



**Family & Children's Center**  
*Building strong families and healthy children*



REPORT  
TO THE  
COMMUNITY



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Bruce L. Greenberg**  
President and CEO

2010 In April, the New York Times reported on an eight-year-old from Louisiana, Draven Smith who was expelled from school last year for disruptive behavior, and he is being expelled again this year. Draven's mother is trying to find help for her son and her family. However, she and his pediatrician cannot find a mental health specialist to treat him because he is on Medicaid, and the program, which provides health coverage for the poor, pays doctors so little that many refuse to take them on as patients.

Draven may be from Louisiana, but the story is the same nationwide and right here in our community. Many local facilities dedicated to serving Medicaid patients are crumbling from the pressure – unable to keep basic standards high, wait for services times long and qualified staff retained.

In our own examination of services, what has become clear is that the growth in clients in our Elkhart practice was largely a result of fewer mental health professionals willing or financially able to treat Medicaid recipients. Almost exclusively treating Medicaid recipients in Elkhart was depleting our resources; we had to make the extremely difficult decision to close our outpatient therapy office in Elkhart due to cuts made in Medicaid over the past three years.

I am so proud and humbled by our staff because the first question that several asked after being told that we were closing the office was, “What will happen to my clients?” They wanted to make sure their clients were not left out in the cold. Some clients are going to great lengths to drive 30 minutes to continue to see their therapist at our South Bend or Mishawaka offices. And while the community mental health provider will absorb the financial burden of those who cannot afford the commute, the wait time for services is great.

As more and more clients are transitioned to public payors whose reimbursement is insufficient to manage a viable business model, we as a community are faced with real challenges. The state's finances are driving much of the challenges we face. We will continue to work toward diversifying our payor mix and increase our fundraising efforts so we don't have to further limit the number of indigent clients we care for. We are pursuing an active legislative approach and lobbying through associations in which we belong. I have met with nearly all local legislators in an attempt to educate them about the financial challenges we are facing.

And our children are feeling the brunt of the changing times. Drugs are readily available on our streets, crime and violence are forcing parents to keep their kids indoors, and fewer positive places for children, like the Boys & Girls Club, are available. Health issues like obesity and diabetes, unheard of in the past, are also on the rise with our youth. Our children are at risk because of poverty and neglect, low expectations of themselves, and so much more. The extent of the problems that our young people face today and their ever-increasing need for support and guidance has intensified over the years. As a result, literally thousands of families in our community rely on the continuum of services Family & Children's Center affiliates provide and the hope and opportunity our caring, compassionate staff offers.

We are committed to our mission of building strong families and healthy children made possible because of your generosity. On behalf of nearly 10,000 families, children and individuals served this year alone, many thanks for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce L. Greenberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Bruce L. Greenberg**  
President and Chief Executive Officer



# report | to the community

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**Prevent Child Abuse**  
St. Joseph County

89% of Indiana children  
that die from abuse are  
5 years old or younger.

Cases of child  
neglect  
rose 28.8% in  
one year.



# It Shouldn't Hurt to Be a Child

A call comes to 911 on a bitterly cold morning in January. There is an unresponsive child at an apartment complex. Emergency responders arrive to find a baby on the floor, only one month old. She is lying alone and already dead, having suffered from severe blunt force trauma.

These are cold terms for the life, and death, of an innocent child: unresponsive, blunt, trauma, *alone*. For 38 Indiana children last year, it was the reality of their death. For another 24,754 children - they hope the abuse they suffer won't lead to their lonely death.


Last year, Indiana actually saw a decrease in child deaths from abuse. However, neglect and abuse cases continue to rise, so the decrease in child deaths could be attributed to frontline advances in medicine - our EMT and ER staff are better equipped to treat violent crime.

In fact, neglect cases in Indiana rose an astonishing 28.8% last year. There have been some dramatic headlines recently that reveal the impact of neglect. Seven Indiana children died from drowning during a 15-day period beginning Memorial Day weekend. Two children died from hyperthermia in the trunk of their mother's car on a hot summer day. "Parents must be aware of their children at all times. Children can be out of sight for just a few seconds, and those few seconds can mean the difference between life and death," says Jennifer Pickering, Program Director for Prevent Child Abuse St. Joseph County.

