

2024-2025  
Annual Report

**Inspiring Children & Families to Move Forward**



## 2025 Leadership Highlight

With a shared commitment to strengthen HopeSpoke's impact and reach, our leadership team is dedicated to advancing our mission to inspire healthy futures for children and families through comprehensive behavioral and mental health services. Drawing on more than 100 years of combined experience, HopeSpoke's leadership team works together to create lasting, positive change in the lives of the children, adults, and families we serve.

This year marked an exciting chapter as we welcomed three new leaders: Wendi Anderson, Executive Director, Maggie Montoya, Development Director, and Alicia Waltman, Outpatient Services Director. Although Wendi Anderson and Alicia Waltman are new to these leadership positions, Wendi has worked for HopeSpoke for over 25 years, previously serving as the Outpatient Services Director while Alicia has been with our organization for eight years, previously serving as a School Based Therapy Clinical Manager. Maggie Montoya began working at HopeSpoke in November 2024.

Our leadership team also includes Whitney Kuhn, Director of Community and Employee Engagement (16 years); Jackie Prater, Extended Day Treatment Program Director (24 years); Pat Sailors, Director of Crisis and Residential Services (36 years); Brad Schiltz, Director of Finance (11 years); Kelly Theilen, Director of Human Resources (5 years); Summer, HopeSpoke's Therapy Dog (2 years).



Dear Friends,

Over the decades, the landscape of mental health care has evolved dramatically. The growing awareness and reduced stigma surrounding mental health issues are encouraging and enable us to extend our support to more individuals in need. While the journey has not been without challenges, each step has brought us closer to our vision of a healthier, more hopeful future.

We look back with pride on the journey that has brought us to this point. Our progress has been made possible through the dedication of our staff, the guidance of our board, and the encouragement of HopeSpoke's supporters. At the core of it all are our extraordinary therapists and providers, whose expertise, compassion, and unwavering commitment make healing possible. Together, HopeSpoke is able to provide vital mental health services that help youth and families build resilience, find healing, and discover hope.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of our story. Together we are writing HopeSpoke's next chapter filled with hope, health, and happiness for our community.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Wendi Anderson, MSED, LIMHP  
Executive Director



Mitch Lee  
Board President, 2024-2025



Wendi Anderson



Mitch Lee

## Service Spokes

### Residential Services

The Therapeutic Group Home provides a holistic, trauma informed, strength-based approach to males ages 13-18 who have demonstrated sexually reactive behaviors. Last year, **34 youth** were served.

Located within HopeSpoke's group home, the Child Guidance School provides a trauma informed education to youth in our group home and intensive outpatient programs. On average, each student receives 1,266 hours of education each year. Last year, **27 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, **51 children** were served.

### Outpatient Services

Clinical staff provide assessment, treatment planning and individual, family, and group therapy services for children ages 1-19 and their families, as well as adults. Outpatient services include: Outpatient, Extended Day Treatment Program and Therapeutic Group Home Outpatient, and evaluations. Last year, **401 people** were served.

### School-Based Therapy

Therapy sessions are provided within the school setting for students at Lincoln Public Schools. Individual and family therapy and Therapeutic Consultation, are offered in a setting to help eliminate the barrier of access to these services. Last year, **145 students** were served.

## 2024-2025 Impact

**10,402**

hours of milieu therapy provided to children in the Extended Day Treatment Program.

**6,934**

group services provided across HopeSpoke programs.

**2,315**

telehealth services provided to clients across Nebraska, includes 7 counties outside of Lancaster County.

**601**

total number of medication services provided to HopeSpoke clients.

**134**

clients who received sliding fee scale discounts, a total of \$140,263.75 in discounts were applied.



## Honoring 25+ Years of Service

At the heart of HopeSpoke's success is our dedicated staff who ensure that HopeSpoke is a place where individuals feel seen, supported, and empowered. With 90 staff members contributing a combined 700 years of service, HopeSpoke's team brings unparalleled experience and commitment to our mission.

HopeSpoke is fortunate to have several staff members who have devoted over 25 years to our organization, making a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve and the communities we support. These individuals embody the values, resilience, and compassion that define our work. Over the decades, their contributions have helped HopeSpoke grow into a trusted and accessible provider of behavioral and mental health services. From guiding clients through healing and growth, to shaping programs that meet evolving community needs, their dedication to their work has helped shape the lives of countless children, adults, and families across our community.

We are proud to honor and celebrate these team members, not only for their decades of service, but for the lasting difference they continue to make every day.

Visit [www.hopespoke.org](http://www.hopespoke.org) for more information about HopeSpoke staff and programs.

