

# **Annual Report**

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#### Mission Statement

To transform lives across generations by nurturing healthy children and strong families, supporting seniors, empowering individuals, and strengthening the Greater Lehigh Valley.

### From the CEO

In 1995 the CDC and Kaiser Permanente began a study that confirmed what helping professionals have understood for a very long time. When children experience trauma, their risk for negative behaviors and poor health increases significantly. This risk is carried with them into adulthood and can be passed on to future generations. The original "Adverse Childhood Experiences" study (known as 'ACES') is important not just because it confirms our everyday experiences, but also because it gives us a framework for resilience and change. This framework can apply equally well to individuals and organizations.

Once again, our annual report shows Pinebrook Family Answers' effectiveness, resilience, and ability to promote positive change. You will find here information about the outcomes from our services, as well as fiscal data and service numbers. You will see that we have served thousands of people and made significant differences in their lives.

As an organization, this year saw the renewal of our accreditation, the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our mergers, and a significant expansion of integrated behavioral health into schools and police departments. Thanks to a generous donation, we opened a second office in Easton, which is a new home base for the wraparound service in Northampton County, as well as "touch down" space for our community-based staff.

None of this expansion, growth, and programmatic success is possible without the continuing support of our volunteer board, our program partners, our public and private funders, and the many foundations and individual donors who recognize and support our important mission. The effects of trauma on children, adults, and families is devastating. But when your support and partnership is combined with the dedication and professionalism of our staff, we see amazing things happen – we can help people adapt to their trauma, we can give the support that promotes resilience, and we can provide encouragement that gives hope. We welcome you as an important partner in this mission.

For all families,

William B. Vogler, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer

### Jake's Story

Jake and his mother, Keri, are grateful for the safe and secure home they reside in today; however, that was not always the case.

Keri had been in foster care for most of her childhood until being adopted as a pre-teen and eventually found herself as a single mother who needed support. After meeting and befriending a couple who became grandparents to Jake, she moved to the south to continue the relationship. During the time she and Jake resided in the south, they lived through the trauma of his grandparent figures seeking and winning custody of Jake. Jake began engaging in self-harming acts which led to play therapy sessions revealing information causing concern of possible sexual abuse by the grandparents. After questioning what was best for her son, Keri fought for and regained custody of her son and moved back to the Lehigh Valley, where she became employed at the child care center Jake attended.

At the age of 4-1/2, Jake was referred to Pinebrook Family Answers' Unconditional Child Care (UCC) program as a result of his aggressive behavior with his peers and teachers. His UCC team was able to help Keri obtain the necessary resources for Jake to continue receiving much-needed community services and collaborated with his professionals to assure continuity in approach. In addition to the team providing the child care center regular observations, suggestions, and classroom coaching to support Jake's teachers and provide a better understanding as to the trauma the family had

experienced, the team supported Jake and his mother as they prepared for Kindergarten, attending the individual education plan meeting and assuring the continuation of community supports.

Keri is grateful for the support and resources that Unconditional Child Care provided to her and Jake, exclaiming, "This program has been a lifeline for Jake and me." Although he continues to need affirmation for the things he does and assurance that his mother won't leave him, Jake is expected to do well in Kindergarten and has made significant progress in the ability to express himself and appropriately engage with his peers. Keri attends therapy for herself and continues to have the supports she needs to parent Jake in the best way possible.

UCC is the only program of its kind in the State of Pennsylvania and without the observations, classroom coaching, linkage to other programs and collaboration with other professionals, Keri doesn't know what she would have done. With the help of Unconditional Child Care Keri was able to access the help she so desperately needed at a time when she was in need.

## Affiliations

This 2018-2019 Annual Report is funded in part under contract with agencies from the following counties: Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Somerset, Schuylkill and the State of Tennessee.

Pinebrook Family Answers is licensed by the Commonwealth of PA, Department of Human Services.

Pinebrook Family Answers is affiliated with or is a member of the following organizations:

- The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
- Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Lehigh Valley Foster Care Coalition
- PA Council of Children, Youth and Family Services
- Pennsylvania State Resource Parent Association

- Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce
- Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN)
- Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley



United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley UnitedWayGLV.org

Pinebrook Family Answers has managed care agreements with Magellan Health Services, Community Care Behavioral Health and PerformCare.



# Accomplishments

Diversionary Services

Unconditional Child Care (UCC) served a total of 173 clients. 90% of children participating in UCC showed gains in social-emotional development when compared at intake and their six-month follow-up

and their six-month follow-up observation. 100% of parents reported increased knowledge of child development and 97% of children maintained their childcare placement.

Senior Homecare Services

127 seniors received services.

