

2017-2018
ANNUAL REPORT

Inspiring Children & Families to Move Forward

 **HopeSpoke**

the new Child Guidance Center



"It's so nice to be a spoke in the wheel,
one that helps turn, not one that hinders."

—Gertrude Bell

Dear Friends,

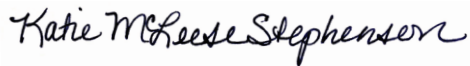
Thank you for helping make this past year one of our most exciting yet. Child Guidance Center served more children and families than ever before (1,841 to be exact) and we rebranded ourselves as HopeSpoke.

“Hope” evokes a feeling of promise and possibility, while “spoke” depicts progressing together, in the same way a spoke helps a wheel further advance.

Through this report, we invite you to see how HopeSpoke continues to inspire children and families to move forward – to heal, be courageous and find the strength to live well.

As we embark on our 70th year, we thank you for your support in helping us to make our community a better place – full of happy, hopeful, healthy families.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie McLeese Stephenson". The script is fluid and cursive.

Katie McLeese Stephenson
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer G. Carter". The script is elegant and cursive.

Jennifer Carter
Board President



Katie McLeese Stephenson



Jennifer Carter

Service Spokes

Crisis & Residential Services

Youth-In-Crisis provides suicide assessments, transitional counseling, and case management to youth being detained at Lancaster County Youth Services Center. Last year, **477 youth** were served.

Therapeutic Group Home provides a holistic, trauma informed, strength-based approach to males ages 13-18 who have demonstrated sexually reactive behaviors. Last year, **28 youth** were served.

Extended Day Treatment Program

Operating daily after school and during the summer, the Extended Day Treatment Program provides children with treatment for trauma and behavioral challenges. Last year, **63 children** were served.

Outpatient Services

Master's level therapists and psychologists provide assessment, treatment planning and therapy services for children ages 1-19 and their families, as well as adults. Last year, **858 people** were served.

School Programs

A variety of mental health services are provided within the school setting for students at Lincoln Public Schools who are in need of therapy. Last year, **322 students** were served.

Choices and Pilots for Change provide programming for students identified at risk for substance using behavior including group and individual therapy. Last year, **48 students** were served.

2017-2018 IMPACT

1,841

children & adults served

57

children & adults received
Short-Term Crisis Response Therapy

48

students received substance abuse
resources through the Choices Program

43

families served by
Active Parenting Program

1

outpatient therapist added
to Safe Schools Program





"HopeSpoke helped
my family move beyond
crisis to a hopeful and
productive future."

