

2017 Annual Report



Family Centered Services
of CT



Message from the 2017 Board Chair and Executive Director

40 Years of Serving the Greater New Haven Community

It's been 40 years since "Family CT" was founded to prevent child abuse and neglect and preserve families. At that time, public attention to the problem of child abuse was growing but prevention and treatment services were few and fragmented. The vision for the agency took root in the beliefs that systemic change was needed to develop a collaborative network of public and private services to support vulnerable families, that understanding and meeting the needs of parents would be essential in serving children, and that barriers that prevented service access had to be eliminated. Thus, was born a pioneering organization that provided free, home-based and multidisciplinary services to meet the changing needs of children and families.

Founded by Jean Adnopo and a Coordinating Committee, this groundbreaking agency was named Coordinating Council For Children In Crisis, Inc. and fondly known as 'The Four C's'. In 2012, the name was changed to Family Centered Services of CT but our founding principle remains the same: That all children are entitled to grow up in safe, loving and nurturing families.

Over the last 40 years, emerging evidence about the effects of trauma and research into the development of the young brain have been key factors in moving our work forward. We take pride in continued innovations while striving to retain the grass-roots flavor of our services and truly represent the communities we serve.

This Report will describe, 'in our own words', the thoughts of some of the individuals who have been instrumental in the formation and sustainability of Family CT. There are many people who have contributed time, money and expertise over the years and we are deeply grateful to everyone. Thank you to the thousands of families who have been willing to open their homes to us to improve the lives of their children.



Cheryl Burack, M.S.
Executive Director



Angel Mattioli, Esq.
*Chairperson of
the Board of Directors*



***“The question is: Who cares for children? The child asks who will care for me?
I still believe very strongly that we need to keep children in the community and provide services to families and children in their own environment, based on their own strengths”***

In the Beginning

The Four C’s – Coordinating Council For Children In Crisis

Initially spearheaded by a group of hospital volunteers, the 4Cs (now Family Centered Services of CT) represented a public and private sector coalition committed to strengthening and supporting troubled families and reducing the need for out-of-home placement of children. The principles upon which the 4Cs was founded were:

- 1) that understanding and addressing the needs of parents promotes their ability to nurture their children in safe and stable homes,
- 2) that utilization and effectiveness of care is enhanced by coordinated, integrated service systems which address the environmental issues which place families at risk;
- 3) empowering families, fostering independence, acceptance and self-respect can lead to effective advocacy on behalf of all family members; and
- 4) only programs which were not available in the community would be offered by the agency which was pledged to strengthen existing programs through collaboration. The overarching goal was to develop a provider network devoted to supporting family well-being and promoting the positive, long-term parent- child relationships which are critical for healthy development.

“We stepped into a void, and that’s why we were successful. We did that very consciously from day one. We created programs that did not exist in any other setting...”

Jean Adnopoz
Founder, Coordinating Council For Children In Crisis

Parenting Education: A Core Service of Family CT

The Parent Aide Program, one of Family CT's first programs, was designed to support and strengthen families so they could nurture their children more effectively. Initially staffed by paraprofessionals to demonstrate basic parenting and living skills to families, expanded services are now evidence-based and specialized.

The Nurturing Families Network

An intensive home visiting program that utilizes the Parents as Teachers curriculum, NFN services begin in pregnancy and take the family through the child's first five years of life. Work with families includes child developmental screenings, parenting education and family strengthening activities to increase parental knowledge of early childhood development, strengthen parenting practices, provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, increase children's school readiness and school success and prevent child abuse and neglect. Specialized services are available to fathers and include home visits and the 24/7 Dads group, focusing on the characteristics that men need to be good fathers 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

"Last Saturday Aaron became a big brother!* Our little Abigail was born on September 10th at 8:30pm. We are filled with joy and happiness. I certainly can enjoy my baby much more than the first time because of our Nurturing Families experience. I think you have trained me really well and that takes a lot of stress out of our parenting life. Thank you very much for preparing us so well for our second child and for turning us into better parents.

***With all our gratitude and warmest wishes,
Susannah, Arnold, Aaron and little Abigail"***

**Names and details changed to protect identity*

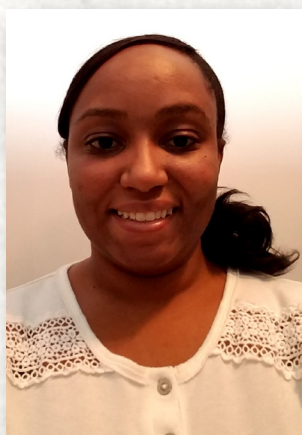
Parenting Support Services

Includes the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) and Circle of Security Parenting (COS-P). Triple P strengthens families through home-based parenting skills instruction and practical strategies to help parents confidently manage their children's behavior and build strong and healthy relationships.

