### FISCAL YEAR 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

TONLINSON



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

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Tanager Place works to be the industry leader of comprehensive, holistic and integrated services for children and families. Our work while diverse, is focused and straightforward; we are here to help children and families confront challenges. This annual report reflects our accomplishments this past fiscal year.

One accomplishment we are most proud of is our renewed accreditation from The Council on Accreditation (COA). Of the 2,200 organizations COA accredits annually, Tanager Place received one of the highest quality ratings. Humbled by this ranking, the staff continues every day, in every way, to give their best. Together, we make a difference in each child's life.

Every four years the accreditation provides a comprehensive review of all of our programming. This year Tanager received perfect scores in 608 of 629 criteria judged, and second-best scores in the rest. The organization was evaluated through performance reviews, reporting and interviews with stakeholders. In the end, auditors used these phrases:

"If I had a child that needed care I would come here first."

"If I lived here I would volunteer here."

"If I were making donations in this community I would support this organization to the very limit of my resources."

"This has been the singularly best audit I've done in over 15 years." Your support makes it possible for staff to focus on their work. Without your commitment to children's mental and emotional health, we could not be the strong resource we are for 5,000 children and their families.

This Annual Report shares stories of impact and gives statistics that reflect growth and successful results. The report is a sincere thank you and acknowledgement for your support. Your impact is real and critical to the continued health and well being of our community's children. You truly make it possible. I am honored to serve our children, our staff and you, our donors.



## **FY17 SUCCESSES**

#### PREVENTION

- · Camp Tanager served over 2,000 children in year-round programming
- · Developed two new mentoring programs providing support to 45 children

#### TREATMENT

- · Implemented a Telehealth program that helped expand ability to meet children's pyschiatric needs
- · Joined Department of Public Health and 30 other providers to streamline service referrals for families in need
- · Achieved 51% growth in School Based Program increased the number children served
- Provided comprehensive assessment and treatment through Community Based Services, Tanager Place Clinic, and Inpatient Programs
- · Collaborated with YouthPort partners; YPN and Boys & Girls Club Cedar Rapids to provide enrichment programs before and after school at YouthPort sites

#### ADVOCACY

- Advocated successfully with state legislature to pass insurance coverage for Iowa children living with autism
- · Trained over 1,300 community members through the Tanager Place Education & Training Center
- · Received 3,154 hours of service from volunteers
- · Completed the \$6.5 Million Soaring Beyond Capital Campaign

#### JOURNEYS OF HOPE START EVERY DAY

A high demand therapy, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), at Tanager Place means 6 year old Mary can remain in her classroom and communicate verbally. Diagnosed with autism, Mary struggled to communicate. Aggression and tantrums interfered with enjoying home life and learning at school. She struggled with learning new skills and was falling behind in school and age-appropriate development.

After a year of intense ABA treatment, Mary can effectively communicate her emotions, thoughts, and feelings. Challenging behaviors have decreased and she is more successful at home. Mary's therapy continues and her grandmother has learned new ways to manage challenging behaviors and how to continue ABA treatments in the home. Mary has met and exceeded her 2nd grade I.E.P. goals and her teacher reported that she participates in class more than ever!

## **GROWTH TO**

### SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS MAKING A STRONG IMPACT

**51%** Growth in School Based Program • Serving 24 schools in 5 school districts

57% Increase in number of students

#### Proven Performance:

- · 73% Decreased Anxiety Levels
- · 82% Improved in Socialization Skills
- · 93% Improved Problem Solving Skills

"As a school counselor it has been wonderful to know that students are receiving the more in depth help they need. Our Tanager Place therapist has been a great person to collaborate and bounce ideas off of, and has helped take on the load of need within our school. So thankful for Tanager school based program! Having a consistent therapist who becomes a part of the school culture is a tremendous strength!" - Area School Counselor

### CAMP TANAGER BRINGS MAGIC TO CHILDHOOD

67% Increase in year round programming 2,189 Number of total children served

**739** 

Children in summer programs

"I just picked up my son from camp today. I was nervous and worried that his anxiety would get the best of him.. however, much to my surprise and joy he was the happiest I have seen him in years! I can't thank your staff enough for the wonderful experience and happiness you've given my son the last few days." -One Happy Mom

## **MEET NEEDS**

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES OFFERS EMPOWERMENT AND SUPPORT

