



Tanager

Impact Report

Fiscal Year 2024



Our Mission

To provide children and families with services that inspire, empower, and heal.

Meeting the Need

As we reflect on the past year, our hearts are filled with immense gratitude for your unwavering commitment to Tanager's mission. With your support, we have provided hope, healing, and empowerment to the youth and families we serve. We continue to invest in the future of our community's children, helping them overcome challenges in their social, emotional, behavioral, and mental wellbeing.



Okpara Rice

In fiscal year 2024, we focused on ensuring youth and families could access high-quality, compassionate care when needed most. Expanding services to meet the evolving needs of our clients, we launched three new programs: Multisystemic Therapy, Summit House-Youth Crisis Stabilization Program, and Infant Early Childhood Consultation Program.



Todd Kerska

These unique programs ensure that youth have access to the right level of care, whether they need early support, intensive home-based therapy, or a safe space during a crisis. We have witnessed firsthand the transformational and life-saving power of these programs. Families are finding hope, youth are gaining resilience, and our community is growing healthier and stronger.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in Tanager, and ensuring every child can have a bright future.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Okpara Rice, CEO

Todd Kerska, Board President



Inside this Report

Discover how our new services are meeting children's needs and transforming their lives.



New Services

Summit House

When experiencing a mental health crisis, it can feel like the world is unraveling for a young person and their family. Tanager's Summit House-Youth Crisis Stabilization Program fills a critical service gap by providing a safe, therapeutic environment where youth in crisis can receive immediate care and support, and families are connected with long-term solutions. As the only provider of this service for youth in Linn County, Tanager ensures clients get the right intervention at the right time.



"The staff there have literally changed the course of my boys' lives."

Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

Families with children struggling with severe behavioral challenges often find themselves overwhelmed and unsure where to turn for help. Tanager's Multisystemic Therapy (MST) program, the only one of its kind in our area, provides intensive support in the home and community. This innovative approach addresses the root causes of disruptive behavior. MST helps prevent out-of-home placements, offering youth the opportunity to heal within their families while receiving the right tools for the right care.




"Our therapists worked diligently to customize the care provided for my son. They've become a consistent and safe place for him. His behavior has changed significantly since being in their care."

Expanding Access

Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant (IECMHC) Program

Early childhood is a pivotal time for development, and the challenges that arise during this period can have lasting effects on a child's emotional and behavioral health. In the fall of 2023, Tanager launched the Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) program, filling important gaps by bringing mental health expertise directly into early learning settings. Childcare sites, providers, and families receive tailored support to help infants and young children build healthy relationships, cope with stress, and develop emotional resilience. By intervening early, IECMHC ensures that children receive the right support in the right space, setting them on a path for long-term wellbeing.



“Our provider is amazing. She's helped us get through some really rough patches this year, and we look forward to seeing her every visit!”

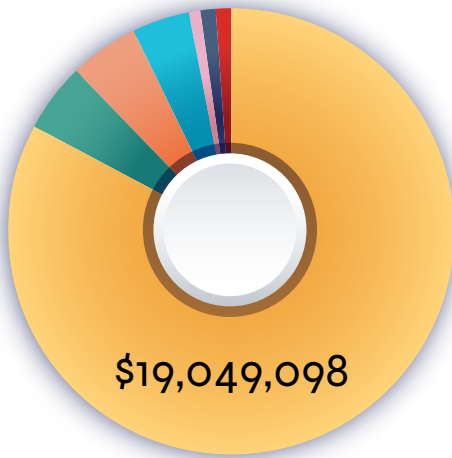
IECMHC By the Numbers

- 86% of childcare staff surveyed reported increased feelings of competency and confidence
- 117 individual case consultations provided
- 265 children and 180 parents served
- 198 childcare providers received consultation, support, and professional development



