



Annual Report FY19

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



It's more than the programs. It's the people.

CLIENTS ~ DONORS ~ EMPLOYEES ~ DIRECTORS ~ VOLUNTEERS

john moses, ceo

Dear Friends, Donors & Supporters,

Not everyone is cut out to work directly with youth who have experienced abuse, neglect and trauma. For 45 years, led by the example of our founder Brother Ronald C. Mulholland, YSS has employed people who have what it takes —

Compassion. Empathy. Vision. Faith. Love.

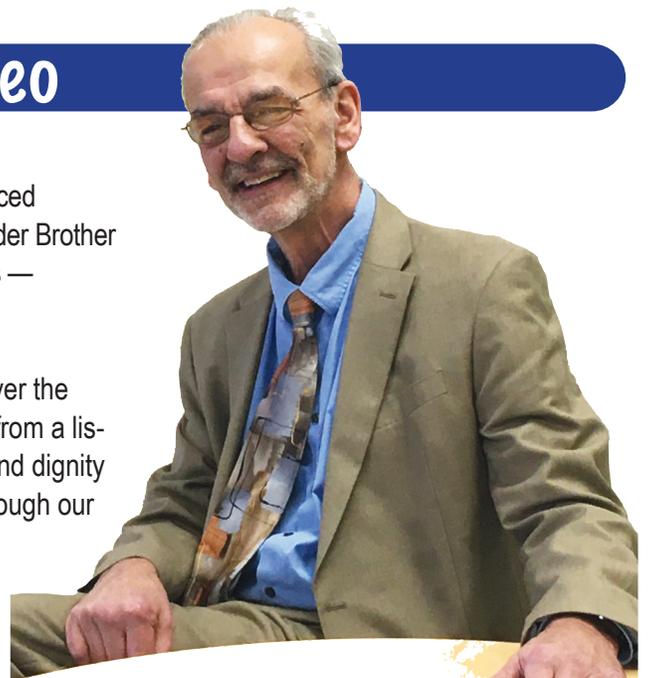
Without these dedicated people, our programs would not work.

Your contributions have helped us serve more than 50,000 youth over the years. The programs we offer give youth direct, life-changing support, from a listening ear to a down payment on an apartment. We also give shelter and dignity to adults with substance use disorders and mental health disorders through our Winter Freeze Shelter and Lazarus/Mary & Martha Houses.

Without you, these programs would not exist.

Brother Ron said we have a moral imperative to say “yes, yes and yes again” to respond to the needs of our youth. YSS continues to say “yes.” Unfold this report and see we have not done it alone.

Your continued willingness to say “yes” allows our programs, our staff and most importantly, our youth, the chance to succeed.



Warmly,



Former clients Elena Wiselka and Rick Davis pose with John Moses at the Hazel-Atlas Building.

Putting people first for 45 years

Among those who shared their stories about YSS to celebrate its 45th anniversary were Elena Wiselka of Bellaire and Rick Davis of McMechen.

Elena ran away from home at age 11 because her mother had untreated mental illness and could not care for her. She was in group homes and foster homes before coming to YSS, where for the first time she felt loved, respected and listened to. She said John Moses demonstrated the unconditional love of a parent and helped her become the loving parent she is to her three sons today. Elena works full time at Gulla's Next Door and credits the people at YSS with saving her life.

Rick spent years at YSS, first as a teen at Samaritan House, then in independent living, then as a maintenance employee. More than 30 years later, he's a successful entrepreneur and is back at YSS as a volunteer, serving every morning to motivate Winter Freeze Shelter guests to believe in themselves. In the fall of 2019, Rick accepted our invitation to serve on the YSS Board of Directors.

“They taught me the proper tools to make it in adulthood and to raise three great children. I have one in college. I'm a great citizen. They taught me everything I know to survive adulthood.”

Elena Wiselka

“They helped create me, and they helped form me. It's just amazing. I wouldn't be who I am today if it wasn't for them. And I am proud to be who I am today.”

