



**CAROLINA YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

The Open Door Place  
for Children & Families

**230  
Years**

**2019-2020 IMPACT REPORT**





# A note from our Board Chair and CEO

## What an extraordinary year it has been!

Through it all, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to making the right decisions for kids. Even in the most troubled times, one thing remains clear, children and families are the heartbeat of Carolina Youth Development Center (CYDC).

Through wars, floods, fires, earthquakes and yes, even pandemics, our doors have remained open. Our mission has always been to ensure our first priority is making the right decisions for children in our community.

Nothing drove that home more than as we celebrated the organization's 230-year legacy in the fall of 2020, while at the same time navigating new challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Once again, our board, our staff and our community all came together to keep our doors open and to make sure we're still doing everything we can to provide programs and services, and add new programs and services, for children and youth even in the most troubled times.

For 230 years, CYDC has been there for kids who had nowhere else to go. Our doors have remained open, when no one else's doors were open to them. Today, we have expanded our mission, and we are able to provide a more targeted and impactful array of programs and services for kids and families -- no matter what.

This would not have been possible without the leadership of our CYDC Board of Directors. At a critical time our Board's leadership inspired and drove our collective commitment to continue our mission and help CYDC advance the legacy of being the open door place for children and families.

Through a difficult and unpredictable year, this leadership has been instrumental in navigating through the storm and continuing to drive change for the benefit of the children and families we serve.

One thing is for sure, none of us could do it alone, but together we are ensuring that we are investing in a legacy that will continue opening doors for another 230 years.



Rita Daily, Board Chair



Beverly Hardin, CEO



# Opening Doors for Youth in the Lowcountry

*"Living at NuHouse has been a major improvement on my life. The staff here feel like actual parents and living here I feel like I'm actually part of a family instead of just a problem.*

*The staff have opened doors and pushed me towards goals and achieving success for myself that I never thought would be possible for me. Before I came to CYDC I would have never imagined myself going to college, I didn't even see myself finishing high school. No one in my family has ever been to college I don't think, so I never saw that in my future.*

*Today, because of the support that I have gotten here, the push and support towards those goals I have gotten from the staff here, and with such a great environment around me, I can see nothing less than me finishing college and fulfilling my dream of having my own auto mechanic business one day."*

**BRADLEY,  
NUHOUSE RESIDENT**



1700s

1800s

1900s

2000s

**1790** On October 18, the Charleston City Council passed an ordinance establishing the Charleston Orphan House.

*"...for the purpose of supporting and educating poor orphan children."*

**1794** Exactly one year after establishing the organization a home located on St. Phillip and Calhoun Streets was opened to more than 110 children.



**1863** At the outset of the Civil War the children were temporarily evacuated to Orangeburg. They would move back into the downtown home just over two years later.



**1928** A stained glass window, created by Tiffany Studios, depicting Jesus blessing the children was gifted to the Charleston Orphan House. The window was installed in the chapel, today it resides in the administrative building.



**1909** The Charleston Orphan House welcomed President Howard Taft. Throughout its history the home welcomed three sitting presidents and numerous dignitaries.

**1866** After the City of Charleston was devastated by an earthquake, the Charleston Orphan House residents were forced to sleep outside in tents while repairs were made to the building.



**1951** After 151 years in downtown Charleston, city commissioners purchased 37 acres of land in North Charleston to build a new cottage-style campus for the residents.



**1978** On June 30, the Charleston Orphan House separated from the City of Charleston and was renamed the Oak Grove Child Care Center.

**1981** During a period of organizational restructuring, the Oak Grove Child Care Center was renamed the Carolina Youth Development Center (CYDC) and expanded services to youth and families in the Lowcountry.

**2020** Carolina Youth Development Center celebrates its 230 year anniversary, virtually due to the worldwide coronavirus pandemic.



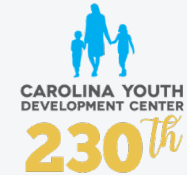
**2019** CYDC completed the renovation of NuHouse, a cottage on the Charleston County Campus that provides an independent living program to youth ages 17-21.