—Adoptive mom

Happy & Hopeful

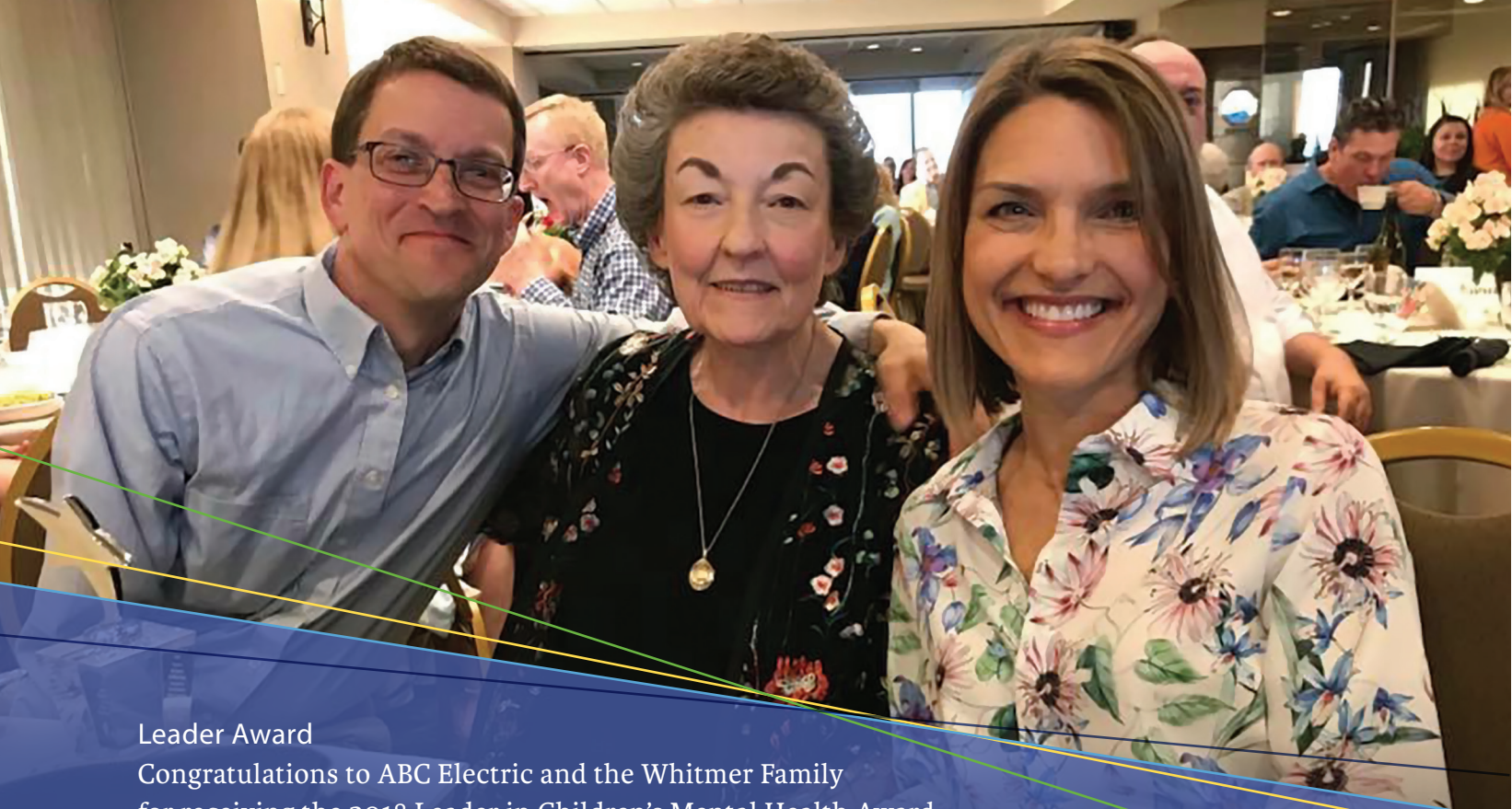
The struggle IS real. Emotional hardships are challenging for anyone to overcome, especially when you're a kid. When things feel hopeless, HopeSpoke helps children and families find confidence.

When “Brynn” was nine years old, she was removed from her home. Her parents’ substance-use and domestic violence issues made her living environment no longer safe.

Fortunately for Brynn, a loving family member was willing to adopt her. However, she still needed help coping with the loss of her parents and making transitions, like accepting her cousins as siblings.

Thanks to HopeSpoke, Brynn received mental health therapy in her elementary school. She was able to heal and now leads a happy and hopeful life with her adopted family.

Help us tell more stories of success by supporting our mission at [HopeSpoke.org](https://www.hopespoke.org).



Leader Award

Congratulations to ABC Electric and the Whitmer Family for receiving the 2018 Leader in Children's Mental Health Award. Mae Whitmer, her daughter Lori Wennstedt, and son John Whitmer and spouses have been longtime supporters of our mission.

Wheels of Generosity

HopeSpoke is fortunate to have so many generous supporters like these:

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Mae Whitmer in memory of
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CHAMPION \$2,500-\$4,999

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Lincoln Children's Zoo
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Nebraska Club
Noodles & Company
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and Aquarium
Parthenon
Kelley Peterson
Runza
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and Aesthetics
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The Rogers House
Russ Uhing
Wilderness Ridge
Woodland Hills Golf Course
WunderRoost Bed
and Breakfast

***Donations given July 1, 2017
through June 30, 2018.***

Give a Gift of Hope

Through kind gifts, like yours, HopeSpoke will be able to continue to play an invaluable role in providing children and families with the skills to feel empowered and be successful – helping them to heal, be courageous and find strength to live well.

