

Listening Ear Crisis Center
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Building a Community that is "Always There."

Listening Ear is pleased to welcome new personnel and congratulate those who have made advancements:

Welcome

- Kaylee Beltinck, Foster Care Worker
- Sean Boyle, Director of Residential Services Central
- Britani Carriveau, BSA Finance Team
- Josh Caswell, Finance Director
- Sydney Crouse, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Emily Davidson, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Bonita Franco, BSA Finance Team
- Seth Guy, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Christopher Johnson, BSA Finance Team
- Teri Jones, BSA Finance Team
- Alexis Mayne, Foster Care Worker
- Ayanna McReynolds, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Zach Monica, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Shellie Patterson-Beeman, BSA for Finance Team
- Savannah Shankel, RHYP Case Manager
- Katie Sparks, BSA for Finance Team
- Alexis Strawder, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center
- Mary Zeien, Mental Health Technician, Crisis Center

Congratulations:

- Michelle Arsnoe promoted to Assistant Program Director, Residential Services North – Clearwater
- Misty Campbell, Program Director, Residential Services Briarwood
- Colleen Dittenber promoted to Assistant Program Director, Residential Services - Broadway
- Emily Dowd promoted to Program Director, Residential Services - Broadway
- Kaila Morris, Program Director, Residential Services Lynnwood
- Britany Patterson promoted to Assistant Program Director, Residential Services – Shepherd
- Taylor Perry promoted to Assistant Program Director of Crisis Center
- Lisa Wellman promoted to Program Director, Residential Services - Weatherhead

Board of Directors

Chairperson: Dr. Ross Rapaport
Vice Chair: Heather Tubbs

Secretary: Teagen Lafere
Treasurer: Paul Siers

Robert Backus
 Ruth Freebury

Amy Kuchemeister
 John Leonard

Jeff Smith
 Kathleen D. Tarrant

Executive Director: Amanda Hart

If you wish to have your name removed from the newsletter mailing list, please write: **Executive Director, Listening Ear, P.O. Box 800 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0800** or, email ahart@listeningear.com. If you want more information about us, please visit our website at www.listeningear.com or see www.guidestar.org.

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Listening EAR

Fostering

Six years ago Mark and Malinda Joslin of Shepherd had an extra bedroom and a lot of love to give to kids. Since 2015, they have provided care for over 20 youth that needed stability and consistency in their home. The kids they fostered in their home became family.

Mark and Malinda feel they are planting seeds in youth which they hope will help them grow for years to come. While this requires patience and adaptability as a family, they noted that they never feel they are in tough situations alone as Listening Ear is always there to support them.

Listening Ear would like to thank Mark and Malinda for their dedication to our child foster care program. Just as they love seeing the youth in their care grow, we love seeing them grow as foster parents!

Become a Foster Parent Today! Listening Ear is looking for foster parents! Single or multiple parent homes located in Isabella and surrounding counties are welcomed. Our foster parents typically provide care to youth ages 8 and above with developmental disabilities, behavioral and emotional challenges, delinquency, or medical needs. Listening Ear foster parents receive benefits including 24-hour on-call services, required training provided at no cost, regular contact for support, and recreational opportunities provided for families and youth. Foster parents also receive financial compensation based on the child's needs.

Take the first step today!

Call (989) 772-2918 and ask for Children's Foster Care



INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

LAST YEAR 40,176 CHILDREN AND ADULTS FROM 46 MICHIGAN COUNTIES WERE PROVIDED A VARIETY OF SERVICES BY 252 CARING EMPLOYEES

Dear Readers,

Our mission here at Listening Ear is offer hope and opportunity by listening to, supporting, and advocating for people who need quality services and safe, affordable housing. One way that we accomplish that is through our Child Foster Care program. Developed in 1981 and licensed by the State of Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services, the program has earned our agency a strong reputation as the premiere agency for difficult to place children. Last year 31 children from 27 counties across Michigan were provided foster care by 12 foster care families.

The goal is to support families in transition by offering children a family environment that is healthy, safe, nurturing, and stable. The program provides services to children whose parents cannot care for them by providing a planned period of care in one of our licensed foster family homes and by planning for reunification or permanent living arrangement.

