



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & UNAUDITED INTERNAL REVIEW



Kinship of Morrison County

107 2nd St SE - Little Falls, MN 56345
(320) 632-8806



Kinship

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 2025. 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 Kinship serves come from homes where they don't live with both parents. We strive for them to 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 2025 we hosted 19 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 over 230 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 2025. The raffle at our Cook-off went exceptionally well this year (thank you attendees). Kinship also received a number of large donations or grants (\$1000+) which were gratefully received. Donors included: American Legion Post 136 - Flensburg, American Legion Post 46 - LF, Bruce Pederson, Crow Wing Power Round Up, Faith Lutheran Church, Kay Kahler, MMFCU, 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 2026, 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

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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.

2025 Kinship Board of Directors

Directors:

Alex Carmenaty, Little Falls Radio, volunteer
Collin Backowski, MC Social Services, mentor
John Maleski, CLC Instructor, volunteer
Mike Costello, Self-employed, volunteer
Deb Louison, Foster Grandparent, mentor
Bob Stark, LFCMS Teacher, mentor

Executive Director:

Aaron Olson

Staff:

Becky Olson - Match Manager

2025 Year in Review

Youth Served

Total: 57	Male: 32	Female: 25
Age 9 & under: 8	Age 10-15: 36	Age 16 & over: 13

Youth in traditional mentoring: 43 Youth mentoring in family matches: 11
Youth in Firearms Safety only: 3 New Youth in 2025: 9
Graduations from Kinship in 2025: 6

Volunteers & Mentors

Mentors (1:1 & Group Activities): 46 Firearms Safety Volunteers: 6
New Volunteers in 2025: 4 Total Volunteer Hours in 2025: 1559
Match times together (either 1:1 or at activities) in 2025: 326

Matches

Total Matches: 28 New Matches: 9 Match Closures: 8

Kinship Activities

Number of Activities: 19 Ave. Attendance: 12 youth / 10 adults
Kinship Youth who attended at least one activity during 2025: 84%

Involvement in the Community

Firearms Safety Program: 9 participants 6 instructors, 27 hours
Soup & Chili Cook-off: 350 Fish Fry: 320



Kinship's
FISH FRY
FEBRUARY 27, 2026 (4:30 - 7:00 PM)
LITTLE FALLS VFW

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

Ticket Prices at the Door
Adult (age 16-80) - \$15
Kids age 6-15 / Seniors over 80 - \$10
5 & Under - Free Will Offering

Save \$2 by purchasing presale tickets from Kinship before 2/25















Soup & Chili Cook-off
Monday, October 19, 2026
5:00 - 7:00 PM
Falls Ballroom in Little Falls



"Friend of Kinship"
Full Service Tables Available

Ticket's Available at the door...




Kinship youth & volunteers at a Minnesota Twins game

Kinship's Group Mentoring Activities

Kinship staff organizes monthly activities at no cost for 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 2025, 84% of Kinship youth participated in at least one of the 19 hosted activities. Total attendance ranged from 11 to 52 and averaged 12 youth & 10 volunteers. Those volunteers contributed 880+ hours in 2025 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 two activities celebrated Minnesota's winter going snow tubing at Mt. Ski Gull (near Nisswa) & ice fishing on Lake Beauty (near Long Prairie). One attendee commented, "Tubing was awesome!!! Perfect weather, great hill and the kids lovvvvveddd it! A bunch of first timers."

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

A Kinship mentor suggested, planned, and then hosted a "Girl's Night Out" specifically for our girls & female mentors. They had a great time painting nails, making crafts, bracelets & pillows, coloring, chatting, snacking and more. One woman shared, "I enjoyed talking with Mentor Debbie who has been in the program for a long time, having had numerous matches. The mentors and girls were all very sweet, polite and appreciative of the evening activities."

320+ people attended our annual Fish Fry fundraiser held at the Little Falls VFW in March. Thank you to the 38 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!

In April, Kinship folks picked roadside trash on 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!

