



**FIGHTING
THE GOOD FIGHT
THANKS TO YOU**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



BEFORE THE BELL SOUNDS

The fiscal year ending September 2018 brought many exciting milestones in our nearly 90 years of service to Greater Detroit children and families. You can be proud of these accomplishments and more.

Because these wins wouldn't be possible if our children and families didn't have you in their corner. Your generous and compassionate support makes the difference between being knocked out and continuing to fight the good fight.

True to our roots, nearly 7,500 children and their families received evidence-based mental health and trauma-informed clinical care to heal the hurt and maximize each child's ability to grow into a successful adult.

Families report significant overall improvement in their child's ability to overcome severe challenges as a result of receiving services. Further, a total of 860 (94.30%) participants answered "agree or strongly agree" that they were satisfied with their services at The Children's Center.

In particular, our Crisis Care Center continues to reduce hospital admissions when compared to the other available interventions, with an average diversion rate of 77%. Nearly one thousand children, youth and families received Crisis Care services in fiscal year 2017/18. The majority of them presenting with homicidal or suicidal thoughts upon arrival – meaning they were threatening to harm someone or themselves. Successful treatment, de-escalation, and hospital diversion kept children and families at home, in school, and on the path to overcoming life's challenges.

95% of our Young Adult Self-Sufficiency (YASS) clients will graduate high school. YASS gives young people aging out of the foster care program a chance to find success. We empower these youth with the life skills they need to become thriving members of our community, and graduating from high school is a strong predictor of better health.

That's what our work is all about. Helping children and families remove the mask of mental health or behavioral health issues, eradicate the stigma and misconceptions often associated with mental illness. To empower them to fight the good fight so they can shape their own futures. We are grateful for you and many other supporters who join us in this work to lift-up children and families.

With gratitude,

Debora Matthews
President & CEO

Tina V. Ford
Board Chair



BEFORE ENTERING THE RING

HOW YOU HELPED ARON BATTLE DEMON VOICES

While most teenage girls are telling secrets, Aron kept her secrets to herself. You see, she had been trying to kill herself for more than three years.

Imagine your child hearing what she calls "demon voices" commanding her to jump out windows. Compelling her to cut herself with broken glass. Telling her,

“That day, I found out that my Aron has been trying to kill herself for years. All I could do was cry. How could I not see my baby's pain?”

she's not worthy. Aron didn't tell anyone, not even her mother — until they came to The Children's Center to get help for Aron's little sister.

"She turned to me with them big beautiful brown eyes and said, "Mommy, I think I need to see someone too," said Christine, Aron's Mom.

Your generous support helped Aron get the help she needed to silence the voices in her head.

Your support sends a message to Aron and other children just like her. It says, you matter. You can get through this. You're worth my investment.

"That day, I found out that my Aron has been trying to kill herself for years. All I could do was cry and ask myself, how could I have missed the signs, and how could I not see my baby's pain?" said Christine.

Because you're in her corner, Aron continues to receive psychiatric and clinical services to equip her to cope with depression and manage those terrifying voices in her head. While Aron still doesn't like to be in crowded rooms or be touched, she's smiling again. You helped do that. Now Aron frequently gives her mom hugs and kisses. And most importantly, she has stopped keeping deadly secrets.

Thanks to you, Aron — and children just like her — continue to heal, hope, and dream again.



**SHE MUST
FIRST BE
EQUIPPED**



**ONLY THEN IS HE
FIGHT-READY**

HOW YOU HELPED SHYANNE'S SIX-YEAR-OLD SON LIVE AGAIN

Isn't family time for making memories? Having a great time with relatives. Hanging out. Playing games. Watching movies. Laughing so hard your belly hurts.

Imagine your six-year-old son telling you about playing a game that wasn't so fun and being called "my girlfriend" by a relative behind closed doors. He goes on to explain the horrific details of his sexual abuse.

"As I listened and watched my baby boy tell his story, I felt a piece of me die. I felt like I was in a nightmare just praying to wake up," said Shyanne. "We teach our children about stranger danger, but we don't teach them about the danger that can exist in our most trusted and sacred places – our homes."

Thanks to you, families like Shyanne's receive treatment to become "fight-ready" so they can heal from unimaginable abuse and trauma. Loving families struggling to overcome crushing feelings of confusion, anger, and guilt. Because you're in their corner, they will continue to heal, grow and thrive.

