

# IMPACT REPORT



THE BRIDGE  
FOR YOUTH

2018

# The Bridge for Youth Report to the Community

Dear Friends,

It's been an exciting year at The Bridge! We were so glad to open Rita's House. Located in what had been The Bridge's emergency shelter for many years, today Rita's House is an intentional living community providing formerly homeless youth a safe place to live independently as they transition into adulthood. We also strengthened our Work Ambassador employment program to help youth find and keep jobs that are so vital to their future success; and, recognizing a growing need in our community, we opened Marlene's Place, the first and only site-based housing program in Hennepin County specifically for homeless teen parents and their children.

None of this would have been possible without the strong support of the community. From donors and volunteers; to city, state and federal government; to our corporate partners – we could not fulfill our mission of providing a safe place for runaway and homeless youth without you. We are particularly grateful to our Board of Directors. These passionate individuals come from leadership roles in many different sectors and are a vital source of expertise and resources for The Bridge. Finally, a big thank you to our caring and compassionate staff. Their willingness to go above and beyond in service to youth in crisis is truly an inspiration.

This coming year, The Bridge will celebrate 50 years! Looking back, it is remarkable how far we have come and what an impact this organization has made in the Twin Cities and throughout the state. Hardly a week goes by when we are not in contact with someone telling us the story of their time at The Bridge and how significant it was to them. We are very proud of this history and we honor and commit to it daily. Together, we will continue making a difference in the lives of runaway and homeless youth for another 50 years and beyond!

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Basham".

Michelle Basham, MPA/Esq.  
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Woodlee".

Christina Woodlee, MPA  
Associate Director



## The Bridge for Youth Mission & Vision

**Mission:** The Bridge for Youth's mission is 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 is 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, family reunification

Values:

**Bold Resilient Inclusive Disciplined Great Ethical**



## Bridge Programs & Services

### HOUSING

- **Resilience House:** The Emergency Shelter is open 24/7/365. Focused on family reunification whenever safe and possible, the Emergency Shelter 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 teens (ages 16-20) and their children (ages 0-3).
- **Rita's House:** An intentional living community, providing affordable rental housing and teaching independent living skills to twelve youth ages 18-21.

### YOUTH RESPONSE CENTER

Available 24/7/365, provides immediate support to de-escalate crisis and connect youth and families with support. We also host YSNMN, a mobile app connecting youth with available shelter and resources in real time.

### OUTREACH AND SUPPORT

- **Outreach and Support:** Connects with youth in need on the streets and in the community.
- **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 to learn skills on the job, building work experience.
- **Juvenile Diversion:** Shelter and long-term housing options for first-time offenders and corrections-involved youth.



## Impact

### Last year The Bridge...

responded to **2,484** crisis calls and **5,688** text messages;

provided emergency shelter to **681** youth;

supported **65%** of youth exiting emergency shelter into safe and stable housing;

provided long-term shelter to **30** youth in the Transitional Living Program

and provided affordable housing for **18** youth in Rita's House;

provided shelter and case management to **82** Hennepin County-involved youth; and

facilitated support groups with **1,378** attendees.

# Rita's House provides formerly homeless youth with a safe place to experience independent living as they transition into adulthood.



"Rita's House has changed my life. I'd probably be living on the streets if I hadn't found this place."

- Rita's House Resident

In February of 2018, The Bridge was excited to open Rita's House, an intentional living community providing affordable rental housing and teaching independent living skills to twelve youth ages 18-21.

Youth who have been homeless rarely have adequate resources to secure stable housing. With an incredibly tight rental market in the Twin Cities, especially for affordable housing, landlords are reluctant to rent to youth with no rental or credit history. Residents of Rita's House lease individual rooms at an affordable rate, allowing them to build rental and credit histories, save money, finish school, and develop job skills without the worry of losing their housing. Rita's House has been full since it opened and continues to have a waiting list.

Located across the street from The Bridge in the agency's former home at 2200 Emerson Avenue South, Rita's House is named for Sister Rita Steinhagen, who co-founded The Bridge for Youth in 1970.

We are so glad to see these young people thriving! Thank you to everyone who supported this project, your efforts were vital to getting Rita's Place off the ground.



