

IMPACT REPORT

2019



THE BRIDGE
FOR YOUTH

— 50 YEAR —
ANNIVERSARY



The Bridge for Youth Report to the Community

Dear Friends,

Since 1970, The Bridge for Youth has pioneered innovative services and served as a model for effective programming for homeless youth and their families. What started as one of the first programs in the Twin Cities and the nation to provide refuge from child abuse, teen prostitution, drug abuse, and domestic violence, is today one of the most respected nonprofits in the country serving runaway and homeless youth.

The Bridge is the largest and only emergency shelter for minor youth (ages 10-15) and only one of a handful in Hennepin County serving minor youth (ages 15-17); offering immediate support via 24/7 phone and text lines, basic needs, shelter, and a range of support services. For older youth (ages 18-21), **Rita's House**, an intentional living community provides affordable supportive housing and case management. In 2019, to address an urgent and growing community need, The Bridge opened **Marlene's Place**, the first and only site-based transitional housing and case management program in Hennepin County specifically for homeless pregnant and parenting youth and their children. Building on the success of Marlene's Place, we laid the groundwork to expand our emergency shelter with the launch of **Gloria's Place**. Opening in 2020, Gloria's Place will be the only emergency shelter in the state of Minnesota specifically for unaccompanied homeless youth and their young children, providing emergency shelter and comprehensive case management.

With your support, The Bridge provides immediate safety for youth in crisis, helps parents and youth with conflict resolution, reconnects youth with family or other caring adults, fosters safe and stable housing for homeless youth, and provides supportive housing for homeless youth who must prepare to live independently.

Whether you are a donor, community leader, corporate partner, volunteer, or are just getting involved, we are deeply grateful for your generosity. For 50 years, the community and individuals like you, has ensured that the most vulnerable youth have a warm, safe place to go in times of crisis. **Thank you.** Together we have, and will continue to make a positive impact in the lives of youth.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karla Dross".

Karla Dross, Interim Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristine Oberg".

Kristine Oberg, Board Chair



Mission, Vision, & Values

Mission: The Bridge for Youth provides runaway and homeless youth safe shelter, assists in the prevention and resolution of family conflicts, and reunifies families whenever possible.

Vision: The Bridge for Youth is a premiere resource for diverse populations of youth and families needing help by offering:

- Support that empowers
- Safe shelter
- Sustainable tools for success and restoration of relationships
- When possible, family reunification

Values: Bold Resilient Inclusive Disciplined Great Ethical

The Bridge Programs & Services

Housing

- Resilience House:** The Emergency Shelter is open 24/7/365. Focused on family reunification whenever safe and possible, Resilience House provides temporary shelter, meals, access to healthcare, case management, and support for youth ages 10-17.
- Marlene's Place:** The first and only site-based transitional housing and case management program in Hennepin County for homeless, pregnant/parenting youth (16-20) and their children (0-3).
- Rita's House:** An intentional living community, providing affordable rental housing and teaching independent living skills to twelve youth ages 18-21.

Outreach & Support

- Outreach & Support:** Connects with youth in need on the streets and in the community.
- Juvenile Diversion:** Shelter and long-term housing options for first-time offenders and corrections involved youth.
- Weekly Support Groups:** Weekly support groups that support youth in building community and staying on track with their goals. Groups include crime victims, LGBTQ+, work readiness, and more.
- Work Ambassador:** Youth have the opportunity learn skills on the job, building work experience.
- Youth Response Center:** Available 24/7/365, provides immediate support and resources for youth and families. We also host YSNMN, a mobile app connecting youth with available shelter and resources in real time.

Impact

Last year The Bridge...

Responded to **7,097** crisis calls and text messages.

Provided emergency shelter to **529** youth.

74% of youth exited emergency shelter into safe and stable housing.

Provided transitional housing to **18** families in Marlene's Place.

Provided affordable housing for **18** youth at Rita's House.