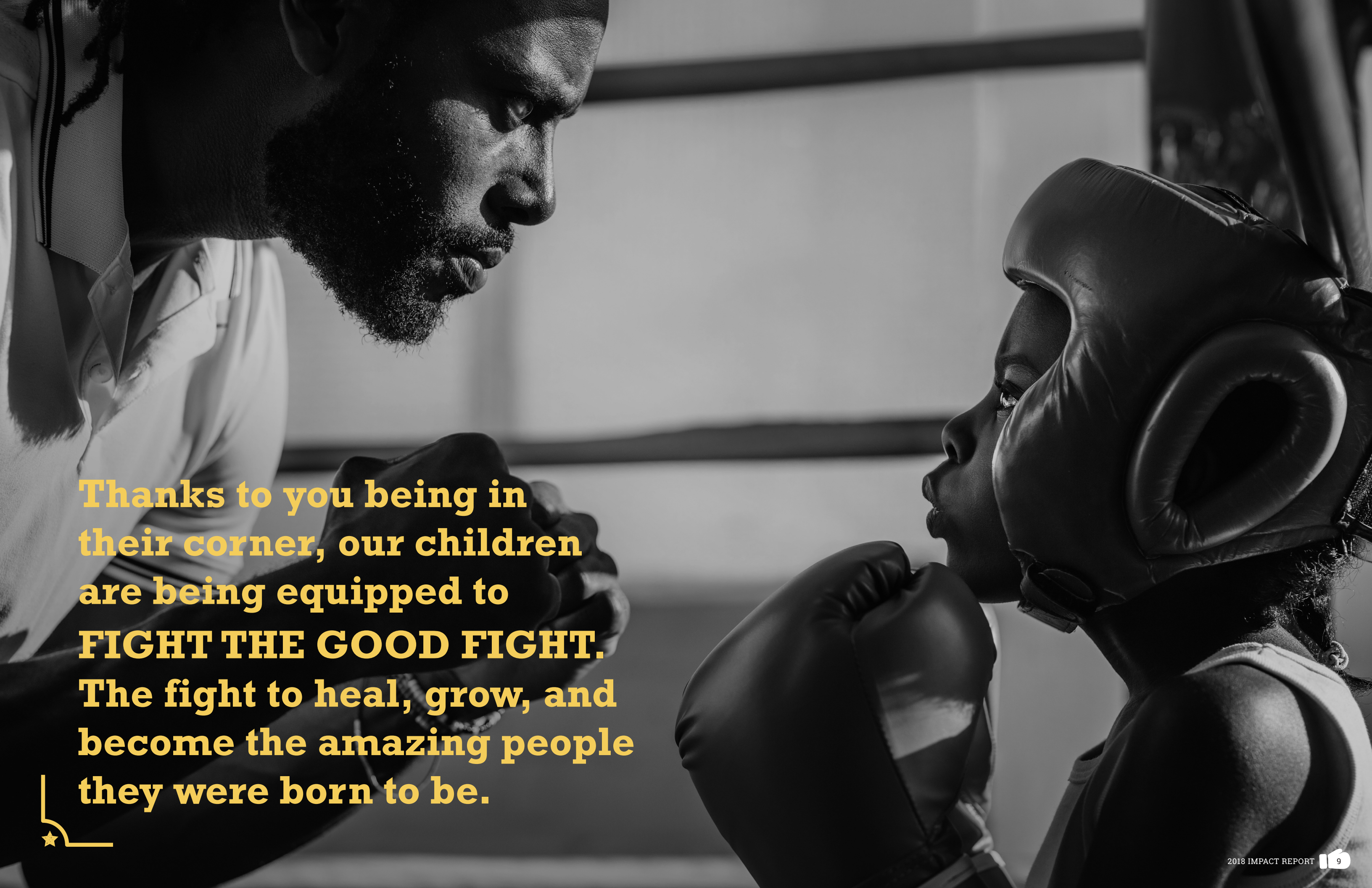
"We are dealing with night terrors, bed-wetting and managing his sexual behaviors. Helping him to understand why he can't sleep over at his friend's house or have friends over to our house. Why he no longer sees some family members." explains Shyanne.

Your generosity continues to turn hurt into healing, despair into determination, and trauma into triumph for the children and families we serve. You help write brand new endings for children and families with your kind and compassionate gift.

"I believe my son will rise above this. I believe he will become the young man God intends him to become. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to live again." said Shyanne.

