

# What We're Made Of









## 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

## **Our Network**



psychosocial groups.

Administrative Offices wyandotbhn.org 913-233-3300 757 Armstrong Avenue • Kansas City, KS 66101

> Wyandot Center

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network provides support and leadership to our network of nonprofit organizations that offers accessible and affordable behavioral health treatment and housing services to Wyandotte County residents.

Wyandot Center provides behavioral health services for adults, including psychiatric care, case management, peer support, crisis stabilization and individual and group therapy.

PACES provides children and adolescents who are experiencing

behavioral and emotional challenges with individual and group therapy, parent support, case management, respite care and

wyandotcenter.org 913-328-4600 1301 North 47th Street • Kansas City, KS 66102

PACES

paceswc.org 913-563-6500

7840 Washington Avenue • Kansas City, KS 66112



rsicrisis.org 913-956-5620 **RSI** provides 24/7 care and treatment for residents of Wyandotte, Johnson, Leavenworth and Douglas Counties experiencing mental health and/or substance use crises.

1301 North 47th Street • Kansas City, KS 66102

Kim Wilson Housing

kimwilsonhousing.org 913-233-3356

726 Armstrong Avenue • Kansas City, KS 66101

Kim Wilson Housing provides individuals facing homelessness with safe, affordable and sustainable housing options and support services.

> **Crisis Line** Available 24/7 365 days a year 913-788-4200

Serving Wyandotte County, Kansas since 1953

## From the President/CEO

The most difficult times in our lives have a way of giving us the clearest picture of who we are – as individuals, as organizations and as a community. In times like these, we find out what we're made of.



Over the past year, I have watched in admiration as the individuals we serve have persevered through so many challenging circumstances. I have heard countless stories of how these individuals have discovered a sense of strength, independence and resiliency that they did not realize they had. They discovered what they're made of.

Our team here at Wyandot BHN has faced its own set of challenges over the past year. But with every setback, our staff have bounced back with a renewed commitment to serve this community. And they have worked to instill that same sense of resiliency in the children, adults and families we serve.

Wyandotte County is an incredibly resilient community – one that continues to find ways to heal and move forward in the face of trauma. And we are committed to supporting that healing process so that our community can enjoy brighter days. After all, community is at the heart of who we are and what we do.

As the full impact of the pandemic comes in to view, we are taking steps to make sure we are ready to respond to the growing needs of this community. We are increasing access to care so that anyone who is affected by COVID-19 can receive support and treatment when they are ready to receive it. In addition to meeting the mental health needs of our community, we are also committed to expanding our supported housing services to ensure that individuals and families have a safe, stable home when it is needed most. Because we believe housing is the foundation of good health.

After a challenging year, I know I've come away with a greater sense of who we are as a community and what we're made of. And I believe we have what it takes to continue to heal and grow together as a community.

Caustron

Randy Callstrom President/CEO

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network

wyandotbhn.org

# Our Person-Centered Statement

- I am treated with kindness and respect.
- I am valued as an individual.
- I have options and choices in my treatment.
- My goals are acknowledged and supported.
- My strengths are important to my treatment.
- I am surrounded by people who believe in me.
  - •

#### Wyandot Behavioral Health Network Board of Directors

- Rev. Ken Nettling, Chairperson
- Rosemary Podrebarac, Vice Chairperson
- Paul Victor, Secretary/Treasurer
- Mike Belfonte
- Jackie Bennett
- Therese Bysel
- Rachel Jefferson
- Frank Piper



## Rising to the Challenge

Wyandot BHN's Annual Celebration and SPICE Awards were held virtually in October 2020. The online celebration honored staff for their innovative response to the needs of the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Zevenbergen Community Partner Award was presented to three of our outstanding community partners – USD 204 Bonner Springs, Metro Lutheran Ministry and Chris Quinn from Donnelly Apartments. USD 204 was recognized for their partnership with PACES in making sure that mental health supports were easily accessible for students in the classroom. Metro Lutheran Ministry and Chris Quinn received the award in recognition of their commitment to working alongside Kim Wilson Housing to prevent homelessness during the pandemic.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kim Wilson Housing's Beacon Homes team and Wyandot Center's Supported Housing team worked alongside Metro Lutheran Ministry and Chris Quinn from Donnelly Apartments to provide safe and healthy housing. The Beacon Homes and Supported Housing teams were presented with SPICE Team Awards in recognition of their efforts, while Metro Lutheran Ministry and Chris Quinn received the Zevenbergen Community Partner Award.



