

A Vision for our Future

President's Message

Dear Friends,

2017 proved to be a seminal year for the Children's Service Center. However, as I write this letter, I am struck by the fact that the more things change, the more they stay the same. Recently, I came across an article from The Wilkes-Barre Record, dated April 1903. It reads:

"The work has now outgrown its present quarters and it is safe to assume that friends will not be lacking when assistance is asked for the erection of a modern building. A visit to the institution shows the need for a new structure and the work accomplished during the many years of its existence is an eloquent plea for continued support."

During 2017, the Children's Service Center realized the completion of a new outpatient clinic on South Franklin Street. The new building provides space for our new Integrated Clinical Health Care Program that offers behavioral, physical, and pharmacy services in one space. We did this because it is proven that access to this kind of care holds the hope for the best health outcomes for our kids. We could not have done this without the support of so many including our Board of Directors, staff, friends, legislators, our partners – The Wright Center and Genoa – and our generous donors. **The past is indeed prologue**.

In keeping with the goals of our forbearers, during 2017, CSC continued to innovate across a broad spectrum of programs. Among these achievements:

- Realigned program management reflecting industry best practices in behavioral health and information technology;
- Broadened the geographic range and program scope of the Drug & Alcohol practice to focus on adults and early childhood intervention;
- Expanded the scope of The Robinson Counseling Center to include services for adults both in Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming County;
- Expanded services of the Music Intervention Therapy Program to include Group Home and outpatient clients.
- Community School Based Behavioral Health (CSBBH) expansion to Pottsville and Minersville School Districts.

We always keep looking forward but I never forget the founders' principles for this remarkable organization. This year, on the site where the orphans of CSC's inception – The Home for Friendless Children – are buried, we will place an engraved stone on their graves. Honoring them reminds us that we have been entrusted to not only continue, but to improve and expand our services to "enhance the well being of children and their families." That is an honor.



My best wishes,

Mike Hopkins



Strategic Decisions

that provide quality services with care and compassion...

Expanded Services

- Drug & Alcohol Services for school students; adults
- Integrated Clinical Health Care

Technology

- Enhanced Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
- Telepsychiatry

Innovative Therapies

Intensive Family Coaching

Trends in Education

- Music Intervention Therapy
- The Lands at Hillside Farms

Investment in Staff

"People are most likely to begin abusing drugs—including tobacco, alcohol, and illegal and prescription drugs—during adolescence and young adulthood... Drug use at an early age is an important predictor of development of a substance use disorder later. The majority of those who have a substance use disorder started using before age 18 and developed their disorder by age 20. The likelihood of developing a substance use disorder is greatest for those who begin use in their early teens."

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Children...

The need for early intervention related to alcohol and drug addiction among children and adolescents is profound and the research is rich with data to substantiate the need for such services. According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, people are most likely to begin abusing drugs – including tobacco, alcohol and prescription drugs – during adolescence and early adulthood. For a high risk population, early Intervention—before high school—is critical.

The Children's Service Center's Drug and Alcohol Addiction Integration Program will provide evidence-based, school-based addiction prevention education and treatment for children and adolescents. Starting with a pilot program in the Pittston School District where CSC operates the Community and School Based Behavioral Health Program (CSBBH), certified addiction clinicians will direct a holistic health model that supports children and their families at risk for and/or coping with addiction issues.

Drug & Alcohol Services Integration

Adults...

According to a 2016 report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in 2016, 7.5 percent of Americans aged 12 or older (approximately 20.1 million people) had a substance use disorder in the past year. Of those, about 1 in 3 struggled with illicit drug use; about 3 in 4 struggled with alcohol

abuse. Just 6.9 percent of those individuals received treatment at a specialty treatment facility – leaving 93.1 percent of Americans with addiction issues without the treatment they need. Through CSC's Robinson Counseling Center, in late 2018, individual and group therapy will be offered to adolescents and adults with alcohol and drug addiction issues in Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming County.





