

Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



Youth Service Bureau

YSB

of Illinois Valley

Our Mission

"Helping young people and families succeed by serving them in their home, school and community."

Do What You Actually Can.



Whenever I hear anyone mutter, “Let’s do it for the children, or this needs to occur because “It’s in the best interest of children”, I hesitate and usually realize that those are empty words meant for the moment, or the sound effect to refute any contrary opinion. How else could we be in the state of a mess that calls itself **Child Welfare in Illinois**. How could teachers go on strike when students can’t meet minimum standards? How could nurses go on strike when a patient has a procedure scheduled the next day? How could politicians legalize marijuana when studies show the negative consequences that result? How could a casino in Chicago be passed and it is taxed so heavily that no one will build it? The answers are usually connected to money, the feeble rationale that money will make things better. Maybe sometimes it can help, but seldom does it cure the ill.

This sad state of affairs has resulted from us who keep electing these incompetent officials in both parties who don’t have a creative idea or who couldn’t recognize one if it hit them square on the nose. **Child Welfare for children is in total chaos**, and the state agency responsible is sinking further away from handling their legal duties. Advocacy groups have not fared better. They seem to take a cozy chair alongside these failing institutions instead of challenging their foundations. Most of the experienced state child welfare workers have retired or have circled their date on the calendar to get out. They have been replaced by the level under them who lack experience or proper training. The second level is being replaced by new inexperienced personnel or any functioning body off the street that the state can muster.

I recently had to send workers to a mandatory 2-day training put on by the state. They reported back it was a total waste of time. We informed the state officials of this, that outdated forms were being used in the training and that training on procedures that staff could no longer complete were being utilized. We never really got a response back. One month later we had to send other staff to this training. It was reported nothing had really changed. The official announcement of this training looks good, sounds good, but has no substance.

So, where does all this leave Youth Service Bureau in this uncertain scenery of chaos all around us? Our agency, Youth Service Bureau needs to continue to focus on what we do. We serve children and families in our programs, and we need to always be mindful that we ensure, we practice, we meet, and we go beyond our own standards. We can’t rely on others, such as state officials, state departments, or advocacy’s groups to show us or anyone the way. Youth Service Bureau needs to demonstrate our commitment to providing our services and always make the case to our friends, donors, and supporters that we do what we say.

Our commitment is to the children we see and serve each day - children who have suffered some type of trauma that they will carry the rest of their lives. Youth Service Bureau needs to always hold onto this unwavering support to these children and to our friends and donors that we will always do our best given the circum-

stance that surround us. Youth Service Bureau can always be counted on!

I think it is good for Youth Service Bureau and its staff to always be mindful of the words that a 10 year old foster child in our program who wrote a poem: “*The Pain You Put Me Through*”

Do you know the pain you put me through?

The horrible pain of wondering

Wondering if I am staying at this house

Or at that house

The horrible pain of not knowing

Not knowing if I will have food

Food for the rest of the week

And what about my brother

The horrible pain of being a parent

Only when I am 10 years old

10 years old and taking care of a child

And the child isn't mine

The horrible pain of the cops

The cops coming in the door

And pinning him down

And waving good bye not knowing if I will see him again

Wondering

Will I ever have a normal life

And Youth Service Bureau always needs to remember our real responsibility is to these children and families, and to always “Do What You Actually Can!” to the best of our abilities! Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank P. Vonch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frank Vonch, Executive Director

The Programs That We Offer

Foster Care

A program for children in state custody who are unable to remain safely in their home. Children in foster care stay with a family who provides safety, nurturing support and role models for change. Foster care is meant to be a temporary, short term solution to an emergency situation. Foster placement may be for a single day or several weeks and some continue for years. *(Available in 20 counties.)*

Children First

For divorcing parents **who have been mandated by a Family Court Judge in the 13th Judicial Circuit of Illinois** to participate in an educational program regarding problems and issues of divorce when children are involved. *(Available at YSB offices in Ottawa, LaSalle and Princeton.)*

Runaway and Homeless Youth Counseling Program

Serves youth 11-17 providing crisis intervention, short term counseling and linkage to appropriate services for runaway and homeless youth that are at risk of running away or becoming homeless. *(Available in LaSalle, Putnam, Bureau, Stark and Marshall counties.)*

Intensive Placement Stabilization

Provides various services to assist in stabilizing a child in foster care placement. *(Available in LaSalle, Bureau, Marshall, Putnam and Stark counties.)*

