## ANNUAL REPORT

# FY 23













**Youth Service Bureau** 



of Illinois Valley



www.ysbiv.org

#### A Word from the Director

Since joining Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley in January 2023 I continue to be inspired by the people we serve and our team. People often express to me that they are amazed by the number of services and reach across our state that YSB has. I agree! Even more importantly, we provide this wide variety of community critical services, on a 24-7 basis, while maintaining focus on individual needs.

YSB strives to provide the highest quality services and best possible outcomes for those served. Our performance is closely monitored by external funding agencies and our own internal continuous quality improvement measures. We had a strong year meeting our quality measures and outcomes; some of which ranked top tier in the state.

This success is due to the excellence of our staff, YSB's greatest resource. The work is challenging, including experiencing the trauma of those served. That's why we make it a priority to fully support our staff, their job satisfaction and work/life balance. This year we implemented a new Employee Assistance Program free of charge for all staff. We pay close attention to our agency's culture and values, including stewardship, respect, collaboration and open communication.

Our success is also impacted by our partnerships and stakeholder relations. We work with many other service providers and community resources to build connections to meet the complex needs of those served.

We also recognize the many wonderful donor partners we have that support us with monetary funding, supplies and holiday gifts for those served. Volunteer support is important too, including the dedication of our all-volunteer YSB Board of Directors.

All of these partnerships help us and those we serve, building a sense of community inclusiveness and connection.

Over the past year the YSB Team proudly served approximately 5,700 individuals, and through them, contributed to the wellness, safety, and economy of our community as a whole. Thank you for being a part of that work!

SAM TENUTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **Our Programs**

Foster Care

Providing care for children who are unable to remain safely in their home.

Preserving families and keeping children safely at home.

Intact **Family** Services

Serves adolescents and their families who are experiencing family conflict, peer relations, delinquency, truancy and personal problems.

Runaway **Homeless** Youth Services

Hispanic **Services** 

Provides families information and assistance in completing applications for local, state and federal programs in English and Spanish.

**Program** 

Gives parents the opportunity to learn Parenting healthy ways to interact with their children and set appropriate expectations/limits.

24 Hour crisis intervention (815-433-3953)

**Homeless Prevention** 

Supervised visitation and exchange services for families in LaSalle county.

Hope House

**Solutions** Counseling

Offers mental health treatment by Master degreed and licensed therapists for youth, adults, and families.

Juvenile **Justice** 

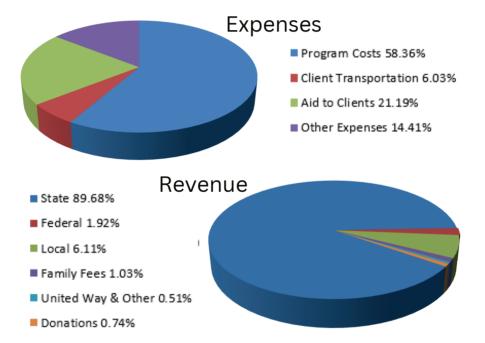
Redeploy Illinois and Second Chance provide intensive services to youth at high risk for incarceration or removal from their community.

A place for children to learn, grow & play after school.

Ladd After School

## By the numbers

|                                     | Clients Served |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Foster Care                         | 2706           |
| Intact Family Services              | 512            |
| Solutions Counseling                | 341            |
| Juvenile Justice                    | 108            |
| Hope House                          | 33             |
| Parenting Program                   | 239            |
| Runaway and Homeless Youth Services | 257            |
| Hispanic Services                   | 1492           |
| Ladd After School Program           | 15             |



While the majority of our revenue comes from our contracts with the state, those funds pay for our basic operating costs.

The portion that comes from donations does things such as meeting urgent needs of our clients in crisis, subsidizing counseling for those who need it, and providing for some much needed 'extras' for the kids in our care.

Your generosity makes a meaningful impact.

## By the numbers

#### Miles Traveled



Our caseworks logged over 1,000,000 miles to make sure that children in foster care stayed connected to their families.

#### **Permanent Homes**

YSB exceeded the statewide goal with our permanency rate of over 46%

This means that **202** children now have a secure, permanent home. **145** of those were able to return safely to their families.

#### **Happy Holidays**

Our generous donors helped provided presents for **865** children though our gift giving projects!



## Making an Impact

Jackie\* is a young mother with a 4-year-old daughter. She was determined to get herself and her daughter to safety by leaving an abusive relationship. It was just the two of them, with no other family to turn to. A case worker from our Intact Family Services Program was there for them. YSB helped her obtain housing, daycare, and some personal items. We helped her navigate custody court when her ex tried to obtain custody of their daughter.



On her road to independence, Jackie completed domestic violence services and parenting classes. Less than a year later, Jackie and her daughter are living independently in safe, affordable housing. She is working full time and completing her GED.

"Samantha is a great case worker, very caring and attentive...The case is closing and my family is actually sad to see her leave. I would recommend her to any family in need of help."

"Peyton is amazing she listens and explains. She lets me vent to her when I have no one to turn to."



Counselors in our ReDeploy program worked intensively with Taylor\* in outpatient therapy, but it just wasn't meeting their needs. This family knew their child needed a higher level of care but couldn't navigate the tangled mental health care system on their own.

The team spent nearly a year researching different options and avenues for residential mental health treatment until Taylor was accepted into a treatment program. YSB worked alongside them to access the care that was needed and continue to stay in touch. Taylor is thriving now and reports that they have made friends, enjoy nature walks, and art therapy.