693 Children supported the

Children supported through skill based services in their homes

1,300

Children received case management services improving physical and behavioral health

**45** Referral partners "Our worker has been amazing in the time he has worked with our two boys. He listens to our concerns and celebrates the positive growth. He has been instrumental in helping us get connected with other services." -BHIS Parent

### EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE: TANAGER PLACE EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTER 87

- 1 - 1

Community members attended Youth Mental Health First Aid Course

200

2

Research projects funded with Cornell College and University of Iowa

Community members attended A Symposium of Hope: Finding Your Role in Suicide Prevention, in collaboration with Foundation 2 and HOPEwalk

**1,000+** Attended Trauma Informed Care Training • 7 School Districts • ASAC, Foundation 2, Linn County Sherriff "Your trainer's expertise helped me walk away with valid and important material that I can apply in my day to day work." -Attendee

## A VISION VALIDATED

#### HUMBLE, IMPORTANT WORK

Ruth Paulson didn't set out to be a great philanthropist. She merely sat each evening handwriting thank you notes, thousands each year, to the people that donated to Camp Good Health (now Camp Tanager). As the committee chairperson, she could have delegated the task but it gave her a chance to connect personally with donors and it never felt like work. Then, in 1995 she took her philanthropy to a new level and established an endowment to provide youth programming at Camp Tanager. Ruth set in motion a gift that continues giving through generations.

#### **VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

In her wisdom, Ruth arranged for a small portion of the interest to continue compounding while the rest has been invested in programming. Ruth's impact? Innumerable changed lives. Children are referred to overnight camp through area schools and physicians for a no-cost week long camp. Special weeks are set aside for children with Hemophilia, Diabetes or Tourette's. Camp Tanager, established in 1926, is funded 100% through donations.

#### **PROGRAM FOCUS**

The Paulson Family Endowment helps to provide programs throughout the year.

Programs at Camp Tanager give children an experience of the great outdoors and activities offered help to build selfconfidence, increase independence and establish lifelong friendships for thousands of children each year. Ruth set up an endowment that has given nearly 15,000 children the chance to celebrate childhood in a beautiful setting.

#### **FAMILY HONOR**

In honor of Ruth's devotion to Camp Tanager her children continue to make annual gifts. Frank Mitvalsky (Cheryle) of Cedar Rapids; Fritz (Ann) Paulson of Marion; Karen Mitvalsky Reichard (Jim Mackay) of Des Moines; and Dessa (Wendell) Paulson Goddard of Berkeley, California each perpetuate Ruth's legacy. Ruth's grandchildren and great grandchildren are able to witness the family's legacy as the Paulson Family Endowment continues to impact the community each year.

#### **RESPECT FOR PAULSONS**

The Paulson Family Endowment grew when relatives and friends offered memorials upon Ruth's, and her loving husband Theodore's, passing. According to her children, she would be thrilled and humbled to know how this endowment has grown. When asked what he would tell a friend considering a planned gift or establishing an endowment to Tanager Place, Ruth's son Frank shared, "You should absolutely do it! You'll be amazed and extremely proud of how the fund grows and of all the good things it does for the children."

#### PHILANTHROPY ROLE MODEL

Years ago Ruth said, "And I love the children. Camp Tanager is such a wonderful experience for these children...an experience they otherwise would not have if it weren't for all the donations."

On behalf of the thousands of children attending camp through the years, we are grateful for your foresight, Ruth. Thank you for being a pioneer philanthropist and a great role model. The Paulsons' legacy continues to impact children and we invite you to join them and others through the Volk Society.

#### A LASTING LEGACY - THE VOLK SOCIETY

An extraordinary gift from the Louise and Raymond Volk Estate was a true kindness to the children of Tanager Place.

The Volks were a caring couple who worked at Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Volk, who were childless, decided to name Tanager Place as the principal beneficiary in their will.

In Honor of their generosity and foresight, Tanager Place created The Volk Society. The Volk Society is an association designed to recognize individuals who have provided a bequest to our Foundation. This Society honors the caring vision of its donors. Membership is not based on the amount of the gift, rather the gesture of making such a gift.

#### **VOLK SOCIETY BREAKFAST PLANNED**

If you are thinking about naming Tanager Place or have named Tanager Place in your will please call Lorrie Erusha, Director of Philanthropy at 319-365-9165 ext.310. A special breakfast is being planned for Volk Society members, we would like to include you in the celebration.



