteers. Those volunteers contributed 660+ hours in 2023 building relationships through shared experiences at our hosted activities. Kinship participants submitted ideas & gave feedback on activities during the year on multiple surveys.

Our first activity was a February trip to Camp Shamineau near Motley. The group played broom-ball, climbed an ice tower, rode horse, snow-tubed, made leather crafts & played a host of indoor games. It was a blast on a "warm" winter day. We also held our Annual Meeting at the Little Falls American Legion Post, where the annual video & financial reports were presented.



390+ people attended our annual Fish Fry fundraiser held at the Little Falls VFW in March. Thank you to the 34 volunteers (both youth & adult) who helped to make it possible. After all, every gathering of Kinship folks is about building relationships through shared experiences. That includes working side-by-side to raise funds for Kinship!

Kinship enjoyed an evening of bowling fun in April at Bennington's Entertainment Center (formerly Little Falls Bowling Center). This has become a thoroughly enjoyed annual tradition.



May saw the return of Kinship folks picking roadside trash after a 10+ year hiatus! We met at the Falls Ballroom and then picked 2 1/2 miles of Hawthorn Road (by the fairgrounds). Kinship youth & volunteers worked side-by-side through this service project and found an amazing amount of trash in the ditches of that county road!

Despite the summer drought, we were able to canoe a stretch of the Mississippi on a beautiful evening in June, thanks to the support of Camp Ripley's MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation) program as they supplied

the canoes, trailers, paddles & life jackets. The paddlers journeyed from Camp Ripley to Belle Prairie park, where the evening ended with kickball, frisbee golf, playground fun & a picnic.



The St. Cloud Rox Baseball Foundation made a wonderful July baseball experience possible through an extremely generous donation of tickets & a ballpark buffet for our group! Later that month, Kinship folks volunteered at the United Way brat sale at Coborns as a "thank you" for their ongoing financial support. This was our second service project for the year.

In August & September we hosted our nine-night, firearms safety course at both the Historic Courthouse & the Eastern Morrison County Sportsman's Club. This continues to be a valuable, hands-on educational course to teach real-life skills to the participants!

As our final summer activity, we traveled by bus to Northland Kart Country (north of Brainerd) for an evening of go-carting, mini golf, batting cages, bumper cars, virtual reality games, bungee bouncing & more.

The fall had two activities which were cancelled. The first was a Sunday afternoon of fishing on the Mississippi which was cancelled due to forecasted rain, wind & cool temperatures. This cancellation has led to discussion about how to better prepare Kinship's youth to "Do Hard Things" by being equipped to handle safe, but uncomfortable conditions, like fishing in the rain:) The second cancelled activity was an "Amazing Race at the Farm," which was cancelled due to an unforeseen out-of-town work conflict for the property owner.



October ended with a very successful Soup & Chili Cook-off fundraiser at the Falls Ballroom with 350+ people in attendance. Just like the fish fry, we leaned heavily on our youth & adult volunteers, of which there were 41, in addition to 20 additional community volunteers. This multitude of helpers filled roles ranging from hauling soup to selling tickets and from baking breadsticks to counting ballots.

We kicked off the Christmas season with a Santa's Workshop thanks to the Kinship volunteers who planned & hosted different craft & ornament making stations. Santa made a visit and handed out gifts courtesy of the LF American Legion.

During Christmas break we held our highest attended activity of the year, a night at The Falls Theatre to share the experience of watching the animated film "Migration." Kinship's group mentoring activities in 2023 continued to make a difference... one friendship at a time.

Kinship's Financial Accountability Process

According to MN Statute 11.309.53(3), a charitable organization with total annual revenues over \$750,000 must file an audited financial statement prepared by an independent CPA.

Kinship's annual revenues falls well below this threshold, so the Board of Directors has taken the responsibility to ensure financial accountability for Kinship's revenue & expenses through ongoing board reports and an annual internal review by the Board Treasurer.



All of Kinship's finances are managed through Quickbooks (financial software) to provide accuracy, accountability & the ability to produce on-demand reporting & details.

Below is a letter from Mike Costello, Kinship's Treasurer in regards to the internal financial review for 2023.

Kinship Board,

On 2/12/24 I visited with Aaron Olson, Director of Kinship of Morrison County to review the financial documents and statements for 2023.

I reviewed all Quickbooks documentation and statements, Bank statements and IRS documents. All reports provided by Aaron to board members along with the financial statements were included.

The documentation in the office and on-line match what has been provided monthly and all our accounting is in order and acceptable.