Provided shelter and case management to **55** Hennepin County-involved youth.

Provided information and resources to **887** youth via street and site-based community outreach.

Facilitated support groups with **793** attendees.



In 2019 The Bridge opened **Marlene's Place**, the first and only site-based transitional housing and case management program in Hennepin County specifically for homeless pregnant/parenting youth and their children.



Family conflict and instability are the most significant contributing factors in youth homelessness. Many homeless youth do not have the skills to live fully independently because of the fundamental disconnection and trauma they have experienced. Parenting is challenging enough in the best of circumstances, but for homeless teen parents, the difficulties facing them can be overwhelming; homeless teen parents are at high-risk for exposing their children to substances in-utero, premature births, low birth rates, child abuse or neglect, limited access to critical supports, removal of their children into the child protection system and exposure to violence and abuse. While immediate shelter and safety is vital, providing shelter alone is not enough.

In 2019 The Bridge opened Marlene's Place, which provides five single, unaccompanied pregnant or parenting homeless youth (ages 16-20) and their children (ages 0-3) transitional housing and access to much-needed supportive, wraparound services – including access to healthcare, parenting education, experiential life skills coaching and education. Marlene's Place addresses the unique needs of homeless teen parents and their young children by providing a supportive environment that allows them to heal, learn, grow, and thrive.

The Bridge will be opening an additional emergency shelter specifically for these families in 2020. This will be the only emergency shelter in the state of Minnesota specifically for homeless parenting youth and their children.

"Since I've been here I can see there are people that really care about me and my son. The staff are always encouraging me and validate my decisions around parenting and life. They want to see me succeed and provide that support so I can. Since losing my mom and my sister I have felt alone. I'm very thankful I'm here and that Marlene's Place exists."

- Marlene's Place Resident

The Bridge Financials

(FY2019: October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019)

Statement of Activities

Support & Revenue:

Contributions & Grants	\$1,691,783
Government Contracts & Grants	\$1,875,729
United Way	\$303,212
Special Events	\$90,682
Investment Income	\$10,229
In-Kind Interest	\$76,217
Miscellaneous Income	\$58,087

Total Support & Revenue: \$4,105,939

Expenses

Program Services	\$3,035,644
Management and General	\$411,859
Fundraising	\$308,415

Total Expenses \$3,755,918

Total Change in Net Assets: \$350,021

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Current Assets	\$1,697,223
Property & Equipment (Net)	\$6,323,792
Other Assets	\$232,759