Rick Davis



www.youthservicessystem.org

Our Mission:

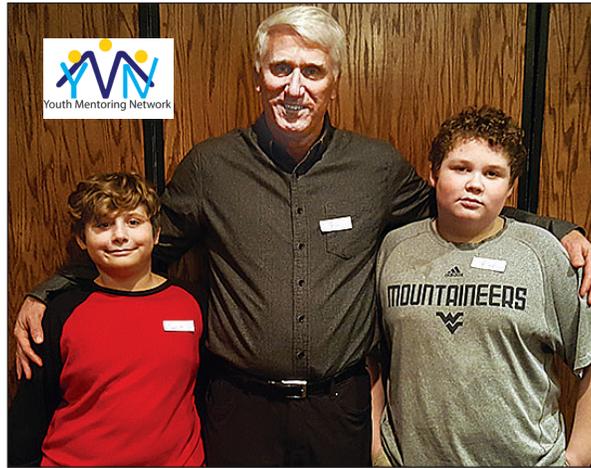
“To create better futures for children, families, and our community.”

Jill Eddy is **Director of Community-Based Services**, which includes Expanded School-based Mental Health, Supervised Visitation, Parenting Education, Youth Opportunities Unlimited work program, Youth Mentoring Network, before- and after-school programs, Regional Service Youth Services Center, and the DHHR case work contract for Brooke/Hancock, Ohio/Marshall, Marion, Harrison and Wood counties.

jill eddy



| | |
|---|---------|
| <u>Expanded School-based Mental Health</u> | |
| Universal Prevention Episodes: | 18,460* |
| Early Intervention: | 2,519 |
| Referred to treatment: | 64 |
| <u>Community-based Services</u> | |
| Regional Youth Services Center | |
| School-based Groups: | 425 |
| YOU work program: | 126 |
| Youth Mentoring Network: | 38 |
| Before- and After-school: | 108 |
| Supervised Visitation, Parenting Instruction and Safety Services: | 44 |
| Life Skills Training: | 153 |



Long-time mentor Paul Peluchette and his mentees Spencer, left, and Alex attend the Mentor Appreciation Dinner at Wheeling Country Club in January 2019.

“The staff take pride in their clients’ successes - whether an individual regained custody of their children, accessed new housing, got a job, or experienced pride seeing their own children flourish. This is the difference our people are making, affecting the future for generations to come.”

3,477

* Not counted in the total because of duplicates.



jo hickman-moses

Jo Hickman-Moses is **Director of Professional Services**: behavioral therapy, Safe at Home, CAPS assessments, mental health evaluations, substance use disorder treatment. She started at Samaritan House in 1990.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----|-----------------------------|---|
| Safe at Home: | 37 | CAPS Assessment: | 9 |
| Therapy: | 38 | School-based Mental Health: | 8 |
| Quiet Minds: | 6 | | |
| Substance Treatment: | 13 | | |
| Evaluations: | 4 | | |

115



Licensed therapists Kevin Serig and Elisa Hickman help youth achieve personal success every day.



Recovery Coach Academy is an evidence-based training for peer recovery coaches. Trained coaches provide one-on-one support and tools for individuals recovering from substance use disorder. The Partnerships for Success team has trained 130 recovery coaches since 2016.

lori garrett-bumba



Lori Garrett-Bumba is **Director of Prevention Services**, which encompasses the Community Impact Coalition, State Opioid Response, Northern Panhandle Prevention Consortium, and Partnerships for Success. Her staff work on vital projects such as the Day of Hope, SADD, Drug Takeback Day, Recovery Coach Academy and Overdose Spike Alerts.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---|--------|
| <u>Community Impact Coalition</u> | | <u>Northern Panhandle Prevention Consortium</u> | |
| Youth at events/meetings: | 1,337 | Youth in evidence-based prevention ed: | 3,283 |
| Community members at events/meetings: | 2,201* | Youth & adults in prevention ed: | 2,175* |
| Law enforcement at events/meetings: | 111* | Youth in vaping prevention ed: | 1,030 |

5,650

* Not counted in total because of inclusion of adults.



**We must say yes ... yes ...
and yes again.”**

YSS Founder
Ronald C. Mulholland



aleeyah - transitional living

Aleeyah is 21 and the mother of 3-year-old Taevin. She is studying nursing at West Virginia Northern Community College and works at a local rehabilitation hospital.

