

THE CHILDREN'S CENTER 2015 IMPACT REPORT

SEE ME
FOR WHO
I AM
AND FOR
WHO I CAN
BECOME





IMAGINE FEELING INVISIBLE

Now, imagine feeling invisible at 3 years old.

At 7 years old. At 15 years old.

You've just walked in the footsteps of some 7,500 children we serve every year.

Do you see me? Can you hear me?

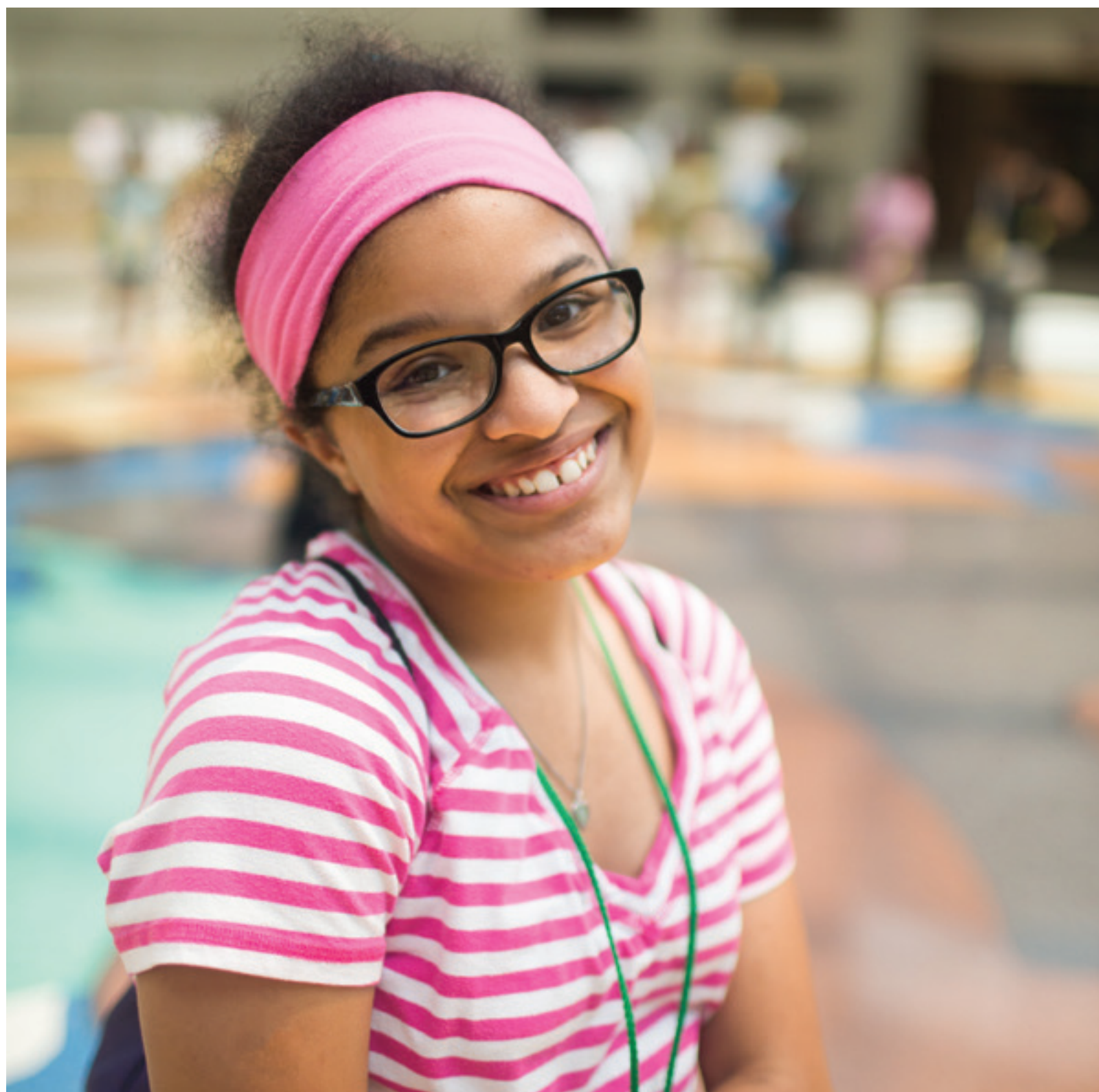
Their plight is our passion. Our home, their haven. They are our inspiration.

