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CARITAS
FAMILY SOLUTIONS
**Creating
LOVING
Homes**

ANNUAL REPORT

2021

DEAR FRIENDS of Caritas Family Solutions,

Thank you for your continued support of our agency during the past fiscal year. It was yet another year with profound challenges due to the pandemic. We could not have achieved the successes we had without our staff's continued determination and the dedication of volunteers and supporters.

In FY 2021, we continued to grow our human services to meet the needs of individuals and families throughout Southern Illinois. We serve about 1 in 10 foster children in the State of Illinois. We are the second-largest private provider of child welfare in the state. We grew our Intact Family program that keeps families together and prevents children from entering the foster care system by supporting families. We grew our Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA) program to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live successfully in our communities. We expanded the number of offices to better support our communities by opening offices in Highland and Sparta. We have had success across all our programs, and for the first time in our history, we have over six thousand clients that we served.

We've said this before, and it stands today, your continued partnership with us made this possible, and we are forever grateful. TOGETHER we continued to mend broken hearts, helped individuals get back on their feet, provided places of safety, changed lives, and made positive and lasting impacts on the communities we serve! Thank you!

Sincerely,



Gary Huelsmann, MSW
Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Julie Pietroburgo
Board Chairperson



Gary Huelsmann, MSW



Dr. Julie Pietroburgo

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CILA Program Continues to Grow

One of the most important aspects of Caritas' mission is to provide loving, caring homes for people in our communities. Our CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangements) program is a perfect example of this mission in action.

Our CILA program provides adults with developmental disabilities the opportunity to live in a loving, caring home environment, where they can experience a sense of community. It provides opportunities for residents such as 20-year-old Brittny Perkins, to have life experiences she otherwise might never receive if she was in an institutionalized care setting.

When we met Brittny, she was preparing to celebrate her birthday with her other housemates and CILA staff members. They were going bowling and Brittny could barely contain her excitement. As a CILA resident, Brittny has created strong bonds with the staff, allowing her to not only have a place she could call home, but a higher quality of life as well. Our program provides our residents a place to live and a place where they can experience their own independence.

"CILA is important because our individuals with intellectual disabilities often get forgotten," said Leontrez Dickerson, Director of CILA Operations. "Each individual has a story. With our staff, our support systems, I think our individuals are destined for success."

Caritas has six CILA homes in four different communities. With 3-4 residents per home, a Caritas staff member is there at all times to take care of the residents. The pandemic created a greater need for CILA and the services it provides. When the pandemic first hit, CILA was performing at near capacity. Fast forward to today, and now there is a waitlist. The impacts and risks of COVID-19 are amplified for vulnerable populations, including the people with disabilities that we serve. The role of CILA in the community has also become more important than ever.

Donations make a tremendous difference in our ability to provide residents with everyday experiences, such as a basketball goal or a movie ticket, that many of us might take for granted.

"Our individuals don't have much, so donations from anywhere would help our individuals tremendously," Leontrez said.

CILA allows a greater quality of life for our residents. The growth of the program is all due to how our staff cares for and creates strong connections with our residents. For many staff members and residents, CILA is like their extended family.

Residents like Brittny are able to create memories and achieve some level of independence thanks to this program. We are proud to help our residents succeed and could not do it without the donations we receive.

Caritas wants to expand by adding additional homes based on the needs they are seeing in the communities they serve. If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining our Caritas CILA team or making a donation to Caritas, please visit CaritasFamilySolutions.org.



PROGRAM STATISTICS



Healthy relationships, loving homes and strong communities.



Foster Care

2,393 children &
their families served
588,473 days in care



Adoption

203 foster
care adoptions



Fontebella Maternity Home

5 babies served
11 mothers served



Clinical Services

4,569 counseling
hours provided



St. John Bosco Children's Center

54 children served
13,485 days in care



Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

70 host agencies worked with
92 participants



Intact Family Program

444 clients served



Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA)

24 developmentally disabled adults served



Fox River Assisted Living Apartments

37 residents

BY THE NUMBERS

\$37 MILLION
FY 2021 Revenue

\$43 MILLION
FY 2022 Budget

58 Counties
Served

500+ Employees

6,113 Clients
Served



LOCATIONS



Belleville: Headquarters,
Regional Office & St. John Bosco
Children's Center

Carterville: Regional Office

East Alton: Regional Office

Effingham: Foster Care Office

Highland: Foster Care / Intact Office

Mt. Vernon: Regional Office

O'Fallon: Fontebella Maternity Home

Olney: Fox River Assisted
Living Apartments

Sparta: Foster Care Office

Various: Community Integrated
Living Arrangement Homes

Mission Statement

Caritas Family Solutions strengthens the social and emotional well-being of individuals and families in order to create healthy relationships, loving homes and strong communities.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021

