

Northland Area Family Service Center Annual Report 2019



Mission: "We provide education, mentoring and support services that build strong individuals and families in the Northland Community Schools District."

Vision: "As a result of our work, we are breaking the cycle of generational poverty one family at a time."

Northland Area Family Service Center is an independent non-profit agency physically located in Remer, Minnesota however, serves residents living in the entire Northland School District. Begun by a group of concerned citizens whose goal was to support families in our area by making them stronger, the Family Center has continued to serve area residents through the collaborative efforts of public and private agencies, community members and Northland Community Schools. The Family Center continues to reach out to the community by developing programs that build on the strengths of all participants.



Family Support

Staff: Linda Leverty



Who we served in 1746 open hours: 966 total connections:



Resource and Referral

- 176 clients were referred to outside sources (BiCAP, Food Shelf, HHVS (and other services)
- 22 clients accessed Family Center computer for unemployment services, job searches and forms that we have available.
- 26 clients received assistance from Family Center staff to complete application forms for Bi-CAP & Cass County Health Human & Veterans Services.
- 113 clients received assistance regarding MNSure, for applications or had questions.
- 224 persons faxed paper
- 1 client accessed the phone
- 80 people were provided with other "in-house" assistance
- 235 people accessed copies
- 6 persons accessed postage
- 83 visits to the Baby Steps Boutique were recorded





HEALTHY FAMILIES MINNESOTA
FAMILY CENTERS HOME VISITING
*Serving the Communities of:
Northland, Pillager, and Pine River-Backus Areas*

Program: Family Center's Home Visiting

Staff: Lee Anne Bettenberg – Family Support Specialist

Program Goals: Build and sustain community partnerships to systematically engage overburdened families in home visiting services prenatally or at birth, cultivate and strengthen nurturing parent-child relationships, promote healthy childhood development and growth, and enhance family functioning by reducing risk and building protective factors.

- The Northland site completed 195 visits during 2019 with 10 families.
- Families surveyed felt the program supported and strengthened their parenting.
- The program is guided by an Advisory Board, which meets quarterly.
- Pine River-Backus, Pillager and Northland Family Center each have a Family Support Specialist and work as a team with two Family Center Directors to provide this program.
- Retention rates are very high for the families currently involved.



ParentChild+

Equal Possibilities From The Start

Program: ParentChild+

Staff: Connie Iverson, Andria Strenge and Angie Zwart – Early Learning Specialists

A weekly home visiting program that offers free books and toys, with ideas for using them, to families with children age 18 months - 2½ years of age! This program is for families who may have a decrease in their income, or family stress such as isolation, issues with housing, food, and clothing.

An early learning specialist, who lives in the neighborhood, arrives at a toddler's home with books and educational toys. They are welcomed inside where they sit with the child and parent and engage in a fun and engaging educational experience. Our specialists model engaging and educational activities for parents and children together, and then support parents as they take on the role of their children's first teachers.

In 2019 - 23 Families were served with a ½-hour visit twice a week. Program runs mid-September to the end of May. This is a 2-year program.



PC+ 2019 Graduates



Family Center Preschool

Family Center Preschool is part of the Northland Early Childhood Collaborative. Our goal is to provide learning opportunities within a rich caring environment to better prepare each child for kindergarten.

Staff: Deb Dillard –Teacher, Faye Zorman and Randi Robison - Assistants

January 2019 - May 2019

Statistics

2 day/week children: 2

4 day/week children: 11

Parent volunteer Hours – 34

Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences – 92%



Family Center Preschool

September 2019 – December 2019

Statistics

3 day/week children: 3

4 day/week children: 11

Parent volunteer Hours – 43

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences – 93%



Northland Family Fun Nights

Staff: Family Center Staff

- 1 Family Fun Night at Remer Elementary with 82 combined total of adults and children attending
 - 24 families attended
 - 15 workers/volunteers attended
- Fall Feast at Sugar Point Community Center – collaboration of Leech Lake Head Start, Northland Community Schools and Northland Family Center Preschool
 - Performance from Thads Amazing Magic show, mystified and amazed all ages
 - An awesome meal for approximately 85 people with all the preschool classrooms, staff and community members from Sugar Point





Child and Teen Check Ups (C&TC) Outreach

Staff: Linda Leverty

Outreach efforts

- Mailed reminder letters to families in Northland School District who are on Medical Assistance for health checkups
- Linda attended 2 Family Fun Nights
- 12 WIC Clinics were offered at the Family Center

Toys For Kids

Staff: Volunteers

This is the fifth year the Family Center collaborated with volunteers to help area children have a brighter holiday. The Family Center served as the fiscal host for donations. Volunteers coordinated the program and distributed the gifts to families before the Holidays.

Served 45 Families – 133 children



Camp Scholarship

Staff: Linda Leverty

The Northland Family Center along with a special camp scholarship from Camp Olson YMCA, Longville MN were able to send 6 students to summer camp in 2019. We are very grateful to Camp Olson YMCA for extending this special scholarship so some students could attend camp. Student and parent feedback on their experience showed that families were highly satisfied with their camp experience.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have partnered with us on our work during 2019. Volunteers provided 177 hours of their time furthering our mission. The list would be too long to include here. We appreciate the gifts of money and talent in helping us provide education, mentoring and support services that build strong individuals and families in the Northland Community.