“I often wondered why I couldn’t have had parents like most of my friends at school. At a young age, I was abused physically, mentally, emotionally. I still am very emotional to this day, but I’m getting to a stage where that is okay. I ended up in West Virginia because my last foster home disapproved of my decision to have my son. I was seventeen at the time.

“I often wondered why I couldn’t have had parents like most of my friends at school.”

(Having my son) was the bravest decision I ever made. He’s my world and my reason to keep on going.

“I’ve had a lot of lows in my life, and I look to God for answers and peace of mind. Life is not fair for anyone, but how long must we blame others? We only get one life, so why be miserable? I work every day to make sure I choose the right path and make the right decisions, so when I

look back maybe when I’m 70 years old I know how far I’ve come and what I overcame regardless of my setbacks in life.”

savannah - work program

Savannah was placed in foster care as a toddler and lived with her grandmother before going to a group home at age 14. While there, she earned the opportunity to work for the YSS Workforce Investment Board, now Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU). She then moved in with her mother in Wheeling but soon after dropped out of high school.

Now 18 and living in her own apartment with the help of YSS, she is still in the YOU program and works at the YSS Sophie Moses Free Store. Savannah is

interested in pursuing her high school diploma and eventually hopes to work in the field of animal rescue.

“This program offers a lot of opportunity in finding skills in what you can do in life and how much you can succeed and how far you can go. ... Working here shows me that anyone in the world is the same, no matter their situation or where they come from, all of us can succeed in the same way. And that’s what I want to do is show other people that they can get as far as



“Working here shows me that anyone in the world is the same, no matter their situation or where they come from, all of us can succeed in the same way.”



sommer - mary & martha house

Sommer is a server at Rachel’s on 16th and Perkins Restaurant in Wheeling. She has been clean since Sept. 25, 2017. She is the Mary & Martha House manager and is working toward a future that includes her 13-year-old daughter.

“I am a grateful, recovering drug addict. I used drugs for over 30 years. I was very good at masking pain and abuse, and I prayed for a miracle.

“On November 14, 2018 I was released from prison and arrived at the Mary & Martha House with nothing but the clothes on my back. I was welcomed into the home with open arms and lots of hugs. The

“Every day I wake up and thank God for another day clean. Today my life is full of hope, and I no longer live in despair and shame.”

donations from YSS and the house came in the form of everything I needed to start my new journey. That first night I was taken to my first Narcotics Anonymous meeting. My prayers had been answered.

“To this day I have an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the Mary & Martha House and for Narcotics Anonymous. I have now

been clean for 28 months. Every day I wake up and thank God for another day clean. Today my life is full of hope, and I no longer live in despair and shame. I am living proof that an addict can recover.

Miracles do happen! God bless!

Number of Youth Served FY19: 9,614

jason melegari



Director of Operations Jason Melegari oversees our two emergency youth shelters, the Transitional Living Program, Youth Achievement Center and the Ronald C. Mulholland Juvenile Center. In 2019, he led the agency in successful efforts to earn its first CARF International accreditation.

Ronald C. Mulholland Juvenile Center
Commitment: 34
Detention: 146

180

Emergency Shelters
Samaritan House: 37
Helinski Shelter: 64

101

Transitional Living Program
McCrary Center: 32
Tuel Center: 23
Community: 27

82

Youth Achievement Center

10

“When some of our Transitional Living (TLP) clients come to us they are technically adults, but they don’t know how to survive in the real world. Our TL staff do an excellent job modeling and coaching them, giving them skills to live in often challenging environments.”



Employee Sarah Nolan presents co-worker Aaron Schwender with a tiny trophy at the TLP Wing Cook-off.

Director of Human Resources Julie Cunningham works to bring the industry’s best practices to YSS in order to help each employee — and therefore each client — reach their potential.

julie cunningham



“Each individual who comes to us ins us on their personal strengths to build a foundation for a better future.”

HR employees Kelly Rayl, left, and Regina Jackson enjoy the 2019 Winter Freeze Shelter Soup Social.



HR organized the inaugural Employee Appreciation Week in 2019, with daily treats for all employees, culminating in an employee cookout.

