

Educate.



Empower.



Enrich.

Annual Report 2013


FamilyWise

Dear Friends,

This past year has been exciting and energizing as our staff, board and new leadership team worked to build on a strong foundation for FamilyWise to thrive in the years to come. One of our young parents asked us, "Why would someone who doesn't even know me want to help me and my children?" We believe there are many reasons that you support us.

We believe that every child deserves to be safe. FamilyWise continues its work with the Hennepin County Safe Havens collaborative, a federally funded initiative. We began training family court advocates, lawyers, referees, and judges on the availability of resources. Our plan was approved by the Office of Violence Against Women, and we have started to provide services under the grant, improving the safety of domestic violence victims through access to supervised parenting time.

We believe that we are a wise investment. FamilyWise finished last year with a modest surplus, and our families achieved positive outcomes. Our First Step Early Childhood Education Center has achieved both national accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children and has received the highest possible rating of 4 stars from Parent Aware.

We believe that great parents are not born, they are taught. FamilyWise has always been known for our work with families facing multiple barriers and challenges, families for whom help has not been successful. Several years ago, we committed to add earlier intervention to our services for families that have a history of poverty, substance abuse, mental health concerns, homelessness and/or abuse or neglect. In 2013, we realized this goal by expanding our

Parent Support Outreach Program into Anoka and Hennepin Counties. This voluntary, preventive program connects families with services to stabilize them, and allow them to move forward on their goals. We also continue to expand our services to young parents, offering groups in several community locations.

We believe that we need innovative approaches to solving complex problems that are affecting families. Last year, we saw several staff complete the credentialing process as Wraparound facilitators and coaches. Wraparound is a nationally recognized evidence-based practice, which works to keep youth with mental health or behavioral health disorders living with their families and with the community. It is an innovative approach to addressing the achievement gap.

Thank you for believing in us!



Cindy Orbovich
Cindy Orbovich
Board President

Ann Gaasch
Ann Gaasch
Executive Director

Our Mission Promote social change by strengthening families and the community through programs that encourage self-determination, self-sufficiency, and healthy lifestyles. We:

- **Educate** parents on skills needed to lead self-sufficient lives and provide safe homes for their children.
- **Empower** families to achieve self-sufficiency and to advocate for themselves and their children.
- **Enrich** the lives of children, youth and families, enabling them to lead healthy, productive family lifestyles.

Financial Report

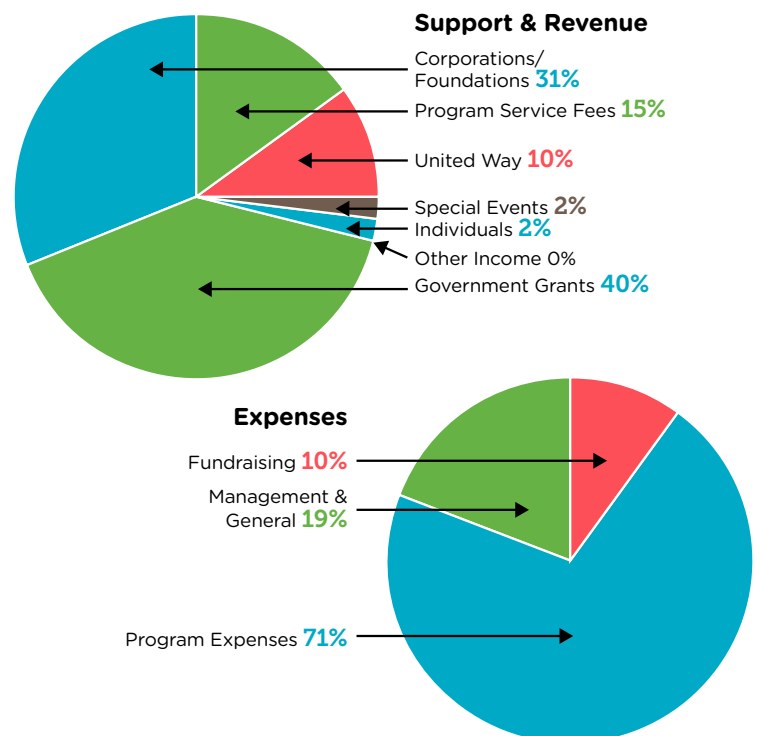
Statement of Financial Position

Cash	\$843,944
Other Current Assets	400,463
Noncurrent Assets	796,491
Total Assets	\$2,040,898
Current Liabilities	95,277
Long-Term Liabilities	322,538
Net Assets	1,623,083
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,040,898

Summary of Expenses

Supervised Parenting and Safe Exchange	\$674,203
First Step Early Childhood Education	281,283
High Fidelity Wraparound	149,129
Adult Parent Education	243,708
Bright Beginnings Youth Parenting Services	146,876
Parent Assessments	20,358
Total Program Expenses	\$1,515,557
Management and General	400,241
Fundraising	213,972
Total Annual Expenses	\$2,129,770

Complete financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2013, audited by Carpenter Evert & Associates, Ltd., are available for inspection.