Circle of Security Parenting is an attachment-based reflective parenting program made easy and accessible through an eight-chapter DVD that uses video clips and animated graphics. Parents and caregivers are helped to understand their young child's emotional world, support their child's ability to successfully manage emotions and strengthen and support a secure parent-child relationship.

Parenting Support and Parental Rights Initiative

Specialized clinical and psychoeducational interventions for parents with a psychiatric disability to help parents identify and manage their symptoms, understand how their illness impacts their parenting, gain help in effectively understanding and meeting the needs of their young children and develop temporary guardianship plans should hospitalization or respite be needed. Direct services to children are designed to improve child health and mental health outcomes, understand their parents' psychiatric disability, explore feelings of stigma and shame, develop their own temporary care plans and strengthen the parent-child relationship.



***I have learned so much about others,
and also about myself.***

**Ashley Hernandez
Family Navigator**





Clinical Services

“Getting to know these families has taught me that there is such a resiliency to the human spirit – that when put up against a challenge that may seem insurmountable, people really rise to it. I have also seen such altruism and selflessness, even from those in great need themselves. Learning that there is an intrinsic need to take care of one another has been a great experience.”

Alix Mury

Director, Multisystemic Therapy-Building Stronger Families

Clinical Services at Family CT

Family CT began by offering educational, advocacy and support services but has been adding clinical services to its service array since implementation of its first treatment program to address domestic violence.

Multisystemic Therapy-Building Stronger Families

Intensive home-based treatment for families experiencing parental substance use in addition to child abuse and neglect. MST-BSF uses a collaborative problem-solving process to address family issues and treat adult and child trauma, substance use and family relationships.

Intimate Partner Violence

Family Assessment Intervention Response Home-based clinical services to DCF-involved families impacted by intimate partner violence include assessment, safety planning, trauma treatment, parent-child psychotherapy and father engagement and treatment.

Caregiver Support Team

Family CT collaborates with Bridges Healthcare, Inc. to provide in-home services to children placed with kinship caregivers to prevent the disruption of placements and increase stability and permanency for children.

Family-Based Recovery

Intensive home-based therapeutic services for families with children ages birth-three who are affected by substance use. FBR believes that the satisfaction of bonding with a child and competently parenting will offer powerful motivation to reach sobriety. Substance use treatment, parent-child psychotherapy and case management are offered to decrease substance use, depression and parenting stress and increase parental bonding and child safety.



*“Something I’ve learned from working with families is that there are **always strengths to be amplified, in every person** and every household.”*

*Johanna Piper
Clinician, Family-Based Recovery*



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Making a Difference

Jillian Seelig was just 12 years old when her Girl Scout Troop, led by her Mom Carol Richards, began collecting school supplies and holiday gifts to donate to Family CT. Twenty-two years later, she and Carol co-lead Troop 60914 and continue to contribute to the Back-To-School and Holiday Adopt-A-



Family programs. ***“Being involved with Scouts, I was taught you should do things for other people”*** Jillian says. ***“It always makes you feel good and it’s great to see that one person can make a difference.”***



Our Mission

Family Centered Services works with families to ensure they are safe and nurturing places where children can succeed.



Our Vision

We envision a world of healthy families, where children grow up to be confident and caring adults and contributing members of their community.



Our Values

We believe all children have the right to live in a safe, nurturing environment, free from violence, abuse, and neglect.

Community Partnerships

Family CT continues to represent a founding principle: Services that are coordinated across disciplines and operate outside of a silo are most effective

Neighborhood Victim Advocacy Program

Family CT partners with the police to respond to victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, assault and hate and bias crimes with safety planning, court accompaniment, crisis counseling and education and information.

New Haven Family Partnership

A collaboration between Family CT and New Reach, Connecticut's largest provider of family housing, provides assessment, supportive housing, counseling, parenting education and case management to families who have experienced homelessness, psychiatric disability, addiction, or HIV/AIDS.

South Central Medical Home Initiative for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Partners with Yale-New Haven Hospital and pediatric providers throughout the South-Central Region to provide multidisciplinary treatment planning and care coordination to children and youth ages birth-21 and their families.