Summer was very busy outdoors. We went on a fishing launch on Mille Lacs Lake through Twin Pines Resort at which we caught a number of jumbo perch, so it was followed a few days later by a laid-back fish fry picnic at Maple Island Park. A Kinship boy commented that his favorite

parts were "holding a fish, dinner & driving the boat!" Other summer activities included traveling to a Minnesota Twins game, going on a bike ride on the Soo Line Trail, watching "Bad Guys 2" at the Long Drive-In in Long Prairie, and helping at a United Way brat sale.

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!

Come fall, we traveled by bus to Northland Kart Kountry (north of Brainerd) for an evening of go-carting, mini golf, batting cages, bumper cars, virtual reality games, bungee bouncing & more. We also returned to Triple S Pumpkin Farm to pick pumpkins, go for a tractor-drawn hay ride, explore machinery & also pet farm animals. Fun time! Sporting clays were our final fall outing where a group of our older youth & volunteers took their firearms safety course experience to the next level through this shotgun-based fun competition at Leblancs Rice Creek.

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 as these 50+ individuals 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. A parent shared the following touching testimony about this activity. "(my daughter) was nervous at first because she wanted to be with Aaron (Kinship staff) who she feels most comfortable with, but then the mentor family (that she was matched with for the activity) was so kind and patient with her to join them and she got comfortable. At the end I asked her how she liked them and she said she absolutely loved them." This was followed up with a first-time bus trip to Duluth to experience the Bentleyville USA Christmas light display, which one volunteer described as "very fun, beautiful lights, enjoyable variety, nice walking path & yummy popcorn." Kinship's group mentoring activities in 2025 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 Deb Louison, Kinship's Treasurer in regards to the internal financial review for 2025.

Dear Kinship Board,

My role as the Treasurer for Kinship of Morrison County includes meeting with Aaron, the Executive Director, on a regular basis to review Quickbooks entries & support documentation, and to reconcile bank statements. Statements come from Pine Country Bank & the Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union and include checking and saving accounts, along with multiple certificates of deposit (CD's). Any questions or discrepancies are addressed at that time, and then reconciliation reports are printed and filed.

This process has been a learning experience for me, but I feel comfortable that Kinship's finances and record keeping are well in order.

Sincerely,
Deb Louison
Treasurer, Kinship of Morrison County Board of Directors

**SHARING EVERYDAY ADVENTURES
THROUGH KINSHIP!**

Statement of Functional Revenue & Expenses

January 1 - December 31, 2025 and 2024

<u>Revenue (Income)</u>	2025	2024
United Way (Federated Campaigns)	\$2,152.66	\$2,000.00
Fundraiser Income (direct cash income including raffle)	\$24,328.00	\$21,482.90
Govt - Youth Intervention Program Grant	\$84,261.05	\$65,738.95
Contributions (including Fundraiser In-Kind donations)	\$19,289.92	\$40,312.60
Fundraiser Expenses (direct cash expenses only)	(\$5,785.52)	(\$5,287.39)
Fundraiser Expenses (In-Kind expenses only)	(\$7,666.90)	(\$5,630.60)
Interest Income	\$1,197.21	\$1,571.08
Total Revenue (Income)	\$117,776.42	\$120,187.54
<u>Expenses</u>		
Personnel Services (payroll, payroll taxes, benefits)	\$68,748.58	\$65,096.38
Group Mentoring Activities	\$12,330.99	\$10,203.21
Insurance	\$2,314.18	\$2,535.35
Office Expenses (postage, copies, supplies, phone, etc.)	\$3,182.77	\$3,477.94
Travel	\$1,073.33	\$601.50
Advertising & Promotional Products	\$7,714.03	\$3,068.77
Information Technology (computer, internet, web site)	\$2,200.34	\$1,817.94
Accounting Fees	\$730.50	\$367.50
Occupancy Costs	\$2,445.92	\$2,436.76
Dues & Subscriptions	\$3,334.46	\$3,018.25
Conference, mtg & trng (staff, volunteers & matches)	\$3,466.48	\$2,725.23
Mentor Screening	\$255.00	\$51.00
Program Evaluation Incentives	\$1,050.08	\$475.00
Repair / Rental / Purchase of "Get Outdoors" Items	\$1,207.63	\$0
Other (Depreciation and Odds & Ends)	\$630.26	\$481.76
Total Expenses	\$110,684.55	\$96,356.59
Increase/Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$7,091.87	\$23,830.95
In Kind Donations, General Items & Fundraising	\$24,273.48	\$23,553.45
In Kind Donations, Volunteer hours & miles	\$71,159.82	\$59,155.13
TOTAL IN KIND DONATIONS	\$95,433.30	\$82,708.58