Electronic Medical Record

During 2017, CSC made a significant investment to upgrade its Electronic Medical Record (EMR) software and systems. With an eye toward accommodating CSC's Integrated Clinical Health Care expansion, soon therapists, physicians, and pharmacists will be able to confer electronically about individual patient care. During 2018, all CSC staff – including those serving remotely – will be joined to the EMR. While the investment is significant, the health outcomes are even greater!

Telepsychiatry

Telepsychiatry is the application of telemedicine to the specialty field of psychiatry. The term typically describes the delivery of psychiatric assessment and care through

> videoconferencing. Understanding significant transportation issues and the barriers it poses to serving a 21-county market, CSC has begun an ambitious plan to grow its Telepsychiatry program. Through active recruiting and investment in technology, CSC will soon be able to offer behavioral health services to the widest range of the region's population.

Innovative Therapies Intensive Family Coaching (IFC)

Currently, CSC offers 26 programs directed at assisting those with psychiatric and behavioral health issues. Our staff continually investigates new and/or improved methods to deliver programs that assure improved outcomes for those we serve. Since 2010, CSC has been offering, on its Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming County campuses, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), an evidence-based therapy for children ages 2.5 to 7. Under the guidance of a certified PCIT therapist, parents learn how to manage a child's behavior. Research strongly indicates that both parent and child benefit from the therapy.

Responding to an identified need, last year (with our partner at Community Care Behavioral Health Organization), we began training staff in Intensive Family Coaching (IFC). IFC is based on PCIT but is conducted in a client's home setting. Now, IFC certified mobile therapists and TSS are able to work in-home with parents of children: with disruptive behaviors; those who show signs of separation anxiety or depression; or those with a history of trauma.



Innovation in Education

Music Intervention Therapy

Children's Service Center is an approved agency under the PA Department of Community & **Economic Development's Educational** Improvement Tax Credit Program for its Music Intervention Program (MIP). The MIP is designed to increase academic scores for students enrolled in the CSC's Partial **Hospitalization Treatment Education** Program, which holds a private special education school license. Research proves that music intervention programs enhance educational scores. CSC offers this innovative program with elements of reading music, learning to play an instrument, and writing lyrics as a means to improving academics and emotional capacity.

Investment in Staff

There is no greater investment we can make than supporting the work of the Children's Service Center's 377 full and part-time employees. To assure their professional development, management succession, and the quality and expansion of CSC's programs, management developed a competitive employee enrichment program that includes:

The Lands at Hillside Farms Animal Assisted Activities (AAA)

Animals are increasingly being used to assist patients with behavioral, mental, or emotional disorders as evidence grows that AAA can aid people with Autism, PTSD, and other conditions function in their everyday lives. Each week, educators from The Lands at Hillside Farms bring farm

animals to the Children's Service Center for Animal

Assisted Activities (AAA) working with children and adolescents enrolled in the Partial Hospitalization Education Program. Students interact with a wide variety of animals including cows, goats, sheep, snakes, and birds. In addition to play and learning to care for the animals, students hone their anatomy skills by listening to animal heartbeats and examining animal cadavers. Interaction with animals offers many benefits including building self-confidence, self-esteem, and trust as well as teaching compassion and empathy.



- A generous tuition reimbursement program;
- Leadership training;
- Technology training;
- Access to professional organizations, trainings, certifications, CEUs;
- Assistance with costs associated with licensing;
- Access to 1000s of courses across a broad spectrum of issues through Relias Learning;
- Knowledge sharing through internal publications and Town Halls.

Our gracious donors... we thank you!

On behalf of the children we serve, a very special thanks to the staff of the Children's Service Center who continue to donate so generously to the following: Holiday Giving Tree, The Best Thanksgiving Ever, Annual Golf Tournament, Holiday Food Drive Lunch for a Cause, and Back to School Supplies.