RSI's "A+ Team" took home a SPICE Team Award for serving the community with a smile, leading by example and always offering encouragement and motivation to those they encounter. The RSI team was saddened by the loss of Evern Ferrell (second from left) in July 2021. Evern had been a steady presence at RSI since joining the team in 2014.



A Zevenbergen Community Partner Award was presented to Dan Brungardt, Superintendent, and Rick Moulin, Assistant Superintendent for USD 204 Bonner Springs/Edwardsville school district, in recognition of their partnership with PACES to provide mental health resources in schools.

#### BIG NEWS



## Kansas City Kansas Education, Health & Wellness Campus

Wyandot BHN is partnering with Kansas City Kansas Community College, Swope Health, Kansas City Kansas Public Schools, YMCA and CommunityAmerica Credit Union to build the Kansas City Kansas Education, Health & Wellness Campus at 7th and Nebraska in Kansas City, Kansas. This new facility will provide educational opportunities and needed services to children, adults and families living in the metropolitan or downtown area and help to improve social and economic mobility. It is slated to open in Summer 2024.

Wyandot BHN does not currently have a service location in the downtown area of Kansas City, Kansas. Our existing service locations are farther west. By having a presence in the Downtown Community Education Center, we will be able to provide a more convenient access point for our consumers who live in and around the downtown, northeast and Central Avenue areas of Kansas City, Kansas. As part of the Kansas City Kansas Education, Health & Wellness Campus, Wyandot BHN will provide individual, group and family therapy, psychiatric care, recovery and support services, and parenting classes.

## 2020-2021 Financial Report

(July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021)

## Becoming a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic

Grant funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is providing an opportunity to offer new services, including substance use disorder treatment.

In early 2021, Wyandot BHN received a \$4 million Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) grant from SAMHSA. This opportunity allows us to expand available services to better serve the Wyandotte County community.

There are a few key elements of a CCBHC. Providing easily-accessible, comprehensive care is top of mind at a CCBHC. This is accomplished in a number of ways, including integrating behavioral and physical health care and coordinating care with partner organizations. Wyandot BHN is in the process of implementing these elements. As part of this process, we will begin conducting comprehensive health screenings that evaluate an individual's whole-person needs. We also have partnered with Vibrant Health to ensure that we can respond to the full continuum of health care needs.

As part of our implementation of the CCBHC model, we are also introducing several new programs and services. Wyandot Center is now licensed by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) to provide outpatient substance use disorder treatment for adults and adolescents. PACES has also established an agreement to provide substance use treatment services for justice-involved youth in Wyandotte County.

Another key component of a CCBHC is providing convenient access to care. We are working to improve in this area in two important ways. As part of the CCBHC process, we are enhancing our mobile crisis response, including adding another mental health co-responder with the Kansas City Kansas Police Department. This team will be able to respond to mental health crises in various community settings when an individual is unable to make it to one of our treatment centers. We also recently moved to an open-access model for our adult services, which allows individuals to come to Wyandot Center and receive help when they are ready without having to wait for an appointment.

"We are so grateful to SAMHSA for this opportunity," says Randy Callstrom,

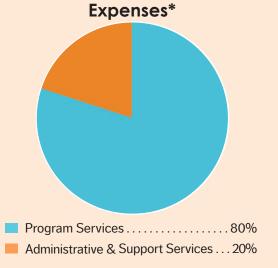
Wyandot BHN President and CEO. "This will be transformative for our organization and for our community. It opens up new doors to be able to meet a wider range of needs here in Wyandotte County."



In June 2021, Wyandot BHN President and CEO Randy Callstrom made the trip to Topeka to witness Kansas Governor Laura Kelly sign HB 2208, establishing Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics in the state of Kansas.



Fees for Service	.32%
COVID-19 Relief Funding	21%
Restricted State Grants	.22%
Unrestricted State Grants	.15%
Local Government Support	4%
Private Foundations & Gifts	2%
Misc./Other	3%





#### \* Unaudited financials

Our audited financial statements are prepared by BKD and will be available on our website at WyandotBHN.org when complete.



#### Wyandot Center Program Highlights







67,457 total visits

#### Wyandot Center Board of Directors

- Rev. Ken Nettling, Chairperson
- Carolyn Sandifer, Vice Chairperson
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- Wayne Headrick, *Treasurer*
- Denise Baynham
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- Rosemary Podrebarac
- Fred Zang



Christine Swenson, Executive Director

## Helping the Community Heal from COVID-19

As the emotional impact of COVID-19 came into focus, Wyandot Center



staff mobilized to provide counseling and support to the Wyandotte County community.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were far-reaching. For many in the Wyandotte County community, they lost more than just a sense of normalcy. They lost family members, friends, jobs and a feeling of stability.