"Adverse consequences for children's development often are evident immediately, including physical, emotional, social, and cognitive problems," continues Jennifer. "For many children, these effects extend far beyond childhood into adolescence and adulthood, potentially compromising the lifetime productivity of victims."

These effects mean high costs for all of us. Poor physical and/or mental health, behavior problems, high risk behaviors such as drug use and gang involvement; these are all costly issues for every community.

"For every \$1 spent on prevention programs, we save \$37 dollars in treating potential problems that have their roots in abuse," explains Jennifer. "It is a staggering disparity: \$1 can save a child and a community."



For every \$1 spent on prevention, we save \$37 dollars in treatment.

# The mission of the Prevent Child Abuse St. Joseph County is to prevent child abuse from occurring.

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For more information  
please visit our website at  
[www.pcasjc.org](http://www.pcasjc.org)

2010 Prevent Child Abuse St. Joseph County Statistical and Financial Data

Private Contributions: \$ 118,290

## Program Highlights

In partnership with local government and corporate community leaders, Prevent Child Abuse St. Joseph County demonstrates how a community that treasures its children can unite to help ensure their safety and well-being. Throughout the year we reach more than 1500 community members, professionals and students with educational presentations:

- Conduct extensive primary prevention public awareness and media campaigns to educate thousands of families in the community about how to prevent child abuse and neglect. Primary prevention activities are directed at the general population with the goal of stopping the occurrence of maltreatment before it starts.
- Provide numerous prevention presentations and educational programs for elementary, middle and high school students, parents, PTA/PTOs, teachers, administrators, civic groups, and elected officials.
- Train representatives who deliver child abuse prevention presentations and educational programs to organizations throughout the community.
- Work with other community groups, social service organizations and government entities to further the cause of child abuse prevention by raising awareness and developing new resources for our community.
- Partner with U93 and Martin's Super Markets to plan annual Roofsit, an annual event that to date has raised over \$1.5 million for child abuse prevention programs throughout the Michiana community. In 2010, competitive grants were awarded to nonprofit child abuse prevention programs within the U93 listening area. Representatives from U93 (Artistic Media), Martin's Super Markets, Prevent Child Abuse St. Joseph County and the accounting firm of Kruggel, Lawton & Company evaluated the proposals and awarded funding. 2010 awardees include:
  - Berrien County Council for Children
  - CAPS of Elkhart County
  - The CASIE Center
  - Family & Children's Center Counseling & Development Services
  - Healthy Families St. Joseph County
  - St. Margaret's House
  - Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of LaPorte County

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# The Children's Campus<sup>®</sup>

Hope for kids and families  
who need it most.

13,740 babies are  
born each year to teen  
mothers in Indiana.

“We were going to  
be homeless.”



# Raising Hope

What were you doing when you were 18? Were you planning a summer vacation with friends? Perhaps you were visiting college campuses?

“When I was 18, I was pregnant,” relates Kandace, a resident at The Children’s Campus’ Transitional Living Program. “My life was already a little crazy; my dad wasn’t around, and my mom suffered from mental illness, so I lived with my grandma.”

While pregnant, Kandace took refuge at a local maternity home. “I loved being at the maternity home, but you can only stay for two months after you give birth; when I gave birth to my son, Kaveion, I had to leave. Gram’s in her 80s and couldn’t handle me and a new baby. We were going to be homeless.”

Kandace was referred to The Children’s Campus Transitional Living Program. “Our program provides housing and supportive services to youth ages 16-21 who are in need of a safe environment in which to make gradual movement toward self-sufficiency,” says program director Patti Vandergrift. “We help at-risk youth transition from dependence to complete independence.”

Residents like Kandace live alone in apartments that are furnished and supplied with the basic necessities for independent living. “We have highly qualified staff who provide case management services, independent living skills training, access to community resources, and support and guidance during this challenging time in the youths’ lives,” explains Patti.