You'll read about some of them in the pages that follow. Powerful examples of courage, strength and resilience.

See them, hear them, help them dream again.



A VISION OF COMPASSION



Nothing's worse than feeling unseen and unloved. Every year at The Children's Center we encounter thousands of children who feel this way every day.

For 86 years, our goal has been to empower our children to step into their courage, battle their challenges and give voice to their individual brilliance.

This past fiscal year at The Children's Center we saw the bright light shine within our children and families more vibrantly than ever. We experienced groundbreaking milestones in our programs and services. And we're excited to share them with you.

From the 156 families who benefited from our infant-parent therapy to the 230 foster care children who participated in our trauma therapy, this year proved, yet again, that we're truly making an impact in the lives of Detroit families.

Together with your support, we've been able to empower the lives of more than 7,500 families. Bringing hope to children facing neglect and abuse, and ensuring they feel seen, heard and loved forever.

Warmly,

Debora Matthews
President & CEO

Renee Prewitt
Board Chair

VISUALIZING THE IMPACT

Our influence is as broad as it is personal. We are proud of the difference we have made for each and every child, and to the thousands of families we reach every year. See how our services made an impact in 2015.

230

Children in foster care participated in therapeutic interventions with either trauma-informed, trauma-trained, or nationally certified trauma therapists.

83

Percent of parents participating in the initial pilot of the Parenting through Change: Reunification Group program, that reunified with their children.

42

Percent of children show improvement in behavior that impacts their daily life after receiving services from The Children's Center.

100

Child-family teams were created to empower families to use their voices to make decisions about their care.

760

New winter coats were donated to The Children's Center and distributed to children and families in need.

479

Families and 1,249 children received gifts and basic-need items from The Children's Center Holiday Shop.

156

Families benefited from infant-parent therapy that enhances parenting skills, strengthens parent-infant bonds, and educates parents on developmental milestones.

31

Kids benefited from The Children's Center annual summer camp, which provides a safe, interactive learning environment for children with severe emotional disturbances.

1

1 of 2 agencies in Michigan selected for the initial pilot of the Parenting through Change: Reunification Group, which supports parents working towards reunification with their children in foster care.

150

Youth with serious emotional disturbances learned to manage emotions and behaviors out of hospitals and residential placements, enabling them to achieve their goals in the home, school and community.

**For more than 86
years, we've helped
children rewrite
their future, so that
they can heal,
grow, and embrace
their future
fearlessly.**



Extending a hand, a heart, an ear is what we do best. Our services help children embody the confidence and courage that's already a part of them. We empower them to dream again, hope again, to live out loud again.

GIVING KIDS THEIR VOICE

“My boys are Maliik and DeMarcus, ages 10 and 6. They’re great boys, at least I think so. They care about other people and work very hard at school.

Both boys have a difficult time being apart from me and it’s understandable – in our old neighborhood they experienced more traumatic events in five years than any child or adult should experience in a lifetime.

From frequent gun shots to houses being set on fire to neighbors walking down the street with guns as though we were in the Wild West – that’s a lot for anyone to process, much less a child.

Maliik has been receiving services from The Children Center for the past two years. He is one of my "bodyguards" and looks out for me as though he is the parent. He is being treated for ADHD, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Our individual and family therapy along with medication are helping him focus more in school. Both of my kids are receiving awards for their hard work and good behavior at school.

With the help of The Children's Center, all will be well for my family. My wish is to be able to watch my kids grow up and fulfill their dreams.”

- Chris, Parent





**There are still
thousands of children
who feel invisible.
Together we can
help them
be seen, heard,
and empowered
to live out
their dreams.**

“In December 2014, my 12-year-old daughter Kayona was invited to a sleepover.

