Minnesota Communities Caring for Children
Annual Report to the Community
Fiscal Year 2017

Empowering Parents and Communities

Building Supportive Relationships

Nurturing Children

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect
**Mission**

Our mission is to **empower** parents and communities to build **supportive** relationships, **nurture** children, and **prevent** child abuse and neglect.

**Vision**

We envision a state where all children are given the opportunity for a healthy future.

**Values**

**Strengths of All Parents**

All parents need to be supported in their efforts to develop their strengths as caring adults.

**Amplifying the Parent’s Voice**

By amplifying their voices, parents can find the efficacy and power to affect change in the home and the community.

**Combining Science with Community Wisdom**

The best approaches to preventing child abuse combine science-based strategies with community wisdom.

**Transforming Systems**

Working together, parents and communities can transform punitive systems and negative cultural norms into successful approaches that address violence, trauma, and racism.

**Staff**

**Kate Bailey**
Development Director

**Susan Beaulieu**
Director of the NEAR Science and Tribal Wisdom Project

**Becky Dale**
Chief Operating Officer

**Lisa Deputie**
Director of Prevention Initiatives – Metro Area

**Roxy Foster**
Director of Prevention Initiatives – Central and Northeastern MN

**Shelley Jacobson**
Chief Executive Officer

**Jeannette Lewis**
Program Assistant

**Rena Moran**
Director of Parent Leadership

**Beth Nagovsky**
Finance Manager

**Corelle Nakamura**
Evaluation and Community Education Manager

**Chris Pommerenke**
Chief Advancement Officer

**Isabel Ruelas**
Development and Communications Assistant

**Barb Sorum**
Director of Prevention Initiatives – Southern MN

**Mary Weaver**
Director of Prevention Initiatives – Northern MN
Dear Friends,

By partnering with communities, businesses, and public and private funders over the past 38 years, Minnesota Communities Caring for Children (MCCC) has empowered thousands of parents in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. We know that our work is making a difference in the lives of children and families across Minnesota, and that today there is growing need for our services.

In 2016 more than 39,500 Minnesota children were the subject of maltreatment reports, a 25% increase from 2015. Due to the recent rise in opioid and methamphetamine addiction, substance abuse and neglect are now the most frequent reasons for children to be removed from their homes. This reinforces what we know – that child maltreatment is often the result of a caregiver’s lack of skills and supports.

As a contributor to MCCC, you are part of the solution. Your support recognizes that what we do matters for parents that want to change themselves, their families, their communities, and the systems that are meant to serve them. Your generosity makes it possible for MCCC to find, support, and amplify the voices of these parents and caregivers as leaders and prevention advocates across Minnesota.

In Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017), MCCC’s prevention programs reached more than 3,500 parents and children statewide. We also created a new three-year strategic plan. As part of the strategic planning process, MCCC revitalized our mission, vision, and values statements as well as our organizational goals and objectives. We are confident that the new messages will clarify and strengthen the work that we do at MCCC, and hope that you feel the same way.

Whether you donated, volunteered, attended an event, or partnered with us – thank you for standing with MCCC in FY17 and supporting our vision to create a state where all children are given the opportunity for a healthy future.

Victoria Karpeh
Board Chair

Shelley Jacobson
Chief Executive Officer
ACE INTERFACE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study and subsequent research studies demonstrate that exposure to adversity early in life can lead to negative health and social outcomes in adulthood. Using the national ACE Interface curriculum, MCCC develops the capacity of individuals as certified ACE Interface Trainers and Presenters so they can raise awareness about the effects of trauma and the promise of prevention in their communities. In FY17, Trainers and Presenters provided 145 educational presentations to more than 1,000 individuals in 30 counties. MCCC also hosted the 2016 Midwest Regional ACE Summit, a gathering that brought nearly 300 people together in shared learning about issues of historical and community trauma as well as successful strategies for helping individuals and communities heal, build resiliency, and prevent ACEs.

Tribal NEAR* Science and Community Wisdom Project

In partnership with the Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN Center for Prevention, the Tribal NEAR* Science and Community Wisdom Project began in 2015 with the aim of building the capacity of tribal communities to address challenging health and social issues related to childhood trauma. This project: raises awareness by providing ACE Interface presentations; trains Presenters to build capacity and broaden community awareness; and facilitates community action planning to support healing and building resilience. In FY17, MCCC partnered with four tribes on this project – White Earth, Fond du Lac, Lower Sioux, and Leech Lake.