“There’s a lot to learn here; they don’t just hand you keys to a free apartment,” explains Kandace. “Even though I have my own child, I have a curfew. The staff helps me set goals, like getting my driver’s license and getting my GED and getting a job. I never had a job before.”

“Kandace is definitely motivated. She’s taking advantage of everything we have to offer,” continues Patti.

Kandace and Kaveion have spent 18 months, the maximum allowed, in the Transitional Living Program. Patti explains, “They could have moved out a while ago, but the subsidized housing market is crowded since the economy became troubled.”

“The Children’s Campus saved me,” says Kandace. “I didn’t know anything about raising a child before I gave birth. The programs

here are helping me find my way as a mother and as an adult. Plus, Kaveion and I would be homeless. I would be lost without The Children’s Campus.”

“I would be lost without The Children’s Campus.”

# The mission of The Children's Campus is to assist children and families in achieving their full potential through high-quality, therapeutic residential services.

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For more information  
please visit our website at  
[www.childrencampus.org](http://www.childrencampus.org)

## 2010 The Children's Campus Statistical and Financial Data

Residential Revenue:	\$13,515,879
Grants and Contracts:	\$ 1,037,499
Private Contributions:	\$ 72,904

## Program Highlights

The Children's Campus treats children and adolescents in 15 residential programs ranging from secure care to independent living. Virtually all are wards of the state. The majority are placed at The Children's Campus by the courts due to unspeakable acts of abuse, and most have developed severe behavior and mental health issues.

The Children's Campus' Independent Living - Group Homes help prepare youth between the ages of 16 and 21 who are "aging out of the system" for life on their own in the community and is the only Independent Living program available in the region that provides transitional living services between residential treatment and full independence.

The Children's Campus also operates a Transitional Living Program for runaway and homeless youth. The program provides safe shelter with supervision and supportive services, including life and interpersonal skill building, career counseling, job skill development, educational assistance, counseling and medical care as necessary.

In 2010, The Children's Campus discharged 110 children with the following successful outcomes:

- 65% were discharged to a less restrictive environment.
- 82% maintained a relationship with their families.
- 38% returned to their natural parents.
- 17% were welcomed by an adoptive family, foster home, or group home.

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(continued on page 27)

**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

One out of four  
children is bullied.

No Bully Zone  
2011 Video  
[www.bgcsjc.org](http://www.bgcsjc.org)



# No Bully Zone

In January 2011, members of the Harrison Primary Center branch studied anti-bullying. When the kids found out that staff member Billy Easton was a local rap artist, they asked him to create a song about bullying. Along with staff member Tavarus Perry, Billy created *No Bully Zone*.

“We know that kids who are bullied stay home sick from school more often,” says branch director Lety Verduzco. “Kids who are bullied report to the nurses office with stomach pains from fear and stress, and have more physical injuries. Being bullied disrupts their home life and school life. The Boys & Girls Club takes a strong stance on teaching our kids not to bully and what to do if they are bullied.”

Adults are often unaware of bullying because many children and youth don't report it. They may fear retaliation by children doing the bullying. They also may fear that adults won't take their concerns seriously or will act inappropriately to deal with the bullying.

“We are excited by how motivated our Club kids were to learn about bullying and what they could do to prevent it. When they asked us to create a song, we couldn't say no,” explains Billy Easton.

“It is a lot tougher to be a kid today,” tells Billy Easton. “Bullying is out there a lot more. The kids don't always know where to turn. They don't want the situation to get worse, so sometimes they just take it. We teach the kids about how to be proactive, and who they can turn to.”

At the end of May 2011, Billy and Tavarus had completed their hip-hop song *No Bully Zone*. They were excited to play it for the Club members. “They inspired us to use our talents for something really powerful and meaningful. We hoped this could be used as another tool to reach the kids at the Club,” explains Tavarus.