Intact Family Services

A program established by the **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)** meant to provide reasonable efforts to preserve families to enable children to remain safely at home and avoid separation and/or placement of the children. *(Referrals by DCFS only in Bureau, Du Page, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam, Stark, McHenry and Winnebago counties.)*

Street Outreach

For young adults ages 16-24 years of age who are living in unstable and non-traditional living arrangements. Youth are linked to area services, taught independent living skills, and aided in finding jobs. It is the goal of YSB to keep youth off the streets and safe. *(Available in LaSalle, Putnam, Bureau, Stark and Marshall counties.)*

Transitional Living Program

Homeless youth (ages 16-24) are helped in finding safe and stable living accommodations and services that provide basic life skills, job searching, mental health services and educational opportunities to make a successful transition to self-sufficient living. *(Available in LaSalle, Putnam, Bureau, Stark and Marshall counties.)*

Redeploy Illinois

Redeploy Illinois was created in 2004 by the General Assembly to provide services to youth at risk of commitment to the Illinois Department of Corrections. The program is funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services. The 13th Judicial Circuit is one of many Redeploy sites in the state. Youth Service Bureau provides intensive service to these youth and their families, thus reducing the incidence of criminal recidivism in the community and incarceration of adolescents in the Illinois prison system. ***Referrals are made by the 13th Circuit Court Juvenile Probation Officers and the State's Attorney's from Bureau, Grundy and LaSalle Counties, working in conjunction with the Juvenile Judges and the Public Defender.***

2nd Chance

Second Chance provides services to youth who would otherwise be removed from their homes and communities due to high-risk, unmanageable behavior. These adolescents have demonstrated significant emotional concerns which may include mental health and trauma issues. Intensive services are provided to the youth and their families through Youth Service Bureau. The program is funded through the LaSalle County 708 Board. ***Referrals are made by the LaSalle County Juvenile State's Attorney's office and the LaSalle County Juvenile Probation Department.***

Solutions Counseling

Offers intensive out-patient and mental health therapy treatment by Master degreed and licensed therapists trained in child and family centered intervention; Includes individual, marital and family counseling. ***Counseling is available for Children and Adults and most insurance companies are accepted. (Available in the following offices: Ottawa, LaSalle, Princeton and Streator.)***

Youth Giving Back

Community Services/Restitution works closely with local courts, Peer Courts, Police Departments and Juvenile Probation to involve young people in meaningful work projects to "pay back" their community for petty delinquent offenses. ***(Available in LaSalle County.)***

Hispanic Services

Provides families with information in Spanish and links them to services in Spanish. Includes collaboration with Illinois Valley Community College literacy programs. ***(Available in Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, LaSalle, Lee and Putnam counties.)***

Hope House

Provides supervised visitation and exchange for children in homes with a history of domestic violence, sexual abuse, stalking or child abuse. The focus is to keep all parties safe. ***(Available in LaSalle county.)***

Traditional Parenting Program

Provides parents the opportunity to enhance their parenting skills, set appropriate expectations and limits. Clients must be 18 years of age or older. ***Referrals are made by the following: DCFS, Probation, self, Churches and Community. (Available in Rockford, Freeport and Belvidere.)***

Because of You...

A look at grants and donations made to Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley and how they affect young people in your community.

FY19 Grants Awarded

Thank you to the **Painters District Council No. 30 (PATCH)** for awarding Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley a \$10,000 grant to be used for youth camp costs for our foster care program.

Also, a huge thanks to the **Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley (CFFRV)** for awarding the agency with a \$5,000 grant to be used for therapy room furniture in our Aurora office (pictured below).

YSB also received a grant for \$2,500 from the **Naperville Exchange Club** after employees volunteered at the annual **Naperville "Ribfest"** in July of 2018.



The Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley (CFFRV) therapy room furniture grant.



Intermatic in Spring Grove, IL donated 24 bikes to be given to our clients. They held a team building event to put the bikes together, and YSB staff picked them up. This will make many children very happy!