Wyman Teen Outreach Program

Eighth grade students at Barnard Environmental Magnet School and Park City Magnet School learn life skills and gain a sense of purpose through structured but lively classroom discussions and service learning activities designed to promote healthy behavior and sound life choices.

New Initiative - The Jimmy Miller Partnership to Save Lives

Thanks to The Friends of Jimmy Miller, Inc., Family CT established a unique car seat safety program to help families who are not aware of the importance and techniques of car safety and/or, due to economics, are unable to access safe and approved car seats for their infants, toddlers, and children. Parents can learn about car seat safety by driving to one of the many Fitting Stations throughout the state. However, Ashley Minihan, Family Support Provider and the owner of Empowered Beginnings, observed that many of the families served by Family CT do not have their own vehicles and rely on rides from friends, relatives, or taxis. They may ride in various vehicles and, without proper installation education, were likely not using car seats correctly, or at all.

Ashley attended an intensive four-day training and became a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. This certification qualifies her to educate parents about car seat safety as well as give hands on instruction on proper installation. Now thanks to the support of the Friends of Jimmy Miller, Inc., Family CT is a 'mobile' Fitting Station bringing instruction and new car seats to families at their homes.

This important safety initiative is just one of the many programs to benefit children funded by The Friends of Jimmy Miller, Inc. We were saddened to learn of Mr. Miller's death in October and remain grateful for his generosity and his deep concern for children in the Greater New Haven area.

"I have been telling all my friends to learn more about car seats because it's so important, if my baby had not been in right (during an accident) I can't imagine what would have happened."

Mercedes I.

2016-2017 Financial Supporters

We are grateful for the generosity of individuals, businesses, organizations, community groups, foundations and funders. If anyone has inadvertently been left off this list, please accept our apology and let us know.

Karen Alexander
Marcel Applewhaite
Crystal Ayala
Keisha Barnes
Elizabeth Barzallo
Lynn Bennis
Patricia Berarducci
Monica Bien-Aime
Biller, Sachs, Raio and Zito
Genevieve Bimonte
Bernadette Bimonte-Hackett
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Amanda Ferrari
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Pamela Matocha
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Lucecita Melendez
Harriet Meiss
Ms. Ana-Claire Meyer
Sheila Michalsen
Jacqueline Miconi
Ashley Minihan
Maria Moniello
Motivation Center of Stratford
Alix Mury
Taylor Neubauer
Ellen O'Connor
Aiesha Phelmetto
Anthony Poccia
Cheray Pulley
Randi Rubin Rodriguez
Sabine Romsaint
Shannon Ryan

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Patti Santiago
Agnes Schofield
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Kim Selander
Galit Sharma
Sania Siddiqui
C. Siegel
Lakeisha Sims
Albert Stiewing
Leslie Sude and Paul Wang
Wendy Szczgiel
Esther Teshinsky
Stefanie Thach
Daniel Troph
Tuff Girl Fitness/FMA Performance
Isabel Velez
Michael Vezzoli
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Visconti & Associates, PC
Sally Voegeli
Deborah Weinstein
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R. Wonneberger
Suna Woods
Patricia Worthy
Keith Wortz
Andrea Wright
Yale Alumni Association

Adopt A Family

1st Church Preschool
Joyce Altieri
Marcel Applewhaite
Montana Armata
Angela Bansley
Beata Bagi
Leisa Baumgartner
Cheryl Burack
Cesar Cabrera
Donna Caneschi
Shannon & Frank Capuano

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 Flair for Hair
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 Georgina Fryer
 Mario Gaboury & Family
 David Gallagher
 Lisa Garvin
 Susan George
 Girl Scouts Troop 0914
 John Greenway
 Jackie Guarino
 Carol Gwillam
 Bernadette Bimonte-Hackett
 Cinque Hall
 Georgianna Hall
 Hamden Hall School
 Hamden Plains United Methodist
 Church
 Kim Hindi
 Holy Transfiguration Orthodox
 Church
 Alisha Howard
 HPUMC
 Alisha Howard
 Georgianna Hull
 Kate Hunter
 Indiana University Alumni
 Association, CT Chapter
 Ives School
 Shelley Jolie
 Kane Family
 Marissa Kitz
 Kacia Leary
 Steve and Joan Levine
 Littler Mendelson
 Lochner

