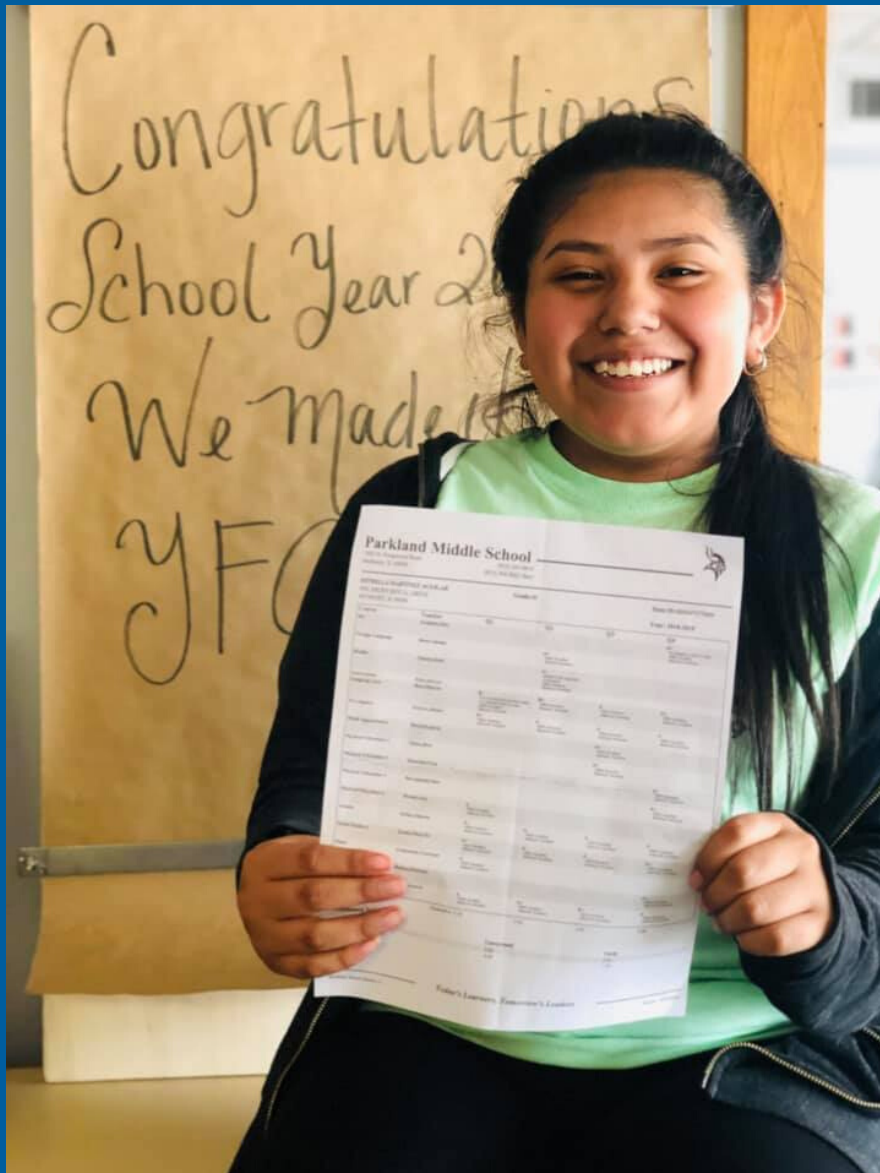


YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER  
OF MCHENRY COUNTY'S

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



EMPOWER YOUTH. EMPOWER FAMILIES.  
GROW OUR COMMUNITY.