*Thank you to **LaSalle Generating Station and LaSalle County Sheriff's Department** for donating coats and toys to youth in need again last winter! These are much needed and appreciated by many.*



*Thank you to **Pharmacannis** for donating 30 backpacks filled with school supplies for children in need.*

Wal-Mart Distribution Center Donations

Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley has been the ongoing recipient of pallets of merchandise from Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Spring Valley, IL. The pallets are picked up by YSB and brought back to the Ottawa office, where the merchandise is sorted and given to our clients. Items donated include small kitchen appliances, space heaters, bedding, clothing, toiletries, laundry soap and cleaning supplies. Pictured here are some of the items we've received up to this point. Thank you to Wal-Mart Distribution Center for such generous donations! These items are invaluable to our clients, one case-worker stating *"My client was about in tears when I delivered the goods a few minutes ago as she said "I was not sure how we were going to get through the weekend" regarding food."*



FY19 Fundraisers

- "Bids for Kids" Trivia Night
- Ladd After School Program
- Rips Chicken Dinner
- Red Dog Grill Paws for Charity
- Lone Buffalo Pack the Place
- Pine Hills Frisbee Golf Tournament
- Stache Bash
- Blue Ribbon Campaign
- UAW Golf Outing
- Seneca Grade School 5K
- Bicycle Poker Run

Watch for Stories Online

For up to date information and stories happening at YSB, follow Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and our agency website, where our programs and events are showcased all year long.

YSB Website
www.ysbiv.org

Instagram
[ysbiv17](https://www.instagram.com/ysbiv17)

Twitter
[YSBofILValley](https://twitter.com/YSBofILValley)

Facebook
Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley
<https://www.facebook.com/Youth-Service-Bureau-of-Illinois-Valley-333353274298/>



2019 Bids for Kids Trivia Night



Team "Dave's Birthday Bash"



Unnamed Team

Thank you to all of the Sponsors and teams who participated in the FY19 "Bids for Kids" Trivia Night event which was held on May 18, 2019 at Festivities Unlimited in Ottawa, IL. Money raised helped the youth of our communities.

Gold Sponsors—\$2,500

Illinois Valley Contractors Association

Royal Sponsors—\$1,000

Hinshaw & Culbertson

Linda Roberts

Stumm Insurance

Caterpillar

Food Sponsors—\$500

First National Bank of Ottawa

Illinois Valley Building Trades Council

Midland State Bank

Ray Buick

Round Sponsors—\$500

Illinois Valley Labor Management

Monahan Law Group, LLC

Mutual of America

OSF HealthCare

The Greater Chicago Area UAW CAP Council

Table Sponsors

Fick Electric and Communications Systems, Inc.

Financial Plus

Morris Hospital

Ottawa Savings Bank

Sabic Innovative Plastics

Princeton Rotary Club

Sikich

Trivia Emcee Sponsors

Hi-Way Restaurant

Laborers Local Union #393

Lumbermans Wholesale, Inc.

Marseilles Sheet Metal Co., Inc.

Bonnie McGrogan

Steinberg's Furniture

US Sillica

Thank You

Thank you to every individual, family, business, or organization who has either donated or volunteered this past year. You help us to fulfill our mission. Your gift of money, service, goods and time has helped us to maintain our current level of services to the young people and families in the counties we serve.

Program Testimonial

Intact Family Services

Carol is a single-mother raising two children, while dealing with a battle of addiction to heroin for most of her adult life. She was able to complete all recommended services and find strong support system and has continued to utilize after her case closure.

Carol reported that ***“she had the best experience working with the McHenry County Intact Family Services due to the workers being nice, sweet and direct with what she had to accomplish.”*** She also stated to having a history of DCFS involvement but was not offered the opportunity to be a participant in the Intact Program, and when she was finally offered the chance, she jumped at the opportunity.

Carol took the tools YSB offered her to become more stable and independent. She has been very motivated to get all of her tasks accomplished in a timely manner and continues to work on her sobriety to this day.



*Congratulations to **Mario Espinoza, Hispanic Services Coordinator**, for being recognized by ICIRR (Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights) with the Breaking Barriers Award for his dedication to high quality case management, and from IAACOMA (Illinois Association of Agencies and Community Organizations for Migrant Advocacy) in grateful recognition for exemplary dedication and contributions. Great job!*



The Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley was an OSF Saint Paul Jeans for a Cause Day recipient.



FY19 Foster Care Stats

- 48 children were returned home
- 50 children were adopted into loving homes
- 7 children were awarded guardianship

YSB Training Spotlight

Trauma Informed Care and LGBTQ+ Awareness Training

Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley held an all-staff training on “Trauma Informed Care” and “LGBTQ+ Awareness”. The full day event was held at Grand Bear Lodge in Utica, IL on November 16, 2018.



The training included information on the causes and effects of sustained trauma in youth who come into our care, as well as how to help these clients in a way that doesn't place additional trauma on them.

Additionally, staff were educated on the meaning of each letter in the LGBTQI+ (*LGBTQQIAAP: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, ally, pansexual*) acronym and how to approach and

respect each individual's identity.