Once the Club members at the Harrison Club heard the song, they knew it needed a video. Billy, Tavarus, Club staff and kids went about creating a video to accompany their song. The completed video was posted on the Boys & Girls Clubs website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

“It was an instant hit,” says Lety. “The video was viewed over 2,000 times in just a few weeks.

More importantly, the kids really learned a lot in the class, and were able to use what they learned to create an effective tool for future classes.”

Adults are often unaware of bullying because many children and youth don't report it.

The summer session of the Club will continue to discuss anti-bullying, and with *No Bully Zone* as inspiration, members will create their own unique songs about anti-bullying.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

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2010 Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County Statistical and Financial Data

■	Grants and Contracts:	\$ 1,202,494
■	Private Contributions:	\$ 494,048
■	Family & Children's Center Foundation:	\$ 331,687
■	Dues Income:	\$ 111,406



*Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County programs are funded, in part, by United Way of St. Joseph County.*

United Way  
of St. Joseph County

Program Highlights

For over 35 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County has provided more than 20,000 at-risk children and teens from families in St. Joseph County with a safe place to experience life-enhancing programs that offer academic enrichment, health and fitness, character development, hope and opportunity.

With four school-based sites and the free-standing O.C. Charmichael, Jr. Youth Center, the Club serves children from 40 different schools, including magnets, private, parochial, charter and those who are home-schooled.

Today, 19% of children in St. Joseph County live at or below state poverty levels. **Over 2/3 of our Club members live in poverty.** Kids living in poverty are more likely to be left alone and unsupervised in the critical after school hours, when young people are at a greater risk of being the victim of a violent crime.

- 68% of Club Members come from homes with an annual income at or below the poverty level (Poverty level income for a family of four <\$ 22,050)
- 75% of Club Members qualify for free/reduced lunch
- 72% of Club Members come from single parent homes
- 5% of Club Members are homeless

Our Clubs offer Supplemental Educational Services (SES) to nonproficient, low-income students who attend a Title I school. SES services offer students one-on-one tutoring in reading and language arts. 2010 results showed an average 16% increase in test scores in just one semester of programming.

Battell Elementary | LaSalle Elementary

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For more information please visit our website at [www.bgcsjc.org](http://www.bgcsjc.org)

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**The Jeremiah Milbank Society** was created to inspire and recognize higher level unrestricted giving from individuals within local Clubs.

Each member of the society has given a minimum of \$10,000 to their local Boys & Girls Club organization.

Through their leadership and generosity, Jeremiah Milbank Society members have helped to assure that every child who attends a Boys & Girls Club in their community is provided with hope and opportunity, a safe place to learn and grow, and a relationship with an adult who can help positively impact their life.

To find out how you can become a JMS member: Contact Jory Fitzgerald Kelly at (574) 855-5852.

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### **A Foundation for the Future**

Boys & Girls Clubs offer positive alternatives to children who may be surrounded by negative influences, showing them how to live successful and productive lives. Our Clubs provide safe havens for young people by offering quality programs and critically important relationships with nurturing and reliable adults.

Your support through a planned gift will ensure that future generations of our children will have the opportunity to live successful lives in a safe, positive and caring environment. Joining The Heritage Club is easy! For more information, you may request that a planned giving representative contact you to discuss your specific estate planning needs and opportunities by contacting Jory Fitzgerald Kelly (574) 855-5822.

### **Heritage Club Members**

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*\*In memoriam*



**healthy  
families**  
st. joseph county

a county system of Healthy Families Indiana

“I want Kellye to be able to look up to me.”



**T**ina was only 16 when she got pregnant. She enrolled in the Healthy Families Program before she gave birth to her daughter, Kellye.

“When she gave birth,” explains her Healthy Families Support Specialist, Mary, “Tina experienced post-partum depression with thoughts of suicide. She was having relationship problems with the father of her baby and had low self esteem. We were able to provide a suicide assessment and make a referral to counseling. She was brave enough to go to, and stay in, counseling.”