If you would like to learn more check out our website:

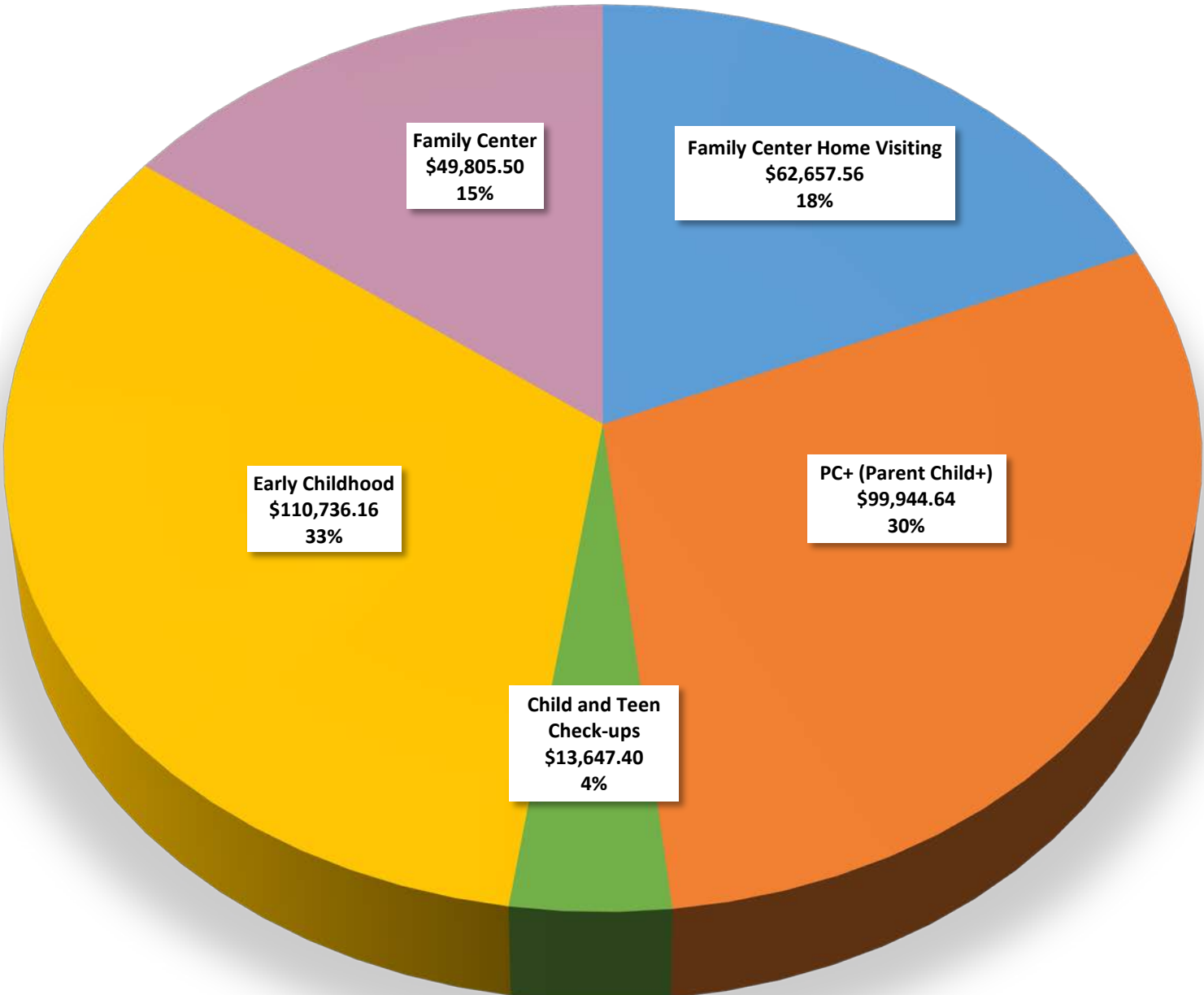
www.northlandfamilycenter.org

Leslie Bouchonville, Executive Director

218-566-3636

director@northlandfamilycenter.org

2019 Program Cost



- Family Center Home Visiting
- PC+ (Parent Child+)
- Child and Teen Check-ups
- Early Childhood
- Family Center





Northland Area Family Service Center

About us ~ who and where we are:

Family Council

Officers

President: Barbara Anderson
Treasurer: Cheryl Desoto
Secretary: Kit Arnquist

Directors

Bev Gaines
Marlyn Holman
Katie Johnson
Stacey McKinney

Staff

Executive Director:

Leslie Bouchonville

Home Visiting:

Lee Anne Bettenberg
Connie Iverson – (ended August 2019)
Andria Streng – (started September 2019)
Angie Zwart

Preschool:

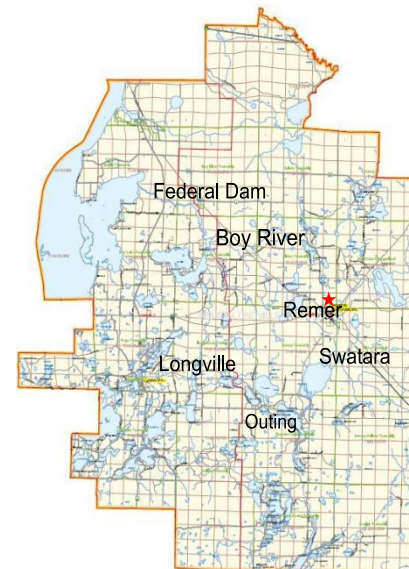
Deb Dillard
Randi Robison
Faye Zorman

Administrative Manager/Program Support:

Linda Leverty



Our Service Area



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