

From: [Turner, Vicki](#)
To: [Antila, Mackenzie](#)
Subject: Hot News: Youth Dynamics March News & Openings: Salute to Our Donors
Date: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:11:47 PM

From: Youth Dynamics [mailto:katherine.gerten@youthdynamics.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 3:59 PM
To: Turner, Vicki
Subject: March News & Openings: Salute to Our Donors



March 2017 - In This Issue:

FEATURED ARTICLE: [Building Strong Systems of Support for Young Children's Mental Health](#)

COMMUNITY IMPACT: [Learn how we have evolved over the past thirty-six years in our effort to positively shape the future of Montana children and families.](#)

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: [Salute to Our Donors](#)

PLACEMENT OPENINGS: [Available Group Home & Foster Care Openings for Youth](#)



Feature Article

[Building Strong Systems of Support for Young Children's Mental Health](#)

Young children's mental health provides an essential foundation for early learning and development. In the early years, children's mental health can be seen in a wide range of behaviors that promote engagement in social relationships and learning. An infant who joyfully participates in "conversation" with parents is acquiring a capacity for strong social relationships while learning language and the patterns of communication. A toddler shows positive mental health by actively investigating her

environment while gaining new cognitive and motor skills during play and exploration. A preschooler who helps his friend build a robot, shares his favorite markers, and rebuilds his block tower after it tumbles is learning social and problem-solving skills that will fuel learning in preschool and beyond. In sum, young children's "mental health" refers to emotional well being and positive social development from birth through age 5.

[Read Full Article >>](#)

SOURCE: National Center for Children in Poverty; Sheila Smith, Shannon Stagman, Susan Blank, Christine Ong, and Kendra McDow: http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_1016.html

Community Impact

Learn how we have evolved over the past thirty-six years in our effort to positively shape the future of Montana children and families.

Youth Dynamics was founded as "Volunteers of America" in 1981. We had meager beginnings, providing only therapeutic foster care services in Billings, Montana. In 1989, we claimed independence from Volunteers of America, and were officially given the name "Youth Dynamics". We first expanded our foster care program out of the Billings area in March of 1991 to Bozeman and Livingston. In 1993, we expanded our services for the first time to include family support services, and in 2001 opened our first therapeutic group home in Billings, STAR Youth Hostel. Over the years, we have continued to expand our community and residential services across Montana so that we can provide support and treatment to more Montana children and families in need. Today, we have locations in twenty communities across Montana, serving a sixty-mile radius from each location. We now have nine therapeutic group homes and two day treatments. In addition to therapeutic foster care, we offer a host of community support services, including: case management, family support services, family based services, substance abuse services, mentor services, respite services, medication management, and therapy. We now have an extensive community education program which strives to help build strong communities and promote resiliency at the macro level. We have worked to become a trauma informed agency, which has helped us to continue to provide the best possible treatment to the children and families we serve. Despite our growth, it is important to us to remember our humble beginnings. We have never lost sight of what we are here for, to provide exemplary care to children and families, helping them to be resilient in the face of adversity, and to build a strong future for Montana, one child at a time.



[Learn more about Youth Dynamics from our CEO, Peter Degel, PhD >>](#)

Youth Dynamics has served nearly 2,000 Montana children in the last year!



Donor Spotlight: Salute to Our Donors

Help us show appreciation for our donors and partners.

As Youth Dynamics expands across the state, we are truly fortunate to serve a growing number of Montana children and families and have a positive impact on their lives. It is an honor to watch many of the children we serve graduate from our services and stay on a path of hard work to reach their full potential. As we expand our services and introduce new programs, we are encouraged by the support of the community. We would like to recognize the following donors for their recent support. Through these partnerships, we are better equipped to help the children and families we serve positively shape their future.

Accomplishments this Past Year

We would not have been able to serve as many children in so many communities without our generous donors and partners. We would like to share a few things we have accomplished together

over the past year.

- Our staff throughout Montana served 1,966 children in the past year.
- We expanded our foster care program. We are now one of the leading agencies in the state placing children in foster homes.
- While working with the University of Montana, we introduced Trauma Informed Care to our services, treatment and internal operations. We continue to implement this so we may deliver services even more effectively. We also continue to emphasize the importance of Trauma Informed Systems as they relate to self-care and healthy workplaces.
- Because of the [Montana Healthcare Foundation](#), we expanded our Substance Abuse Program to our Great Falls and Missoula offices. Now our services in these areas are even more comprehensive and effective.
- Through the support of [EBMS](#), we re-launched our [Common Sense Parenting](#) program for communities and foster parents throughout the state.
- In addition to program expansions, the support of our donors provides the children we serve with items and activities we often take for granted. This generous support helps buy our children shoes, backpacks, clothing and fun outings.



The post [Salute to Our Donors](#) first appeared on the [Youth Dynamics blog](#).

Do you want to help Montana children and families?

Donate Now



Placement Openings

March Available Group Home & Foster Care Openings for Youth

Intensive Level Therapeutic Group Homes

Billings

River's Edge: 1 (Male)
Rimview: No Openings
STAR: No Openings

Boulder

New Journey: No Openings
Choices: No Openings

Homes for Highly Sexualized Behaviors

New Beginnings: 2 (Male)
Opportunity: 2 (Male)

Bozeman - Big Sky Youth Home
2- (Male or Female)

Helena - Lewis & Clark Youth Home
(Equine Therapy)
No Openings

Please contact Shirley Bulluck at 406-748-3832 or 1-877-458-7022 for group home placement inquiries.

Foster Care Openings

Billings
No Openings

Bozeman
3- Male or Female ages 0-18

Butte
3- Male or Female ages 0-18

Helena
2 - Male or Female Ages 0-10

Colstrip, Miles City, Glendive
No Openings

Wolf Point
No Openings

Malta and Glasgow
No Openings

Great Falls
3- Male or Female ages 0-18

Shelby and Havre
4- Male or Female ages 0-18

Kalispell and Libby
3- Male or Female ages 0-18

Missoula and Hamilton
1 - Male or Female ages 0-10

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Youth Dynamics

1-877-458-7022
www.YouthDynamics.org

*Empowering youth & families
for a brighter tomorrow*



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