## HopeSpoke Staff Who Have Worked 25+ Years (as of 6/30/2025)

**Dr. Kevin Benesch, Ph.D.;**  
Licensed Psychologist: 38 years

**Pat Sailors, M.A., LIMHP;**  
Director of Residential Services: 36 years

**Lonnie Steggs;**  
Staff Supervisor: 32 years

**Tony Brooks, M.A., LIMHP;**  
Clinical Supervisor, 31 years

**Katy Pickel, M.A., LIMHP;**  
Program Manager, 30 years

**Tara Girmus;**  
Program Coordinator, 26 years

**Wendi Anderson, M.S.Ed., LIMHP;**  
Executive Director, 25 years

**Dr. Lori Wennstedt, Ph.D.;**  
Licensed Psychologist: 25 years

**Kimberly Rutten;**  
Administrative Services Supervisor: 25 years

## By The Numbers

HopeSpoke is proud to serve a diverse group of individuals from across our community. Data below represents individuals and families served in the Outpatient and School Based Therapy Programs.

### Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

### Age

1-5	2%
6-12	45%
13-18	26%
19+	27%

### Income

\$0	7%
\$1-\$19,999	21%
\$20,000-\$34,999	22%
\$35,000-\$49,999	19%
\$50,000+	15%
Not collected	16%

### Race

American Indian/Alaskan Native	2%
Asian	1%
Black/African American	8%
Multiracial	8%
White	57%
Other	1%
Declined to Report/Not Collected	22%

### Ethnicity

Hispanic/Latino	10%
Not Hispanic/Latino	51%
Declined to Report/Not Collected	39%

## Give a Gift of Hope

Your generous support gives youth and families in our community the opportunity to find healing and hope through an array of mental health programming.

To make your Gift of Hope:

Visit [hopespoke.org/donate](https://hopespoke.org/donate)

Mail your gift to HopeSpoke | 2444 O Street | Lincoln, NE 68510

Call 402.475.7666 to make your gift by phone

Thank you for helping to ensure children, teens, and families can receive the mental health care they need in times of crisis.

HopeSpoke is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax ID 47-0398819. Your gift is tax deductible as allowable by law.