100% of clients reported complete

18 satisfaction with awareness of available
services, receiving type of services and
hours requested; assistance with activity of
daily living or instrumental activities of daily
living that would have gone unfulfilled without the
help; and their Direct Care Worker being courteous,
dependable and conscientious. 100% also reported,
"care received was a benefit to the client's family."

Placement Services
18 adoption clients were welcomed into their forever families! Foster and kinship children were placed in two or fewer resource homes 97% of the time. Foster care children were discharged to a lower level of care 95% of the time.

Transportation and Visitation Program provided service to 332 Lehigh and Northampton county families via transportation, supervised visitation and therapeutic intervention for families and their children who are in out-of-home placement settings. Program staff covered a total of 127,012 miles!

Behavioral Health Services
The goal of Family-based
Mental Health Services is to
stabilize the family environment so
that the child/adolescent can stay in
his/her home. Clients remained in
their own homes 94% of the time.

The Allentown Police Department Mental Health Liaison helps the Police Department with individuals suffering from mental illness or substance abuse problems. The Liaison carried an average caseload of 22 clients per month. A second Community Intervention Specialist was added to serve smaller police departments throughout Lehigh Valley.

Forensic Services

ALPHA served 21 youth.

Of the 14 that exited the program, one obtained a GED, 100% completed a resume and began submitting job applications and preparing for job interviews, and four obtained employment prior to exiting the program.

#### **BREAKDOWN OF 5,452 CLIENTS**



#### Financial Information AGENCY EXPENSES FY 2018-2019 PROGRAM REVENUE FY 2018-2019 \$ % \$ % **Programs** 8.042.559 88.7% Behavioral Health 3,799,717 41.1% General / Administrative 806,893 8.9% 21.0% **Permanency Services** 1,943,618 Fundraising 216,998 2.4% **Diversionary Service** 1,929,705 20.9% 8.5% Forensics 789,427 Total 9,066,450 **HOMECARE** 607,443 6.6% **Private Contributions** 146,834 1.6% 25,340 .3% Miscellaneous 9,242,084 Total

#### Mary and Bob's Story



As a child who was adopted, Mary always knew that she wanted to become an adoptive parent some day. Difficulties on Mary and Bob's journey to conceive a biological child led them to adoption. In 2014 Mary and Bob began to research adoption as the way to build their family. This search led them to Pinebrook Family Answers. Their ultimate goal was to foster a child who could remain in their home on a permanent basis.

Their path to adoption was described as a roller coaster of emotions. From the time of their approval in 2014 until 2017, they were placed with seven young foster children, who were all ultimately reunited with their birth families. Mary and Bob knew that they loved each child as if they were their own and had kept them safe and happy and nurtured in their home. Each time they had to

say goodbye to a beloved foster child was a sad day for Mary and Bob, but these children will always have a special place in their hearts.

Mary and Bob NEVER gave up the hope that someday they would be parents to a child who would remain in their lives forever! In the fall of 2017, they received a call that would change their lives. They were placed with a baby girl upon her discharge from the hospital following her birth, and her life with Mary and Bob is the only home that this little girl has ever known. Mary and Bob now know that all the roads on their foster care journey led them to their daughter. In the summer of 2019, surrounded by a courtroom filled with family, friends and staff from Pinebrook Family Answers, Mary and Bob became their daughter's forever family.

# Foundation & Corporate Support

ACI

Air Products

Anonymous

The Dexter F. & Dorothy H. Baker Foundation

Bazella Group

Benefit Design Specialists, Inc.

Bethlehem Business Forms/Working Dog Press

Bethlehem Early Learners, LLC Buckno Lisicky & Company

Burkholder's Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

Campbell Rappold & Yurasits, LLP

Capital Blue Cross Causecast Foundation The Century Fund

Cintas

Crayola

Creative Learning of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.

Curtis Total Service, Inc. The Donley Foundation

Easton Rotary Service Foundation Exchange Club of Western Lehigh

First Windish Fraternal Benefit Society of America

Highmark

The Charles H. Hoch Foundation Fred J. Jaindl Family Foundation

Josh Early Candies, Inc.

Just Born, Inc.

Keystone Savings Foundation Fund of Lehigh Community Foundation

King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul, LLC

KPMM Bethlehem Division, LLC

Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

Lindsay Insurance Group, Inc.

M&T Bank

The M&T Charitable Foundation

Mutual of America

Northwestern Chiropractic – Dr. Jesse Hunsberger

PPL Corporation
Raymour & Flannigan

Senior Moves by Design

Simply IT, LLC

The Donald B. & Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation

The Rider-Pool Foundation

Thrivent Financial

Tilley Fire Equipment Company

Harry C. Trexler Trust

Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation

United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

John Yurconic Agency

Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, Inc.