Sincerely,

Mike Costello

Treasurer, Kinship of Morrison County Board of Directors

**SHARING EVERYDAY ADVENTURES
THROUGH KINSHIP!**

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2023 and 2022

ASSETS

<u>Current Assets</u>	2023	2022
Cash & Cash Equivalents (& undeposited funds)	\$5,509.12	\$8,214.38
Savings	\$40,616.69	\$31,245.55
Accounts / Grants Receivable	\$2,306.99	\$2,722.21
Prepaid Expenses	\$2,559.68	\$1,844.34
Total Current Assets	\$50,992.48	\$44,026.48
<u>Furnishings, Equipment & Promotion Inventory</u>		
Net value of Promotional Item Inventory	\$723.70	\$863.70
Net value of Office Equipment	\$757.83	\$1,247.45
Total Assets	\$52,474.01	\$46,137.63

LIABILITIES

<u>Currents Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$205.00
Payroll Tax Payable	\$477.50	\$1,468.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$477.50	\$1,673.00

TOTAL NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR **\$51,996.51** **\$44,464.63**

Statement of Functional Revenue & Expenses

January 1 - December 31, 2023 and 2022

<u>Revenue (Income)</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
United Way (Federated Campaigns)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Fundraiser Income (direct cash income including raffle)	\$25,162.54	\$18,260.43
Govt - Youth Intervention & DNR grants, Cares Act	\$44,133.59	\$45,000.00
Contributions (including Fundraiser In-Kind donations)	\$34,500.72	\$30,850.06
Fundraiser Expenses (direct cash expenses only)	(\$6,393.82)	(\$6,088.44)
Fundraiser Expenses (In-Kind expenses only)	(\$5,015.10)	(\$6,448.99)
Interest Income	\$573.52	\$77.14
Total Revenue (Income)	\$95,461.45	\$84,150.20
<u>Expenses</u>		
Personnel Services (payroll, payroll taxes, benefits)	\$61,840.58	\$58,441.36
Group Mentoring Activities	\$7,050.78	\$9,030.91
Insurance	\$2,997.08	\$3,656.90
Office Expenses (postage, copies, supplies, phone, etc.)	\$2,828.24	\$2,684.07
Travel	\$528.40	\$578.45
Advertising & Promotions	\$3,896.38	\$3,113.41
Information Technology (computer, internet, web site)	\$1,682.95	\$1,751.78
Accounting Fees	\$500.00	\$500.00
Occupancy Costs	\$2,419.75	\$2,259.21
Dues & Subscriptions	\$1,705.49	\$1,696.54
Conference, mtg & trng (staff, volunteers & matches)	\$1,905.30	\$998.86
Mentor Screening	\$85.00	\$159.95
Other (Depreciation and Odds & Ends)	\$489.62	\$179.40
Total Expenses	\$87,929.57	\$85,050.84
Increase/Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$7,531.88	(\$900.64)
In Kind Donations, General Items & Fundraising	\$18,186.79	\$20,381.44
In Kind Donations, Volunteer hours & miles	\$52,718.69	\$44,807.27
TOTAL IN KIND DONATIONS	\$70,905.48	\$65,188.71



A huge "Thank You" to all of the individuals, businesses & organizations whose generous cash & in-kind donations & grants help make Kinship's youth mentoring work possible! Recognized below are those that contributed over \$100 to Kinship in 2023!

5 Star Auto Glass
Al Olson Express
Aloys Meyer
American Legion Post 46
American Legion Post 136
Anderson Custom Processing
Anonymous
Arrowwood Resort - Baxter
Collin & Kayla Backowski
BNSF Railway Foundation
Camp Ripley's MWR Program
Coborn's
Mike Costello
Crow Wing County ADA
Crow Wing Power Roundup
Edina Realty
Edward Jones in Little Falls
(Aubrey, Jana, Kyle & Zak)
Enchanted Dairy
Faith Lutheran Church
Falls Court Dentists
Fish Fry Attendees
Betty Gall
Gammello Pearson Attorneys
Jerry Goederz
Joni & Randy Hamson
Harding Sportsmen's Club
Brad & Chris Hoheisel
Michelle Hoover
Jordie's Trailside Café
Knights of Columbus, #1804
Lakeshirts
Laura Jane Musser Fund
Little Falls Bakery
Little Falls High School

Little Falls Radio
M&M Turkeys
Magnifi Financial
John & Vicki Maleski
MCR Communications
Microsoft
Mid MN Fed Credit Union
Morrison County
Morrison County HRA
Morrison County United Way
Moss & Barnett
Northern Tree & Landscaping
Northland Kart Kountry
Old Creamery Café
Perkins
Bruce Peterson
Pierz Lions
Pine Country Bank
Radio Shack / Design Electronics
Re/Max Central
Rosenmeier Law Office
Rox Baseball Foundation
Scheels
Schomer Insurance
Servicemaster by Retka
Soup & Chili Cook-off Attendees
Sourcewell
Stearns Electric Association
Subway
Tavern on First
Thrivent Action Team
Wabash
Walmart Foundation
Walmart - Little Falls
Youth Intervention Programs

Making a Difference



One Friendship at a Time