**2005** The Tony and Linda Bakker Career Center opened on CYDC's North Charleston campus providing career development and training opportunities for youth.



**1998** A needs assessment completed by Trident United Way highlighted the need for a home in Berkeley County. The Give Me Shelter Committee was created to address the need and recommended CYDC open a home in Moncks Corner. The home was named the Callen-Lacey Center for Children and allowed CYDC to serve more youth in the local community.



# Birthday Bash

*Celebrate & Support*

## Celebrating Our Legacy

For more than two centuries CYDC has been serving children and families in need by providing a safe environment, educational support and career readiness, in collaboration with families and community partners.

To honor this milestone, CYDC held a week-long celebration that included a virtual auction, and a ribbon-cutting and reception at the new Family Support Center, located in the George Williams Building on CYDC's Charleston County Campus.

In addition to the week-long celebration the South Carolina House of Representatives, the City of North Charleston and the City of Charleston all honored the organization with proclamations recognizing CYDC for its contributions to the community and state.



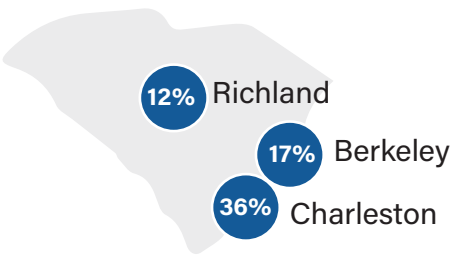


# Residential Impact

In 2019 - 2020 CYDC served 104 youth in residential care.

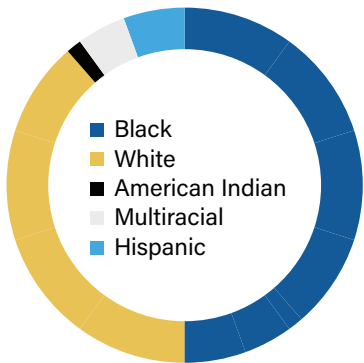
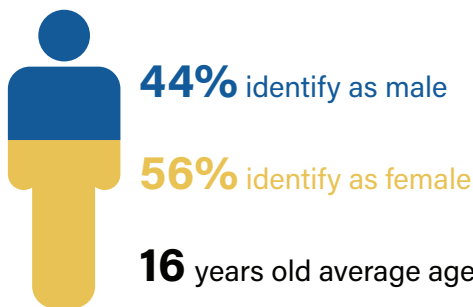
## Location

CYDC received referrals for residential placement from 20 counties. Top 3 counties include:



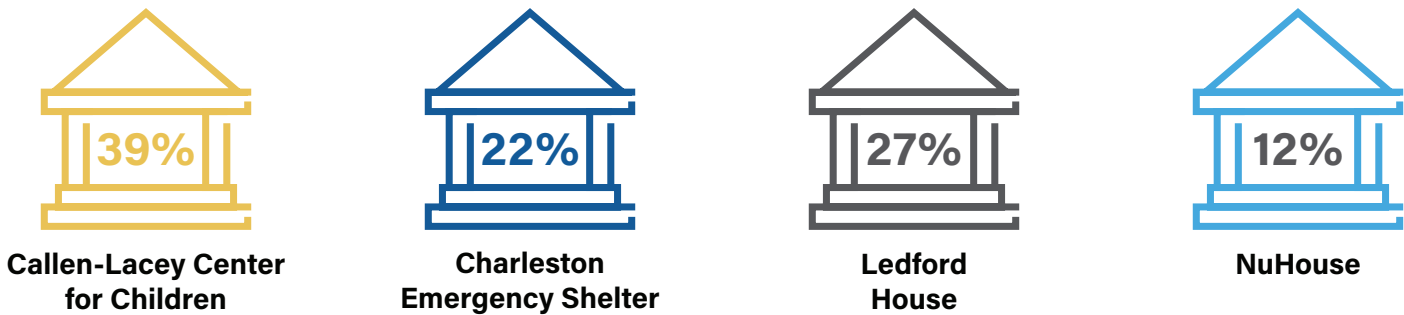
## Demographics

Our residents are as diverse as the services we provide to meet their needs.



