



SPERO FAMILY SERVICES

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ANNUAL REPORT

2019 / 2020



I think it is safe to say that no one will forget the year of 2020 any time soon. That is certainly true for all of us at Spero Family Services as well. The Covid-19 global pandemic is an ongoing test of resiliency and adaptability of organizations. Everyone has had to rethink the most basic principles of how their mission can stay on track when your processes for providing the ministry are in jeopardy. How do you help children and families that need individual contact when you need to be socially distanced from them? How do you help kids that have not always succeeded in school stay on track academically when schools are no longer meeting? How do we help young people deal effectively with trauma when we are all experiencing the impact of a globally traumatizing event? Add to that the resulting economic upheaval and rising social unrest throughout the country, we have a much greater need for services than at any time in recent memory.

James Lane Allen was once quoted as saying "Adversity does not build character, it reveals it." If that is true, this past year has revealed a lot about the character of the Spero - particularly its resiliency, creativity and dedication to the people it serves. Starting in March, our community programs adapted quickly providing virtual check-ins and contactless porch drop offs of supplies and resources for families. Our clinical programs rapidly switched to telehealth during the stay-at-home order and will continue to offer that as a therapeutic option in the future. Our congregate care programs went into overdrive making sure we took adequate precautions to prevent an infectious outbreak while reworking programming for youth who could no longer leave campus to attend school, go on recreation outings, visit family in-person or actively participate in the community. Our employees have shown exceptional dedication and compassion by adapting to various challenges even while they themselves have each been impacted by the events of the past year.

With the faithful support of our donors, sponsors, partner churches, grant sources and government agencies, Spero has not only weathered FY'20, but enters FY'21 stronger. We have increased funding for our residential services -adding several new positions and making facility upgrades for safety. We will be adding new programs like Parents as Teachers to our community services array in FY'21. We have expanded the reach of our Wraparound program to six additional counties and have added some enhancements to our Bright Start child care center. Our Counseling and Wellness Center has added sand tray and play therapy services as it continues to broaden therapeutic options and emerging new techniques for helping people with trauma find healing. With God's help, protection and provision, Spero remains steadfast and strong in the face of these unique challenges. *Thank you for your prayers and continued support of the ministry of Spero Family Services.*



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Shadowens".

John Shadowens
President/CEO

OUR MISSION

We offer hope, help and healing by providing Christ-centered human services to meet the ever-changing needs of individuals, families and communities.

SPERO FAMILY SERVICES SERVED

1132

INDIVIDUALS IN FY 2020

Youth Homes Murphysboro-11 Youth Served

Youth Homes Mt. Vernon- 21 Youth Served

Foster Care-21 Youth Served

Foster Care Case Management-1 Youth Served

Transitional/Independent Living Program-39 Youth Served

100% of ILO youth are in stable housing when completing the program

100% of youth needing a HS diploma or GED received one before transitioning out of TLP



"I love the support I receive at Spero. So many of the staff feel like family to me"
ILO Client



*"Love Spero and would not go anywhere else. It has taken me a long time to find a place I felt like that."
CWC Client*