Mary also encouraged Tina to stay in school. “It seemed like the easiest thing to do, to quit school,” says Tina. “Especially when I was depressed, I didn’t want to do anything. But Mary kept reminding me that I was a role model to Kellye. I want Kellye to be able to look up to me. It is one thing to not want your kids to make the same mistakes you did; but I want Kellye to make the same good choices I make. So I stuck it out in high school.”

Tina enrolled in Healthy Families’ early literacy program called Raising A Reader. “It was interesting, reading a book to a baby who was just born. But now that Kellye is two-years-old, I see the impact it has had on her. She loves to have me read to her, and I know that will give her a leg up as she learns to read and starts school.”

Kellye is developing on target. “She is meeting and exceeding all expected development stages. This is a testament to the time Tina has spent working with Kellye.”

“It’s tough in high school. I’m not the only teen mom in my neighborhood,” says Tina. “I see how the other girls struggle. Healthy Families really helps you stay on track with what you need to do to be a good parent. I know I spend more time with Kellye, and I love that time with her. Without Healthy Families, I wouldn’t know how to enjoy it. I wouldn’t know how to properly discipline her. I am a better parent and a more productive person because of Healthy Families.”

## Program Highlights

Healthy Families St. Joseph County is a program of Family & Children's Center Counseling and Development Services. Our main objective is to prevent abuse and neglect of children living in St. Joseph County. Operating as a home-based visitation program in which Family Support Specialists teach problem-solving skills, parent-child activities, child development, stress management, and child safety. Healthy Families enrolls participants whose income is below 250% poverty and giving birth or whose newborn is less than three months old in St. Joseph Co. Each family develops their own individualized set of goals to help guide them and their Family Support Specialists through their three years of service. The Family Support Specialists also helps connect the family to other needed resources such as healthcare, housing, education, and counseling.

The four primary goals of the program are:

1. Overburdened families in need of support are identified from the target population. Participation in Healthy Families St. Joseph County will result in 95% of the participating families having no substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect.
2. Families participating in the Healthy Families St. Joseph County program will show enhanced family functioning. The families' strengths and support systems will be identified and enhanced during program participation. Parents will demonstrate an increase in parenting knowledge and skills and positive parenting behaviors.
3. Participating families will show positive parent-child interactions. Parents will show more confidence in their problem-solving skills, improved parenting self-esteem, and positive family interactions during their program participation.
4. Children of participating families will improve their potential for age appropriate growth and development. Parents, as the primary care givers and nurturers of their children, will gain knowledge for this role during their program participation.

### 2010 Statistical Data:

1,514	Referrals from WIC and other sources
359*	Total Families Served
4560	Home Visits Conducted
95%	of target children stayed up-to-date on their immunizations
93%	of target children stayed up-to-date on their well baby visits
99%	of families remained free of child abuse and neglect

\* Disparity in number of referrals and total families served due to limited funding

### 2010 Awards

Kid's First Trust Fund : \$23, 603  
Roofsit: \$9,500  
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: \$743,303  
United Way of St. Joseph County: \$20,000

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101,679 calls were made to Indiana crisis centers in one year.

More than 50 Indiana residents die each year from domestic violence.



# Battle for Control

When Larry was 26, he found out his wife was cheating on him. “To put it simply: I was out of control. I hit my wife. I beat up the guy she was with. It wasn’t the first time my kids saw me out of control. The state came in after that and said I couldn’t see my kids without supervision.” Larry thought he had anger issues, but what he came to realize was that his issues were more about control and the abuse of power. The irony was that the more Larry tried to control things, the more out of control he became.

The family case manager from the Indiana Department of Child Services referred him to our Batterer’s Intervention Program, the only certified program in St. Joseph County.

“During Larry’s intake appointment, he said he was scared that he had lost his children for good,” says his therapist Julie Albano. “He freely admitted that he needed help in order to get his family back and was glad he had been referred here.”