## Placement

Residential placement by location of the 104 youth served:

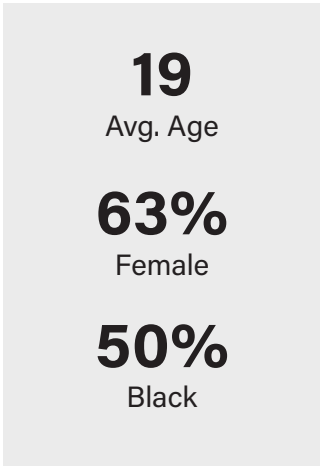


## NuHouse: Opening Doors & Improving Outcomes

Opened in Spring 2019, NuHouse is a residential group home located on CYDC's North Charleston campus providing transitional housing for youth aging out of foster care.

Young adults ranging in age from 17 to 21-years-old live in a supportive environment that focuses on helping young adults transition, with increased skills including a focus on educational goals and financial literacy, to confidently live independently. This year, 16 youth - the majority (56%) from Charleston County - called NuHouse their home.

- 80% of youth in NuHouse obtained employment while in the program.
- 66% of residents graduated and are living independently.
- 63% of NuHouse residents maintained a savings account from month to month.



## Freestyle Academy

After an unexpected early release from school and transition to remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CYDC team knew that summer programming would be more important than ever. Adapting quickly, CYDC's 2020 Freestyle Academy was created! The Academy was focused on CYDC residents and was developed to help youth avoid the "summer slide," particularly amidst the academic disruptions this year.

Youth-in-residence enjoyed 11 weeks of summer fun and engaged in active learning, reading, and "edutainment" with their peers and leaders, as well as a very special Freestyle Academy Guest Readers program that invited community and child welfare leaders to read to CYDC youth.

## Freestyle Academy at a Glance



11 Weeks



94 Books Distributed

94%

Of youth demonstrated gains in at least one skill area with the biggest accomplishments in areas of confidence, well-being and connections.

*"I am proud of myself for achieving my goals during Freestyle Academy this summer!"*  
- FREESTYLE ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

## Residential Impact

With the addition of a full-time employee focused on data collection and analysis, our Director of Quality Improvement, we have made significant strides in the review of data collected by our staff members to better understand the care needed for our residents and families while also evaluating our programs and setting benchmarks for further improvement.



CYDC has created an environment where all youth have the opportunity to take positive, supported risks as they discover who they are and what they want for their future.

- CYDC youth completed 208 family visits while in care.
- 63% of youth improved their independent living skills.
- 14 youth participated in 29 individual therapy appointments between July 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020.
- 572 health/dental visits provided for residents.\*
- 82% of youth in care 30+ days received medical and/or dental care while in care.\*

\*This measure is part of the SC Department of Social Services' Health Care Improvement Plan, intended to measure DSS's progress in meeting the physical health, behavioral health, and dental needs of the children in their care as required by the state's 2016 Final Settlement Agreement.



# Community Impact

CYDC received **854 referrals for community services for families in Charleston and Berkeley counties** with 68 percent of families receiving in-home case management services or referrals for support like CYDC’s Strengthening Families Program.

## Strengthening Families Program (SFP)

The Strengthening Families Program (SFP) serves families with children ages 6 to 11 and is designed to help families develop positive discipline practices, stay resilient in tough times, reduce conflict, improve parenting skills, and assist children with social skills, relationships, and school performance. Participants complete a 14-session program over the course of several months. The sessions, which always begin with a family meal, typically last two and a half hours and include parents and children meeting separately to work with group leaders before coming together for shared activities to finish the session.

**CYDC’s Strengthening Families Program ranks above program standards in meeting five areas of program fidelity, including program implementation, staffing, quality and curriculum adherence. -- Independent program evaluation.\***

In 2019 - 2020, CYDC hosted two, 14-week sessions for a total of 16 families, including 22 parents and 24 children.