"It was similar to what you might see after a hurricane or tornado," says Paula Wright, Manager of Crisis and Access. "In some ways, I feel like we are playing catch up because this was brand new and looked very different than other disaster relief efforts."

Wyandot Center secured grant funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide free counseling and support to any Wyandotte County resident who had been affected by COVID-19 in any way. Since the program began in January 2021, the team has provided dozens of one-on-one counseling sessions and has served hundreds of other individuals by providing resource packets with information on supports available to those affected by the pandemic.

Individuals who sought one-on-one counseling were able to meet with a Wyandot Center clinician who taught coping skills to help individuals manage what they were experiencing. For individuals needing continued support, they could transition to outpatient services at Wyandot Center.

Wright says people came to counseling sessions with a variety of concerns – including grieving the loss of family members and worrying about finding work. As certain pandemic restrictions ease, Wright says they are seeing a shift toward a new concern.

"The change now is more toward anxiety about what comes next and what if this whole thing isn't really over," says Wright. "The virus has let up some, but it doesn't change the fact that everyone was affected by the pandemic."

While the program serves anyone who needs extra support in light of the pandemic, Wright says she has been particularly pleased with how this program has been embraced by the Unified Government Public Health Department.

"There were a lot of Health Department employees who needed this type of support because of everything they've experienced during the pandemic," says Wright. "The program has been very popular with full-time and temporary employees since we started."

As life begins to return to some semblance of normalcy, Wright says the team just wants to make sure people know that help is available.

If you or someone you know has been affected by COVID-19 and needs support, free counseling is still available by calling 913-563-6514 or sending an email to ccp@wyandotbhn.org.

## A Space to Heal

When a child experiences abuse, it can turn a family's world upside down. A



partnership between PACES and Sunflower House is working to make sure these children and families have a place to process these experiences and receive support.

For more than 7 years, PACES and Sunflower House have worked together to provide a safe haven for children who have experienced abuse, as well as their families - a place where they can find support, receive services and heal.

"My goal is for no child to ever be abused. But if a child has experienced abuse, I want them to have every service and opportunity to heal," says Cindy Riddell, Child Assessment Program Director at Sunflower House.

Riddell works closely with a team of therapists from PACES who provide free therapy to children and families who have been seen at Sunflower House for a forensic interview. There are no limitations on how long a child can receive services.

"We just want to make sure these kids get the help they need when they've been through a traumatic experience," says Riddell.

The partnership between PACES and Sunflower House expanded in the fall of 2020 to include offering treatment to children with problematic sexual behaviors. Since the program's creation, nine children and their families have gone through the intensive treatment program. Four of the children have already graduated.

The program serves children between the ages of 7 and 12 who exhibit problematic sexual behaviors, including aggressive sexual behavior or failure to respect someone's physical boundaries. Through the program, children learn about rules around sexual behavior. The child's family is also highly involved in the program, attending each session and receiving practical information to help support their child.

"Families have been extremely happy with the program," says Natalia Pesado, Child Bilingual Therapist with PACES. "They are happy to have a place where they can speak to a therapist who feels confident having these types of conversations. That is very freeing. They know they have a place to get answers and support."

This new program is just another way that PACES and Sunflower House are working together to keep local children safe.

"We want every child to have a happy and healthy childhood. Every child deserves that."

- Natalia Pesado, Child Bilingual Therapist



paceswc.org

#### PACES **Program Highlights**

2,276 children and families served



#### PACES **Board of Directors**

- Paul Victor, Chairperson
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- Mike Belfonte
- Scott Cahill
- Octavio Estrella
- **DeAnthony Frazier**
- Wayne Headrick
- Kecia Hunter
- Minnette Santos



Clarice Podrebarac, **Executive Director** 



#### **Kim Wilson Housing Program Highlights**



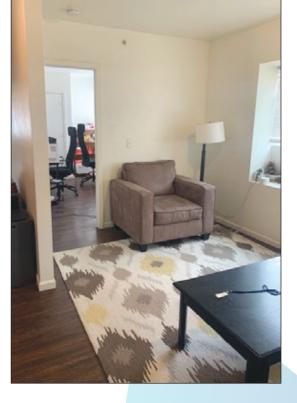
#### persons provided housing services

#### Kim Wilson Housing **Board of Directors**

- Rosemary Podrebarac, Chairperson
- Frank Piper. Vice Chairperson
- · Gilda Hodge, Secretary
- Johnny Johntz, Treasurer
- Brenda Adams
- Joseph Lalli

## A Second Chance and a Fresh Start

Kim Wilson Housing's newest congregate housing site, Kim's Place, is making a difference for individuals seeking affordable housing. For Teresa\*, Kim's Place was the difference between safety and homelessness.