Because of you, our children continue to heal from their abuse and trauma so they can fight the good fight and become the amazing people they were born to be.

**"As I listened
and watched
my baby boy
tell his story,
I felt a piece
of me die. I felt
like I was in
a nightmare
just praying
to wake up."**

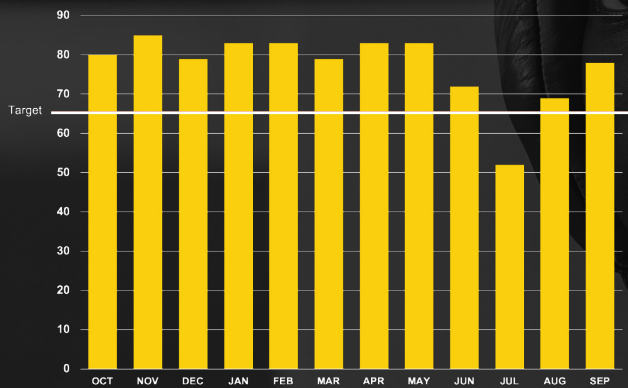


**Thanks to you being in
their corner, our children
are being equipped to
FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.
The fight to heal, grow, and
become the amazing people
they were born to be.**

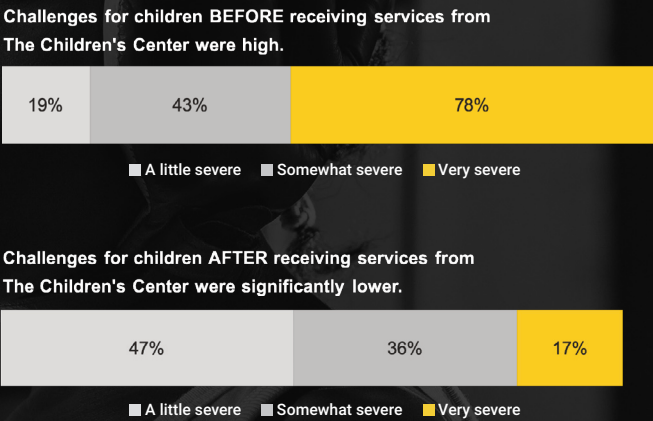


Some of the ways you helped improve the lives of children we serve by being in their corner.

OUR DIVERSION RATE WAS MET THROUGHOUT 2018
(TARGET RATE IS >65%)

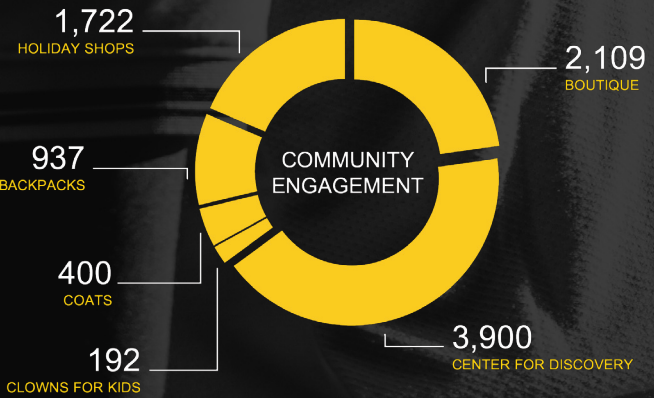
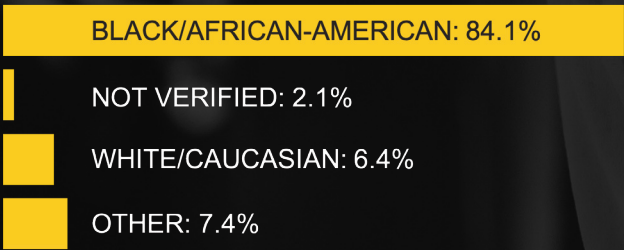