At sleepovers, girls usually stay up too late, paint their nails and giggle a lot.

But this sleepover went terribly wrong.

Kayona was raped.

She was sleeping face down on the couch, and woke up with someone on top of her, pushing her face into the pillow. She didn't know what to do or who to tell. So she told no one – not even me. A few months later, I took her to the emergency room because she had terrible stomach pain.

After the doctor examined her, he asked Kayona, “Are you going to tell your mother or am I?”

Before they even said the words, I knew she was pregnant. All the feelings a mother can feel, compounded by the anger and shame of my own sexual abuse as a girl came rushing back. It was more than I could take. I just held my head in my hands and cried. And I prayed a lot.

The Children's Center has been the answer to my prayers. We began intensive therapy to help Kayona deal with the feelings about what happened. They've helped with baby Kendra who's now five months old. They've helped me become a better parent.

I don't know what is ahead for our family, but I do know that we aren't alone. We have The Children's Center with us every step of the way.”

- LaTonya, Parent

We’ve been working with Detroit children since 1929, and care for more than 7,500 Detroit children and families each year. Their potential is our passion. Here are the services we provide.

KEEPING AN EYE ON CARE

Healing the Hurt

It’s not easy when your child experiences trauma or emotional challenges. These programs help children and families cope, heal and thrive.

- ADHD Clinic
- Autism Services
- Behavioral Sleep Clinic
- Center-Based Services
- Community-Based Services
- Crisis Care Services
- Family Court Behavioral Services
- General Behavioral Health Services
- Home-Based Services
- Nursing Services
- Parent Support Partners
- School-Based Services
- Wraparound Services
- Psychiatric Services
- Psychological Services
- Youth Peer Support Services

A Safe Home

The Children’s Center believes in preserving biological families. We work with families and relatives to preserve the family unit, however when the safety of a child is concerned we help ensure care and services for those who have been abused or neglected.

- Adoptions
- Respite Care
- Young Adult Self-Sufficiency (YASS)
- Foster Care

Healthy Start

Sometimes parents who are just beginning a family need extra help ensuring the success and wellbeing of their child. Healthy Start provides programs, services and therapy for families with newborns up to school aged-children.

- Early Childhood Behavioral Health
- Literary Services
- Head Start Academy
- Patient Education

Bridging the Gap

This program connects families and children with valuable resources at our center and within the community. Families can use these support services in addition to participating in other therapy programs.