The training was presented by Dr. Caryn Andrews, who has over 16 years of experience in the fields of Law Enforcement and Court Services. As a sworn law enforcement officer for over 13 years, she became passionate about educating first responders on mental health related issues, and responding to calls involving people with mental illness. She was the first police officer at her department to become a certified Crisis Intervention Team member in Kane County in 2010.

Dr. Andrews holds a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology. She is currently the psychologist for the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center, where she is responsible for delivering psychological services to juveniles in the criminal justice system, as well as being responsible for the psychological safety of juveniles during their detention.

Staff at YSB are required to receive training throughout the year, credits varying between programs, to further their understanding of child welfare, mental health issues, and modern updates to treatment. Training keeps each staff member at the forefront of their profession, and is highly beneficial to those in the community who need special treatment and care.

Holiday Giving Through YSB

Christmas is an exciting time at each of our offices. Many people donate to the various gift giving programs designed to ensure a happy holiday for our clients who are in need. Showcased on this page are a few of the many kind people who donated their time and love towards these needy children.

*The Rockford office received Christmas gifts for 225 children through **Winnebago/Boone County Foster Care Alliance Adopt an Angel Program**.*

*Other donations include hats, gloves, scarves, and coats donated by **Mike & April Kunzelman**, and donations from **The Rockford Rivets Baseball Team, Beef-A-Roo, Burpee Museum of Natural History, Cave of the Mounds in Blue Mounds, Wisconsin, Fried Green Tomatoes in Galena, Milwaukee County Zoo, and Santa's Village in East Dundee, IL.***



*Thank you to the following pictured, and to everybody else who donated to the Star Tree: (Pictured above): **Lady Di's and the Green Stockteen Program** in Ottawa, (top middle) Rachel Jepson and everybody at **Streator Eagle 6**, (top right) **Saint Catherine's** in Dundee for providing another amazing year for our kiddos, and (right) the **Laborers' Local 393 in Marseilles** for donating food gift baskets to needy families this holiday season*



Donating to Youth Service Bureau

Don't forget that when you are doing your online holiday shopping this year, you can donate back to YSB simply by shopping through **Amazon Smile**. Amazon donates a percentage of all of your purchases to the non-profit of your choice. By choosing Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley, you ensure that these funds stay within your community to help youth in need.

Please visit Amazon Smile at <https://smile.amazon.com/>, or you may donate online to YSB directly at www.ysbiv.org/donate.aspx, or to be connected to Amazon Smile.

Foster Parent Spotlights

The Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley has roughly 500 children in foster care. In order to care for these children we need a lot of caring foster parents. Currently we have 202 foster parents throughout the 20 counties in North Central Illinois that we serve. Each quarter we choose foster parent/parents to recognize for all that they do for the children who have been entrusted to their care.



Lam Lee

1st Quarter FY19 (October 2018)

Lam Le came to YSB to become a foster parent through recommendations from other professionals in the field. She has wanted to care for her own children and others' children ever since she was a child. She wants other children to know what it is like to have the love and security from safe, trustworthy adults.

Lam always supports the return of foster children to their biological mother. One biological mother was so grateful for Lam's open communication and support of her effort to have her children back that she informed the courts about her feelings.

YSB is greatly pleased to have such hard working foster parents with our agency. Thank you Lam for being one of our dedicated foster family households!



Nick and Julie Forshee

2nd Quarter FY19 (January 2019)

Julia and Nick began their foster care journey by going on mission trips to Togo and Haiti. They could not help but be impacted by the suffering and general lack of care the orphans were facing. They considered adopting internationally but as they considered further how they could help, they came to the realization that for whatever reason, God placed them in America.

After Julia's mother passed away she realized what it was like to not have a mother and didn't want that for anyone.

Nick and Julia have written about their journey as foster parents:

"Being a foster parent is challenging on several levels. Outside forces that are beyond our control play a large role in the life of a foster parent. We find the best way to handle these challenges come by focusing on what our role is. We are responsible to provide love through guidance, daily care, and education. It's not our role to know the future or even try to figure that out."

Thank you, Julia and Nick, for all you do. We are especially appreciative of all the wonderful things you do for the foster children in your home.



Thomas “TJ” and Trinity Heck **3rd Quarter FY19 (April 2019)**

Thomas “TJ” and Trinity Heck originally began their foster care journey by helping out a family member whose child was born with substance exposure. They were willing to do whatever was necessary to help. Additionally, they recently took on another substance exposed infant and have been caring for him since his release from the hospital. When the foster babies are sick in the hospital, both parents take turns to be there around the clock.