Marina Luri-Clark
 Tracy Lynch
 Dominic Mara & Family
 Noreen McElroy & Family
 Ashley Minihan & Family
 Mauricio Monroy
 Keith Murphy & Family
 Jill Nathanson
 New Haven Collective
 Diane Orlowski
 Palten-Bowers Family
 Robin Piraino
 Maggie Pittala
 Juliette Randy
 Re/Max Alliance
 Carol Richards
 Denise Rizzo
 Shannon Ryan
 Greg Scott
 Jillian Seelig
 Sandy Serra
 Galit Sharma & Family
 Kristina Shvets
 Smilow Cancer Hospital Radiation
 Oncology
 The Smith Family
 Southern CT State University
 Danielle Spadaccino
 State Attorney, New Haven
 Judicial District
 Anita Suraci
 Tabor Church
 Robert & Gabrielle Tagliaferi
 Test Logic
 Totoket Valley Elementary School
 USA Martial Arts
 Zuleima Vargas
 Visconti & Associates, P.C.
 Sally Voegeli
 Wajnowski/Nishimura Family
 Olivia Walston
 Lashonda Washington
 Weichert Realtors
 Deborah Weinstein
 Pamela Whitman
 Yale Alumni Association
 Yale New Haven Health
 Yale New Haven Hospital
 Yale New Haven Hospital Accounts
 Payable
 Yale New Haven Hospital Cardiac
 Diagnostic Unit/Heart & Vascular Center

Yale New Haven Hospital Clinical
 Materials Management
 Yale New Haven Hospital Community &
 Government Relations
 Yale New Haven Hospital Corporate
 Supply Chain (Analytics, Contracting &
 Purchasing)
 Yale New Haven Hospital Office of
 Development
 Yale New Haven Hospital Legal & Risk
 Services
 Yale New Haven Hospital Managed Care
 Yale New Haven Hospital Marketing &
 Communications
 Yale New Haven Hospital Pediatric
 Diabetes Clinic
 Yale New Haven Hospital Pediatric
 Emergency Cluster
 Yale New Haven Hospital Pharmacy
 Department
 Yale New Haven Hospital Planning
 Department
 Yale New Haven Hospital Physician
 Services
 Yale New Haven Hospital Planning
 Department
 Yale New Haven Hospital Office of Privacy
 & Corporate Compliance
 Yale New Haven Hospital Saint Raphael
 Campus Staff
 Yale New Haven Hospital Saint Raphael
 Campus Verdi 5 North
 Yale New Haven Hospital Services
 Yale New Haven Hospital System
 Pharmacy
 Yale University, McDougal Graduate
 Student Life
 Nina Zaengel
 Michelle Zelich
 Louise Zito Miller

Back to School

Karen Alexander
 Lynn Bennis
 Susan Benzyk
 Biller, Sachs, Raio and Zito
 Genevieve Bimonte
 CAVCOMM, LLC
 Robin Caron
 Maudeen Dinan

Michael Dorney
Tracey Flynn
Susan George
Girl Scout Troop 60914
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Suna Woods
David Wrenn
Mr. Fred Ziegler

Walk Against Domestic Violence

Alpha, Sigma, Alpha Sorority
Boots
Capotorto's Apizza Center
Jessica Carl & WYBC-FM
Common Grounds of Branford
mActivity Fitness Center
Catherine Mancini
Janet McCray
New Haven Police Department
Pam Nuchols
OR&L
Premier Car Wash
Jessica Rougeau
Vanessa Stevens of the Purple Song
Project
Subway Restaurants/Dixwell Ave
Team Pretty Pat
Zoi's On Orange

Spring Cocktail Party & Auction

Leadership Sponsor

Yale-New Haven Hospital

Gold Sponsor

ADP

Silver Sponsors

Advanced Office Systems
Community Foundation of Greater
New Haven
People's United Bank
People's United Insurance Agency
T.M. Byxbee Company, P.C.
Tyco Printing
Visconti and Associates, P.C.
Webster Bank

Guest Auctioneer

Eric Hummel

Auction/Raffle Donors

Aleia's Gluten Free
American Museum of Natural
History
Arnold's Jewelers
Arthur Murray Dance Studio
AT&T
Beardsley Zoo
Bigelow Tea
Ryan Blaney & Brad Keselowski
Blue State Coffee
Blue Fish Tigers
Boar's Head
Boston Duck Tours
Boston Red Sox
Bridgeport Adventure Park
"Captain" Jack Levine
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Burns
Jessica Carl
Caseus
Cheesecake Factory
Connecticut River Museum
Connecticut River Quest
Connecticut Science Center
Connecticut Tigers