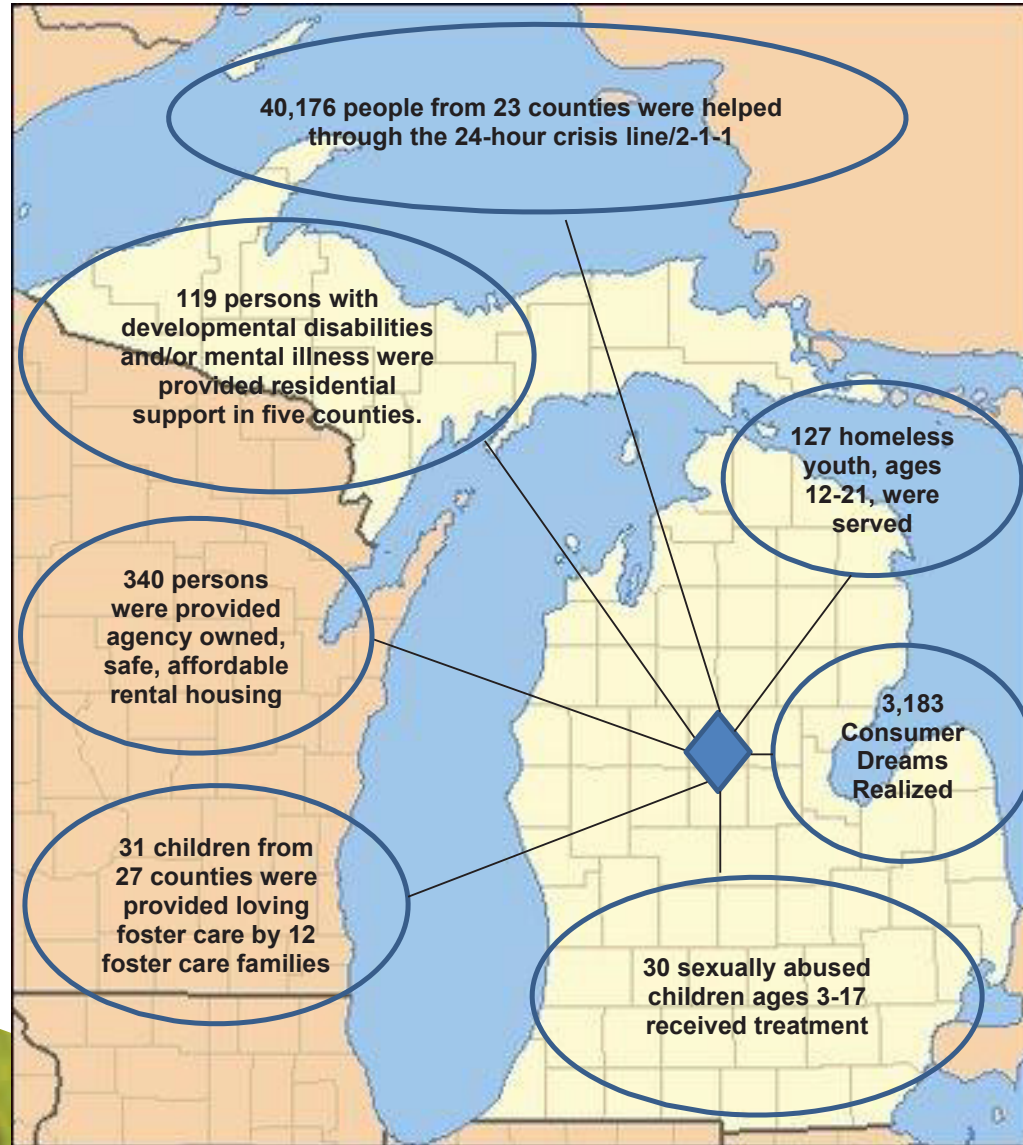
Experienced Foster Care Workers provide 24-hour support to our highly trained foster care parent families to ensure appropriate care. Although licensed to serve all minor aged children, the focus of the program is to assist youth ages 5 - 17. The program focuses on caring for children with one or more of the following: behaviors requiring a structured environment with trained family caregivers; developmental disabilities; medical needs; emotional impairments; history of, or at risk for, physical/emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and/or neglect; history of minor delinquency; and, crisis, emergency, short term care.

I want to applaud our Foster Care team - workers and families - for always going beyond the call of duty. Not only do our children in care become part of each family and community, but our team advocates for our kids and gives them new experiences to meet their dreams.

If you are a loving family that can offer a child with unique needs a home, please join us. Our kids need you!

"Always There."