*Neurobiology, Epigenetics, ACEs, and Resiliency

DAVE ELLIS, ACE INTERFACE TRAINER

“The day I heard about the ACE study was the day I realized I wasn’t crazy.

When you find out something new that is so impactful to you, you try to figure out what to do with it. One of the things I wanted to do was move that information into the community, to the people who are most impacted. That was six years ago, and I have been training ever since.

I’ve [presented] over a hundred times in the last six years, and every time I do someone comes up to me and says ‘You know, I’ve heard this many times but this is the first time I don’t feel like I’m crazy; you’re actually validating what I thought was true.’ And that’s the place where we want people to get – where they can hear the information without the shame and blame attached and then begin to want to do something about it.

The state keeps asking how to resolve things like the achievement gap and disparities in the criminal justice system, but they continue to try to fix things the same way they always have – they’re still dealing with symptoms and not the causes.

WHAT MCCC IS DOING IS BRINGING PEOPLE TO A POINT OF LOOKING AT ROOT CAUSES. MY HOPE IS THAT THE STATE WILL FINALLY BEGIN TO HEAR AND THAT MCCC WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THIS CHARGE, BECAUSE IT IS TRULY THE ONLY THING THAT I SEE THAT REALLY GIVES ME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.”
The Parent Leadership for Child Safety and Permanency (PLCSP) Program has been a partnership of MCCC and the MN Department of Human Services (DHS) division of Child Safety and Permanency since 2009. The program empowers parents in the prevention of child maltreatment and gives parents a voice within DHS for improving the child protection system, particularly in reducing racial disparities. As part of this program, leadership training is provided to a group of 25 Parent Leaders over a three-year period. The intent is to increase Parent Leaders’ skills and influence so they can effectively articulate their experience, add value in their communities and on task forces within DHS, and ultimately contribute to a reduction in incidents of abuse, neglect, and out-of-home placement (foster care).

SHANA KING, PARENT LEADER

“I am a mother of 5 who grew up in the foster care system. I was removed from my parents’ home because of severe abuse. I lost all ties to my family. I was this broken child who grew up to be a broken adult. I wanted to change. I was tired of having no money and living off the system but I had no skills, no education and no family.

It wasn’t until I came to MCCC to be a part of the PLCSP team that I learned about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and that I had a very high score. I also learned about the protective factors and though I had resiliency, I didn’t know what it was or how important it was to have. I built my social connections through MCCC and learned so much about myself. One of my favorite parts of being a part of MCCC was being able to go back to those agencies that helped me and have classes to help parents who were in the position I once was.

SHANA KING, PARENT LEADER

“Without places like MCCC I would have never had the lessons to help me heal as an adult. I would have never built the relationships I have in my community and found my voice.”

Parent Leaders were involved in the PLCSP Program in FY17

42 PARENT LEADERS

Last year, Parent Leaders spent 1,700 hours raising awareness.
As the Minnesota Chapter of Circle of Parents, MCCC partners with communities to offer facilitated support groups for parents and children throughout the state. At group sessions, parents support each other and develop leadership skills that transfer to their families and communities. Participants meet in a supportive environment to share their concerns and frustrations, and to identify and commit to their own personal parenting goals. Participants are guided by volunteer facilitators that are trained by MCCC staff. Multiple research studies show that Circle of Parents successfully increases protective factors – attributes that strengthen families and reduce the likelihood that child abuse will occur.

98% of participants surveyed said that they are more confident in their parenting skills as a result of attending group sessions.

1,261 parents were served in 43 groups across Minnesota.

“Home Free is a domestic violence shelter for women and children that has had Circle of Parents groups since 1998. I personally became involved with the Circle of Parents groups when I became the Children’s Program Coordinator in 2007 at Home Free.

It is rewarding to see moms reach out for guidance to learn new ideas about parenting their children and make healthy steps to raise their children free of violence. I love the concept [of Circle of Parents], which offers parents the ability to share their own experiences with other parents, about what successes they have had and what hasn’t work so well.

I believe that [Circle of Parents] groups are important because they help moms not just get information from the facilitator, but get information and learn from each other. It is important for each parent to be able to understand that there is not just one right way to parent a child and that each child is unique, based on life experiences. That we can and we must raise our children free of violence and find other alternatives. What works for one family may not work for the other, but we keep trying and reach out for guidance. We all bring something to the conversation, and it is important to keep an open mind and listen to what others have to share.”
Each year, Minnesota Communities Caring for Children honors individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond in making the world a better place for children.

