



I am the Why



Children's Aid Society
of Alabama

2019 Annual Report

childrensaid.org

Why We Serve



Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking the time to review our 2019 annual report to the community. With your support, we have provided critical services for children, youth and families at risk throughout Alabama. Many of these service recipients are in a much better place than before and have new hope of having a strong, stable, loving and permanent family relationship.

Why do we do what we do? As the youth on the cover states, "I am why." There are over 1,800 youth in Alabama who will leave foster care as adults having never benefitted from a permanent home. This is unacceptable. There are many reasons why, but our mission and our commitment are to intervene at every point in the life of children and youth at risk to try and repair, strengthen or build that permanent relationship to give them the opportunity to thrive.

With your help, Children's Aid Society of Alabama

- Provides critical services to prevent family disruption and/or services to repair and begin to heal those families who have been separated
- Provides free parenting classes to help build the skills many parents need to provide a stable, safe and loving home
- Identifies and trains the special people who create a family through adoption and nurtures and cares for that family throughout their journey
- Builds the foundation for transition to independent adulthood for youth who never have a permanent, loving home
- Offers the services to homeless youth who are pregnant or parenting to be the adult their children desperately need and
- Trains professionals throughout Alabama to better serve hurting children, youth and families.

And with your help, perhaps we can break the cycle and the why will no longer exist.

Thank you for caring,

GAYLE WATTS
Chief Executive Officer

Changing Lives
Building Families
Strengthening Communities

Who We Served

Children's Aid Society serves children, youth and families around the state through a variety of programs.

Families Preserved

89% of at-risk families served remained together 12 months after intensive in-home services ended.

Families Strengthened

- 168 parents successfully completed the Effective Parenting Instruction Course.
- 2,861 counseling sessions were provided for adoptive families' support.

Families Created

- 92 families trained and prepared for adoption.
- 41 of Alabama's waiting children now have forever families.

Youth Prepared for Independent Living

- 826 direct services were provided to youth ages 14-21 in foster care.
- 395 participated in regional Dream Council meetings.
- 171 participated in Camp Life.

Homeless Young Women Prepared for Stronger Parenting

- 160 young mothers and their children spent time in transitional housing and received support services.
- 100% of those who participated in program for more than 3 months gained employment or enrolled in vocational training.

Professionals and Parents Trained to Better Serve

2,656 participated in online webinars or in-person trainings to better serve children, youth and families.



Serving the state of Alabama since 1912

25,111

Participants in CAS programs

9,195

Additional individuals and families received community outreach from CAS statewide

PROGRAM IMPACT

How We Serve



Preserving families

Family Partners provides intensive in-home counseling and aftercare to families at risk of losing their children.

Strengthening families

EPIC (Effective Parenting Instruction Course) teaches skills that build stronger parents.

Creating and sustaining families

Alabama Pre/Post Adoption Connections (APAC) prepares and reinforces the path to forever families.

Preparing older youth in foster care for independent adulthood

Independent Living Camps and Conferences (ILCC) offers a network of support services and training in basic life skills, paving the way for resilient adulthood.

Preparing homeless young women who are pregnant or parenting

Project Independence interrupts the cycle of homelessness by providing up to 18 months of transitional living through which participants develop skills to establish strong and stable homes for their family.

Supporting the lifelong adoption journey

Adoption Support services including information, counseling and monthly group discussions are provided to birth families and adult adoptees.

