



THE BRIDGE
FOR YOUTH

Coming together to lift up our youth

Report to the Community

2018

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as of 1/19/2018

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Dear Friends:

In 1970, The Bridge was a grassroots organization built by Sister Rita Steinhagen to give runaway youth a safe place to sleep. The support of countless supporters helped us build from that foundation into a strong organization helping young people get past that first scary night to obtain long-term stability, build life skills, gain employment, and take positive steps forward.

This year has been a year of growth at The Bridge for Youth – we renovated our former home to open Rita's House, expanded our Work Ambassador program, and developed new support groups based on the needs of the young people we serve. We're passionate about constantly improving our programs to best help runaway and homeless youth.

We would not be able to provide 24/7/365 support to young people without the support we receive from our donors, volunteers, and the rest of our community. It's thanks to you that our doors have stayed open for 48 years. Whether you have been a supporter for decades or have just gotten involved, we are deeply grateful for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Scott Thomas-Forss

Board Chair

Michelle Basham

Executive Director

Mission

To provide runaway and homeless youth safe shelter, assist in the prevention and resolution of family conflicts and reunify families whenever possible.

Vision

The Bridge for Youth will be a premier 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, reunification

Our Programs and Services

Housing

Emergency Shelter - The shelter is open 24/7/365. Focusing on family reunification whenever safe and possible, the Emergency Shelter provides temporary safe shelter for up to 30 days, paired with supportive services tailored to youth and family needs.

Transitions - Sometimes reunifying with family takes some time. Or, returning home simply isn't an option. The Transitions program offers a safe and supportive environment for young people ages 16 and 17 for up to 18 months—time to work through issues, plan next steps and build new skills for independence.

Rita's House - Our property at 2200 Emerson Avenue has been renovated and re-opened to provide rental housing in an intentional community for 18 to 21-year-old youth. While living in the house, young people learn independent living skills, work with a case manager, and build a rental history.

Youth Response Center

Crisis phone and text lines are staffed 24/7/365 by staff and volunteers trained to de-escalate crises, provide support and connect youth and families with resources. We also host YSNMN.org, a mobile app connecting youth with available shelter and resources in real time.



We could not provide these services without the support of our community, especially our donors - thank you!

Outreach and Support

Outreach and Support - Our Outreach team connects with youth, offers educational presentations and is a presence at community events to promote awareness of our services and resources.

Weekly Support Groups - Community helps youth stay on track with their goals. The Bridge offers support groups for crime victims, LGBTQ youth, work readiness, and more.

Work Ambassador - Youth have the opportunity to learn on the job. Staff help young people develop resumes and practice interview skills, then build hands-on work experience and job history.

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative - Rather than spend time in jail, first-time juvenile offenders stay in the Emergency Shelter while awaiting their scheduled court day. Youth explore new strategies and set goals to move forward in positive directions while receiving counseling and support.

Hennepin County 365 - This program serves youth who are ready to live on their own. Case managers support youth as they transition to living independently, including advising on money management, identifying affordable apartments, and interpreting lease requirements.



In 2017, Rita's House was restored and renovated. In 2018, we're excited to welcome the first tenants.

2017 Snapshot

By the Numbers

Here's a re-cap of the year:

- Provided emergency shelter and supportive housing to 698 unduplicated youth.
- Responded to 2,511 crisis calls and 9,171 texts.
- Provided 658 youth and family counseling and therapy sessions.
- Offered shelter, case management and legal resources for 95 systems-involved (juvenile justice, foster care or child protection) youth.
- Provided support group sessions with 2,219 attendances.

When they left The Bridge...