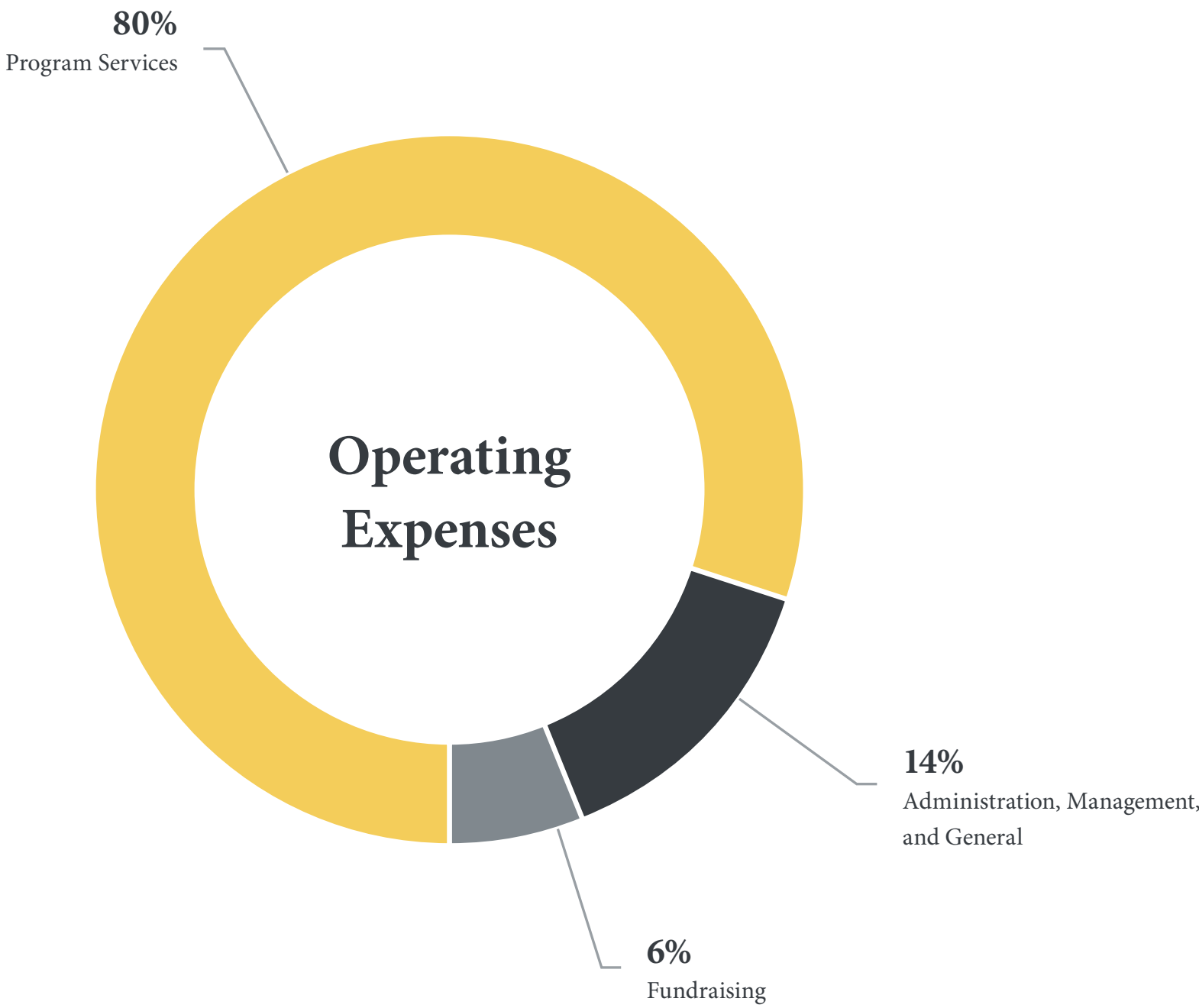
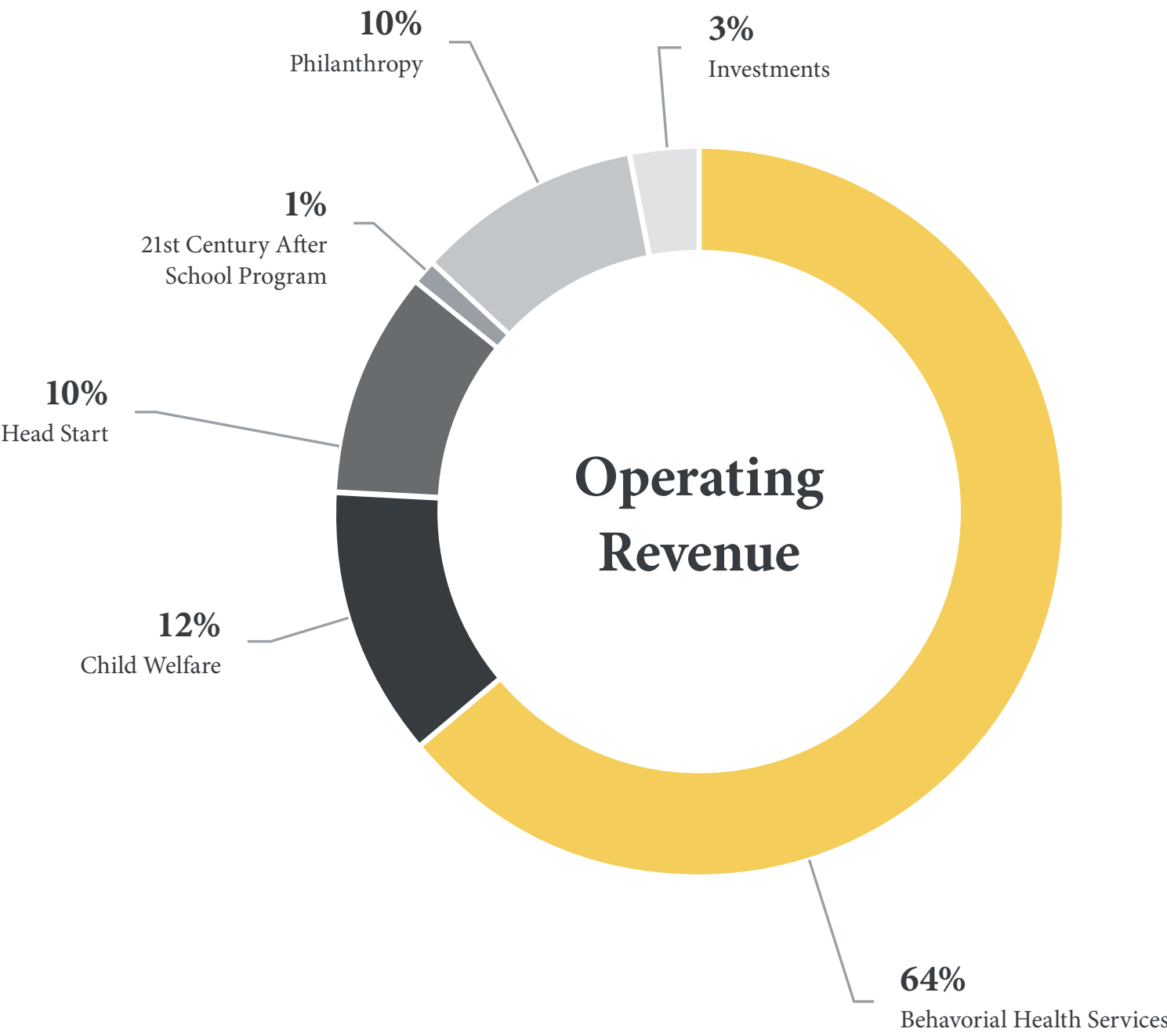
- After School Enrichment Services
- Hospital Liaison
- Case Management
- Supports Coordination
- CC’s Boutique
- Tau Beta Center for Discovery
- Community Resource Centers
- Tutorial Services
- Fatherhood Initiative