94% of families successfully completed the program with the following results:

- 88% of parents reported improved family functioning after participating in the program
- 100% of parents would recommend the program to others
- 94% of families were very satisfied with their participation in the program

*\*The latest program evaluation for the SFP program was calendar year 2019.*

*“There was a time when I just needed help. I didn’t know where to turn. My daughter was having a real hard time, and I was helping take care of my grandchildren including taking them to school and because I couldn’t make it to work on time and I got laid off and suddenly we were all living in my car, and I just needed help. That’s when CYDC stepped in and stepped up. The strengthening families program and other resources they opened doors for us that allowed our family to get back on track.”*

**GAYLE,  
GRANDMOTHER OF  
SFP FAMILY**

## Family Support Center Opens!

In October of 2020, during our 230th Birthday Bash, CYDC alongside community partners, legislators and staff cut the ribbon on a new Family Support Center. CYDC’s Family Support Center, located in the George W. Williams Building on the Charleston County Campus, is focused on providing Low-country families with the support and services they need to remain intact and thrive.

Services Include community-based prevention services, family therapy, individual therapy, our Strengthening Families Program and grief support groups.

These services will allow CYDC to serve even more local families and children in the coming years by providing support services to holistically heal and empower families.

*“We have always looked at ‘where’s the need.’ Where’s the gap? How do we actually bridge that gap, how do we fulfill the services that families need but don’t know how to access.”*

JENNIFER SANDERS, VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS

## Opening Doors to Health and Wellness

This spring the CYDC Wellness Committee, a committee made up of board members and CYDC staff, launched the first-ever CYDC Wellness Program. The program was launched in an effort to encourage residents and staff to engage in health and well-being practices including physical activity, healthy eating and positive mental health habits.

The committee’s first effort included the “Steps in the Sunshine” challenge where residents and staff were encouraged to walk each day outside, around our beautiful campuses. Those who completed the challenge were provided with prizes including Bluetooth headphones or a step-tracking device. We had over 20 staff and residents complete the challenge!

In July, the committee kicked off the second challenge, the “Eat In Season Recipes Share!” Each week the Wellness Committee chose one in-season produce item and then encouraged staff to use that item in a recipe throughout the week and share on our internal chat board. The recipes were then also shared with our social media community.



In partnership with the Green Heart Project and with support from Eat Smart, Move More SC, LS3P Architecture and the David Aylor Law Firm, a CYDC community garden project also came to life in 2020.

Seven raised planter beds were envisioned, designed, constructed and planted with the hard work of our residents and volunteers. The garden will provide education programs that center around biology, mathematics, health and nutrition, as well as a bounty of greens, cruciferous vegetables and herbs just in time for holiday dinners.



**CYDC Wellness Program**  
*Healthy campus, healthy you!*



# Teaching-Family Model (TFM)

In 2019-2020 CYDC began implementation of the Teaching-Family Model, an evidence-based and trauma-informed best practice treatment approach. TFM is a practice of care and treatment model that prioritizes therapeutic relationships with caregivers as the primary conduit of effective treatment in supportive family-style settings.

Over 1,580 hours of training were completed by the CYDC team to successfully implement the model across our campuses.



*"It's all about praise, it's all about catching the kid/youth being good. We really don't want to catch them being bad, and if that happens we want to teach to the behavior all the time, and that's really what the model is focused on. When we do that, the changes we see in kids, the positive outcomes and impacts are almost immediate."*

**JULIET MARTINEZ,  
RESIDENTIAL CARE  
MANAGER**

# Building Capacity

This year, CYDC celebrated its 230 year anniversary serving children and families across the Lowcountry. While it is important to honor our legacy and those who have worked to ensure the organization continues to grow and adapt to the changing needs of the communities we serve, it is also important that we continue to focus on capacity building.

At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were forced to reevaluate our priorities as well as postpone fundraising events, reimagine our summer programming, shutdown campuses to outside visitors and help our residents navigate remote learning.

All of these changes were impacted not only by what was happening in our communities but also by state and federal changes to the child welfare system including the federal Family First Prevention Services Act, and a statewide lawsuit (Michelle H.) being settled in federal court.