Sincerely,
Amanda Hart, LLMSW
Executive Director



Audited Expenses 2019-2020

Personnel	\$ 8,916,048
Operations	\$ 3,372,695
Depreciation	\$ 274,795
Administration	\$ 153,857
Total Expenses:	\$12,717,395

Client Satisfaction - 2020

Residential Consumers...	98%
Child Sex Abuse.....	100%
Homeless Youth.....	100%
Foster Youth.....	94%
Crisis Line.....	98%

"Nationally Accredited with the Council for Accreditation since 1998"

Listening Ear consumer builds a tribute to Julie Moran



Listening Ear purchased a tiny free book exchange library in memory and tribute to Julie Moran - a great friend and colleague. Ricky's Creations, a woodworking microenterprise business operated by one of Listening Ear Residential Services North consumers, built the tiny library. Julie enthusiastically promoted supportive employment programs such as Ricky's. The program helped 8 of 18 Listening Ear Residential Services North consumers create microenterprises. These small businesses not only provide extra personal income for the consumer but are a source of pride and help give life meaning and dignity.

Julie worked as a social worker and community outreach coordinator for North Country Community Mental Health for more than 30 years. She also cared about community change, was an avid reader and an author of the children's book Ophelia. Jo Crossett, Program Director for Listening Ear's Kresnak AFC home said, "Julie was always upbeat and a strong advocate for all persons with developmental disabilities including our consumers."

A plaque forever recognizing Julie Moran, Listening Ear and North Country Community Mental Health is being affixed to the tiny library. The library will be installed in the village of Alden to encourage reading in Julie's community.



WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THESE SUPPORTERS!

LISTENING EAR CRISIS CENTER FUND

- Anonymous
- Julia Becker in memory of Dr. Carolyn VanCleave
- Norma Bailey in memory of Dr. Carolyn VanCleave
- Helen Chase in memory of Dr. Carolyn VanCleave
- Tim and Miriam Connors
- Patricia Hartman in memory of Sheri Hartman
- Barbara Heller-Burstein in honor of Gale Zeneberg
- Joyce Henricks and Lauren Pillote-Wielenga
- Dennis and Kristi LaFleur
- David and Elizabeth Macleod
- Mt Pleasant Community Counseling Associates
- Ross Rapaport
- James and Carol Wojcik

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE TREATMENT FUND

- Norma J Bailey in honor of Valerie Stephens
- Becky Bolles
- Mark and Patricia Cwiek
- Mary Ann Freling in memory of Valerie Stephens
- Joyce Henricks and Lauren Pillote-Wielenga
- Marcia LeClear
- Ronald and Marcia LeClear
- Frances Lichtman
- John and Martha Mater in honor of Kristin Sheridan and Michael Libbee
- Mt Pleasant Community Counseling Associates
- Ronald and Margaret Vredevelde in honor of Lucille
- Mid Michigan Family LTD in Memory of Dr. Carolyn VanCleave

PHIL A. LANGLOIS ENDOWMENT FUND

- Cheryl and Edward Abrams in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- Norma Bailey in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- Julia Becker in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- Becky Bolles
- Family Health Psychiatric and Counseling Center in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- The Folkens Family: Ryan and Susan, Jan and Charlotte, Jason and Jessica - in memory of Mark Langlois
- Malcom and Monica Fox
- Albert and Linda Kaufmann in memory of Phil Langlois
- Carole Kennett in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- Jeannette Langlois
- Kevin and Melissa Langlois for Philip Langlois
- John and Priscilla Lorand
- David and Elizabeth Macleod
- Justine Mizer
- Stacey Pattison
- Mark and Shawna Ross in memory of Carolyn VanCleave
- Donald O Schuster
- Mrs. Janet Strickler in memory of Carolyn VanCleave

CONSUMERS NEEDS AND DREAMS FUND

- Jane Kipp

GENERAL DONORS & GRANT MAKERS - THANK YOU TO:

- Anonymous for toiletries
- Barnabas Foundation
- Cobank, ACB for the Crisis Center
- Vickie Curnow for toiletries
- James and Elizabeth Dealing
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc toward PPE
- John Goodrow Fund
- Barbara Heller-Burstein
- John Leonard III for the Schuster Family Fund
- Frances Lichtman for the Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Program
- HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative for the Crisis Center
- David Weisenburger
- WE Martin for the Runaway & Homeless Youth and Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Programs



WANTED!
Foster Parents with a listening ear, an open heart and home are needed!

Call (989) 772-2918

Ask for Listening Ear's Children's Foster Care