- 73% of youth exited to safe and stable housing.
- 68% of youth made safer decisions.
- 67% identified at least one positive connection with a peer or caring adult.
- 73% were connected to health care.
- 55% reported a better relationship with family.
- 72% were attending school regularly.
- 69% had increased their life skills



**We appreciate all of our amazing volunteers!
Many hands helped with the renovation of Rita's House.**

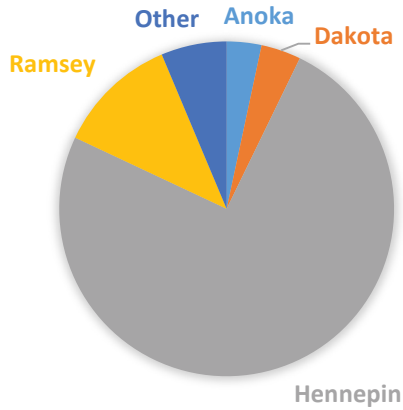
Last summer, we enjoyed marching in the Pride parade alongside the Hyatt. We support all youth regardless of race, disability, or sexuality.



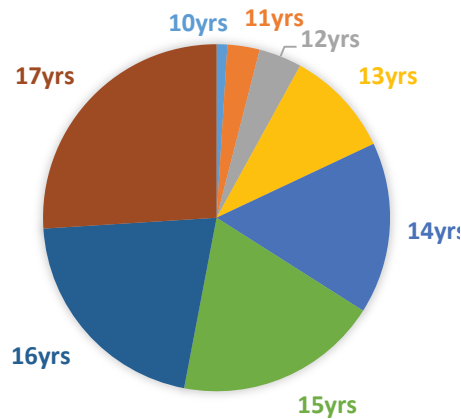
2017 Snapshot

Youth served in our Emergency Shelter

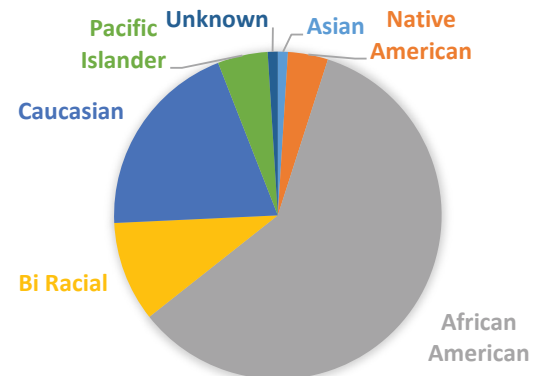
HOME COUNTY



AGE



RACE



Financial and in-kind donations come in year-round from individuals and corporations. Thank you!



Our youth entrance was remodeled by Curb Crowser at the end of 2017. We love how fresh and welcoming it is now!

Financial Summary

Statement of Activities

Year End September 30, 2017

Revenues & Support

Contributions & Grants	1,285,122
Greater Twin Cities United Way	363,646
Government Contracts & Grants	1,507,484
Other Revenue	141,832
Gain on Sale of Property	271,707
Total Revenues & Support	3,569,791

Expenses

Program Services	2,911,885
Management and General	236,600
Fundraising	295,535
Total Expenses	3,444,020
Balance	125,771