Thank you also to CommonBond Communities for partnering with The Bridge to provide property management for Rita's House.

# The Bridge Financials

## (FY2018: Oct. 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2018)

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

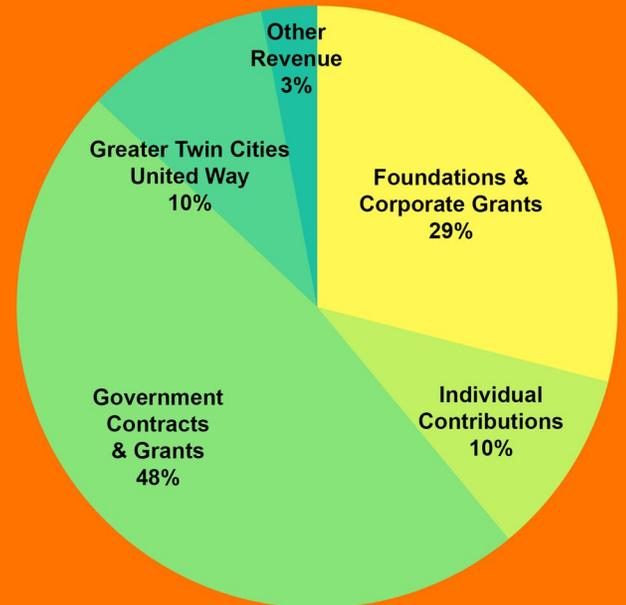
#### SUPPORT & REVENUE:

Contributions, Grants & Special Events	\$1,423,653
Government Contracts & Grants	\$1,680,255
United Way	\$343,201
Investment Income	\$22,463
In-Kind Interest	\$75,554
Miscellaneous Interest	\$38,516
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue:</b>	<b>\$3,583,642</b>

#### EXPENSES

Program Services	\$2,876,325
Management and General	\$421,155
Fundraising	\$373,971
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,671,451</b>
Release of Forgivable Loan	\$135,000
<b>Total Change in Net Assets:</b>	<b>\$47,191</b>

### REVENUE



### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

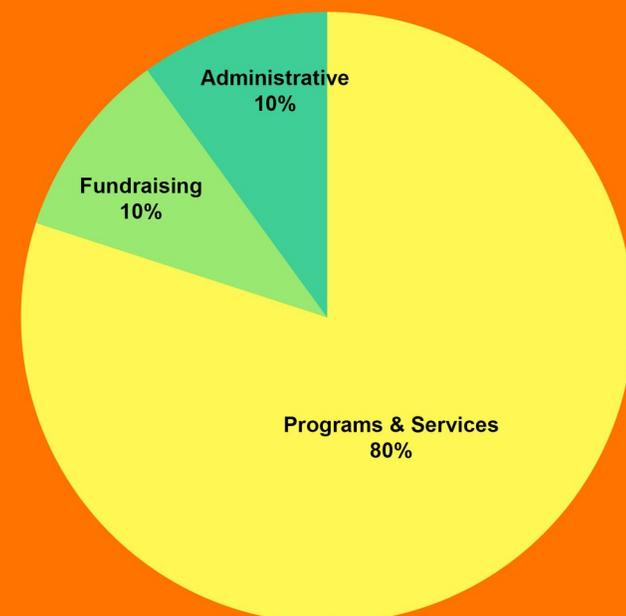
#### ASSETS

Current Assets	\$1,339,391
Property & Equipment (Net)	\$6,368,824
Other Assets	\$54,267
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$7,762,482</b>

#### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	\$118,571
Long-Term Liabilities	\$2,912,497
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$4,731,414</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$7,762,482</b>

### EXPENSES



# The Bridge is grateful to all of our generous donors!

FY2018: 10/1/17 - 9/30/18

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as of 8/15/19

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- Randy Okan, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Assistant Director of Finance
- Anne Rasmussen, Temple Israel, COO/CFO
- Sarah Sanchez, American Heart Association, Director of Community Advocacy
- Gloria Stamps-Smith, Hennepin County, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney

## Executive Leadership Team

- Michelle Basham, MPA/Esq., Executive Director
- Christina Heineken Woodlee, MPA, Associate Director
- Angela Alvarez, Human Resources Director
- Karla Dross, Finance and Operations Director

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