"This is the first time I've ever had my own place. I was always dependent on someone else."

Teresa

For Teresa, Kim's Place has been a game-changer. After being released from prison and spending more than a year in the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) transitional housing program, Teresa says she was afraid she would have been homeless. But after reaching out to Valori Sanders at KDOC, Teresa found her way to Kim's Place.

Kim's Place is a 13-unit service-enriched congregate housing site with on-site staff from Kim Wilson Housing. In addition to providing a safe place to live, the team at Kim's Place provides tenants with needed support and life skills to be successful in housing.

"When a spot at Kim's Place opened up, I immediately thought of Teresa. The team at Kim Wilson Housing has a heart for giving second chances," says Sanders, Housing Specialist at KDOC. "When Teresa was in our transitional housing program, she thrived. She did exactly what she needed to do to be where she is today."

Sanders says she was confident Kim's Place would be a good fit for Teresa because of available support services and the sense of community. For Teresa, the connection with staff and her neighbors has proved to be particularly meaningful.

"My favorite part about living at Kim's Place has been learning how to build relationships," Teresa says. "I've always had issues connecting with people. But with the residents here, we just clicked from the first time we met. And the staff are very respectful and supportive. They are people who I can trust and reach out to if I'm having an issue."

#### A SHARED GOAL



## RSI Provides Valuable Resource for Local Law Enforcement

Thanks to a close partnership with RSI, officers with the Kansas City Kansas Police Department know they have a safe place to take individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis.

Officer Nicole Ortego, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Officer with the Kansas City Kansas Police Department, says she is thankful to have a resource like RSI in Wyandotte County.

"We can take someone in crisis to RSI and get them the help that they need," says Ortego.

Ortego says the department has seen an increase in the number of mental health crisis calls in Wyandotte County in recent months. When an officer encounters someone who is in crisis, they talk to the person and determine if the individual needs to go the hospital. If they believe the person needs support and extra resources, they will offer to take them to RSI. Ortego says she hears of officers taking clients to RSI on a daily basis.

"It makes our job a lot easier because we can offer those services, whereas we didn't have that option before," says Ortego. "We're able to offer up a place where the person can go and talk to somebody."

When an individual arrives at RSI, they can meet with a provider who assesses their needs and can determine what services or resources would be most effective. Because RSI is co-located with Wyandot Center, an individual has additional opportunities to get help and support, even if they don't need the level of services that RSI provides. The staff at RSI and Wyandot Center work together to make sure everyone who comes through the door receives appropriate treatment and support.

At the end of the day, Ortego says RSI and law enforcement are working together toward the same goal.

"We're a team. We just want the individual to get better. Our goal is to get them to the right place to get the help they need."

RSI

rsicrisis.org

#### RSI Program Highlights





#### **RSI Board of Directors**

- Fred Zang, Chairperson
- Gary Bachman, Vice Chairperson
- Michael Billquist, Secretary/Treasurer
- Captain Curtis Bowman
- Captain Mark Fitzgerald
- Wayne Headrick
- Brynn Mroz
- Rosemary Podrebarac

# Donor List & Supporters

Gifts made to Wyandot Behavioral Health Network between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

Dustin Allen Tara Beck Jacqueline Bennett Therese and Bill Bysel Beth and Randy Callstrom City of Bonner Springs, Kansas **Community First Bank** Greater Kansas City **Coalition to End Homelessness H&R Block Foundation** Health Forward Foundation Monica and Todd Henderson, MSTC Hendu Productions Rita Hoad Carol Hockenberry, Merle Norman Cosmetics Gilda Hodge Therese Horvat Kansas City Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund Kansas Health Foundation Kansas Housing Resources Corporation Allison & Michael McLain Christy and Barry McMurphy Matt Meyer Sharon and Steven Moore Missouri Department of Mental Health **Olive Events** Georgette and Frank Piper, Jr. **Rosemary Podrebarac REACH Healthcare Foundation** The Robert E. Miller Group Nehemiah Rosell Ruth and Tarris Rosell Carolyn Sandifer Simmons Security and Protection Services Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Alice and Wendell Swenson The Benevity Community Impact Fund Jov Tiner Tower Mental Health Foundation of Kansas Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Unified Government/ Hollywood Casino Grant Fund U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development The Venue at Willow Creek Sherrie Watkins and Richard Harding Molly and Chad Watskey

Leslie Weese Sharon Wilkinson Wyandotte Health Foundation Cindy and Pete Zevenbergen