## **NEW HEIGHTS WITH VOLUNTEERS**

**409** Total number of Volunteers

**\$74,302** Monetary impact

### You can make a difference in the lives of children. To learn more about our volunteer program, contact Teresa Kurtz at 319-364-9165 ext. 379 or tkurtz@tanagerplace.org.

#### YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers! We'd also like to express our gratitude to the organizations and businesses like BirthdayCakes4Free - Linn County, Climate Engineers, General Mills, Go Daddy, Health Solutions, Rockwell Collins, and Thompson & Co. who went above and beyond this past year!

*Above:* Health Solutions plays kickball with Tanager Place children. *Right:* GoDaddy finishes their day by the Tanager Place sign. *Below:* Climate Engineers poses at the gate of the new garden they installed at Camp Tanager.





## **ON THE FRONT LINE OF SERVICE**

# 96%

Percent of staff who are proud to share they work at Tanager Place

**93%** Percent of staff agree that management encourages and supports employee development

78%

Percent of staff with professional degrees

Work for an innovative organization that delivers high quality, comprehensive mental and behavioral health services to children and families.

> For more information, visit www.tanagerplace.org/careers



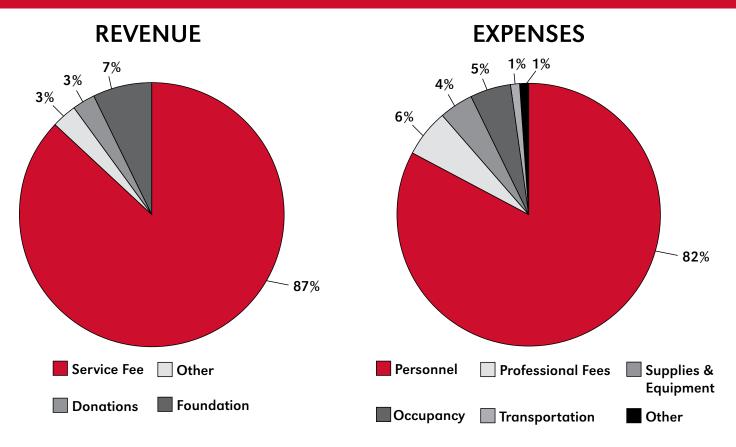
### EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

As I work with children and their families, I strive to create a warm and inviting environment in which all of our parts are welcome. The part of you that is motivated; the part of you that is hurt; the part of you that is doing whatever it needs to do to keep you safe. I am most passionate about

inviting the 'inner child' within each of us to "come out and play" in our work together, as this is a part of us that is not often valued or cherished in our society, but that holds significant truth and meaning. Through my work, I have realized my calling of nurturing and mending 'old wounds' that may have been forgotten about in everyday life but that are still ringing true in our hearts and in our beliefs about who we are as an individual, as a child, as a parent, as a co-worker. My hope is that clients are able to walk out of my office knowing that they are valued, cared for, and possess endless resources within themselves to be their most authentic, healthy self.

-Abby Seyfer, LISW | Clinician Supervisor & Clinic Therapist

### **FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE**



Total Expenses: \$13,273,934



## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

#### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC**

#### 1,960 Children Served

The clinic offers diagnosis, assessment and treatment to Eastern Iowa children for a variety of mental health issues and specializes in child psychiatry, psychological testing, play therapy, music therapy, and autism spectrum treatment.

#### COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

#### **Behavioral Health Intervention Services served 693**

Skill building services offered to children and their families to increase the youth's functioning in all environments.

#### Pediatric Integrated Health served 1,352

Offers a professional care management team for families with Medicaid eligible children. Support provides advocacy for behavioral and physical healthcare needs.

#### SCHOOL BASED PROGRAM 24 Schools, 309 Children Served

Tanager Place is contracted by area school districts to provide comprehensive holistic care to students. Innovative and evidence-based treatment is offered to children and their families who are struggling with mental and behavioral health issues.

#### INPATIENT PROGRAM 186 Children Served

Our Inpatient Program houses 68 children who are dealing with severe psychiatric challenges and provides a healthy inpatient environment conducive to healing and restoration.

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS PROGRAM 2.200 Sessions

The Expressive Arts Program is a key component of the treatment for children living on campus, as it gives children the opportunity to face challenges and confront mental and emotional obstacles through visual arts and music.