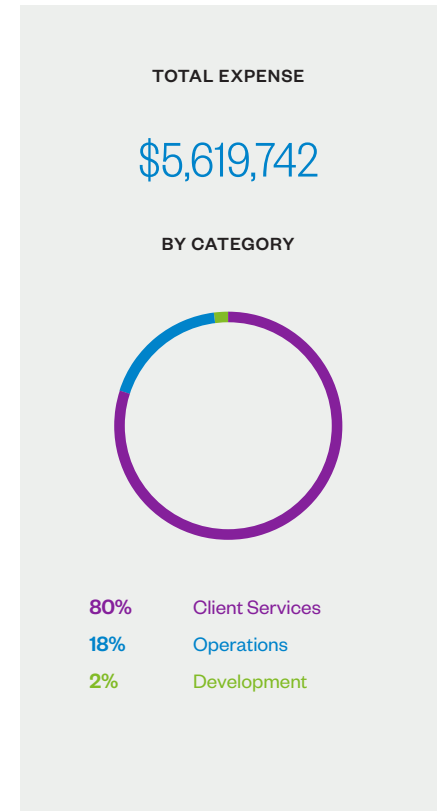
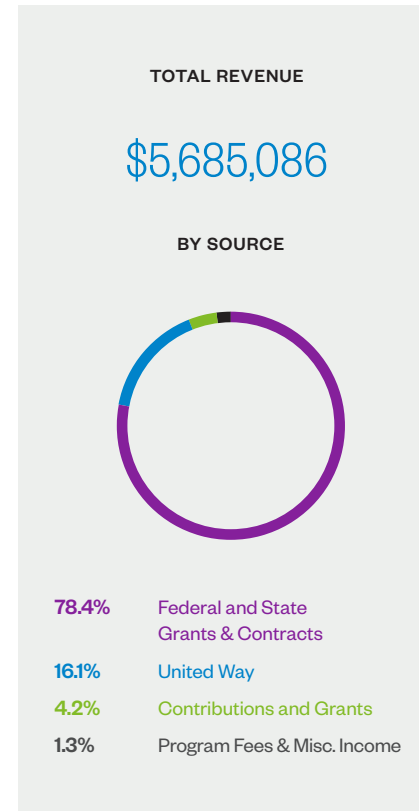
Training to increase the impact

Webinars and in-person training conferences are provided to professionals and parents throughout the state.

2018—2019

Financial Information

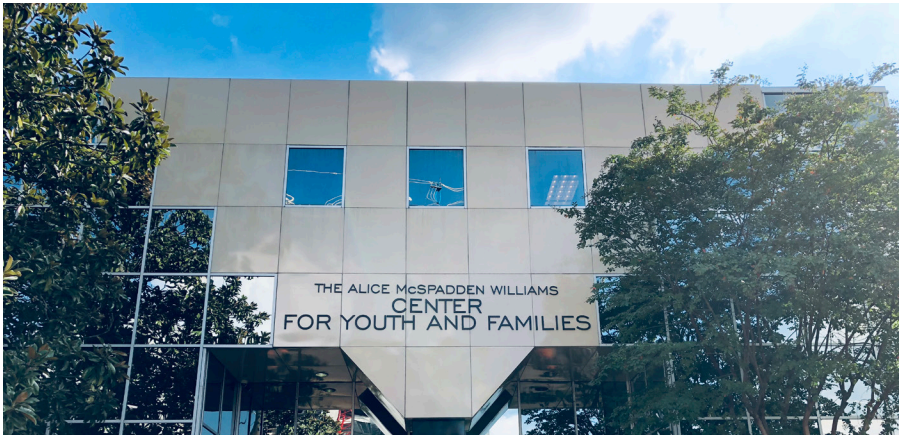
Source: Derived from audited financial statements. Complete IRS Form 990 may be viewed at childrensaid.org/financials.



With Gratitude to Our Funding Partners



Leaving a Legacy



Alice Williams' lifelong commitment to CAS included her time, her talent and her treasure, setting the example for so many others to follow:

"I've made a legacy gift commitment because I want to perpetuate my annual support long after I'm gone. I've received the most important gift of my life, my children, because of CAS and I want to do everything I can to ensure CAS lives on for our grandchildren and our great grandchildren. There is no other agency like CAS and we must preserve it for future generations."

Thankfully, we were able to honor and celebrate Alice with the naming of the Alice McSpadden Williams Center for Youth and Families during her lifetime and with her adult children and grandchildren present in November, 2018. Alice passed away in November 2019, forever loved and forever a part of Children's Aid Society of Alabama.



In Appreciation of our Legacy Leaders

Meredith Calhoun
Robert and Barbara Glaze
Joyce Greathouse
Ben Holmes
Will Gaines Holmes (d)

Heyward Hosch III
Dottie King
Patti Hendrix Lovoy
Cathy Miller
Michael Mims

Alice Ricks (d)
Bob Straka
Gayle Watts
Alice Williams (d)
Anonymous

Please consider the impact you can make with a legacy gift. For information, call Patti Lovoy at 205-943-5333.

Our Leadership

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Bob Mitchell, Treasurer
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Bethany Burns
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Tan Phillips

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Christy Guest Stewart
Bob Straka
Tracy Thompson
Alice Williams (d)

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Myra Roberts
Alice Williams (d)



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