Mike, Kris, and Dave have all played vital roles in coordinating the Radiothon to End Child Abuse. Since 1994, people in the Brainerd, Bemidji, and Alexandria communities and surrounding counties have contributed donations totaling $1,132,198 to support the work of MCCC and local Child Abuse Prevention Councils. The Radiothon has significantly increased awareness of child abuse and neglect.

Nacole is a passionate advocate for causes that change people’s lives through education and leadership development. She is a former MCCC Board Chair.

Elizabeth is an attorney whose work with families includes helping children and women advocate for their rights and navigate legal systems. She is a former MCCC Board Chair.

Sam is a counselor with over 27 years of experience as a behavioral consultant specializing in culturally sensitive, trauma informed work with African American communities.

THE JACOB WETTERLING RESOURCE CENTER

Each year, we honor an organization that helps vulnerable youth develop resiliency so they can be successful adults. The award was created to honor Lou Buron and Mary Campbell of Omni Broadcasting for their commitment to child abuse prevention in Minnesota.

Patty and Jerry Wetterling became advocates for protecting children from abuse in 1989 when their son Jacob was abducted. In 1990, the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center was formed by the Wetterlings along with many committed community members. Their mission is to educate the public about who takes children, how they do it, and what each of us can do to stop it.
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
Year Ending June 30, 2017

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Pledges and Contributions $ 352,089
Special Events
  Revenue $ 58,125
  Expenses $(53,173)
Government Grants and Contracts $ 564,817
Education and Engagement $ 1,816
Training and Conferences $ 49,141
Other Services $ 199,021
Other Revenue $ 7,598
Total Support and Revenue $ 1,179,434

EXPENSES

Program Services $ 921,056
Support Services
  Management and General $ 148,026
  Fundraising $ 74,424
Total Expenses $ 1,143,506

Revenue Over Expense $ 35,928

Revenue Recognized in Prior Year Designated for Use in the Current Fiscal Year Due to Multi-Year Grants and Contracts $ -

Net Operating Surplus $ 35,928

BALANCE SHEETS

Total Current Assets $ 488,637
Property and Equipment $ 6,062
Total Assets $ 519,592

Total Liabilities $ 58,356
Total Net Assets $ 461,236
Total Liabilities and Net Assets $ 519,592
### Thank You to Our Donors

**VISIONARIES:**
- $10,000+
  - Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN
  - Center for Prevention
  - Casey Family Programs
  - F. R. Bigelow Foundation
  - Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation
  - George Family Foundation
  - Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
  - Mardag Foundation
  - Otto Bremer Foundation
  - Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
  - Peregrine Capital Management
  - Saint Paul Foundation
  - Corey Sauer

**SUSTAINERS:**
- $5,000-$9,999
  - Bush Foundation Board of Directors Fund
  - Casey Albert T. O’Neil Foundation
  - Clinton and Beth Doroff
  - Metropolitan Regional Arts Council
  - Virginia Morris
  - United Healthcare Corporation

**CAPACITY BUILDERS:**
- $1,000-$4,999
  - Norah Bringer
  - Mary Ann Campbell
  - East Minneapolis Exchange Club
  - Kellie Erickson
  - Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc.
  - Initiative Foundation
  - Interstates Construction Services
  - Shelley Jacobson
  - Nacole Kaai
  - Sara Knapp
  - Trina Levin
  - Elizabeth M. Melton
  - Mendon F. Schutt Family Fund
  - Nuveen Asset Management
  - Optum
  - Painters and Allied Trades for Children’s Hope (PATCH)
  - Hyilda Maria Perry
  - Robins, Kaplan, L.L.P.
  - Lorrie Sandelin and Chad Johnson
  - Erik R. Schutz
  - Securian Foundation
  - Jeffrey and Helene Slocum

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPERS:**
- $250-$999
  - Michele Abita
  - Kate Bailey
  - Stephanie Frederique Bernatchez
  - Paul and Amy Biewen
  - James Bjork
  - James and Julie Borchart
  - Nancy Brady
  - Terry and Tiowa Collier
  - John and Kathryn Colwell
  - Deborah L. Crowley
  - Peter DeLange
  - Scott Dudek
  - Michele Durkin
  - Roxy and Jim Foster
  - Adam and Holly Freeman
  - Timothy C. Gunderson
  - Jolene Hart
  - Lisa J. Hellervik
  - Joe and Mary Janet Hiller
  - Laura and Dale Holslin
  - Victoria Karpeh
  - Judy Malmon
  - Wendy Marcano
  - David McNair
  - Melinda Micek
  - MidCountry Bank
  - Kenneth and Margaret Myhre
  - Matthew Olson
  - Eric Paquette
  - Chris Pommerenke
  - Glenn and Cynthia Rowley
  - Peter Saiko
  - Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
  - Josephine Turk
  - UnitedHealth Group Employee Giving
  - Rebecca White
  - Leslie Wille
  - Reginald W. Woo

