



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



MISSION STATEMENT

STRENGTHENING THE LIVES
OF YOUTH AND FAMILIES

OUR CORE BELIEFS

Youth are valuable assets who represent
the future of our community

Teamwork, cultural competence, and adaptability
are the foundations of our success

Collaborations and partnerships
strengthen communities

Measuring program outcomes
promotes effectiveness
and accountability



HISTORY

Founded in 1971,
Briarpatch Youth Services
is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit
organization. The agency serves
approximately 3,000 runaway,
homeless, and at-risk youth and
young adults each year.

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

DEAR FRIENDS,

During 2017, we celebrated the third year anniversary of the opening of our facility at 2720 Rimrock Road in Madison. We continue to enjoy the added space this facility provides for services to youth and families, including our shelter for homeless and runaway youth. In 2017, our shelter more than doubled the number of nights, (1,138), of safe shelter provided to youth compared to 2016.

Since 1971, Briarpatch staff and volunteers have worked 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.

We also continued our long-standing relationships 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.

Briarpatch also received support from hundreds of individual donors, from corporations, and from a variety of foundations during 2017. These donations support many of the services we provide including our youth shelter, our youth employment programming, and our youth peer courts.

Gratefully,



Casey S. Behrend
Executive Director



Kate Reilly
Chairperson, Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Retired

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Vice-Chairperson,
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Youth
Representative

Penny Simmons
MMSD

Casey Behrend
Executive Director

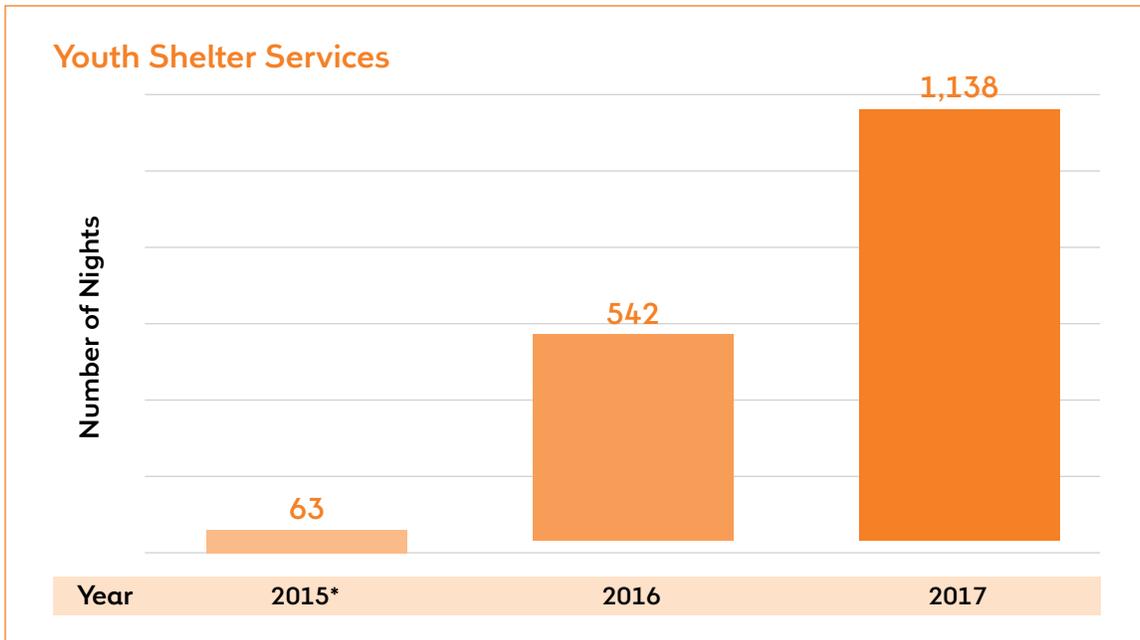
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH

Our staff and volunteers help reunite youth with their families when possible and provide youth with support services including: individual and family counseling, temporary shelter, and case management.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES



The Briarpatch Youth Shelter provides temporary shelter and other services to homeless and runaway youth as well as to youth at risk of separation from their family. This eight bed facility welcomes youth of all gender identities ages 12-17. There are an estimated 300 youth in Dane County who are homeless every night. Our shelter provides these youth with a safe alternative to the streets.



*Shelter opened October 1, 2015

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Briarpatch Street Outreach Team serves at-risk youth and young adults who are homeless, runaways, or avoiding unsafe home environments. Staff and trained volunteers connect homeless youth and homeless young adults with resources they need to be safe and healthy.

Our Street Outreach Team served 3,270 homeless individuals during 2017.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

Briarpatch's Transitional Living Program provides housing for up to 18 months for homeless young adults ages 18 to 21. The program employs a positive youth development model providing support, advocacy, counseling, and case management with a goal of helping guide young people into independent living.

Transitional Living Program staff helped 26 young adults find permanent housing and 16 young adults find temporary housing or emergency shelter.