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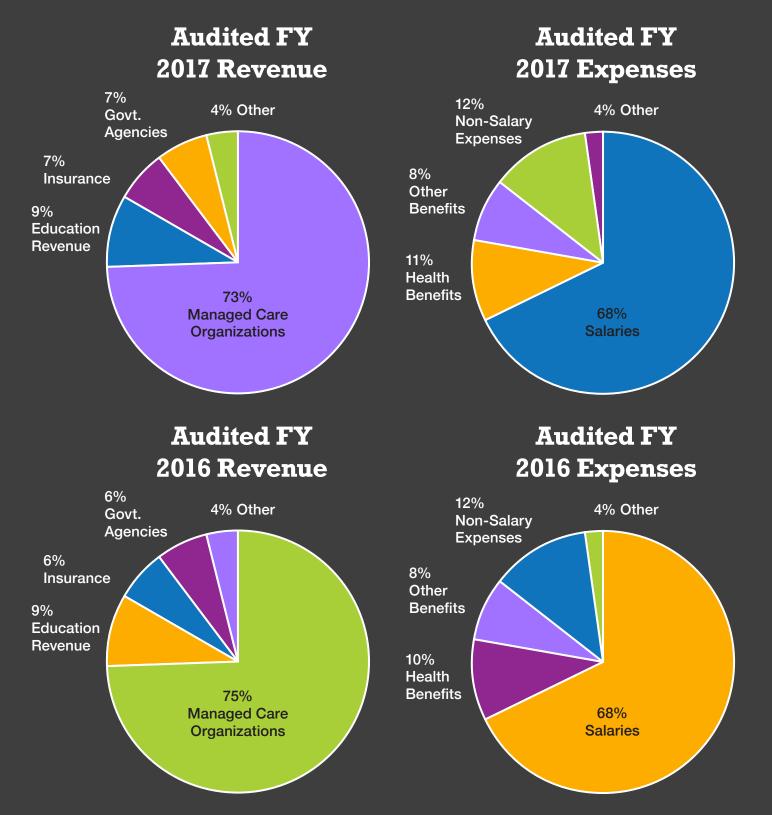
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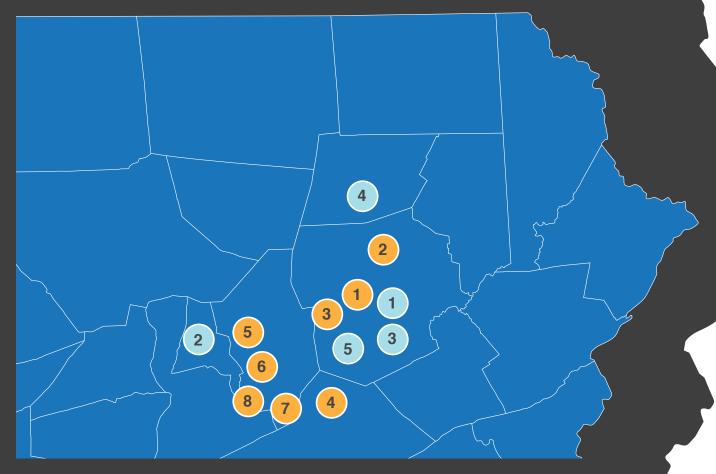
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Financial Highlights



Locations



Offices

1. Wilkes-Barre, CSC Main Office 335 South Franklin Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 570-826-6425

4. Tunkhannock Office 133 West Tioga Street Tunkhannock, PA 18657 570-836-2722

School Districts

1. Wilkes-Barre Area School District 730 South Main Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

4. Mount Carmel Area School District 600 West 5th Street Mount Carmel, PA 17851

7. Pottsville Area School District 1501 West Laurel Boulevard Pottsville, PA 17901 **2. Danville Office** 580 Railroad Street Danville, PA 17821 570-275-9770

5. Hazleton Office 1086 North Church Street Hazelton, PA 18201 570-855-8058

2. Pittston Area School District 5 Stout Street Pittston, PA 18640

5. Shikellamy School District 200 Island Boulevard Sunbury, PA 17801

8. Minersville Area School District 1 Battlin' Miner Drive Minersville, PA 17954 **3. Nanticoke Office** 137 East Noble Street Nanticoke, PA 18634 570-735-7369

3. Wyoming Valley West School District 450 North Maple Avenue Kingston, PA 18704

6. Shamokin Area School District 2000 West State Street Coal Township, PA 17866



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