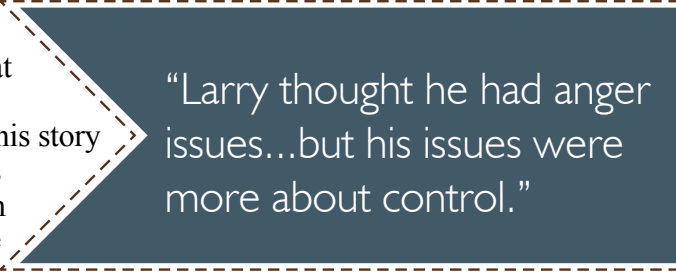
As the group meetings started, Larry seemed to have a difficult time participating. Like many of the men, he hid behind a tough guy mask. “He displayed a negative attitude,” says Julie. “He wasn’t putting forth much effort into the group. He usually came into group with a scowl on his face and many times would just stare at the ground.”

“At break time, during one of the group sessions, Julie pulled me aside,” Larry says. “She asked me if I remembered what I had said at intake. This was an opportunity for me to change; a chance for me and my kids.”

Something clicked for Larry. He came back from that break and began interacting honestly with the other members in the group and shared his thoughts. As his walls came down, Larry shared another eye-opener with the group. “On one of my supervised visits with the kids, my youngest child told me he didn’t like it when I was angry and that he was afraid of me.” With tears in his eyes, Larry told the group he knew that he had to change.

A few weeks later, Larry reported that other people started seeing changes in him, especially his family. Six months after completing the Batterer’s Intervention Program, Larry participated in a community training on Domestic Violence.

Larry, the man who tried to control everyone with intimidation, threats and angry outbursts; the man who stared at the ground when the sessions began, told his story of how the Batterer’s Intervention Program changed his life. “He was honest about his actions and feelings,” says Julie, “even those actions that made him look less than human at times.” He stood before them, this time truly in control of himself and his future, speaking passionately and providing insight to an audience of over 100 probation officers, therapists, and case workers. He received a standing ovation.



“Larry thought he had anger issues...but his issues were more about control.”

Family & Children's Center Counseling and Development Services mission is to empower individuals and families by promoting human growth and dignity and preventing child abuse through advocacy, education, counseling and supportive services.





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2010 Family & Children's Center Counseling and Development Services Statistical and Financial Data

	Grants and Contracts:	\$3,224,174
	Private Fees:	\$ 886,460
	Grants from Affiliates:	\$ 716,482
	Private Contributions:	\$ 154,259



*Family & Children's Center Counseling and Development Services programs are funded, in part, by United Way of St. Joseph County.*

United Way  
of St. Joseph County

Program Highlights

Family & Children's Center Counseling and Development Services has provided quality mental health services for over 50 years to families and children that face some of life's most difficult challenges. We offer a full spectrum of programming including advocacy and prevention programs, case management services, home based therapy, individual, family, and group counseling and diagnostic assessments.

Since the economic downturn in 2008, we have experienced a tremendous demand for services. Referrals to the agency increased more than 100% in 2009-10 and the agency is now receiving an average of more than 300 new referrals every month. Active cases have grown more than 40% over the same period in 2008-09. In addition to the increase in the number of clients we are serving, the acuity of their needs has also grown to include more potential suicides and cases of severe trauma, substance abuse, depression and child abuse. As a result, the severity of cases at intake, based on standardized assessments and scales, has jumped more than 60% over 2008-09 numbers.

**The Holy Cross Program** helps individuals and families affected by sexual abuse with highly specialized clinical and educational services. In 2010 we served 1265 victims of child sexual and physical abuse, domestic violence, teen/adult sexual assault and adults molested as children.

In partnership with Memorial Hospital's BrainWorks and Junior League of South Bend we are creating a cutting-edge new program, **The Brain Train**, which focuses on educating parents on the importance of brain development and cognitive health to promote school readiness and the general well being of children who may be at-risk for developmental delays from age birth to five.

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The mission of Family & Children's Center is to build strong families and healthy children.

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Residential Revenue:	\$13,515,879
Grants and Contracts:	\$ 5,464,167
Private Contributions:	\$ 933,077
Private Fees:	\$ 886,460
Investment Income:	\$ 157,656
Misc.:	\$ 65,429
Dues:	\$ 111,406

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