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
CT Parent Magazine
Meghan Dahlmeyer
Essex Steam Train & River Boat
Engine Room
Joseph and Jacquelyn Farrell
Farmer's Cow
Foxwoods Resort & Casino
FreedomTrail
Gas Lamp Grille
Ghost Tours of Newport
Marlene Graham
Hartford Yard Goats
Henrik Lundqvist Foundation
Henry C. Lee College, University of
New Haven
House of Seven Gables
Institute of Contemporary Art
International Tennis Hall of Fame
Steve Levine
Long Wharf Theater
Longhorn Steakhouse
mActivity Fitness Center
Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory &
Gardens
Susan Mastroianni
Metro Bis
Jacqueline Miconi
MicroServ, LLC
Mohegan Sun
Monster Mini Golf
Moxie
NASCAR
New-4U LLC
New England Air Museum
New England Pirate Museum
New York Giants
New York Red Bull Soccer
Niko's Ice Cream
Numi Organic Teas
Olive Garden
Olympia Properties, LLC
Orpheum Theater
Paul Revere House Museum
Peabody Essex Museum
Peabody Museum
PEZ Candy, Inc.
Pittsburg Steelers
Quassy Amusement Park
Quinnipiac University Basketball Camp
R&B Cleaning

RIPE Craft Bar Juice
 River Quest
 Roger Williams Park Zoo
 Roller Magic
 Salem Trolley
 Salem Witch Museum
 Saybrook Point Inn
 Shubert Theater
 Soundrunner
 Southwest Airlines
 Spicer Mansion
 S & P Oyster House
 Sports Center of Connecticut
 Start Community Bank
 STOMP-NYC
 Subway
 Swan Boats of Boston
 The Land of Witches & Pirates
 The Preservation Society of Newport County
 The Stand Restaurant
 Toad's Place
 Total Wine & More
 Traditional Wine Innovations
 Travelers Championship
 Tuscany
 Anita Visentin-Perito
 Walt Disney World
 James Whitney
 Witch History Museum

Dine-Out for a Cause

Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana

Gifts In-Kind

Lynn Bennis
 Heather Boudreau
 Carter's Store 708
 Natalie Cashman
 Jessica Greenberg
 Gymboree
 Jeanette Leslie
 Ana-Claire Meyer
 Oshkosh Store 211
 Public Allies
 Patti Santiago
 Sania Siddiqui
 Lakeisha Sims
 Southern Connecticut State University -

The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development
 Emily Traverse
 Sally Voegeli
 Deborah Weinstein

In Honor of & Memorial Gifts

In Honor of
 The birthday of Dr. Barbara Berkowitz – Robert and Linda Reger
 The marriage of Sean Everett – Linda Levene
 The birthday of Sharon Hale – Robert and Linda Reger
 The graduation of Jennifer Levine – Steven and Judy Rolnick
 The birthday of Steve Levine – Steve and Judy Rolnick
 Pamela Matocha – Constance Keirstead
 Robert Reger – Mr. and Mrs. David C. Ortoleva
 The retirement of Agnes Schofield – Joan & Steve Levine
 Deborah Weinstein on Mother's Day – Geoffrey Weinstein

In Memory of

Gail C. Crane -
 Robin Caron
 Serafina Kinnare -

Bernadette Bimonte-Hackett
 Laura Levene –
 Linda, Ozzie and Alicia Levene
 Rob Levine -
 Michael and Joni Greenspan
 Serena and Arnie Sher
 Francine Stobnitzky
 Marge Riley –
 Linda, Ozzie and Alicia Levene

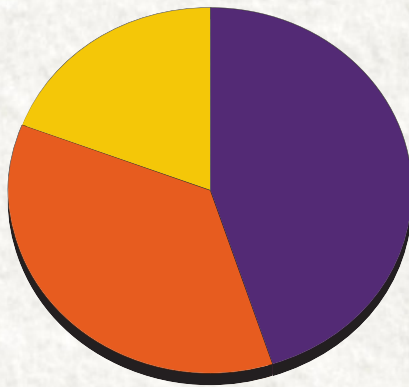
Grants, Foundations and Public Funds

City Missionary Association of New Haven, Inc.
 Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
 Connecticut Department of Children and Families
 Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
 Connecticut Department of Public Health
 Connecticut Department of Social Services
 Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
 Connecticut Office of Victim Services
 Friends of Jimmy Miller, Inc.
 Kenworthy Swift Foundation
 Lapides Foundation
 Schwab Charitable Fund
 United Way of Greater New Haven



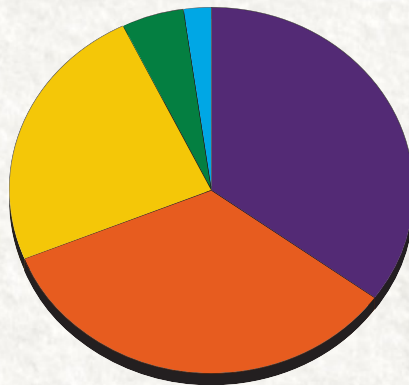
Who we served:

Family Centered Services of CT served 1744 families from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.



