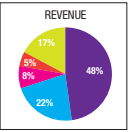




A message from  
Pete Caldwell

WHAT'S INSIDE:



2017-2018  
Financial Report



2018 Supporters

# we care news

Winter 2019

## Expulsion from Preschool Can Create Lasting Struggles

Children in preschools are expelled at 5 times the rate of children in kindergarten and higher grades. Many of the protections for older children don't exist for preschoolers. Removal at this age has a critical impact on a child's relationship to school in general and can cause lifelong learning problems. A good experience in preschool can create a lifelong love of learning and success.

### Our Child Care Solutions Program (CCS) Helps Children at Risk

We Care provides **mental health consultation to preschools** throughout Contra Costa County. Supported by First 5 Contra Costa, our innovative and collaborative CCS program helps reduce expulsion by assisting teachers and parents to better address challenging behaviors of preschoolers – **even long after we've left.**

### This Story is One of Hundreds from our Program

A preschool in Pleasant Hill reached out for help in dealing with a young student. "Mark" was a smart and friendly little boy when not upset, but he **needed ongoing support to cope and focus** throughout the 3-hour morning.

He was frequently emotional, angry, sad, and easily upset by disappointment. He could also be impulsive and aggressive in his interactions with others. His teacher told us that "Mark is very frustrated, has angry outbursts, and has difficulty at circle-time and during transitions. What we're doing doesn't seem to be helping."

### Observations, Assessments, and Interactions

After she was brought in, We Care's consultant met frequently with Mark's teacher to discuss his behaviors and what they might mean. With each layer of information, the consultant developed new interpretations and interventions to support Mark in the classroom. Mark responded well to the support, reminders and limits, but he was **not able to sustain this behavior without continual 1:1 attention.**

Continues on page 3



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**Little Stars Gala**  
WE CARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

**October 20, 2018**

**Thank You**  
To Our Amazing  
Gala Sponsors!

Hitachi Vantara  
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Andeavor  
Kiwanis Club of  
Walnut Creek  
R. C. Fischer & Co.  
NorthBay Healthcare  
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A message from:

**Pete Caldwell,** Executive Director



Dear We Care Family,

I hope 2019 is finding you happy and well!

Here at We Care, we're excited by the beginning of what we're certain will be another great year.

In 2018,

- our impact on young children and their families has been the **most significant** we've ever had – hundreds more children this year have been helped by our services;
- our **Little Stars Gala** in October was the most successful event we've ever held; and
- we ended the year with a **new strategic map** and an exciting path forward.

### New Programs and Collaborations

We will be leveraging the support you've provided this past year to deliver innovative new programs focusing on **infants and young children**. In these efforts, we will be working within new collaborations and I'll be excited to share the details with you later this spring as agreements are formalized.

### A Key Shift to Early Intervention

There are extraordinary opportunities that lie ahead for the work we do. There has been a shift this past year within healthcare and the general community to place – wisely – **greater emphasis on early intervention** and we are perfectly situated to be an important part of this evolution.

This is our time, and it's clear that the work we do is becoming better understood by **key decision-makers** as the most effective way to address a host of community issues. It's extremely heartening for an agency like ours to see this greater appreciation and support of the kind of services we've been providing for nearly 60 years.

### Wishing You a Very Happy New Year!

I hope you're looking forward to this coming year as well. And, as always, thank you for all you do to help improve the lives of so many in our community.

We don't exist without you. We never forget that.

All the best,



Pete Caldwell





Sometimes he would just come to school in a “bad” mood. Those were hard days for him and nothing seemed to make things right. For the classroom, this was **unsustainable and he remained at risk for expulsion**.

### Family's Stresses Impacted Mark

After repeated efforts, we were finally able to connect with Mark's mother and learned that multiple stressors at home were likely **the cause of his behavior**. Health concerns among family members and financial difficulties that threatened their housing made it difficult for Mark's mom to focus on her son's needs and treatment.

Through a referral to **We Care's Wraparound program\***, our team partnered with her to set achievable goals that included carving out one-on-one time with Mark to reduce his fear and isolation. Through goal-setting and support, our team also helped address employment concerns, and created a bridge between the family and the preschool. A plan for Mark was put into place that included behavior modification and opportunities for more appropriate expressions of his emotions. Between changes in his school environment and the level of pressure at home, risk of expulsion was decreased dramatically.