**EDUCATORS:**
- $100-$249
  - Lisa Babbs
  - Michael Bang
  - Shawn Bartsh
  - Chris Bocian
  - Ben Boyum
  - Mary Bren
  - Lynda Bruder
  - Laura Bruley
  - Dean and Wendy Crotty
  - Becky Dale
  - Jeremy Dominick
  - Michael Dominowski
  - Brad Dunham
  - Roger Ecklund
  - First National Bank Bemidji
  - John W. Fox
  - Cara Greger-Angelo
  - Amy Halverson
  - Dennis and Mary Ann Harren
  - James Hiller
  - Jeanine E. Huot
  - Susan Johnson
  - Tracy Johnson
  - William and Pat Kelly
  - Daniel J. Kinsella
  - Dan Kitrell
  - Jessica Knapp
  - Linda Knapp
  - Brian Lindeman
  - Robert H. Margolis
  - Kathryn Mayer
  - Sarah Mccoy
  - MidCountry Financial Corporation
  - Ameya Moghe
  - Rena L. Moran-Stewart
  - Karen Nestingen
  - Tracy Peck
  - Gary P. Peterson
  - Barbara Pfaender
  - Harold and Susie Richey
  - Barbara Ronningen
  - Judy Schumacher
  - Stephanie Simmons
  - Constance Y. Skillingslad
  - Barb Sorum
  - Adam Stelten
  - Sara Stern
  - Audrey Stillerman
  - Ten Thousand Villages
  - Julianne Turk
  - Desiree Wallace
  - Sandy Waryan
  - Waste Partners, Inc.
  - Jane and Thomas Watson
  - Mary Weaver

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**Why We Give**

“The reason that we give to Minnesota Communities Caring for Children is simple – all of us are called to give of our time, talent, and treasure. The talented staff and parent volunteers at MCCC give their time serving Minnesota’s communities and they need our support. While there are many worthy causes, we choose MCCC because child abuse and neglect are 100% preventable. This organization’s work to break the cycle of abuse is vital to our communities.”

– Clint and Beth Doroff

**Clint and Beth Doroff** are committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. As long-time supporters of MCCC, Clint and Beth have made significant contributions to the work of the organization. In addition to the Doroff family’s generous financial contributions, Clint served two terms on MCCC’s Board of Directors, serving for two years as the Vice Chair. Clint also led the organization’s advocacy efforts as a member of MCCC’s Public Policy Committee. In 2015, when a legislative resolution that MCCC wrote was read on the floor of the MN House of Representatives, Clint and Beth and their two children were all present to witness the special occasion.
AWARENESS RAISERS:

$1-$99
Tabitha Adams
Thomas and Karen Albrecht
Terry Alewine
Ameriprise Financial Annual Giving Campaign
Association for Training on Trauma and Attachment in Children (ATTACH)
Brendan Bannigan
Ginny Belden-Charles
Michael and Jane Bernauer
Stephen and Kristin Booth
Janet Born
Heather Bowers
Sharon Brinkman
Gregory Carlson
Ana J. Castrellon
Karen A. Cavanaugh
Mary Anne Chalkley
Brent Christen
Drew Connor
Yvonne M. Cournoyer
Rich Cowles
Crown Property Management
Jeff and Cynthia Cwikla
Barbara and Jim Dale
Glen S. de Guzman
Darlene Dorr
Phillip L. Edwardson
The Engel Family Trust
Susan Erickson
Sarah Evjen
Sam Fletcher
Brian Flory
Donald and Olivia Gault
Laurie A. Gravelle
Matt Hasz
Brittany Hill
Sally and Peter Holtz
Amy Huerta
Karen Jansky-Koll and Thomas Koll
Joan Johnson
Vince Jones
Shirley J. Kaplan
Lisa Kettering
Nicole Klimek
Virginia Kosschak
Courtney Kupsch
Donna LaDuke
Janice Lambert
Dorothy and Larry Larson
Craig Leaf
Tina Lee
Jerome M. Liefert
Brian and Rebecca Livermore
La Vonne Mayer
Mary and Charles McCready
Miles McNally
Melissa Meyer
Cynthia Micolichek
Frank Mitchell
Jane and Dennis Munson
Northern Lights Combined Federal Campaign
Sharon O’Connor
Pam Orren
Pamela and Lawrence Pearson
Stephen Quist
Ellen Roth
Blaine Rutland
Amanda Salmon
A.L. Sand
Josh Sandelin
Matthew Sandelin
Beverly Schleper
E. A. Smythe
Betty Stensrud
James Stoebner
Bruce and Diana Suneson
Pamela Suneson
Muriel and Owen Turnlund
Doug and Peg Wangensteen
Julie B. Weaver
Thomas and Paulette Welle
Rosa Werthwein
Catherine Wierz
Wine and Canvas
Anna Youngerman