CHALLENGES BEFORE & AFTER RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE CHILDREN'S CENTER

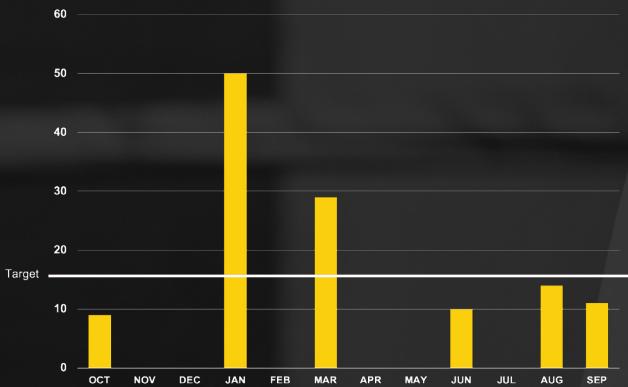


Children & Families Served in 2018

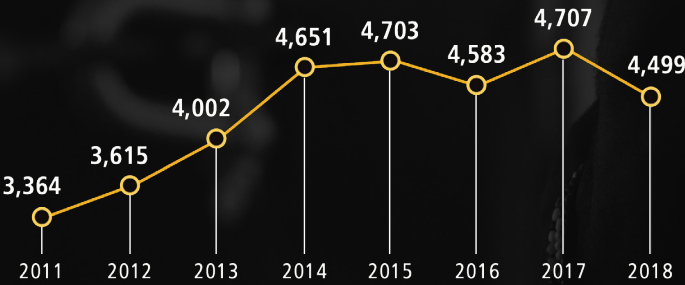
ETHNICITY



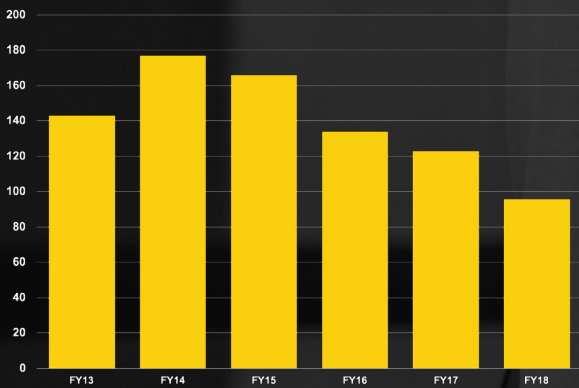
OUR RECIDIVISM RATE WAS MET EACH MONTH EXCEPT JAN & MAR 2018
(TARGET RATE IS <15%)



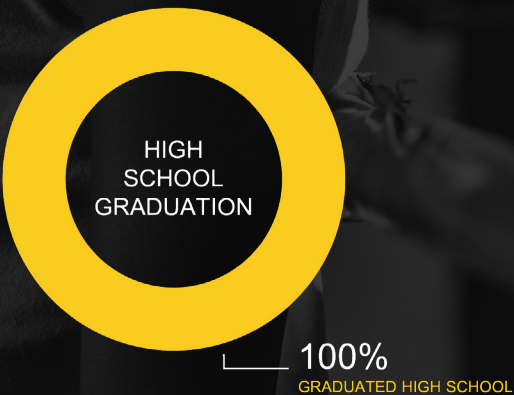
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLIENT COUNT
(I/DD & SED UNDUPLICATED)



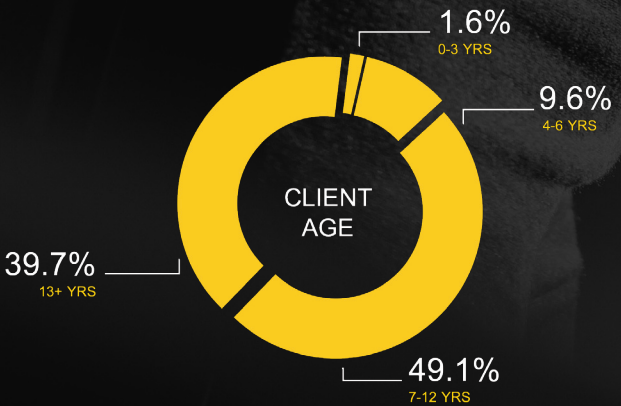
FEWEST INPATIENT SED HOSPITALIZATIONS IN 2018 COMPARED TO PRIOR YEARS



YASS CLIENTS 100% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



CLIENTS SERVED BY PROGRAM



“Thank you
Children’s
Center for
helping my
family.”



“The staff
listens to
me, I feel
my voice
is heard.”



“I feel
safe
at The
Children’s
Center.”

“I can talk
with my
therapist
about
anything.”