Counseling and Wellness Center-595 Clients Served

Mental Health Juvenile Justice-30 Clients Served

In-Home-Intensive-1 Client Served

*92% of youth involved in MHJJ
do not offend or reoffend while
in the program*



COMMUNITY SERVICES

***90% of Wraparound youth
that return home remain in
the home 6 months post
service***

***78% of Family Foundations
parents demonstrate
increased parenting
knowledge at the end of
service***

***78% of Best Beginning moms
chose to breastfeed at birth***

Wraparound-109 Families Served

YouthBuild-23 Clients Served

Bright Start-175 Youth Served

Family Foundations-77 Youth Served

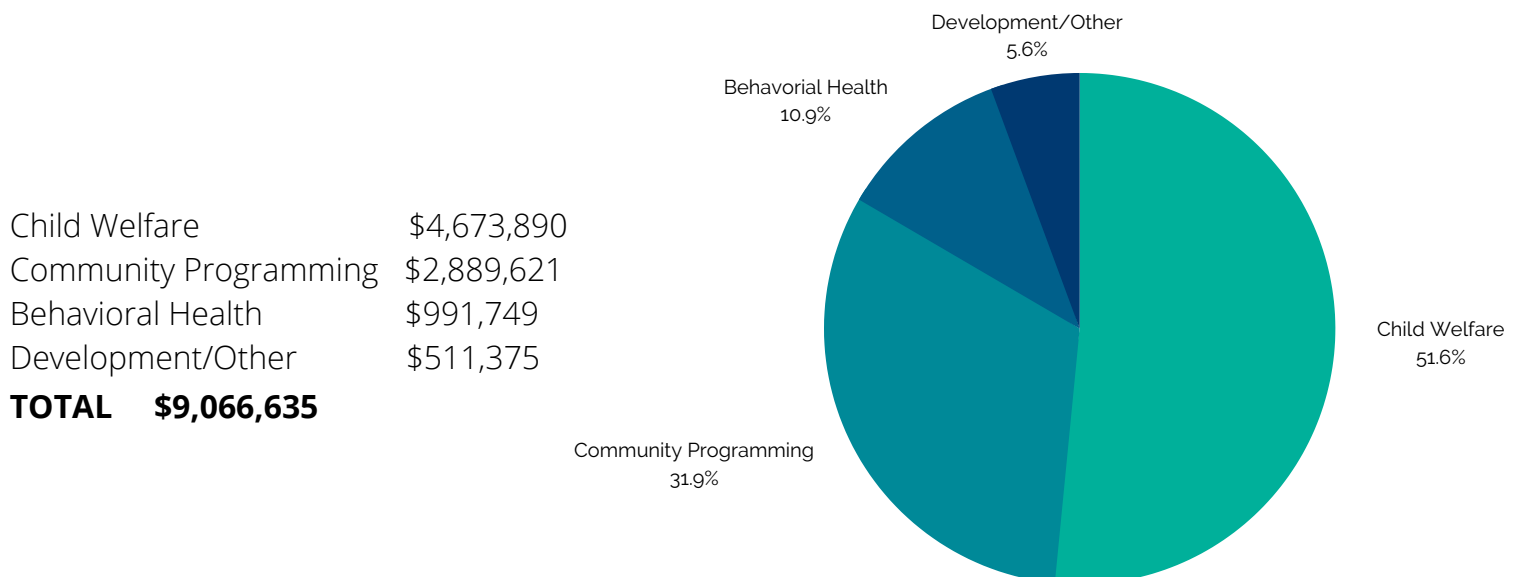
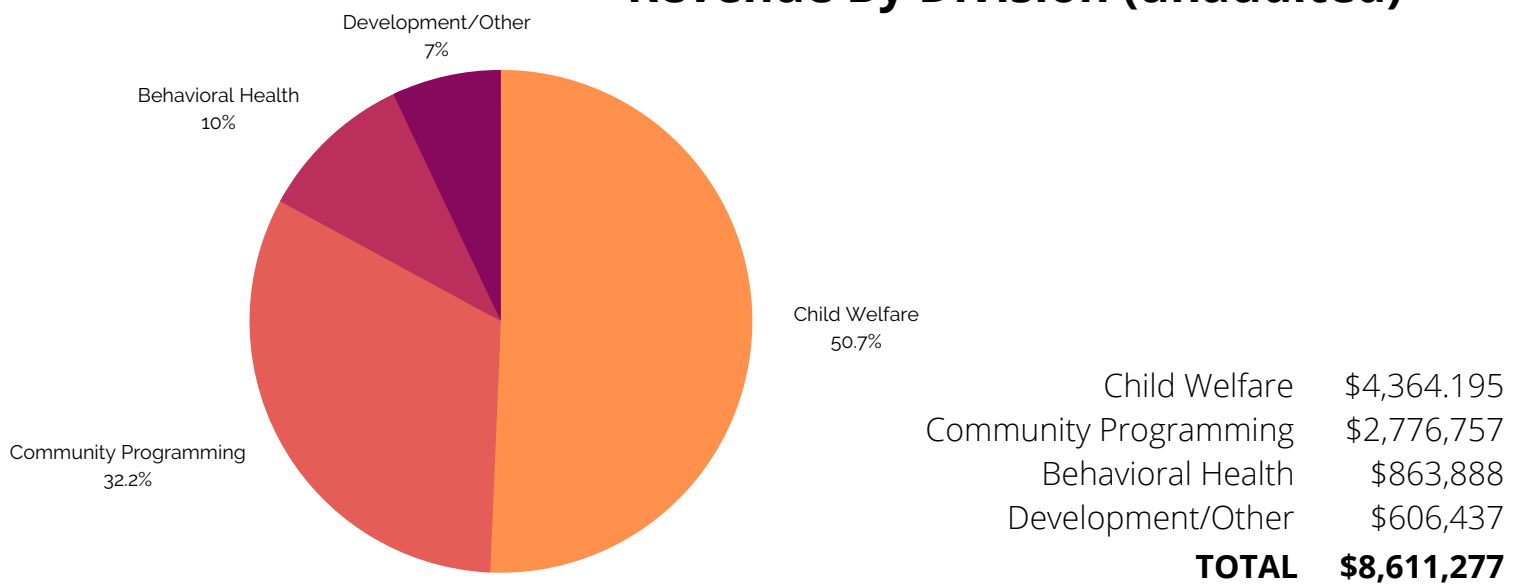
Best Beginnings-92 Clients Served