Statement of Financial Position

For October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017

Assets

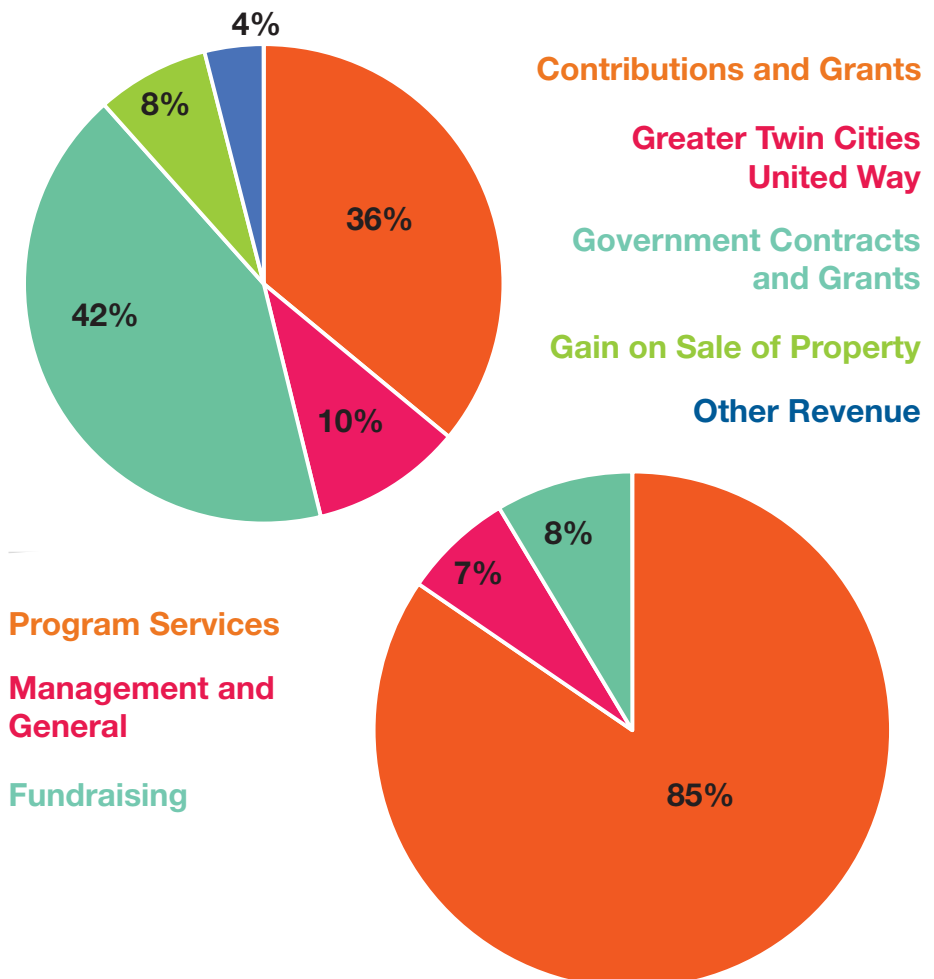
Current Assets	1,348,880
Property & Equipment (Net)	6,448,946
Other Assets	84,924
Total Assets	7,882,750

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	280,872
Long-term Liabilities	2,917,655
Net Assets	4,684,223
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	7,882,750



Pabak Sarkar



Financial Summary

Statement of Functional Expense For the year ended September 30, 2017

	Program Services					Support Services			2017
	Youth Resonse & Outreach	Emergency Services Program	Transitional Living Program	Volunteers & Interns	Total Program Services	Management & General	Fundraising	Total Support Services	Total All Services
Salaries & Wages	266,485	944,448	481,987	50,430	1,743,350	99,807	190,325	290,132	2,033,482
Payroll Taxes	23,432	80,784	42,529	4,210	150,954	9,201	15,603	24,804	175,758
Employee Benefits	25,004	72,382	36,216	4,319	137,921	21,507	16,971	38,478	176,399
Total Personnel:	314,921	1,097,614	560,731	58,958	2,032,225	130,515	222,899	353,414	2,385,639
Professional Services	16,284	67,322	35,094	1,907	120,606	5,164	19,580	24,744	145,350
Client Program	2,371	41,555	94,632	-	138,558	-	-	-	138,558
Equipment Repairs	17,000	34,939	18,315	917	71,170	2,548	8,463	11,011	82,181
In-Kind Interest	-	31,482	22,798	-	54,280	23,328	3,346	26,674	80,954
Utilities/Prop Tax	8,239	25,848	12,734	1,287	48,108	2,758	3,396	6,154	54,262
Interest	4,062	12,708	11,249	634	28,654	12,315	1,767	14,082	42,736
Insurance	5,547	17,119	8,409	867	31,941	2,739	2,279	5,018	36,959
Office Supplies	2,105	2,453	1,405	243	6,206	19,643	9,142	28,785	34,991
Telephone	1,909	3,380	1,466	29	6,785	18,937	446	19,383	26,168
Client Transportation	1,945	9,393	6,033	-	17,371	-	-	-	17,371
Postage & Print	1,346	2,222	709	82	4,360	3,995	1,948	5,943	10,303
Meetings & Trainings	1,288	3,385	2,506	1,385	8,564	462	253	715	9,279
Staff Travel & Mileage	598	1,006	1,350	43	2,997	82	119	201	3,198
Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	782	-	782	782
Depreciation	56,689	187,627	86,867	8,875	340,058	13,332	21,897	35,229	375,287
Total:	434,304	1,538,054	864,299	75,228	2,911,885	236,600	295,535	532,135	3,444,020