YOUTH JOB CENTER

The Youth Job Center's primary goal is to help youth ages 14-18 with barriers to employment develop the skills necessary for success in the workplace. Using an evidence-based curriculum, teens have the opportunity to learn and practice essential pre-employment skills including: how to complete a job application, effective interviewing techniques, financial literacy, competent communication, resume writing, and job search techniques. In addition, youth receive post-job placement mentoring as needed.

The Youth Job Center served 134 youth during 2017.

SUPPORT FOR SUCCESS

Support For Success is an activities-based employment training program designed to provide support and work opportunities for youth. This program works with teens ages 14-18 who are interested in employment, but may need additional time and training to develop the skills necessary to succeed in the work place.

40 teens participated in 750 hours of paid training and work experience during 2017.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

During 2017, 94 teens participated in paid work experiences totaling more than 8,900 hours of employment and earning approximately \$70,000 in wages.

MADISON STREET TEAM

The Madison Street Team provides teens ages 14-15 the chance to work and learn in a safe and supportive environment. Before beginning work, teens receive several hours of employment readiness training focusing on team-building, leadership skills, and developing a positive work ethic. The teams work in targeted neighborhoods throughout Madison and focus on projects that help build stronger and more resilient communities.

FARM & GARDEN

This program is a partnership between Briarpatch and a locally-owned and operated farm. Farm & Garden is designed for teens aged 15 and older who have some prior work experience and are looking to further develop their skills in a more independent, but supportive work environment. Teens work with farm staff and supervisors to plant, grow, and harvest a variety of vegetables which are donated to local food pantries.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Our Parent Support Program is designed to assist concerned parents and caregivers who have a child or teen who is struggling with drug/alcohol use or dependency, mental health issues, truancy, educational concerns, chronic runaway behaviors, sexual orientation or gender identity challenges, self-destructive behaviors, difficulty with interpersonal relationships and/or parent/child conflicts.

Services provided include case management and brief counseling. In addition, staff facilitated Parent Support Groups are provided monthly.

During 2017, 90 youth and parents participated in 22 support groups and 613 hours of counseling was provided.



TEENS LIKE US

Teens Like Us is a weekly drop-in social/support group for 13-18 year old LGBTQ+ youth. Founded over 20 years ago, Teens Like Us provides a safe place for youth to meet with their peers, socialize, and plan special events. Teens Like Us also serves youth from LGBTQ-headed families.

50 youth participated in 51 group sessions during 2017.

COURT INVOLVED YOUTH

YOUTH RESTITUTION PROGRAM

This program provides support and mentoring for youthful offenders as they work to pay restitution and/or complete court-ordered community service hours. Briarpatch staff helps youth find employment, collects restitution payments from youth, and forwards these payments to victims. Our staff also develops and supervises community service projects for program participants.

During 2017, more than 400 program participants performed 3,601 hours of community service and made \$36,496 in restitution payments. Since 1978, program participants have paid \$1,684,350 to victims of juvenile crime in Dane County.

INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM

The Intensive Supervision Program provides court-involved youth with the opportunity to remain in their homes and receive support in completing their court-ordered obligations. Intensive supervision diverts youth from expensive out-of-home placements in group homes, residential treatment centers, or youth correctional facilities. Services include individual counseling, mentoring, parental support, curfew monitoring, and support for school attendance.

Throughout the year, 145 youth received program services. 82% of these youth successfully completed the program by complying with their court-order and avoiding further law violations.

YOUTH PEER COURT

Youth Peer Court is a voluntary program which serves as an alternative to the traditional municipal court system. The program addresses violations such as truancy and retail theft. In participating municipalities, the program offers first-time offenders between the ages of 12 and 16 the opportunity to have their cases heard by a jury of their peers instead of having their case handled by a municipal court.

Briarpatch collaborates with schools, local police departments, municipal courts, families and other concerned groups to arrange a more immediate and meaningful experience for young people. Youth peer courts provide an opportunity for youth to volunteer in their community, to learn about the judicial system, and to learn about responsible citizenship. For youthful offenders, the peer court experience provides the same learning opportunities while also offering youth the chance to avoid having a municipal court record.

During 2017, 17 volunteer jurors heard 231 cases.

2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE:
\$2,964,048

EXPENSES:
\$2,699,058

— Program Operations: \$2,180,753

— Space: \$148,516

— Administration and Fundraising: \$369,789

OUR SUPPORTERS

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

TYPES OF SOLICITATIONS

- Direct mail appeals
- Grant Proposals
- Verbal Requests for Donations
- Special Events

USE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

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.

Briarpatch Youth Services received "Program/Agency of the Year" award from Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals.



Briarpatch

Youth Services

24-HOUR HELP-LINE

608.251.1126 • 800.798.1126 (Toll-Free)

TEXT 608.285.2776

www.briarpatch.org • EMAIL: contact@briarpatch.org

608.245.2550 • FAX: 608.245.2551

Telecommunications Relay Service (711)

2720 Rimrock Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53713-3337