**Healing wouldn't be possible if our children
and families didn't have you in their corner.
Your generous and compassionate support makes
the difference between being knocked out and
being equipped to continue fighting the good fight.**



Statement of Activities

Year ended September 30, 2018

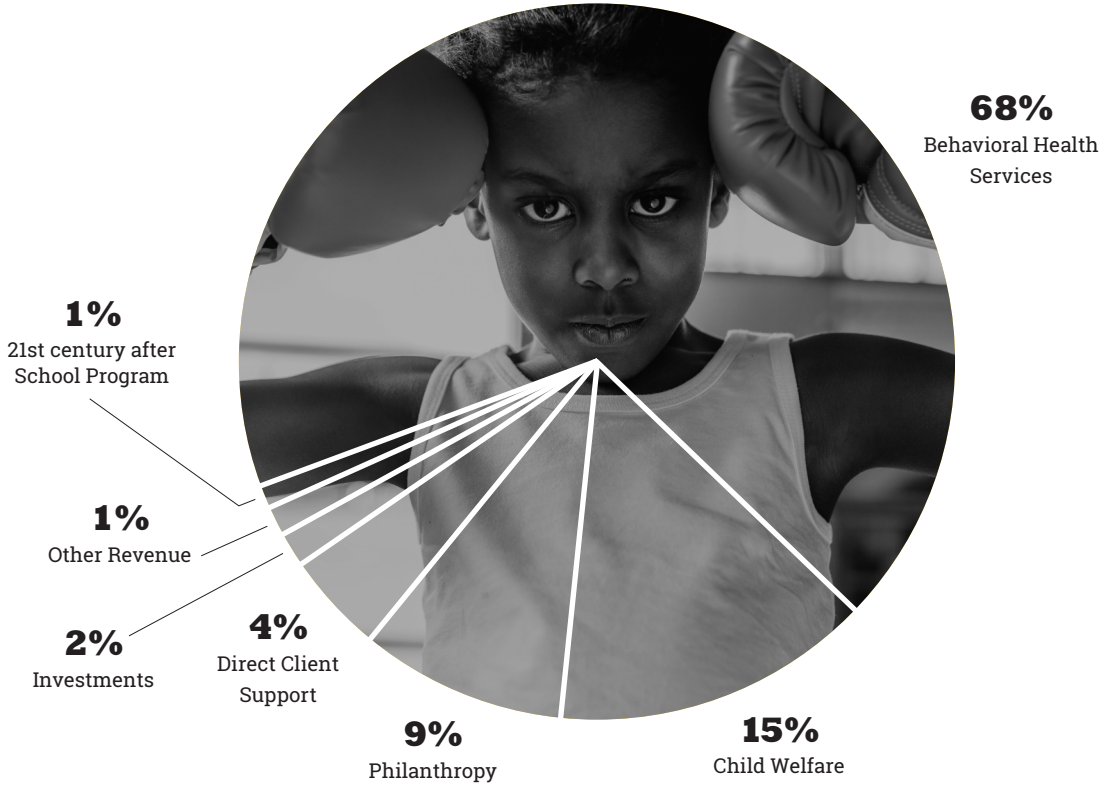
Public Support & Revenue

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Behavioral Health Services | \$17,231,799 |
| Child Welfare | 3,700,450 |
| Philanthropy | 2,381,797 |
| Direct Client Support | 1,121,500 |
| Investments | 398,129 |
| Other Revenue | 364,582 |
| 21st Century After School Program (Education) | 212,083 |
| Total Public Support & Other Revenue | \$25,410,340 |