Staff members of The Bridge.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors

Donors listed are for the fiscal year October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. This list reflects payments and pledges made during the fiscal year. We do our best to list all donors accurately. If there are any errors, please contact j.harding@bridgeforyouth.org.

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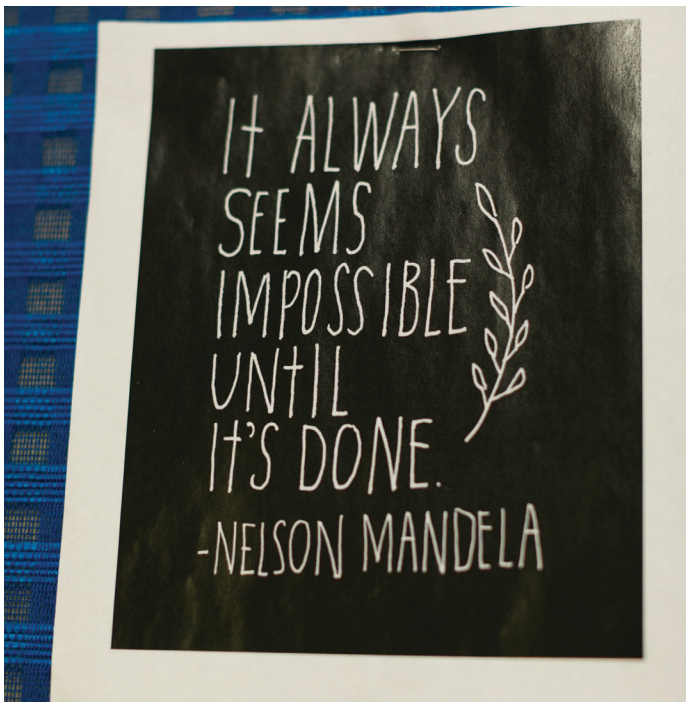
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Whitney (above right) was only 15 when she was legally emancipated. That big moment was just one step on a long path to independence.

Whitney's mother was an addict, and Whitney ran away multiple times in her early teens because it wasn't safe to stay at home. During one of those periods, she found her way to The Bridge. Counseling helped her return home, but the stability didn't last.

Finally, she realized she had to move out in order to move forward in her own life. That's when she found her way to Transitions.

"The Bridge was a haven for my safety and growth when I was in high school," she said.

Whitney spent parts of her junior and senior year living at The Bridge, where she received counseling for trauma and depression. In Transitions, she found a safe place where she could learn how to take care of herself and work toward her goals. She still remembers the day she received her acceptance letter to Augsburg College.

"Everyone was freaking out with me," she said. "It was really beautiful,

it felt like I had been accepted into a family outside of my blood."

She graduated with a double major in Creative Writing and Sociology, and a minor in Social Welfare. She started working part time at Penumbra Theatre after graduating, and has worked her way up in the past 2.5 years to Executive Assistant.

"It's taken a lot to get here. I have a lot of lumps and the scars to show for it," Whitney said. "But looking at where I am, I'm proud of what I've been able to overcome."

We're proud too, Whitney!



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