ANNUAL REPORT
2019

STRENGTHENING THE LIVES OF YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Briarpatch Youth Services
FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends and Supporters:

Briarpatch has provided services to youth and families in Dane County since 1971. The agency has experienced numerous changes during the last four plus decades including a merger with Community Adolescent Programs in 2003 and the 2015 opening of the first ever shelter in Dane County dedicated to serving runaway and homeless youth.

Briarpatch staff and volunteers consistently work to help youth and families achieve success in their lives through the provision of a broad range of services. In addition to our shelter for homeless and runaway youth, we provide street outreach services to connect homeless youth and young adults to the resources they need. An overview of the other services provided by Briarpatch is included in this report.

During 2019, we continued our long-standing partnerships with Dane County, the City of Madison, and the United Way of Dane County. These three entities provide Briarpatch with essential resources that help us meet the needs of the youth and families we serve.

Throughout our many years of service to the community, Briarpatch has consistently maintained a commitment to helping at-risk youth and their families find a positive path forward. As we approach our 50th year of service to the citizens of Dane County, we are thankful for the countless community partners, donors, and other supporters who have helped make this journey possible.

With Gratitude,

Casey S. Behrend
Executive Director

Kate Reilly
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Pictured here, Madison Summer Team Youth who worked with Dane Arts Mural Arts (DAMA) to create the mural at Willy Street Coop.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CASEY BEHREND
Executive Director and CEO
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH

- 861 nights of shelter provided
- 1,278 volunteer hours provided
- 97% of youth exited to a safe living situation
- 983 adults and 234 youth received assistance through our 24-hour helpline

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH PROGRAM

This program provides runaway and homeless youth ages 12-17 with individual counseling, family counseling, crisis intervention, temporary shelter and case management services as needed. Each youth served participates in a comprehensive needs assessment and then helps develop a plan to meet those needs. Helping youth find safe stable housing is one of the primary objectives of the program.

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our street outreach team works with homeless young adults and runaway/homeless youth and helps connect these young people to resources they need to be safe and healthy. Program clients may receive personal care items, STI/HIV prevention materials, referrals to meal sites, temporary shelter and other services as appropriate.

PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Parent Support Program helps parents and caregivers of youth experiencing challenges such as substance abuse, running away from home, family conflicts, and/or mental health problems. Services provided include assessment, case management, and brief counseling.
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play an instrumental role in the services Briarpatch provides to youth and families. We utilize volunteers to support the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program. Volunteer duties include:

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program
• Answering our 24-hour helpline
• Providing support during counseling sessions
• Assisting with data collection
• Providing support to staff during group activities with youth
• Helping youth staying in our shelter with daily living activities
“I learned that having a job is more helpful than depending on other people.”

“We learned how to work with others and not to be a follower, but a leader, also teamwork.”
• 42 youth participated on Summer Employment Teams
• Youth worked a total of 4,300 hours during the summer
• Youth earned over $37,000 in wages

TEENS LIKE US

Teens Like Us is a weekly drop-in support and social group for 13-18 year old LGBTQ+ youth, youth questioning their sexuality, and youth from LGBT-headed families. Youth learn healthy coping and problem solving skills through group discussions and plan and participate in social activities.

YOUTH JOB CENTER

The Youth Job Center is an employment resource center for at-risk youth seeking employment. Services provided include training on: how to complete a job application, effective interviewing techniques, basic financial literacy, effective communication skills, resume writing, and job search techniques. Youth may also receive job search assistance and post-job placement mentoring as needed.

SUPPORT FOR SUCCESS

Support for Success is an activities-based employment training program designed to provide support and work opportunities for youth. Teens who need additional time and training are referred to this program to develop the skills needed for success in the workplace.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The Madison Summer Team provides a first-time work opportunity for youth ages 14-15. Youth engage in neighborhood-based work and participate in activities designed to improve self-esteem and promote teamwork. Adult staff supervise each work activity and provide mentoring and support for youth participants.
BALANCED & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

- 2,706 hours of community service completed
- $38,112 in restitution payments were made
- 90% successfully completed their obligations

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM

The Restorative Justice Program offers an alternative to the traditional municipal court system by providing eligible youth an opportunity to complete an individually tailored restorative justice agreement in lieu of paying a fine issued by a municipal court judge.

YOUTH RESTITUTION PROGRAM

The Youth Restitution Program provides support and mentoring for youthful offenders as they work to pay restitution and/or complete court-ordered community service hours. Briarpatch staff develop and supervise community service projects and collect restitution payments from youth.

INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM

Youth referred for intensive supervision services have the opportunity to remain in their homes and receive support from Briarpatch staff while they complete their court-ordered obligations. Services provided include mentoring, support for parents/caregivers, curfew monitoring, and support for school attendance.

“[Restorative Justice Program] gives you another way that is more meaningful than a ticket, you learn from your mistakes.”

- Participating youth
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

OUR SUPPORTERS

Briarpatch Youth Services is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation. We are deeply grateful for the generous donors who support our mission of Strengthening Lives of Youth and Families.

2019 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Revenue: $2,916,101

Expenses: $2,725,182
  Program Operations: $2,317,542
  Administration and Fundraising: $407,640

2019 GRANT DONORS:

- By Youth For Youth
- Capital Times KIDS Fund
- City of Madison
- City of Sun Prairie
- Covenant Presbyterian Church
- The Cremer Foundation
- Dane County
- Epic Systems Corporation
- Eppstein Uhen Foundation
- The Evjue Foundation
- John J. Frautschi Family Foundation, Inc.
- Good Family Foundation
- Herb Kohl Foundation
- Jack DeLoss Taylor Charitable Trust
- Kiwanis Downtown Madison
- Madison Community Foundation
- Madison Rotary Foundation
- Magic Pebble Foundation
- Mid-West Family Broadcasting
- National Guardian Life Insurance Company
- New Harvest Foundation
- State of Wisconsin
- Thomas S. Kemp Foundation
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- United Way of Dane County
- Village of Cottage Grove
- Willy Street Co-op Community Reinvestment Fund

TYPES OF SOLICITATIONS

- Direct mail appeals
- Grant proposals
- Verbal requests for donations
- Special events

All contributions are used to support the agency’s work with youth and families. Donors may designate their contribution(s) for a specific use. These donations are classified as restricted until expended consistent with the donor’s wishes.