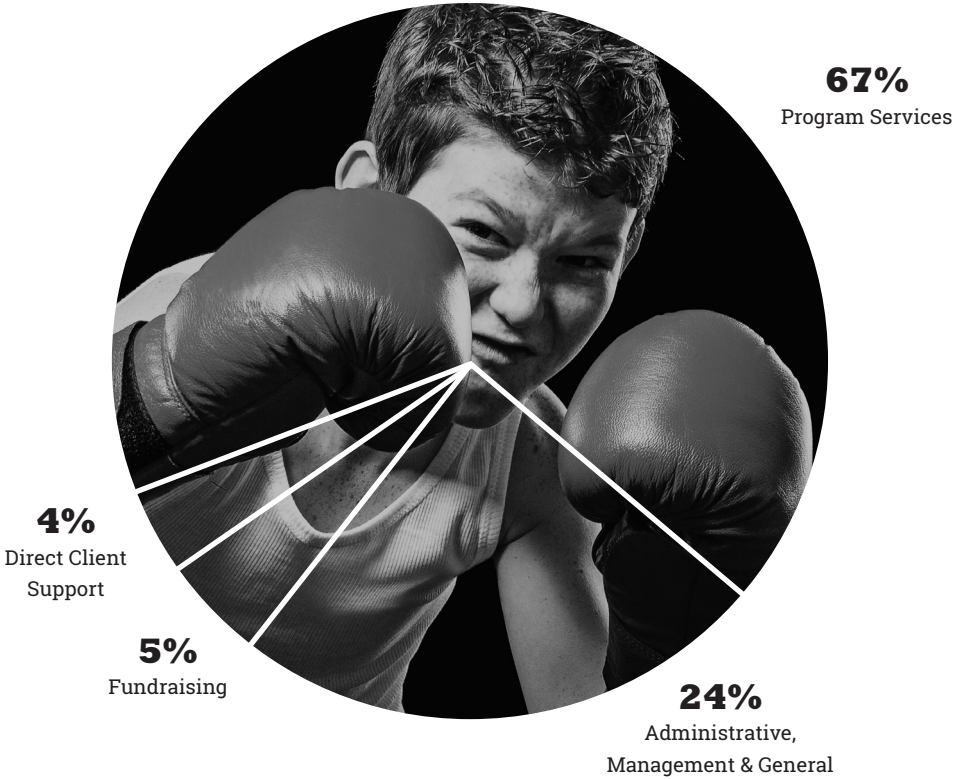
Expenses

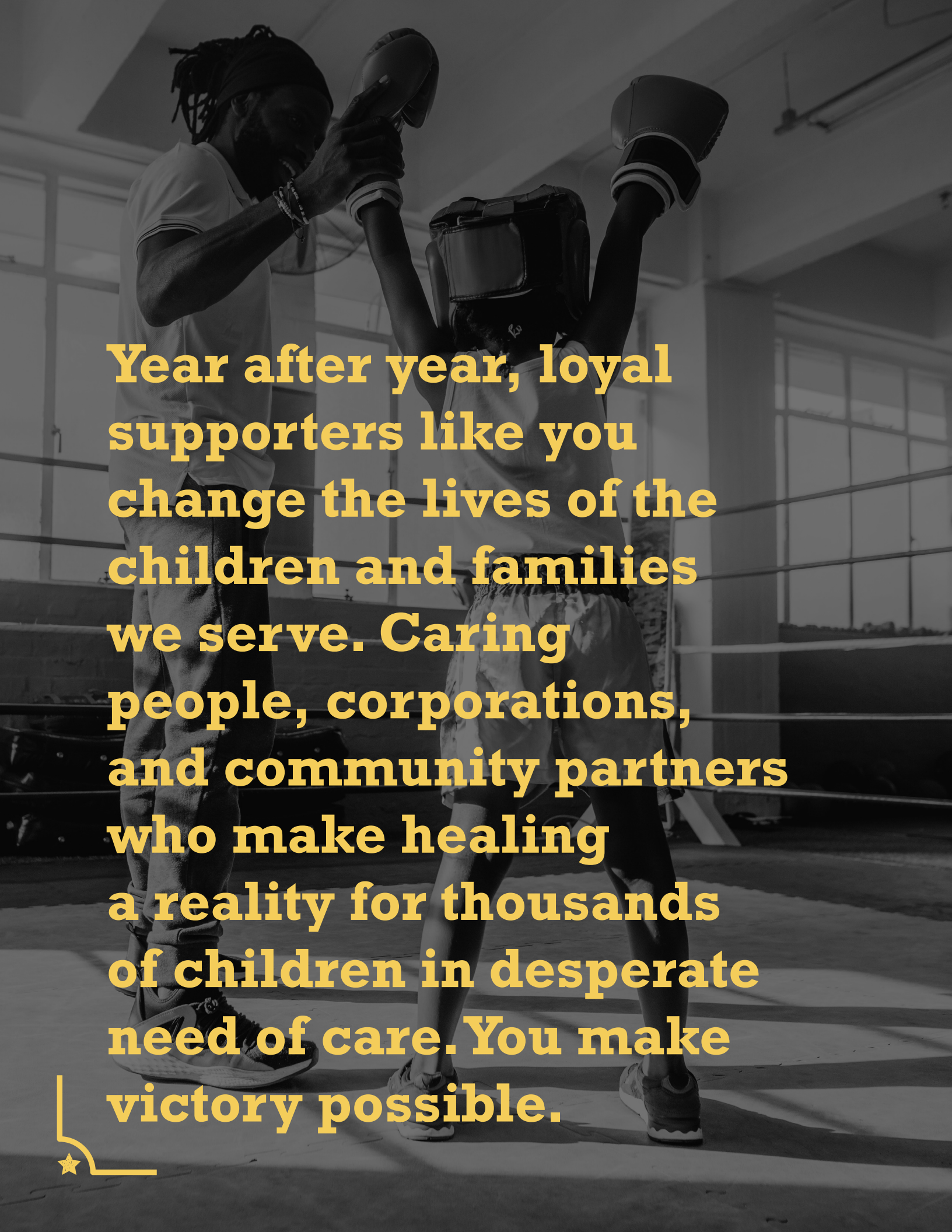
| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Program Services | \$18,934,237 |
| Administration, Management & General | 6,925,513 |
| Fundraising | 1,421,755 |
| Direct Client Support | 1,121,500 |
| Total Expenses | \$28,403,005 |

OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENSES





Year after year, loyal supporters like you change the lives of the children and families we serve. Caring people, corporations, and community partners who make healing a reality for thousands of children in desperate need of care. You make victory possible.

The Village of Giving

Helping children and families dream again takes an entire village. Our Village of Giving members make a five-year pledge of \$1,000 a year or more to help heal the city's most vulnerable children. It doesn't happen overnight, which is why our Village is so critical to our mission.

VISIONARIES

ENSURING A SAFE HOME (\$50,000+)

Deshler Group, Inc.
John & Denise Dunn
Daniel & Patricia Frank
Global Strategic Supply Solutions
James & Denise Jacob

CHAMPIONS

HELPING TO HEAL THE HURT (\$25,000+)

Tina & Gordon Ford
Alma & Edward Greer
James Grossi
Brenda Lewo-Ercolani
Doug & Carole Maibach
Marilynn & Gregory Magreta
Mike Morse
Kimberly & Daniel Rodriguez
Ruth & Frank Zinn

GATEKEEPERS

CREATING A HEALTHY START (\$5,000+)

Dr. Asra Ahmed
& Dr. Muzammil Ahmed
Olga Alavanou & Nick Aravas
Deborah Allen
Carmelina Antonuccio & Brian Borich
Apex Digital Solutions
Dr. Cecilia Astorga-Switzer
& Dr. James Switzer
Jeff & Lisa Baker
Jennifer Baker
Scott & Chris Beard
Dr. Marquita Bedway & Alger LaHood
Lori Blumenfeld
Robert Blumenfeld
Marletta Boyd
Marletta Boyd II
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Shawn & Linda Byrnes
Karen & Raymond Caloia
Crystal Coleman
Cory & Melissa Cookingham

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Michael Craig & Alison Couzens Craig
The Craig Family
Graves De Armond & Jaysin Urban
Katie Dirksen
John Edmonds
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Lynda Fletcher
Denise Fleckenstein & Dave Richards
Jeff & Christine Forester
Jaclyn & Eric Fox
Jennifer & Kenneth Fruehauf
Vince & Freda Fulton
Deborah & David Gillespie
Peter Ginopolis
Holly & Damien Gorecki
Tiffany J. & Todd Gunter
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Richard & Catherine Walker
Brendan & Kelly Walsh
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& Thomas Stallworth
Robert & Arvis Williams
Heidi & Henry Wineman
George & Verita Winn
Mark & Gina Wollschlager
Susan & Rod Wood
Namir & Patricia Zara
Serene K. Zeni
Jennifer Zinn & Gus Andreasen
Tammy L. Zonker

James Couzens Legacy Society

Just as our founder James Couzens left a legacy of making a difference for generations of Detroit children and families in need, the individuals recognized below have included The Children's Center in their legacy plans through a bequest or life insurance policy. Some things do last forever.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Beatrice & Cleonard Banks | Margaret J. Hawthorne | Margaret & Daniel O'Connor |
| Denise Fleckenstein & Dave Richards | Jennie V. Kerr Trust | Paige & Brian Peabody |
| Tina & Gordon Ford | Allan B. Levy | Renee Prewitt |
| Daniel & Patricia Frank | Ben C. Maibach, Jr. Trust | Ruth R. Rothschild |
| R. M. Freedman Trust | William & Karen Marsh | |
| Angela & John Hardison | Debora Matthews | |