Educate.

First Step, our nationally-accredited childcare center, was chosen to host the Grammy Award winning *Okee Dokee Brothers* last fall. *First Step* has a "Four Star Parent Aware Rating" and prepares children from all walks of life for kindergarten success. The band performed songs for our children, their families and teachers. The event was coordinated by *ChildCare Aware of Minnesota* to demonstrate what high quality early care and education programs look like. FamilyWise was thrilled to have celebrities here, along with several members of the media.

All of our programs help **educate** families on the skills needed to lead stable lives and provide safe homes for their children. At FamilyWise, we believe that every child deserves the same chance in life, no matter what their economic or ethnic background may be.



91% of children demonstrated age appropriate development

92% of our families achieved a non-abusive, drug free home



Empower.

Before Amy and her family were referred to FamilyWise, they had been struggling for many years with little hope of things getting better. Amy and her three younger siblings were removed from the home by Child Protection, but eventually returned to live with their mother. They were referred to FamilyWise's Wraparound program to ease the turmoil in their lives and home. Wraparound is aimed at preventing kids with severe behavioral/mental health issues from ending up in residential treatment or correctional facilities. Our highly-trained staff builds a support network around the family and empowers them to be the best they can be.

Through the "Wrap" process, Amy found a safe place to live, got a part-time job, graduated high school and is applying to college. "I was literally "wrapped" around people who genuinely cared about me reaching my goals. My future looks good and I'm happy for the first time in a very long time."

Enrich.

A man and his young son stopped into our St. Paul office just to say hello. The Dad said they had used our Supervised Visitation services last year while going through a difficult custody situation. Although mom and dad weren't together, they were able to work through things and get back on track. He told us that his son just wanted to visit the office because he had so many fond memories of FamilyWise.

What a fantastic reminder that even though we are often only in the lives of these families for just a snippet of time, what a positive impact we make. We truly **enrich** the lives of everyone who walks through our doors by treating them with the love and understanding they deserve.



92% of children remained in their parents' care while in programming

Thank you to our donors for their support and generosity! We acknowledge the following donors whose monetary or in-kind gifts were received from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. We apologize for any inadvertent error of omission from our list of donors. Please contact our Development Officer at 612-877-7844 to report a correction.

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We ♥ our Volunteers!

More than 350 volunteers came to lend us a hand last year, contributing 26,938 hours of service. Using the Independent Sector's estimated wage calculator, our volunteers' time is valued at almost \$600,000 dollars! A special thanks to our Board of Directors for guiding us to achieve mission-driven results.

Congratulations



David and Helene Schultz were honored as our Volunteers of the Year for their years of service in preparing meals for teens in our programs. They expanded the teens' culinary taste buds while giving them a "taste" of what it means to give from the heart.

Interns & Externs

The boundless energy and time contributed by our interns and externs is invaluable to our families. The 83 interns and externs who helped us in 2013 came from colleges and universities throughout the country, and we are grateful for their service and expertise.

Kressin Memorial Fund Internship Award

George Kressin was an inspiration to all who knew him. FamilyWise was fortunate to have him as our Clinical Supervisor until his death in May 2013. The Kressin Memorial Fund was established to continue his legacy and provides a cash award to an outstanding former intern each year.

Congratulations to Laura Welper on being named the first recipient of the award. Laura exemplifies our organizational values and Mr. Kressin's commitment in working with families and the community.



Volunteer Groups

These groups took on projects that made a difference at our facilities and events! From cleaning and painting to planting and designing, we so appreciate their hard work.

- Church of the Open Door
- Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
- Fusion Hill
- Girl Scout Troop #52490
- Leadership Twin Cities
- National Honor Society—North St. Paul High School
- Sam's Club
- Target & Target Garden Club
- United Health Group
- US Bank

Adopt-a-Family Holiday Sponsors

The holidays wouldn't be the same without the volunteers who participated in our Adopt-a-Family campaign. More than 60 groups purchased presents for our children and families with a value exceeding \$10,000 dollars.

Special Thanks



For 15 years, North St. Paul High School (led by their National Honor Society) raised money to throw an extraordinary holiday party for our families. The "Yay for Toys" campaign has been a true act of community service and has earned the school the honors of being named our Community Partner of the Year.

Thanks again to all our generous volunteers. We welcome you to join us as well, with opportunities for all levels of commitment. Call 612.877.7826 or visit our website FamilyWiseServices.org/volunteer.

Our Clients

**90% of those served by FamilyWise live below the poverty line
62% are from communities of color**

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Director E-Commerce, Best Buy
Marty Zanger, *Vice-President*
Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin
Cindy Orbovich, *Secretary*
Independent Consultant
Julie McGrover, *Treasurer*
Lead Financial Analyst, Target Corporation

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Judy Altmaier, *Vice President Operations and Quality Management, The Toro Company*
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Phillip Hampton, *Professor, Concordia University*
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Pheng Thao, *Consultant Resource Trainer, A Call to Men*
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