# A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Youth and Family Center of McHenry County,

*Great things always begin with small gestures. This year has been a year of tremendous growth, blossoming and celebration.*

*As we reflect on the work that took place this past year, we are greatly humbled and inspired. Because of your generous investment, once again we have not only met our goals but we have continued to build upon excellence to surpass them. Due to the incredible generosity of community members like yourself, the dream of **adding a therapy room** to our center became a reality. The strength and resilience that our clients possess continue to fuel our desire to partner with them to build upon their strengths to meet their needs. In addition to our therapy room, this year we also began to **conduct Adverse Childhood Experiences screenings** during our intake process and added more research based prevention strategies to our programming. Adverse Childhood Experiences include the loss of a parent and living in a home with a parent suffering from mental illness, substance abuse or domestic violence. Through this process we learned that 48% of our youth have two Adverse Childhood Experiences, which is more than double the national average. 19% of our youth have three Adverse Childhood Experiences, close to double the national average. This reality makes access to mental health services and other opportunities to grow socially, emotionally and academically even more essential for our youth and families.*

*This would have not been possible without your generosity and support. Every effort and gesture has been instrumental to all of our achievements.*

*Serving our community for the past ten years is a reason for joy, inspiration and also **renewed commitment**. Many of you saw our beginnings as a center and today you are a part of the "YFC family". We cannot express our gratitude enough. In these ten years our growth has been exponential. We started with the hope of empowering youth in a small space in the City of McHenry, and today we serve **more than 500 youth and families** throughout our county.*

*Each challenge we have faced has helped us grow, always seeking to **transform adversity into an opportunity** for personal, professional and institutional improvement. We are proud of our growth as an organization as it has translated into an increased impact for clients and our community as a whole.*

*We look forward to our upcoming year as we work to **expand our services across McHenry County**. With your continuous trust and support we look forward to expanding our impact in the upcoming year and beyond.*

Warmly,

*Guadalupe Ortiz*  
**GUADALUPE ORTIZ**  
Executive Director

TEN **10** YEARS

# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS AND PARTNERS

## Advocates of YFC (Donations of \$1,000 or more)

Community Foundation for McHenry County  
Foglia Family Foundation  
Full Circle Foundation  
Gerry and Bill Cowlin Foundation  
John and Jennifer Streit  
Holy Apostles Church  
MC7 Referral Group - McHenry Chamber of Commerce  
McHenry Community High School District 156  
McHenry School District 15  
Sage Legacy Fund  
The Chapel  
United Way of Greater McHenry County  
YFC Parent Council

## Supporters of YFC (Donations of \$200 - \$999)

Christine Johnson  
Diocesan Council of Catholic Women  
Donald and Joan Bean  
Fabiola and Allen Scholnick  
First United Methodist Church  
Licia Sahagun  
Sean and Meghan Scholnick  
Timothy Sullivan  
Tom Maxon  
Tom and Sue Sullivan  
Tree of Life Unitarian Church

## Friends of YFC (Donations of \$0 - \$199)

Alfredo Mendez	Jane McDonnell
Andres Ortiz	Johanna Poncio Jordan
Barbara Rill	Katie and Jarrett Bryzek
Candace Sinclair	Kyle and Sarah Smith
Carol Tomas Holbein	Mandi Kane
Carrie Crane	Mary Gaylord
Edwing Diaz Mora	Matt Scheid
Ellen Hanson	Mike Perez
Gina Swinney	Nancy Delaare
GP Singh	Patricia Blanco
Heidi Fitzgerald	Pi Beta Phi
Heidi Meuth	Susan Rayburn
Hugo Roldan	Victor Ortiz

## Community Partners

Big Brothers Big Sisters of McHenry County  
Family Health Partnership Clinic  
Free Guitars for Future Stars  
Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois  
Illinois Student Assistance Commission  
Mano a Mano Family Resource Center  
McHenry County College  
McHenry County Conservation District  
McHenry County Mental Health Board  
McHenry County Substance Abuse Coalition  
McHenry Police Department  
McHenry Public Library  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
Pioneer Center for Human Services  
Turning Point of McHenry County  
University of Illinois Extension

**Let's Grow Together**

## IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

*For all your support - past, present, and future.... Thank you !*

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

TEN **10** YEARS



# MISSION

Youth and Family Center exists to ensure empowerment and growth for youth and families by partnering with our community to provide direct services and linkage to individuals in McHenry County.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*Since 2009*

# ABOUT US

## VISION

Youth and Family Center of McHenry County envisions a collaborative community that provides equal opportunities, resources, and support to all individuals in McHenry County.

.....

Your partnership and contributions of time, energy and resources have allowed us to accomplish the following:



## YOUTH PROGRAM

**GOAL:** Equip, empower and encourage youth to grow academically, socially and emotionally.

56% of our youth express social and emotional well-being concerns.