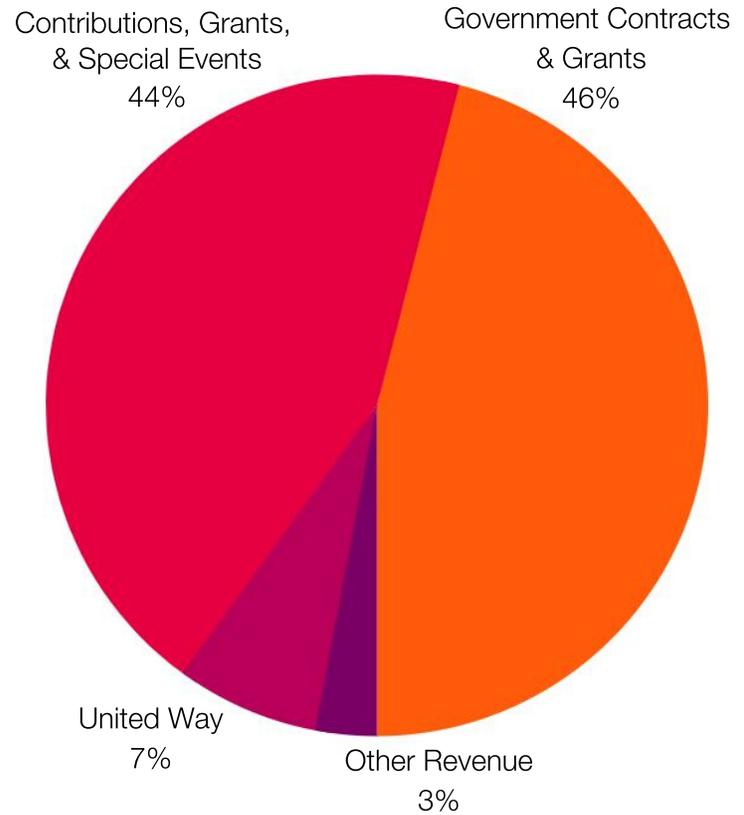
Total Assets \$8,253,774

Liabilities & Net Assets

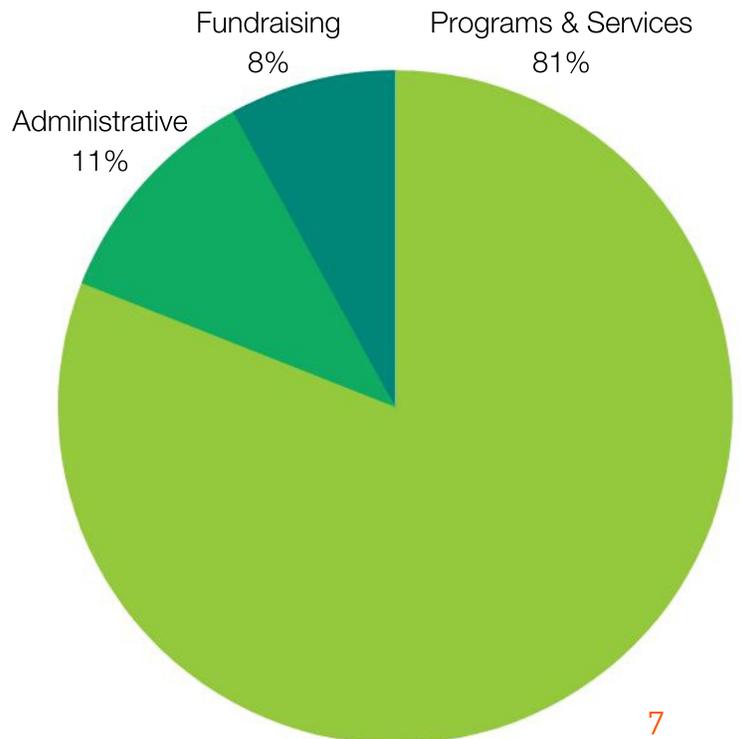
Current Liabilities	\$177,807
Long-Term Liabilities	\$2,994,532
Net Assets	\$5,081,435

Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$8,253,774

Revenue



Expenses



The Bridge is grateful to all of our generous donors!

FY2019: 10/1/18 - 9/30/19

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Ottillie Brechner Bello in honor of Leni Bello Nowakowski	Mary Gail Koester in honor of Emmett "Corky" A. Galloway Jr.
Tanya Bransford in honor of Emmett "Corky" A. Galloway Jr.	Estee Stene Krueger in honor of Britta Iwen & Clifford Grulke
Anne Crowningshield in honor of Marlene Barghini	Kay Prax in honor of Emmett "Corky" A. Galloway Jr.
Amy Elverum & Sarah Louise Emery in honor of Bob Zevnick, Sr.	Roselyn Robins in honor of Emmett "Corky" A. Galloway Jr.
Greater Twin Cities United Way in honor of Stephanie Dexter	Paul & Shirley Smith in honor of Jack Strait
	Ronald & Mary Sundell in honor of Emmett "Corky" A. Galloway Jr.

*Donors listed are for the fiscal year Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019. This reflects payments made during the fiscal year. We do our best to list all donors accurately. If there are any errors, please contact us at development@bridgeforyouth.org.



The Bridge for Youth Leadership

as of 1/15/20

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Thank you to our wonderful volunteers



Your dedication to The Bridge inspires us every day!



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