**TRIBUTE GIFTS** In Memory of Robert Zevenbergen Nancy Rieken Sheri and Al Seeman In Memory of Myrna Burdette Therese Horvat In Memory of Delia and Mario Madruga Tricia and Thomas Bath Jody and Thomas Boeding Sally and John Bukaty **Richard Calonge** Dena Campbell Stephanie Castro-Rolfes Shaila and Daniel Dale Creitz **Ryan Duckers** George Fritz Patricia Garmon Kathryn Holmes Sarah Hoskinson Kansas District Judges Association Jane Kohler Monica Kretchner Anne LaBella Angela Lawson Therese and Olaf Linman Lydia Madruga Mary Beth and Gary McCarty Allison & Michael McLain Kathy Wolfe Moore and Kenneth Moore Erin and Michael Nash Perry & Trent, Attorneys at Law **Clarice Podrebarac** Margaret and Charles Pyle **Claudine Sanders** Jodi Smith Mary Jo and Phillip Smith Susan M Smith Karolyn and Nicholas Tomasic, Jr. Michael and Jacqueline Widrig Erin Wolsleger Theresa and Donald Woolley Delia and Michael York Rev. Patrick York

Your support of mental health and housing is always welcome and appreciated – please visit **wyandotbhn.org/more-ways-help** to find out how to get involved.

We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact our development office at 913.233.3307 with questions or corrections.

## Highlights From the Year

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The weekend team at RSI showed off their Chiefs pride during Kansas City's run through the playoffs.



Wyandot BHN partnered with several local organizations for the Stories on Stories project, which creates safer, more connected communities by transforming blighted buildings through neighborhood-specific art.



Staff from Wyandot Center and PACES presented to youth in the Kansas City Kansas Police Department's Summer Cadet Program. Cadets were able to learn about mental health and careers in social work.



Wyandot BHN's Build One Culture committee hosted a class where staff learned to make Povitica in March 2021.





## A Community Effort to Promote Resilience

Ray Freeman, a former foster child and Jiu-Jitsu instructor, had a dream: to offer free Jiu-Jitsu instruction to help children and families build resilience.

Alive & Thrive Wyandotte County made sure Ray's dream became a reality, awarding his nonprofit, One Community Jiu-Jitsu, its first-ever Community Projects mini-grant so it could purchase 27 mats. In May, Ray began offering Jiu-Jitsu instruction inside a former Kansas City, Kansas, grade school.

Administered by Wyandot BHN and funded with generous support from Wyandotte Health Foundation, Alive & Thrive leads a network of organizations and individuals committed to building a trauma-informed and resilient community.

"Ray's project is what Alive & Thrive is all about: supporting grassroots efforts to help people heal from trauma and build resilience," said Director Chandra Green. "We believe that people who have experienced trauma are often the ones who have the best ideas for helping other people heal."

Despite the pandemic, Alive & Thrive was able to spend last year building an infrastructure to make projects like Ray's possible.

As the year comes to an end and a new one begins, Alive & Thrive is well positioned to realize its goal of funding and managing 18 additional community projects and offering trainings to more than 200 community members and organizations.

"With our training and project coordinators in place, we have even more capacity to support community members in their effort to build a healthier and more resilient Wyandotte County," Green said. "We're really looking forward to helping bring other dreams to reality."



# In addition to funding five other community projects, highlights include:

- Training three new facilitators to lead community discussions on trauma, ACEs, and resiliency.
- Facilitating 11 community conversations related to coronavirus and systemic racism.
- Partnering with USD 500 to identify and train 5 youth trauma champions.
- Launching trauma awareness trainings for community members and agencies.
- Hiring a Training Coordinator and Project Coordinator.
- Completing first trauma training in Spanish.



Alive & Thrive is continuing its efforts to help the Wyandotte County community prevent and heal from trauma and promote resilience. In September 2020, Alive & Thrive worked with Empowerment Temple to host the Kids Against Hate Unity Walk and Rally in downtown Kansas City, Kansas.



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#### Our Vision Healthy Minds. Healthy Lives. Thriving Community.

### Our Mission

Helping people with mental health needs thrive.

## **Our Values**

- Stewardship We are accountable stewards of our resources.
- **Positivity** We approach our work with enthusiasm and commitment to mission.
- Innovation We create new opportunities to better serve our community.
- **Compassion** We treat each person with empathy, dignity and respect.
- Excellence We provide quality, outcomedriven services that exceed expectations.



#### wyandotbhn.org | 913-233-3300







## Get Social With Us!

Get social with Wyandot BHN! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram to get company updates and news, plus mental health and community information.