#### **CAMP TANAGER**

#### 946 Summer Campers, 1,400 Served Year Round

Camp offers a unique summer experience to children who are economically or medically disadvantaged, including those with Diabetes and Hemophilia, and is Iowa's only program to offer a free summer camp to at-risk children.

#### MENTORING PROGRAMS 45 CHILDREN SERVED

Two new mentoring programs are offered to empower and strengthen youth: Children of Promise and PINQ.



### A WILLINGNESS TO SAY YES...

Visionary Circle (\$500,000+) CRST International, Inc. John and Dyan Smith The Hall-Perrine Foundation

#### Partner in Hope (\$100,000+)

Aegon Transamerica Foundation Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation John and Cindy Bloomhall Wayne and Nan Kocourek

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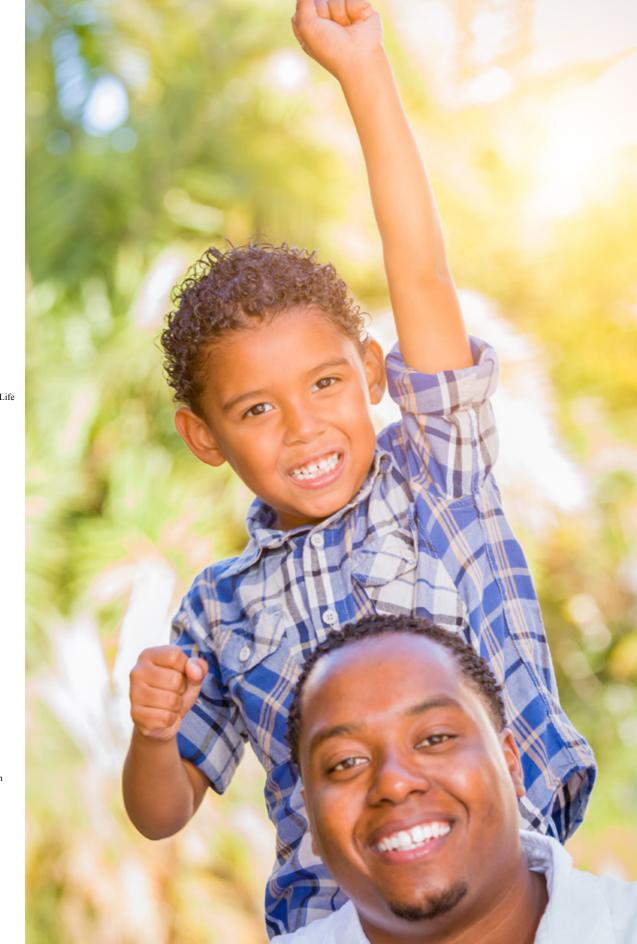
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#### It was our honor and priveldge to accept the following gifts made in memory and in honor of family, friends and loved ones.

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Investing in Tanager Place is investing in our future, it's investing in the community because we're putting this effort into these children's lives and giving them the tools to grow and be the best they can be.

-Stephanie Hoxie

We have made every effort to include all financial donors in this report. If your name was inadvertently omitted, we apologize for this error.



2309 C St SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404



Estle Center - 1030 5th Ave



Main Campus - 2309 C St SW



Camp Tanager

### **JORDAN'S STORY**

I want everyone to know the real reason I'm here today, working and attending college, is because my parents and Tanager Place never gave up on me. I had a hard start. My story is about lack of direction. I knew that I could take care of myself. I knew what was best. I ran away. I fought authority, but I was just a kid and was always caught. I think my determination to escape was a wakeup call to those around me. When everything came crashing down, I was relieved and also very scared. Fortunately, I landed at Tanager Place.

I was angry, scared and defiant. I was determined to never trust anyone. I didn't speak at first, and lashed out when anyone tried to help me. I stole things and lied. I didn't understand that children don't have to steal in order to have something of their own.

But Tanager Place was safe and full of stubborn people who just kept trying. I learned how to control my anger, explored my feelings through music therapy and began to relax a little. My family was there for me and we learned together.

Life didn't just change, it was a process. It took more than two years before I began to totally trust that my family and I were united and moving in the same direction. I still get frightened now and then, don't we all? When I worry that my future plans may not work out, I realize there is a difference; I have a support system behind me and I have learned the tools I need to make good decisions.