Please go to [HopeSpoke.org](https://www.hopespoke.org) or mail your generous gift to:

HopeSpoke | 2444 O Street | Lincoln, NE 68510

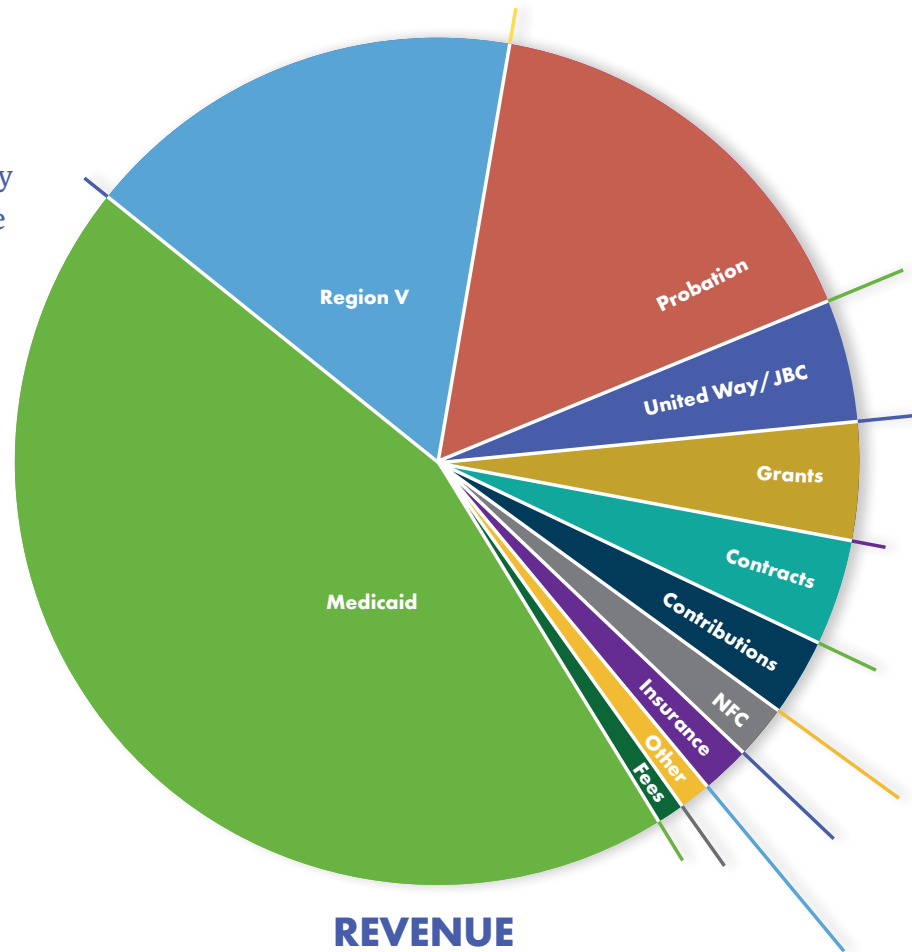
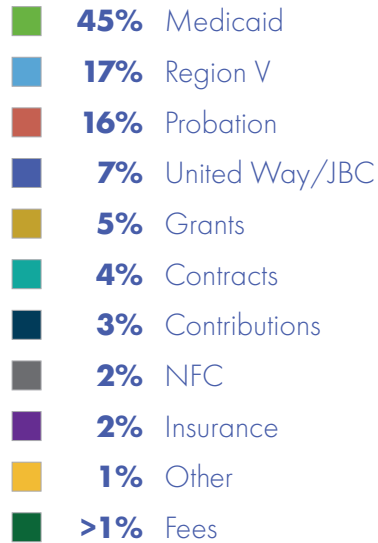
Thank you for making our community a better place – full of happy, hopeful, healthy families.