The Redeploy Illinois Program has reduced the number of young people incarcerated with the IL Dept. of Juvenile Justice in our area from 27 in 2012 to 1 in FY23

## Making an Impact

Aiden\* came into foster care in 2020 when he was two and a half years old. Because of neglect he had experienced, he displayed high levels of physical and emotional stress resulting in tantrums that could last an hour and overwhelm his caregivers. This resulted in multiple changes of placements.

Our licensing team went above and beyond to keep finding new homes for him. He was referred for treatment services and play therapy in 2022. There he began to learn to identify and express his feelings and needs and learn ways to calm himself. His clinician was able to assist his caregivers understand his behaviors and learn effective ways to intervene before he lost emotional control.

This summer a young couple pursuing adoption became licensed foster parents and Aiden was placed with them. The adoption process is expected to begin later this fall. Aiden has learned that his foster parents will become his "forever" parents and already show strong attachments with them. He loves attending kindergarten, riding his bike, and going on family trips.

Our Ottawa, Aurora and Peru offices have met the requirements to become Medicaid certified, this makes counseling services more accessible for low income clients.



The Hispanic Services program is funded by the Illinois Coalition for Refugee Rights (ICIRR) which sets annual goals for the number of clients that they assist. In FY23 the team met all of their goals and exceeded

several by 150%. They helped nearly 1500 clients access services and build better lives for their families!



YSB team member Alice Berogan was named ICIRR employee of the year for her outstanding service.

## Supporters & Partners

Allstate employees have a long relationship with YSB, providing generous gifts to our children at Christmas each year.



In 2022 their Social Impact Senior Manager reached out and invited us to apply for a one-time \$50,000 general operating grant to assist in any area of great need. This was in recognition of the important work we (YSB) do and in support of AllState's employees who had taken on the role of elf throughout the years.

This significant grant was one of the largest corporate donations in YSB's history.



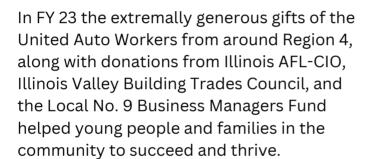
In 2020 Emily Hardee lost her beloved cousin to suicide. She took that pain and turned it into a powerful force for good in our community when she created Run Today for Tomorrow.

This year we were honored to receive a generous donation from her organization that will help fund mental health care for those in need in our community.

#### Supporters & Partners

Labor unions and their members play a vital role in supporting YSB because they recognize the importance of our mission. Their donations underscore their commitment to social justice and their belief in strengthening the fabric of the community by supporting those who are most vulnerable.











The donations of hundreds of individual donors, both large and small, directly impact our ability to provide essential services and support to children, youth, and families

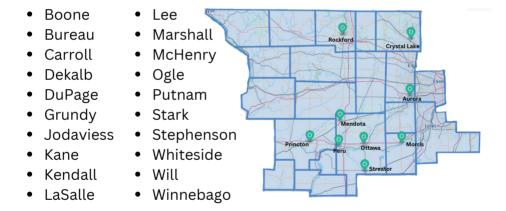
It's not just the financial assistance that makes those contributions special; it's also the belief in our mission and the trust you place in us to carry it out. We are committed to utilizing your contributions effectively and responsibly to create a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve.

Does your employer offer a matching donation for charitable gifts? Make your contribution go twice as far!



Our mission statement, "Helping young people and their families succeed by serving them in their home, school, and community," reflects our commitment to providing comprehensive support to ensure the well-being and success of those we serve. Our donors help us to meet their needs and to create a lasting impact on their lives. Thank you!

#### Service Area



#### **A Critical Need**

We are in urgent need of foster parents for adolescents in crisis.

Becoming a crisis placement home means that when you are able, you are willing to take adolescents on an emergency basis for 1-30 days.

You will have 24/7 access to our on call support team and receive a stipend to assist with costs.

Contact Lindsey Rossi to learn more 815-431-3020 LindseyR@ysbiv.org

#### **Board of Directors**

#### President Rici Dale

Vice-President William Pfalzgraf

Secretary/ Treasurer Evelyn White-Simmons

**Katie Bagley** 

Dr. Sandra Labak-Ivanauskas

**Kate Lance** 

**Travis McDonald** 

**Bill Truemper** 

I was drawn to YSB-IV because of the work that they do. I sincerely believe that the services they provide are essential to every community. They help children and families make positive change that has lasting effects for generations to come. Not only does this enrich the lives of the people that they serve, it improves the communities. It has been an honor and a privilege to be part of this agency.

Since my time on the Board of Directors, I have an even better understanding about the great work that this agency does. They serve 20 counties in northern Illinois. Each of these communities is very different. What I know is that the agency adapts their services for the needs of each community it serves. Whether it is offering parenting classes, finding a safe home to a child in crisis, providing counseling services to a struggling child or assisting families who are experiencing roadblocks due to language barriers, the agency establishes the resources to support the needs of the communities.

This agency could not do what it does without the support of community members. If you are thinking about giving back to your community in some way, YSB-IV has many opportunities to get involved. You can volunteer as a Board Member, participate in the annual Holiday Gift Giving program or donate to the general fund at any time. Your support of this agency is greatly appreciated and will help make a difference in so many lives.

Thank you to everyone who has supported YSB-IV, your generosity is what gives these young people the resources and support they need and opens doors for the next generation. You truly make a difference.

With much respect,

Rici Dale YSB-IV Board President



424 W Madison St Ottawa, IL 61350