In addition to their foster family, they have three children of their own...two of which came through private adoptions. On top of raising 5 children from the ages of 3 months to 18 years, they also run an in-home daycare together, which has been going strong for over 8 years.

TJ and Trinity are not only amazing foster parents, but they are also genuinely great people with huge hearts. YSB is lucky to have such dedicated people on our team who believe so strongly in our mission.



Stephannie and Jacob Neumann **4th Quarter FY19 (July 2019)**

Stephannie and Jacob Neumann have been foster parents since February of 2013. Throughout their journey, they have provided care and permanency for three children. They have always gone above and beyond with the children in their care, whether it was driving them to visit family, to counseling, or to any other service necessary for them to flourish and grow.

Each year, the Neumann’s have sponsored other children to receive Christmas gifts in YSB’s Star Tree program. They have fulfilled their calling to be foster and now adoptive parents.

The Neumann’s have decided to close their foster license and are now starting a new chapter in their lives... Stephannie recently received her Bachelor’s Degree and has been hired by Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley in the Homeless Youth Program as a Transitional Living Caseworker.

We are thankful for this family and for Stephannie’s continuation of her work with youth in the community. We cannot say enough about this family’s incredible dedication to children and the youth involved within our agency.

Being a Foster Parent is a rewarding experience that can positively change the life of a child forever. YSB is looking for more people who are willing to open up their homes and their hearts to children in need. If you are interested in becoming a Foster Parent and would like more information about becoming a Foster Parent, please contact YSB at 815-433-3953, or follow us to our website at www.ysbiv.org.

2019 YSB Board of Directors

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Ivanauskas

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Fx: 815-433-3980

TDD: 815-431-3001

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Ph: 630-820-6303

Fx: 630-820-6306

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800 Roosevelt Rd.

Building E, Suite 102

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Fx: 630-474-0019

Rockford, IL 61101

308 W. State St.

Suite 475

Ph: 815-316-1977

LaSalle, IL 61301

12 Gunia Dr.

Ph: 815-223-4151

Fx: 815-223-4155

Princeton, IL 61356

1702 1/2 W. Peru St.

P.O. Box 516

Ph: 815-872-2119

Fx: 815-872-2099

Streator, IL 61364

205 Pratt St.

Ph: 815-665-0012

Fx: 815-433-3980

Crystal Lake, IL 60014

475 W. Terra Cotta

Suite D

Ph: 815-313-7632

YSB

Web Address:

www.ysbiv.org



Find us on Social Media

YSB serves twenty counties in northern and central Illinois.



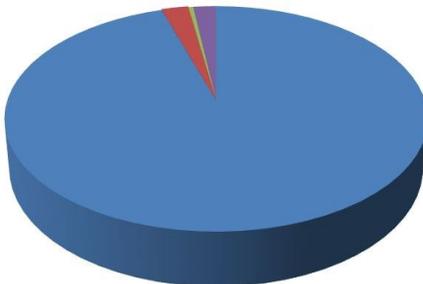
Program Statistics

	FY18	FY19
Hope House	82	84
Transitional Living Program	13	16
Outreach Counseling	173	171
Solutions Counseling	1,145	1,275
Foster Care	1,236	1,320
Restitution	66	59
Hispanic Services	657	572
Homeless Youth	70	81
Parenting Plus	354	401
Redeploy & 2nd Chance	47	82
Intact Families/Intensive Placement Stabilization	241	254
Grand Totals	4,141	4,315

2019 Financial Profile

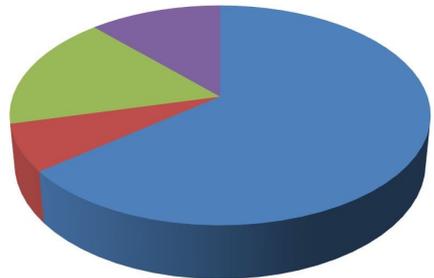
Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley FY2018 Operating Revenue and Expenses

FY19 Revenue



- Fed, State & Local 95.13%
- Family Fees 2.41%
- United Way & Other 0.41%
- Donations 2.05%

FY19 Operating Expenses



- Program Cost 64.21%
- Client Transportation 6.88%
- Aid to Clients 16.95%
- Other Expenses 11.96%

Audited financial report available upon request.

YCSB

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Ottawa, IL 61350



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