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2025 and 2024

<u>ASSETS</u>		
<u>Current Assets</u>	2025	2024
Cash & Cash Equivalentents (& undeposited funds)	\$18,501.73	\$11,849.53
Savings (including CD's)	\$48,369.23	\$44,609.02
Accounts / Grants Receivable	\$10,724.22	\$16,136.31
Prepaid Expenses (including Tax Holding)	\$3,254.18	\$2,118.67
Total Current Assets	\$80,849.36	\$74,713.53
<u>Furnishings, Equipment & Promotion Inventory</u>		
Net value of Promotional Item Inventory	\$773.61	\$1,023.61
Net value of Office Equipment	\$2,821.47	\$1,270.36
Total Assets	\$84,444.44	\$77,007.50
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>Currents Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0
Payroll Tax Payable	\$1,525.11	\$1,180.04
Total Current Liabilities	\$1,525.11	\$1,180.04
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$82,919.33	\$75,827.46



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 2025!

5 Star Auto Glass
 American Legion Post 46
 American Legion Post 136
 Anderson Custom Processing
 Anonymous
 Artic
 Arrowwood Resort - Baxter
 Collin & Kayla Backowski
 Lorelee Beto
 Ciao Thyme Woodfire Kitchen
 Coborn's
 Mike Costello
 Crow Wing County ADA
 Crow Wing Power Roundup
 Beverly & Richard Culshaw
 Dairy Treat
 Edina Realty
 Edward Jones in Little Falls
 (Aubrey, Jana, Kyle & Zak)
 Enchanted Dairy
 Faith Lutheran Church
 Falls Ballroom
 Fish Fry Attendees
 Betty Gall
 Garrison Sports
 Jerry Goederz
 Hilmerson Sports Center
 Brad & Chris Hoheisel
 Jordie's Trailside Café
 Kay Kahler
 Kinship Volunteer Mentors
 Knights of Columbus, #1804
 Knife River
 Lake Beauty Bible Camp
 Lakes Area Aviation
 Lincoln Scandia Valley Lions
 Little Falls Bakery & Deli
 Little Falls Radio
 Deb Louison

M&M Turkeys
 Magnifi Financial
 MCR Communications
 Mid MN Fed Credit Union
 Minnesota Twins
 Morrison County
 Morrison County United Way
 Nomad Systems Group
 Northern Tree & Landscaping
 Northland Drilling
 Palmer Bus Service
 Perkins
 Bruce Peterson
 Pine Country Bank
 Randall Sportsmans Club
 Re/Max Central
 RJ Meats
 Rosenmeier Law Office
 Scheels
 Gerry Schmidt
 Servicemaster by Retka
 Shady's Main Street Grill
 Soup & Chili Cook-off Attendees
 Spencer Fane
 St. Otto's Care Center
 Subway
 Adam & Rose Surma
 Tavern on First
 The Awesome Group
 Will & Tiffany Threlkeld
 Thrivent Action Team
 Twin Pines Resort
 Peter Vogel
 Wabash
 Walmart Foundation
 Andrea Wippler
 Write On!
 Linda Wynnemer
 Youth Intervention Programs

Making a Difference



One Friendship at a Time