48% of our youth have experienced 2 adverse childhood experiences.



## ADULT PROGRAM

**GOAL:** Develop adults' skills and knowledge and strategies to build resilience factors and reduce adverse childhood experiences.

87% of the parents of our youth ONLY attended elementary school.

1% of the parents of the youth graduated from high school.



## SERVICE NAVIGATION

**GOAL:** Improve participants' knowledge of and ability to access community resources by supporting them in navigating the complex systems of mental health, substance abuse, education and other community institutions.

Only 24% of navigation clients graduated high school.



INCREASE  
**SOCIAL  
CONNECTEDNESS**

**96%** of youth reported increasing social connectedness by participating in programs at YFC.



INCREASE  
**KNOWLEDGE  
AND RESILIENCY**

**97%** of youth and adults reported increasing knowledge and resiliency by participating in programs at YFC



INCREASE  
**LEVEL OF  
FUNCTIONING**

**94%** of adults reported increasing level of functioning by participating in programs at YFC

# EMPOWER YOUTH: OUR IMPACT

YOUTH PROGRAM SERVED

## 196 Youth

THIS YEAR



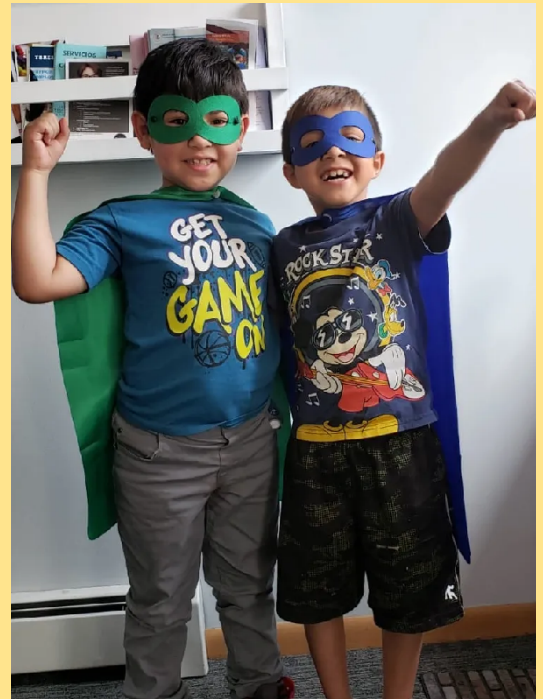
ACADEMIC  
GROWTH



EMOTIONAL  
GROWTH



SOCIAL  
GROWTH



95%

OF YOUTH SAY YFC HELPS THEM ACHIEVE AT SCHOOL

99%

OF YOUTH SAY THEY HAVE PEOPLE TO TALK TO AT YFC

100%

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

95%

OF YOUTH FEEL LIKE THEY BELONG AT YFC

85%

OF YOUTH REPORT LEARNING NEW THINGS AT YFC





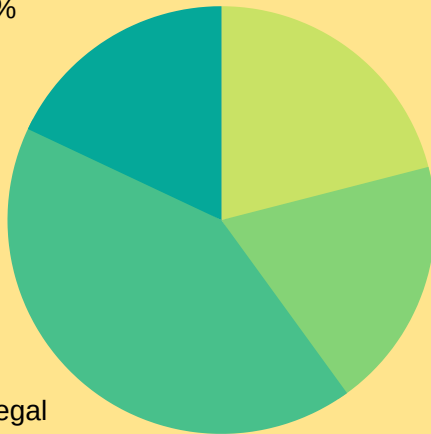
# EMPOWER FAMILIES: OUR IMPACT

## SERVICE NAVIGATION PROGRAM

INCREASE PARTICIPANTS' KNOWLEDGE OF AND ABILITY TO ACCESS COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Mental Health  
18%