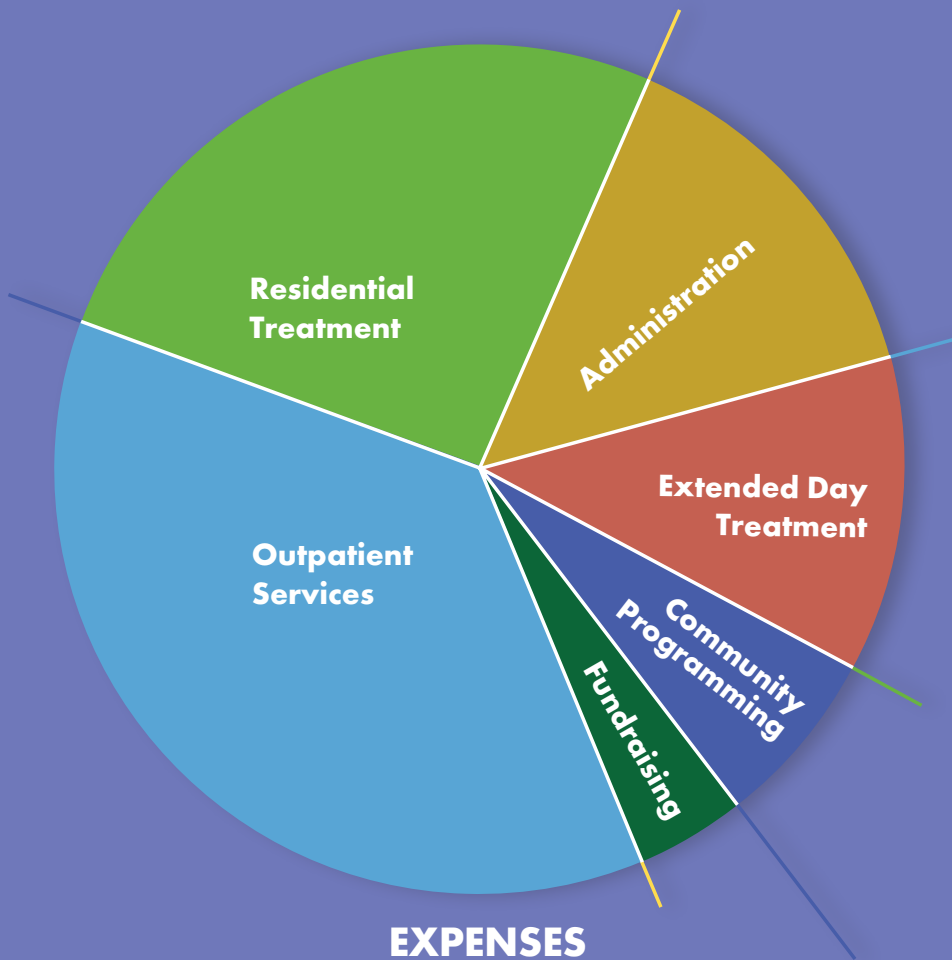
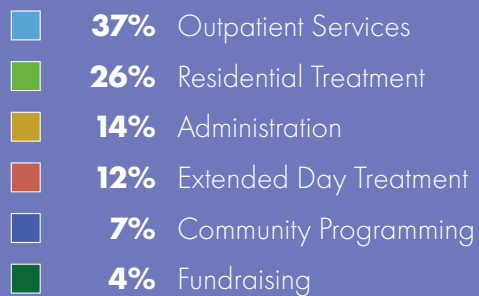
HopeSpoke is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax-deductible and translates into support for the hundreds of children and families we work with each year.



Financial Forward Motion

Strategic decisions allowed us to build stability and invest over **\$5 million** in bringing hope and healing to nearly 1,850 children and families in 2017-2018.





Leadership Team

Katie McLeese Stephenson, MSW, Executive Director
Wendi Anderson, MEd, LIMHP, Outpatient Services Director
Lisa M. Bickert, MEd, MA, Human Resources Director
Jenny Cardwell, CFRE, Development Director
Whitney Kuhn, MPA, Community & Employee Engagement Director
Jackie Prater, LICSW, Extended Day Treatment Program Director
Pat Sailors, MA, LIMHP, Crisis & Residential Services Director
Brad Schiltz, Finance Director

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