Employees

Full-time: 158
Part-time: 22
Seasonal: 32

212

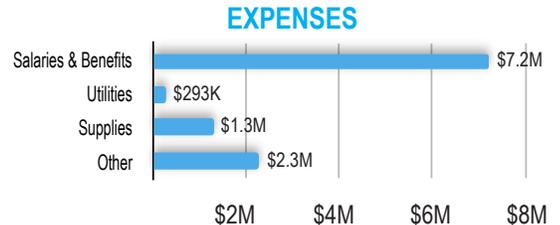
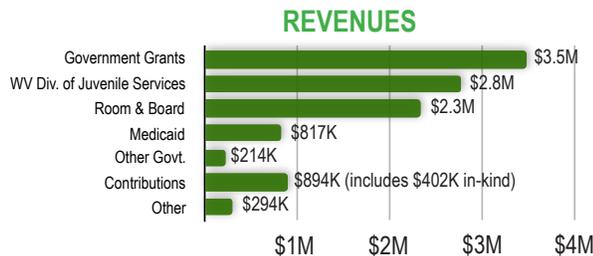


molly williams

Molly Williams is the **Chief Financial Officer**. Since 2012, she has overseen with impeccable detail all agencywide budgets, accounts, capital spending, payroll, investments, audits and intra-agency grant allocations.

FY 19 Revenues
10,786,022

FY 19 Expenses
\$11,100,500



FY19 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E. Marc Abraham
Art Bertol
Darryl Clausell
Edward J. Corbitt
Meredith Dailer
Robert J. Dobkin
Ralph Edwards
Emily S. Fisher,
Chair
Emily Freeman

Robert J. Gaudio
Rod Lee
Dr. William C. Mercer
Susan Mortakis
Justin Pastorius
Matt Porter
Dion Scripture
Wayne Smith
Zak Zatezalo



Robert J. Gaudio performs at the Wheeling Rotary Taste of the Market at Centre Market to benefit YSS in May.



Matt Porter speaks at the 2019 Soup Social in March to thank Winter Freeze Shelter supporters and donors.



Board Chair Emily Fisher and her husband, Bill, serve at the Ice Cream Social at Stone Presbyterian Church to benefit YSS in June.



tammy kruse

"The people who give do not contribute for praise but for the betterment of lives. Our donors make the difference. We are just the conduit."

Director of Development Tammy Kruse began her YSS career as an AmeriCorps VISTA. She oversees all fundraising, communications, special events, donations, grants and the Sophie Moses Free Store.

Celebrate Youth



AmeriCorps VISTA Lychel Shrodes paints the face of a little girl at the 2018 Celebrate Youth Festival at Wheeling Park. The festival is a gift from YSS, Wheeling Park Commission and Oglebay Foundation to our community.



Every year, the employees of AEP Mitchell Plant donate hundreds of toys to YSS to distribute to local children at Christmas.

2018 Wheeling SleepOut Net Revenue:

\$55,840

Liam Kruse, left, and Haddassah Titus-Glover pose with Liam's trophy at the 2018 SleepOut.



The **Winter Freeze Shelter** marked its 11th year in 2018-19 and had a record 197 guests, bringing the total served to more than 1,500. Chad Simmons is a frequent Winter Freeze Shelter guest who has a gift for sketching.

In the winter of 2018 while staying with us, he sketched an image of hands grasping over a hot bowl of soup. We found so moving it is the centerpiece of our shelter logo.



197

 Number of individual guests who stayed at the shelter in 2018-19

Woodsdale Elementary School fifth-graders held a tent and blanket drive as the Winter Freeze Shelter prepared to close for the season in March 2019.



patrick condron

Patrick Condron is the **Director of the YSS Recovery Homes:** Lazarus House for men and Mary & Martha House for women. These sober-living homes focus on recovery in community, providing hope and support to individuals working toward better futures for themselves and oftentimes their children.

"Probably the most important moment in our day at Lazarus House is gathering together around the table for dinner. In the simple sharing of food and conversation we know we are home, we are together, we are valued; and that's where recovery happens."



Lazarus House: 23
Mary & Martha House: 20

43



In February 2019, students from The Linsly School visited Lazarus and Mary & Martha Houses for a class project on substance use disorder. At right, Lazarus House manager at the time, Rush, shares his recovery story with the students.