Throughout it all, our leadership team, staff and board of directors made the decision to continue focusing on capacity building across all CYDC's programs and departments. This year we successfully:

- Developed and opened a Family Support Center on our Charleston County Campus;
- Hired a therapist and licensed professional counselor to prioritize mental health and ensure we provided the best care to our residents and families;
- Partnered with local school districts to craft the best education plan for our residents and bring teams of teachers onto our campuses to support our youth;
- Built relationships with state and federal legislators in order to have our voice heard on various legislation and policies;
- Took our Strengthening Families Program virtual;
- Held a virtual 230th Birthday Bash which raised over \$20,000 in one week through various online events and a virtual auction; and
- Extended summer programming from 6 weeks to 11 weeks to ensure our residents were active and engaged on our campuses during their longer than anticipated spring and summer break.

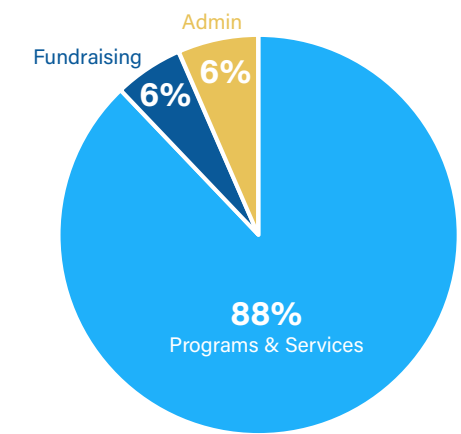
In anticipation of state and federal changes to ever-evolving child welfare laws, CYDC will remain nimble and responsive to our community's most pressing needs, assuring that the most vulnerable receive the support they need to prevent devastating consequences to children and families, and provide healing to those who have been harmed. This has been CYDC's legacy for the past 230 years and continues to be the guiding principle as we take a leap towards the future.

In the upcoming year, we will remain focused on capacity building across our continuum of care in order to remain effective and sustainable for years to come and continue positively impacting the lives of children and families in South Carolina.

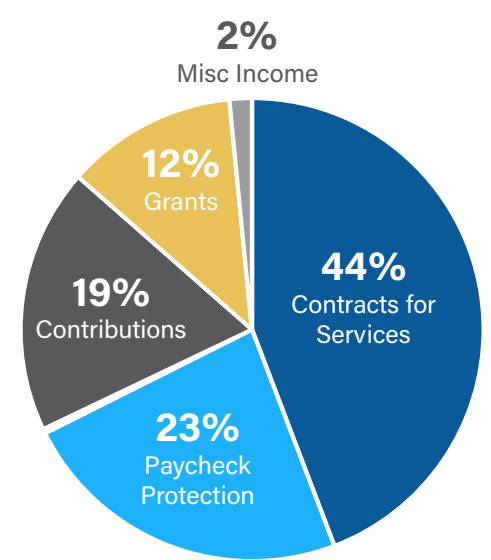


# 2019-2020 Financials

In 2019-2020 CYDC matched Department of Social Services support dollar for dollar, doubling the investment and the impact for our youth.



Program & Services	\$792,377
Administrative	\$510,722
Fundraising & Events	\$67,210
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4,111,428</b>



Contracts for Services	\$1,888,366
Grants	\$999,257
Events	\$13,724
Contributions	\$792,377
Paycheck Protection Program	\$510,722
Misc Income	\$67,210
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$4,217,656</b>

Supporting CYDC, offering money or resources, your money never goes to waste, those resources are going to directly impact a child and family that is in need."