### Mark Graduated to Kindergarten

Mark's improvements ensured he could graduate from his preschool and he is now thriving in kindergarten. The skills both he and his family learned from our programs have helped them weather many difficulties. They have **fundamentally changed the way they address problems**, which is continuing to pave Mark's path for ongoing success in school.

\* Our Wraparound program provides a family-driven, team-based planning process that is individualized and coordinated to meet the goals of children and their families with complex needs. Each family is provided a team Facilitator as well as a Family Partner to aid in advocacy and peer support.



## Our Heartfelt Thanks to John Muir Employees



We want to convey our heartfelt thanks to the nearly 150 extraordinarily generous John Muir Health System employees who helped us create the Liv and Hannah Love Fund.

In the face of tragedy, Dean and Denise Charcow requested that Dean's colleagues at John Muir direct any giving to this memorial fund at We Care, and the response has been overwhelming.

The fund will provide much-needed help for many children and we are incredibly grateful for the kindness of all involved.

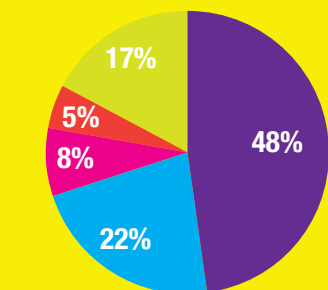
## we care news

Winter 2019

### 2017-18 Financial Report

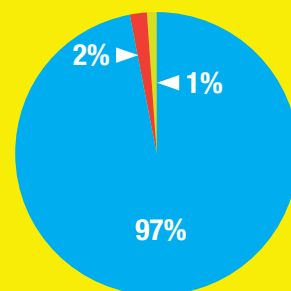
Below is a review of our financials for our Fiscal Year 2017-18.

#### REVENUE



- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRST 5
- REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
- PRESCHOOL
- DONATIONS & OTHER INCOME

#### EXPENSES



- PROGRAMS
- GENERAL/ADMINISTRATION
- MARKETING/FUNDRAISING



# 2018 Supporters ... Thank You!

We are extremely grateful to our generous supporters. With your partnership, We Care is able to help children to reach their full potential. Without you, we could not help change the lives of children with developmental disabilities, continue our fight against child abuse, or give parents the support needed. Thank you!



## \$100,000 and Above

Steve and Debra Gonsalves

## \$30,000 to \$100,000

Andeavor

Vicky and George Gallegos

Jim and Laura Hulburd

Dan and Shay Martin

## \$15,000 to \$30,000

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Quest Foundation

The Taylor Family Foundation

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Hitachi Vantara

Kyle Hulburd and Alanna Hulburd

Kaiser Permanente

Nina and Mike Rowe

Bob and Susan Sachs

## \$2,500 to \$5,000

Rande and Susan Allison

Tom Anders and

Barbara Langsdale

Pete Caldwell and Jim Martin

Pete and Angie Coffee

Greg Coplans and Joy Favre

Marc and Wendy Greenberg

Fred and Gina Piazza

Elaine Taylor

Elise Witt

## \$250 to \$2,500

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Mike Zylstra

**we care**  
**news**

Winter 2019

Please plan on attending our event of the year – We Care's annual Little Stars Gala

**SAVE**  
**THE**  
**DATE**  
**OCTOBER**  
**NINETEENTH**  
**2019**

**5:30 pm to 11 pm**  
**The Clubhouse at**  
**Boundary Oak**

**Little Stars**  
**GALA**

## Donations in Memory & in Honor

Barbara Bentley and Rex Johnston donated in honor of **JoAnn Pico** and **Don Anthony,**

**Gemma Bassi, John Kubuitschek,** and **Joan Galey**

Tony and Judi Bullotta donated in honor of **Hudson Bullotta**

Laura Culkin donated in honor of **Laura and Jim Hulburd**

Steven and Robin Cavagnolo donated in honor of **Paula Tippery**

Tracy Duberman donated in honor of **Bob Sachs**

Linda English donated in honor of **TLC Programs**

Howard Fischer and Robert Park donated in honor of **Fred Piazza, PhD**

Rick Franceschini donated in honor of **Vicki and Brian McCoy**

Jim Johnson donated in memory of **Mark Johnson**

Barbara Langsdale donated in honor of **Pete Caldwell**

Stephen J. Schendel donated in honor of **Wanda Mae Schendel**

Scott Zimmermann donated in honor of **Barbara Bentley and Rex Johnston**