Financial Assistance  
21%



Basic Needs  
19%



NAVIGATION PROGRAM SERVED

**196 Adults**

THIS YEAR



SAY THEY LEARNED HOW TO ACCESS COMMUNITY RESOURCES TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE

ADULT PROGRAM SERVED

**134 Adults**

THIS YEAR

## ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

IMPROVE PARTICIPANTS' ENGLISH LANGUAGE, PARENTING AND OTHER SKILLS



SAY THEIR ENGLISH SKILLS HAVE IMPROVED

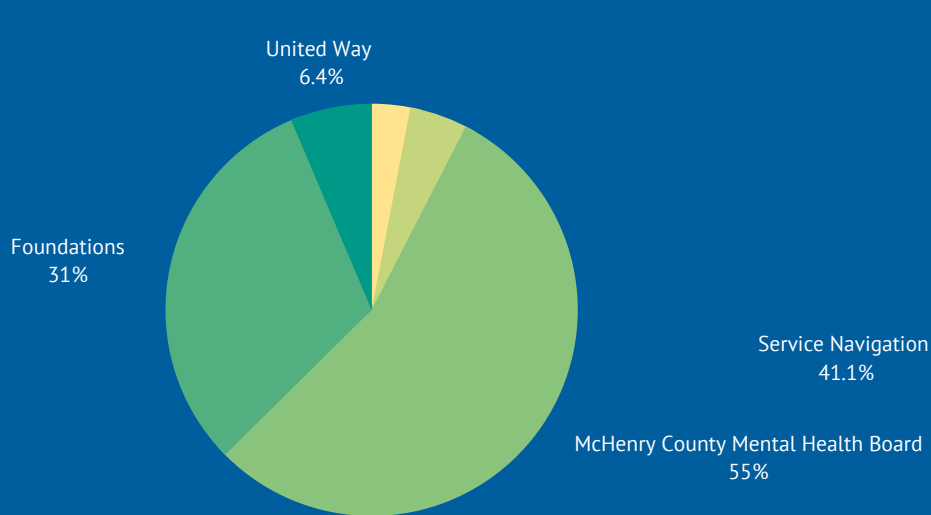


95%

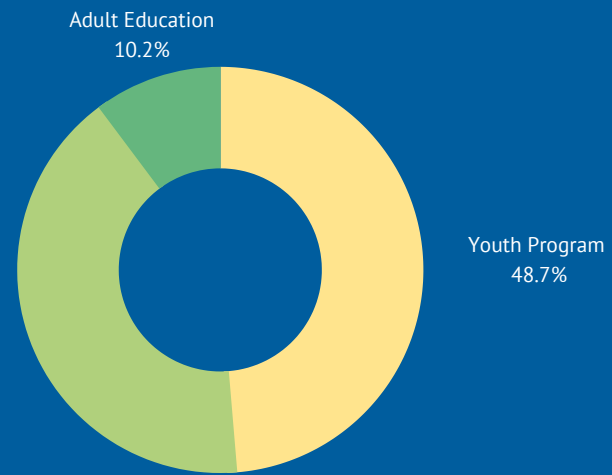
SAY YFC HAS HELPED THEM BE A BETTER PARENT