GIFTS IN MEMORY:

Louis H. Buron, Jr.
By: Thomas and Karen Albrecht
Terry Alewine
Anonymous
Stephen and Kristin Booth
Lynda Bruder
Mary Campbell
Dean and Wendy Crotty
Crown Property Management
Jeff and Cynthia Cwikla
Darlene Dorr
The Engel Family Trust
First National Bank Bemidji
Sally and Peter Holtz
Nicole Klimek
Craig Leaf
Brian and Rebecca Livermore
La Vonne Mayer
Miles McNally
Jane and Dennis Munson
Pamela and Lawrence Pearson
Barbara Pfander
Glenn and Cynthia Rowley
A.L. Sand
Constance Y. Skillingsstad
E. A. Smythe
Bruce and Diana Suneson
Jane and Thomas Watson
Thomas and Paulette Welle
Catherine Wierz

Alan [Doc] Goodell-Holmes
By: Elizabeth Melton
James Stoebner
Winifred M. Larsen
By: Corey Sauer

GIFTS IN HONOR:

Kate Bailey
By: Shelley Jacobson
Jessie Benson and William Schutz
By: Erik Schutz
Becky Dale
By: Shelley Jacobson
Maxine Freedman
By: Audrey Stillerman
Nacole Kaai
By: Michael Ennis
Chris Pommerenke
By: Shelley Jacobson
Jesus Isabel Ruelas
By: Shelley Jacobson
MINNESOTA CHILDREN WERE THE SUBJECT OF CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

IN 2016

39,531

MN COMMUNITIES CARING FOR CHILDREN

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

- In FY17, MCCC programs served more than 3,500 parents and children statewide.
- More than 300 people across six Tribal communities were reached by ACE Interface presentations in FY17.
- MCCC celebrated 27 parent honorees that were nominated by their peers as “Unsung Heroes” at an event which included families, legislators, and community-based stakeholders.
- More than 500 referrals to resources including education and job training, health and social services, ECFE/Head Start, and mentoring programs were made to parent participants.

93% of Circle of Parents participants reported that they gained additional supportive contacts and are more aware of local family resources.

94% of ACE Interface presentation attendees found the ACE Interface presentation informative and thought provoking.

"Every parent struggles. We are there to guide each other in the right direction."

- Circle of Parents Participant

"I am here to learn and share wisdom and to grow and improve outcomes for children."

- MCCC Parent Leader

CHILD ABUSE IS 100% PREVENTABLE!
Call To Action

We all have a role to play in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. You can help strengthen families and support healthy childhoods in a variety of ways, from mentoring parents or children to advocating for policy and systems change. We can’t do it without you, so join us and make a difference today!

MENTOR

Praise and encourage children and parents.

Model best practices.

Listen and offer insights about child development.

GET SOCIAL

Talk about child abuse prevention on social media.

Celebrate community leaders.

Run a social media fundraising campaign where a certain amount is donated per re-tweet, like, or post.

COMMUNITY ACTION!

Plant a pinwheel garden to raise awareness in April about Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Go to a parents’ meeting at your child’s school.

Attend local government meetings (city council or school board meetings) and let them know how important family resources are to your community.

VOLUNTEER

Donate pro bono hours if you have a specialized skill.

Join one of MCCC’s Committees: Development, Finance and Audit, Governance, and Data and Evaluation.

BECOME INFORMED

Join MCCC’s email list.

Learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences and resilience.

Learn the signs of child abuse and neglect, so you can report it.

CONNECT

Reach out to a neighbor.

Listen to someone’s story.

Make a meal for a parent.

Spend time with a child without technology.

Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota

Circle of Parents®

Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.

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