JENNIFER SANDERS, VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS

# 2019 - 2020 Board of Directors

<b>Susan Shuler</b> Chair Sherman Capital Markets LLC	<b>Rita Daily</b> Vice-Chair Retired, The Boeing Company	<b>Jagtar Narula</b> Treasurer Blackbaud, Inc.
<b>Merrill Fei</b> Secretary Eildon Group, LLC	<b>The Honorable Shirley Hinson</b> Immediate Past Chair The College of Charleston	<b>Bess Allen</b> Community Leader
<b>Thomas J. Anderson</b> Wells Fargo Bank	<b>Katherine Bakker-McKee</b> Clover Springs Farm	<b>Peter Barton</b> Elliott Davis
<b>Carrie Dean</b> Community Leader	<b>Myra Jones</b> The InterTechGroup	<b>Patrick J. Kiernan</b> K-Con, Inc.
<b>Shelly Leeke</b> Shelly Leeke Law Firm	<b>Andrew Rhea</b> Moore & Van Allen PLLC	<b>Leon Stungurys</b> Cummins Turbo Technologies
<b>Helen Sughrue</b> Trident Technical College	<b>Chief Deputy Eric Watson</b> Charleston County Sheriff's Office	

# Be A Part of CYDC's Legacy

Each year friends like you help CYDC generate more than \$1.8M in revenue and every dollar is critical to our work with children and families. Here are just a few of the extra special gifts that came in this year:

## Anonymous Donations

- \$150,000 (July 2020) – This much celebrated gift came from an extra special friend who wanted to make sure CYDC had the resources it needed to continue delivering high quality care to children and families in light of the unstable and complicated financial environment created by the Coronavirus pandemic.
- \$90,000 (March 2020) - CYDC was in great need of camera systems to ensure safety and security of the children, families and staff and donated \$90k designated for installation of safety improvements on both campuses.
- \$25,000 – This gift from a new friend launched our Back on Track Campaign after social distancing requirements led to the cancellation of our spring golf tournament and fall gala.

## Grants

- \$75,000 (January 2020) - Children's Trust of SC grant for Strengthening Families Program. The grant will allow CYDC to continue delivering a program that is needed now more than ever.
- \$60,000 (February 2020) - J.H. Walker Legacy Foundation. A grant to be used for cottage improvements including new HVAC, hot water heaters, drywall repairs, paint and video monitoring upgrades. When the pandemic broke out, the foundation also agreed to help cover COVID-19 needs.
- \$55,000 (April 2020) - Cummins Turbo Technologies grant enabled us to outfit and equip our new Family Support Center and launch this important new service to children and families during a critical time.
- \$45,000 (April 2020) - The Leon Levine Foundation grant in support of general operations to help us fill our greatest financial needs.
- \$32,896 (August 2020) - Trident United Way Community Impact Investments Grant.
- \$19,400 (December 2019) - Boeing Employees Credit Union- Carolina Youth Development Center was selected as a finalist for the 2019 BECU People Helping People Awards to support our Residential Program for youth in foster care.
- \$18,000 (November 2019) - Coastal Community Foundation of South Carolina. Regional Grants award which includes funding from the following organizations support our Residential and Community Based Programs:
  - Anne Marie Kathryn White Endowment;
  - Giving Back to Berkeley County Fund;
  - Home Community Fund;
  - McGuire Family Fund; and
  - Kenneth and Frances Nix Community Fund for Dorchester County Fund;
  - Open Grants Fund.

## Gifts

- \$20,000 (April 2020) – Delaney Oyster House and the Bakker Family in support of the Back on Track Campaign.
- \$20,000 (May 2020) - Wells Fargo Foundation for job training & soft/business skills for youth and COVID-19 response.
- \$19,000 (November 2019) - Lowes Heros for the renovation of George W. Williams Building for the launch of our new Family Support Center

Thank you for your generous support!





## CAROLINA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

"Children and families are the heart of CYDC. They always have been and they always will be. 230 years ago we were the place, we were here for kids who had no place to go. **Our doors were open** through floods, and wars, and hurricanes, and earthquakes, and even pandemics -- our doors were open -- when no one else's doors were open, ours were. Today we've expanded our mission and we are still the open door place for kids and families."

**BEVERLY HARDIN, CEO**

### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower and equip our community's most vulnerable children by providing a safe environment, educational support, and career readiness, in collaboration with families and community partners.

### OUR VISION

Our vision is that all children will have loving and stable families and a nurturing community empowering them to lead successful lives.



## CAROLINA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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@CYDCCharleston