Believers

Believers is a community of life-changers who commit to a recurring monthly gift of any amount to help children overcome unimaginable challenges and grow into strong, healthy, productive adults.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Michael Carman | Tyler Dykes | Veronica Nichols |
| Ashlee D. Chesny | Julie A. Eastman | Dina Novelli |
| Shelia L. Donaldson | Saundra El Meadowy | James Oakes |
| Francee Ford | Erica Fishman | Mounira Ozoor |
| Shirley Fortune | Joslyn Forbes | Derrell Parker |
| Anne M. Mervenne | Melissa Gorman | Patricia Phillips |
| Simone R. Smith | Robyn Gothelf Fishman | Ebony R. Redding |
| Yield LLC | Juanita Goulet | Tanisha Rice-Hester |
| | Alicia Haskin | Monet Robinson |
| | Kristen Hjelmstad | Andrea Rodgers |
| | Danielle Hodges | Tabatha Ross-Brown |
| | Amariah Houseknecht | Symphony Schick |
| | Fatima Jaafar | Aasha Shonek |
| | Ayana Jackson | Mallory Steele |
| | Jasmine Jefferson | Elizabeth Strong |
| | Annette Johnson | Jaclyn Swhear |
| | Lee Koss | Janisha Szabo |
| | Sally A. Lewis | Rebecca Taylor |
| | Rachel Lobb | Mychele Tennille |
| | Jasmine Logan | Santrell Thomas |
| | LaJoy Loggins | Susan E. Thomas |
| | Bethany Lowry | Adrian Vargo |
| | Kevin Lurkins | Carol Wade |
| | Stanley Mackey | Brenda Washington |
| | Jessica McCall | Wanda Williams-Gee |
| | Mary McKheen | Susanna Wolf-Heuerman |
| | Katina McKinney | Jaime Wolfe |
| | Isabel Measzros | James Wren |
| | Michelle Milton | Dijone Wright |
| | Jalona Moore | Emily Young-Rathod |
| | Jassiem Moore | |
| | Hajr Muhammad | |
| | Jenna Nance | |

BELIEVERS

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Abagael Adair | | |
| Aylin Aldahbi | | |
| Brittney Auld | | |
| Marcia Baynes | | |
| Brian Bomar | | |
| Hollie Born | | |
| Asura Burke | | |
| Charlotte Bush | | |
| Terrance R. Campbell | | |
| Jon Carolin | | |
| Veronique Causey | | |
| Tarenia Clark | | |
| Caralynn Cooper | | |
| Meagan Crawford | | |
| Derek Dang | | |
| Jennifer Daniel | | |
| Roberta Davis | | |
| James Dewey | | |
| Lisa Dixon | | |
| Crystal Dubose | | |
| Richard Dusky | | |

Individual & Corporate Donors

BENEFACTORS (\$50,000+)

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| BASF Corporation | Douglas J. Bandol |
| Detroit Auto Dealers Association | Bank of America Employee Giving Campaign |
| Ford Motor Company Conference & Event Center | Barton Malow Foundation |
| Ford Motor Company Fund | BASF Corporation |
| Jackson Dawson Communications | Raymond Bazmore |
| McGregor Fund | Behavioral Health Professionals, Inc. |
| Tau Beta Association | Benevity Community Impact Fund |
| The Elizabeth, Allan & Warren Shelden Fund | Benson & Edith Ford Fund |

ADVOCATES (\$25,000+)

| | |
|--|--|
| Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation | Douglas J. Bandol |
| Denso International America, Inc. | Bank of America Employee Giving Campaign |
| Detroit Lions Charities | Barton Malow Foundation |
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FOUNDERS (\$10,000+)

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Ally Financial Inc. | Douglas J. Bandol |
| Arts, Beats & Eats Foundation | Bank of America Employee Giving Campaign |
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| Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund | Benson & Edith Ford Fund |
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| Anschutz Family Foundation | Benson & Edith Ford Fund |
| Anuja Tolia Jewelry | Black United Fund of Michigan, Inc. |
| Marianna & Bennie Bailey | Larry Blackburn |
| Douglas G. & Kate Bandol | Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan |

| | |
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| Douglas J. Bandol | Sean Kelley |
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| Continental Automotive Group | Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America, Inc. |
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| Kylie Kalinowski | |

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313 Ghostbusters

A

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Deidri Allen
Wilhelmina Allen
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