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

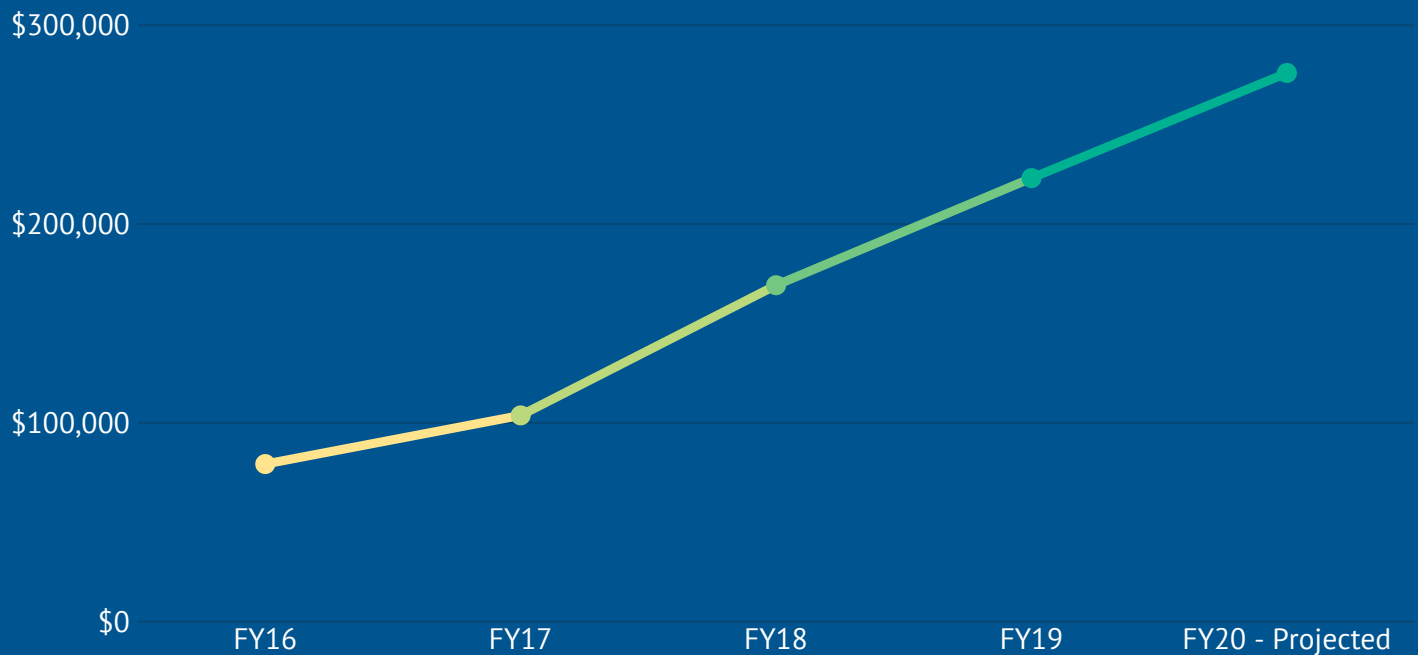
## INCOME BY PERCENTAGE



## EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



## ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET GROWTH



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*Extremely grateful for all of our supporters, those who have continued to be partners with us from the beginning and those who have joined and supported us throughout our ten years.*

# VOLUNTEERS

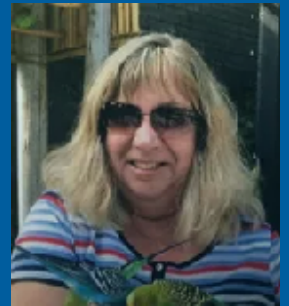
TEN **10** YEARS

*"Volunteer's are not individuals that necessarily have the extra time, they have the heart"*  
- Elizabeth Andrew



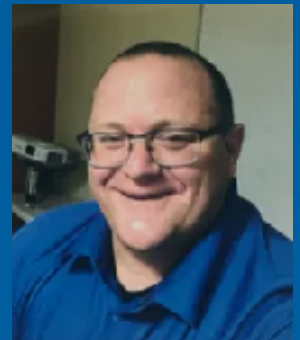
*"I believe everyone should have all the resources necessary to be the best version of themselves they want to be, and it brings me joy to serve our community and YFC because I truly believe YFC is an extremely valuable resource that helps others be their best. It makes me happy that I get to support the youth and families of McHenry County, and I am so proud of the hard working staff of YFC and the support of our incredible board members."*  
- Margi Patel, YFC Board President

*"These kids have so many more opportunities available to them with a good education and YFC's support and encouragement to improve the academic lives of these kids really impresses me. This is one of the many reasons I am proud to serve on the YFC Board."*  
- Yvonne Semel, YFC Board Treasurer



*"I see firsthand the incredible service it provides to so many of our students in District 15. YFC is such an important part of the lives of so many D15 students and families and I feel lucky to say I'm even just a small part of its success."* - Josh Reitz, YFC Board Member

*"I passionately believe in working together as a community to help break down barriers that impact young people's ability to become educated people capable of leading rewarding and fulfilling lives."* - Carl Vallianatos, YFC Board Members



*"As a teacher in McHenry School District 15, I love teaching students about technology and how things work, but more importantly, I truly enjoy being a part of these children's lives. Being at YFC gives me a sense of belonging that I can only feel from these children. I am honored to be a small part of their lives and hope that I am helping them, even in a very small way."* - Carole Zei, YFC Volunteer

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[www.yfc-mc.org](http://www.yfc-mc.org)



@yfcmcHenry