**Our families
are never alone.
We walk with
them on their
journey, side by
side, every step
of the way.**



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended September 30, 2015



Public Support & Revenue

Behavioral Health Services	\$ 17,903,403
Child Welfare	3,282,735
Head Start (Education)	2,938,756
21st Century After School Program (Education)	328,351
Philanthropy	3,005,839
Investments	685,669
Total Public Support & Other Revenue	\$ 28,144,753

Expenses

Program Services	\$ 21,852,268
Administration, Management, and General	4,005,517
Fundraising	1,691,311
Total Expenses	\$ 27,549,096

Thanks to donors like you, our children and families have made incredible progress. This list represents those who have donated gifts from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. We wish to express our sincerest gratitude to you and those who requested not to be included on this list.

We thank you, we honor you, we are grateful for your support. Our kids are too.

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The Village of Giving is a select group of individuals and businesses that have pledged their support through a five-year gift to The Children’s Center.

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In honor of Kristen Cyrul from Lynda Wagner	In memory of Margaret Hawthorne from Mary E. Emmons	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Pacha from Al-Azhar Pacha	In honor of Barbara Willett from Gordon Willett
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In honor of your father, Charles Edmonson, Sr. from Charles Edmonson, Jr.	In memory of Margaret Hawthorne from Patricia A. Smith	In memory of Mrs. Parker from Donald Hall	
In honor of Tina & Gordon Ford for Christmas 2014 from Katherine Albers	In memory of Margaret Hawthorne from Natalie Valentini	In honor of Renee Prewitt from Napoleon Quick	

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We are grateful to our board members for their passion, discipline, and leadership — guiding us successfully through the year without compromising our long-term vision.

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