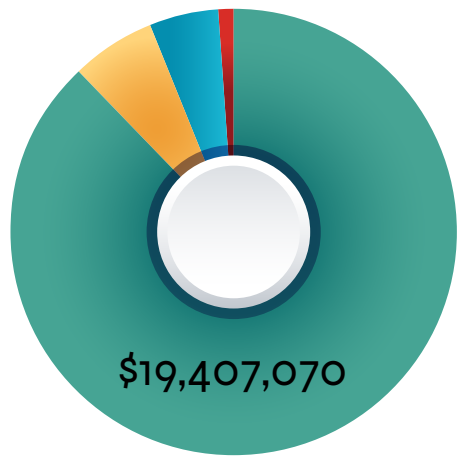
Financial & Global Stats

Expenses



- Personnel 83%
- Occupancy 5%
- Supplies & Equipment 5%
- Professional Fees 4%
- Other 1%
- Professional Development 1%
- Transportation 1%

Revenue



- Service Fees 88%
- Donations 6%
- Foundation 5%
- Other Revenue Sources 1%

Prevention

Camp Tanager



616 overnight campers attended Camp Tanager

325 sessions of day camp provided

Expressive Arts

171 Expressive Arts services provided

5,636 total youth participants

LGBTQ+ Center

162 youth served at the LGBTQ+ youth center

200+ participated in programming

Treatment



of youth served through the Mental Wellbeing Clinic experienced improvement in their thinking

21,652 sessions provided



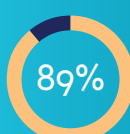
of caregivers reported that the PIH team was responsive to their needs

15,178 sessions of Behavioral Health Intervention Services provided



of youth receiving residential treatment experienced improvement of internalizing symptoms

94 young people served



of youth served in School-Based services experienced improvement in their mood

34,937 therapeutic sessions provided

* Treatment data for this report has been compiled from ASEBA and CAFAS assessments.

Samuel's Freedom Schools Story

Samuel*, a determined fifteen-year-old living in Cedar Rapids, moved to Iowa from the Democratic Republic of the Congo with his family at age seven, seeking new opportunities. Although adjusting to a new culture was challenging, Samuel's resilience and inner strength eventually shone through.

His turning point came when he joined Tanager's Freedom Schools program, where he discovered a love for reading and began to believe in his own potential. The staff quickly recognized his natural leadership abilities and helped him channel his energy into positive growth. Over the next two years, Samuel transformed from a young student searching for direction into a focused, self-assured individual with a clear vision for his future.



** To protect privacy, the name and image in this impact story have been changed.*



Samuel's transformation demonstrates the power of mentorship. From a middle school student who felt misunderstood, to a leader guiding younger students toward success, his journey is a testament to the impact of the Freedom Schools program.

Samuel's Story (continued)

Now, as a Student Leader at Freedom Schools, Samuel mentors younger students, guiding them through their challenges and encouraging them to pursue their passions. He often speaks about his dreams of becoming an engineer or skilled tradesman, using soccer as a powerful metaphor for perseverance and teamwork.



Samuel's story is one of transformation and strength. From a challenging start, he found purpose and is now inspiring others. He shows that with determination and the right support, anyone can overcome obstacles and achieve their dreams.

CDF Freedom Schools - By the Numbers

- 15% reduction in major office referrals among Freedom Schools scholars
- 35 scholars enrolled in school-year programming
- 70 scholars participated in programming during the summer of 2024
- 97% reported high self-esteem
- 1 1/3 years average improvement to reading scores during 6-week program
- ★ program nominated for National Ella Baker Excellence Award



The Power of Community

Larry and Ruth Neppl's journey with Tanager began years ago with a simple desire to support their community. As they learned more about Tanager's incredible work with children, teens, and families, their admiration blossomed.

They saw how the organization's one-on-one services inspire and empower young people, creating ripples of healing throughout the entire community.



"Throughout our lives, we have tried to make a positive difference for our fellow citizens. Even a small boost can help all of us reach goals."

Moved by this impact, Larry and Ruth chose to deepen their commitment by including Tanager in their estate plans. This thoughtful decision ensures their legacy of love and support will continue for generations to come. Their endowment gift reflects their heartfelt belief in the power of community, making a lasting difference in the lives of countless children and families. Together, they're building a brighter future for all.

**To keep your donation information secure, we are choosing not to publish the names of our generous benefactors.*



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