"Great experience and great people. Thank you guys for all the help that you have gave my children and we appreciate it more than you know!" Wraparound Client

FINANCIALS

Revenue By Division (unaudited)



Expense By Division (unaudited)

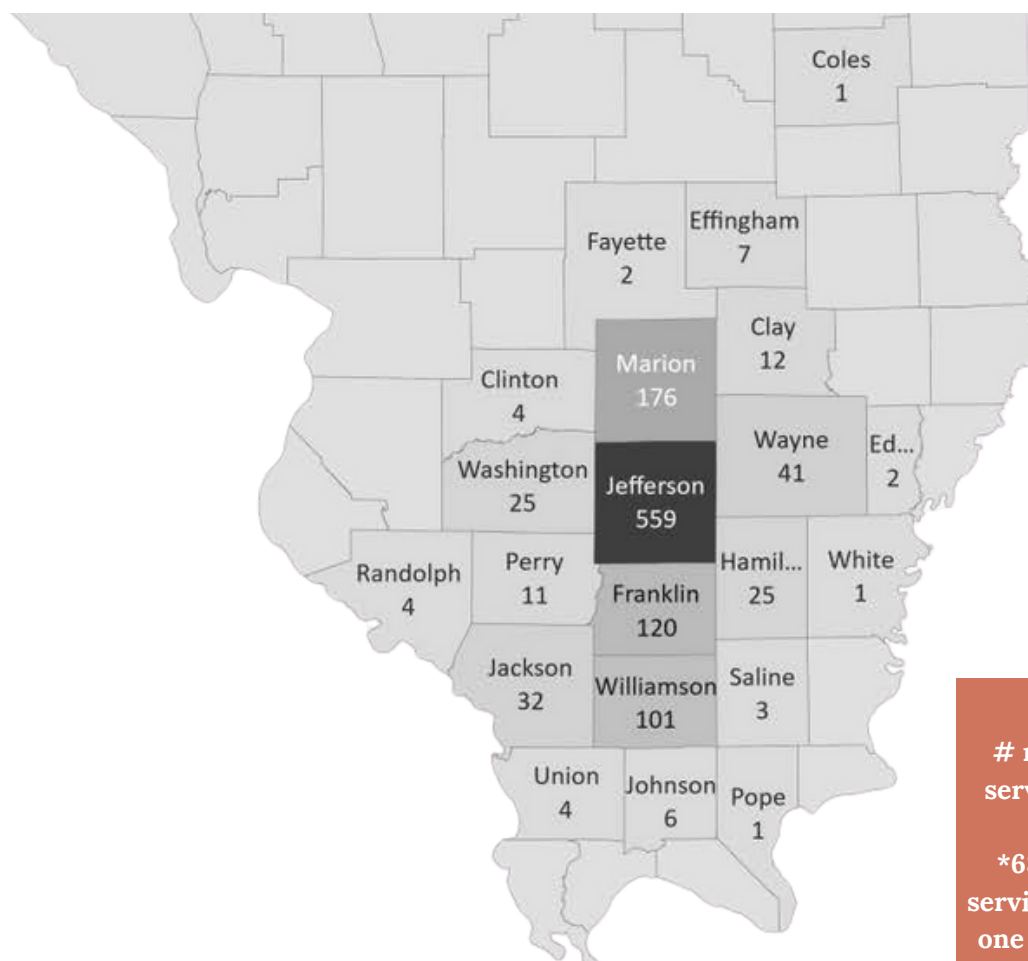
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Jeannie Mitchell, Board Chairperson
 Rev. Victor Long, Vice-Chairperson
 Ms. Jamie Armstrong, Secretary
 Rev. Mark Minor
 Mr. Donte Moore
 Ms. Lisa Price
 Dr. John Hatton

Mr. Jonathan Bean
 Ms. Sharon Sims
 Ms. Laurie Nehring
 Mr. Dick Deitz
 Mr. Gail White
 Rev. Carol Lakota Eastin*
 John Shadowens **

* Ex-Officio Members with vote

** Ex-Officio Members without vote



represents clients served in each county

*68 clients received services from more than one program in the FY.



Spero is proud to be affiliated with the United Methodist Association and accredited by Eagle Accreditation.