Support and Revenue:	2021	2020	2019
Grants and Contracts	\$35,046,213	\$29,607,273	\$23,800,594
Program Service Fees	778,255	715,025	870,413
Contributions	735,355	1,192,292	980,131
Fundraising Events (Net)	123,349	83,778	107,006
Rental Income	342,862	360,645	368,949
Miscellaneous Income	14,956	120,247	15,194
Investment Income	295,851	59,046	82,208
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	67,938	100,629	55,196
Total Support & Revenue	\$37,404,779	\$32,238,935	\$26,279,691
Expenses and Change in Net Assets:			
Program Services	\$32,906,787	\$27,824,009	\$22,537,652
Management and General	3,734,174	3,068,275	2,741,272
Rental Expense	88,712	95,568	113,061
Fundraising	300,410	497,620	396,861
Total Expenses	37,030,083	31,485,472	25,788,846
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Property/Equipment	130,953	36,565	38,267
Gain On Extinguishment of Debt	\$1,026,799	—	—
Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	—	(15,707)	(2,028)
Consideration Paid at Acquisition of Assets and Liabilities	—	—	663,574
Change in Net Assets	\$1,532,448	\$774,321	\$1,190,658
Assets:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$3,731,903	\$5,292,405	\$1,116,865
Accounts Receivable (Net)	3,115,474	3,399,692	2,724,220
Pledges Receivable	—	—	5,000
Certificate of Deposit	129,006	126,772	123,762
Investments (at Fair Value)	1,520,698	1,039,732	833,951
Prepaid Expenses	423,357	299,398	276,951
Notes Receivable	—	—	50,000
Total Current Assets	8,920,438	10,157,999	5,130,749
Reserves and Client Deposits	163,336	154,819	145,640
Property and Equipment (Net)	9,988,957	8,925,045	8,672,741
Total Assets	\$19,072,731	\$19,237,863	\$13,949,130
Liabilities and Net Assets:			
Current Maturities of Notes Payable	\$281,653	\$339,677	\$1,152,754
Current Maturities of Paycheck Protection Program Loan	—	2,412,781	—
Current Maturities of Capital Leases	277,599	185,205	72,636
Accounts Payable	1,212,635	857,030	640,696
Accrued Salaries and Related Expenses	2,961,271	2,801,344	1,902,358
Other Accrued Liabilities	202,759	157,215	177,825
Deferred Revenue	251,584	251,584	—
Notes Payable, Less Current Maturities	5,962,052	5,275,580	4,663,468
Paycheck Protection Program Loan, Less Current Maturities	—	602,419	—
Capital Leases, Less Current Maturities	546,024	510,322	269,008
Net Assets: Undesignated	7,334,693	5,802,245	5,012,217
Net Assets: With Restrictions	42,461	42,461	58,168
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$19,072,731	\$19,237,863	\$13,949,130

To view our complete financial audit, please visit our website



Caritas Family Solutions Creates New Executive Director of Child Welfare Role

As the second-largest provider of foster care services in the state, Caritas Family Solutions has seen a continual growth of services as they serve more than 1,700 foster children on a monthly basis. In October of 2021, Caritas Family Solutions hired Hope Carbonaro as its first-ever Executive Director of Child Welfare to help support and address the need in the communities we serve. With more than 30 years of clinical and child welfare experience in the public and private sectors, Carbonaro brings this role to life through her experiences, passion and leadership skills.

Caritas Family Solutions CEO Gary Huelsmann said they created the position to support the agency's growth in services to children and families in Southern Illinois. "We selected Hope because she arguably is one of the foremost experts in child and family welfare," said Huelsmann. "She has very extensive experience at DCFS and has worked for several private agencies including 11 years at Caritas Family Solutions as our Director of Foster Care. Her vast experience and tremendously positive reputation and attitude will bring great value to the children and families that we serve."

Carbonaro says one of her initial goals for her new position was to analyze the overall foster care structure at Caritas and evaluate best practices for how the agency can support continued growth. Her goal is also to help the agency move away from viewing foster care services on a regional basis, and start taking a more holistic approach to care. In addition to foster care, Carbonaro will oversee programs such as Caritas' Intact Services, designed to provide resources to help prevent children from entering foster care.

"Our job is to advocate for those who don't have a voice," said Carbonaro. "We have a large presence in the state, and therefore we are constantly advocating, evaluating and striving to improve the structures within foster care systems to ensure the best outcomes for children. Our goal is to implement effective policies, procedures and services that impact the way families and children are treated and their ability to access the care they need."

In her first few months as Executive Director of Child Welfare, Carbonaro implemented a new research-based training method for staff and



Meet Hope Carbonaro

foster parents called Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI). Carbonaro said this training teaches how to best connect and understand children who have complex needs. "We are also working with DCFS filling the gaps where there is a need for help. Across the state there is a resource crisis and Caritas is doing their part to assist with that." Carbonaro said they are also working alongside the state to create a plan for an emergency shelter program for foster children who need an immediate place to go. They also hope to create a therapeutic foster care model that will allow children to step out of residential care and return to a home environment following treatment.

Carbonaro spent four years working at the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS), most recently as the Deputy Director of Intact Family Services. Before that she owned her own private therapy practice in Southern Illinois and spent several years working as the Director of Foster Care for Caritas.

Carbonaro completed her Masters of Social work with a Child Welfare specialization from SIU Carbondale. She lives in Mt. Vernon with her husband of 30 years, Mike. They have one daughter, Hannah, who was married in May and also resides in Mt. Vernon with her husband, Ryan.



Our Mission

To strengthen the social and emotional well-being of individuals and families in order to create healthy relationships, loving homes, and strong communities.

Our Vision

To be the premier human services organization committed to promoting a just and caring society reflective of God's love.

Our Values

Respect • Innovation • Equity • Faith
Integrity • Accountability • Collaboration

CaritasFamilySolutions.org



Illinois Department of Children and Family Services,
Licenses #003976 and #180025.

Illinois Department of Human Services
License # 201300016S.