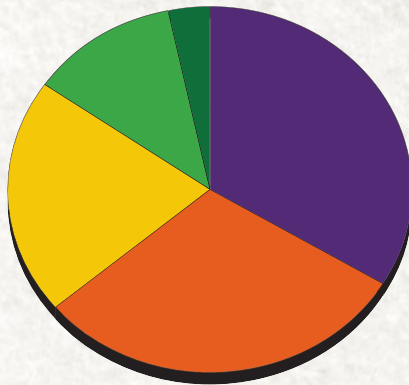
Children's Ages:

Birth – 5	45%
6 – 12	36%
13 -17	19%



Ethnicity:

Black	35%
Hispanic	34%
Caucasian	24%
Other	5%
Unknown	2%



Reason for Referral:

Domestic Violence	31%
Abuse/Neglect Family Strengthening	28%
Care Coordination	19%
Youth Empowerment	11%
Other	3%

“Our clients are strong. To survive and thrive in this world you have to be. Our job is not to give clients strength but to support the strength they already have. I really appreciate that because it strengthens me too.”

Celia Caffery
Neighborhood Victim Advocate

Fiscal Year Ending 6.30.2017 Income and Expense (Unaudited)

Income

CT Department of Children and Families	2,413,888.00
CT Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services	78,491.00
CT Department of Public Health	274,592.00
CT Department of Social Services	243,000.00
CT Office of Early Childhood	334,717.00
CT Office of Victim Services	419,215.00
New Reach	85,106.00
Foundations	25,000.00
Restricted	2,500.00
Fundraising and Special Events	62,344.00
TOTAL	3,938,853.00

Expenses

Salaries	2,330,585.00
Fringe Benefits	558,647.00
Program Supplies, Travel, Training, Network Support	404,103.00
Subcontractors	434,616.00
Facilities	127,993.00
Administrative Expenses	74,903.00
Fundraising and Special Events	8,006.00
TOTAL	3,938,853.00

Family Centered Services of CT 2016-2017 Board of Directors

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Dedicated Staff

Administrative Staff

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Jacquelyn Farrell, LCSW, Assistant Director
Kara Rotheram, BS, Finance Director

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Sammeisha Caporale, M.ED
Megan Kuchta, LMSW
Amie Melillo, LMSW
Alicia Nunzianto, MA
Stefanie Thach, LCSW

Family-Based Recovery

Erin McNeff, LMFT, Program Director
Abigail Berkson, LMSW
Marenid Carattini, BS
Johanna Piper, LMSW

Intimate Partner Violence – Family Assessment Intervention Response

Katie Chesaneck, M.A., LMSW, Program Director
Michelle Covert, M.S.
Ashley Hernandez, M.S.
Michelle Humbert, BS
Laura Wagemaker, M.S., NCC

Multisystemic Therapy – Building Stronger Families

Alix Mury, MS, LPC, Program Director
Trudy Granston, BA
Shannon Jacobs, MS
Nicole Osborne, LMSW
Heather Skiffington, LMSW

Neighborhood Victim Advocacy

Vanessa Cathey, BSW, Program Director
Jodi Baloga, LMSW
Celia Caffery, BA
Taylor Neubauer, BSW
Gisela Taveras, BSW

New Haven Family Partnership

Rolanda Chandler, MS

Nurturing Families Network

Melissa Pagan, MA, MFT, Program Director
Noreen McElroy, BA
Ashley Minihan
Cinque Hall, MS
Isabel Velez
Monica Zavala

Parenting Support and Parental Rights Initiative

Kristina Beckert, LMSW

Parenting Support Services

Irene Clementino, MA, Program Director
Heather Agid, BA
Crystal Ayala, BA
Geanelle Lara, BA
Sarah Tracey, BS

South Central Medical Home Initiative

Tracy Lynch, MSN
Lucy Melendez
Lakeisha Sims, MS

Teen Outreach Program

Raycean Wright, BS, Program Director
Allie Beaulieu, BS



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of CT

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