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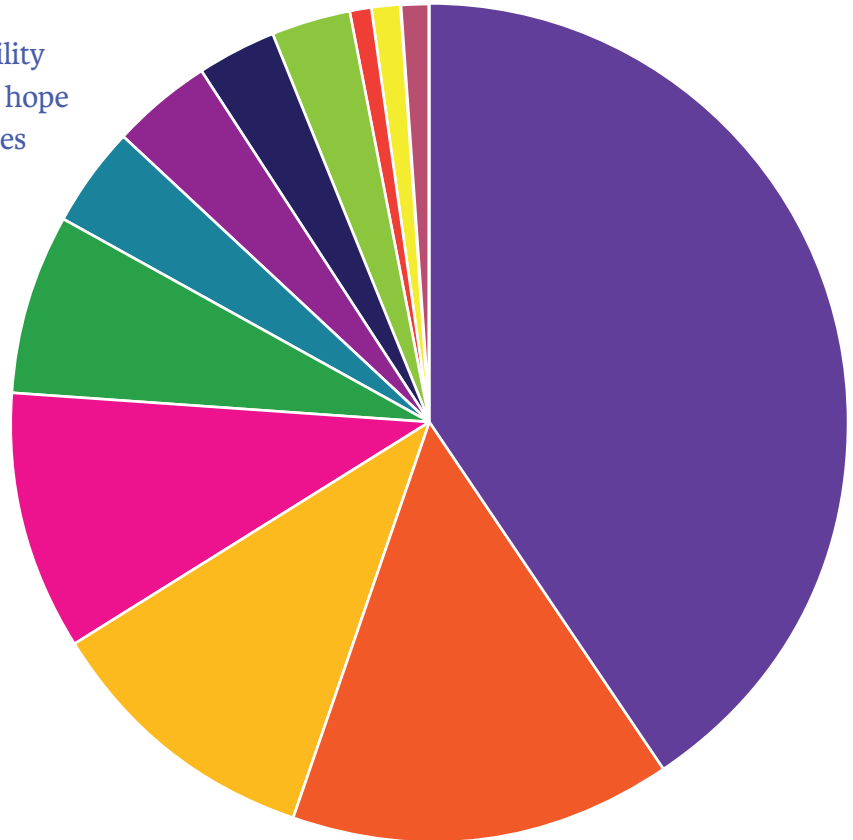
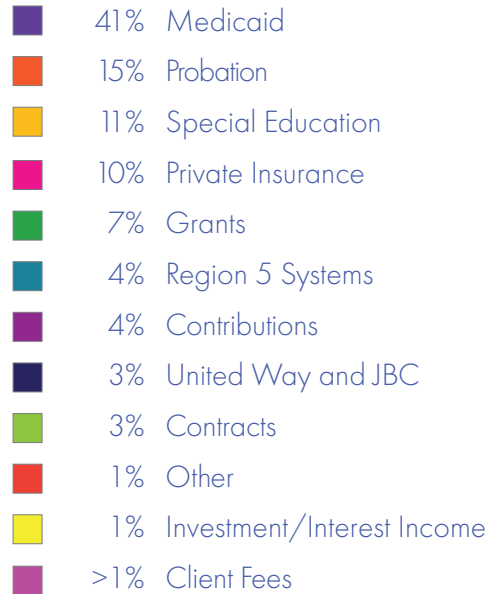
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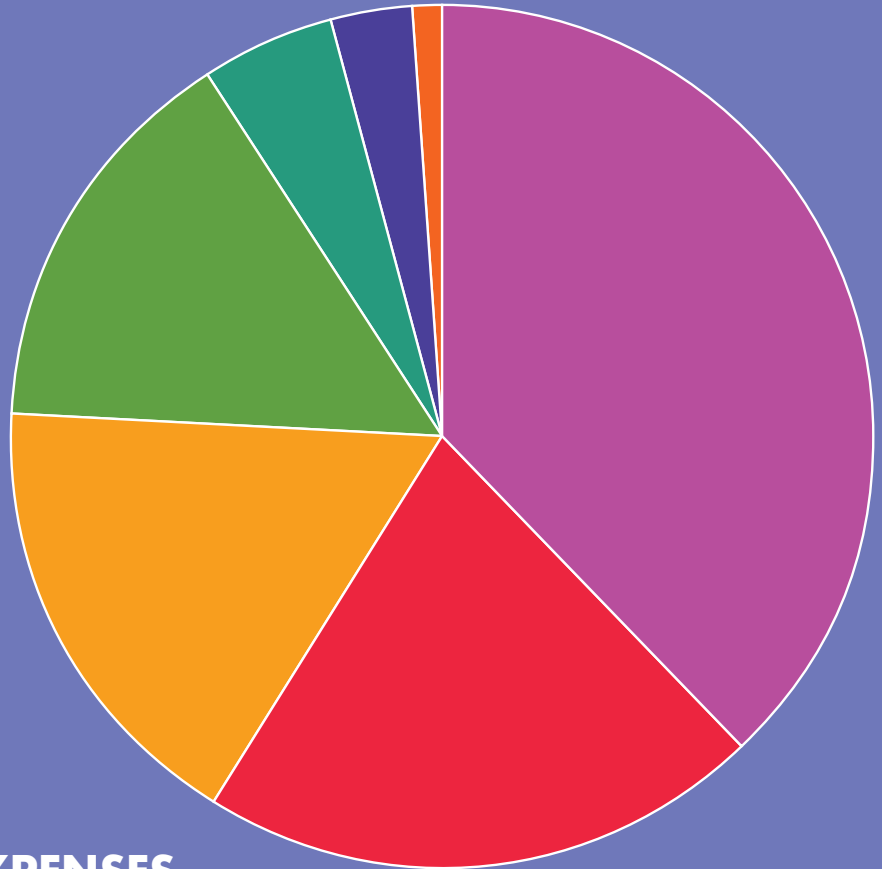
## Financial Forward Motion

Strategic decisions allowed us to build stability and invest over **\$6.5 million** in bringing hope and healing to over 500 children and families in 2024-2025.



**REVENUE**

- 38% Therapeutic Group Home
- 21% Outpatient Programs
- 17% Administration
- 15% Extended Day Treatment
- 5% BHECN/APRA Grant Funding
- 3% Fundraising
- 1% Community Programming



## EXPENSES

## Leadership Team

Wendi Anderson, MSEd, LIMHP, Executive Director & Outpatient Services Director  
Whitney Kuhn, MPA, Community & Employee Engagement Director  
Maggie Montoya, MS, Development Director  
Jackie Prater, LICSW, Extended Day Treatment Program Director  
Pat Sailors, MA, LIMHP, Crisis & Residential Services Director  
Brad Schiltz, Finance Director  
Kelly Theilen, Human Resources Director  
Alicia Waltman, MA, LIMHP, LADC, LPC, Outpatient Services Director

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\*Joined Board in July 2025



Inspiring Children & Families to Move Forward

2444 O Street, Lincoln, NE 68510  
402.475.7666 [HopeSpoke.org](https://www.HopeSpoke.org)



Funded in part by the Department of Health and Human Services and Region 5 Systems. The Outpatient Programming is funded 9.6% (\$118,000) and Therapeutic Consult 100% (\$15,986) from Region 5 Systems through DHHS Contract Number 88473-Y3, contracted through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health. Additionally, the Outpatient Programming is funded by 34.9% (\$430,082) by Nongovernmental and/or local sources and 55% (\$684,680) by Medicaid.