

2019 Monroe Harding Annual Impact Report

Monroe Harding made tremendous strides in 2019. We served and supported approximately 1,075 children, teens, young adults, families, and supportive adult volunteers and community partners in furtherance of our cause and mission.

Monroe Harding's programs and services are summarized by four key strategies to empower the young people we serve to make meaningful changes in their lives: (1). Homes – we foster safe, nurturing homes through supportive family environments; (2). Healing – We mitigate the effects of abuse and neglect by creating a trauma-informed, healing community; (3). Opportunities – we offer young adults' opportunities through experiences, education, life skills building, reengagement, and career readiness; and, (4). Engagement - we engage with community partners to maximize our impact in the areas of home, healing, and opportunities.

Homes – 90 children and teens were nurtured in Foster Homes and 60 foster families supported across Mid-TN. This equated to 14,597 nights of foster care. Three youth were adopted. Our foster care program underwent three very favorable independent audits. We saw an increase in service to Level II youth.

We supported 67 young adults in safe, affordable apartments provided through our Independent Living and VOCA housing programs. This equated to 11,190 nights of care and prevention of homelessness. Ninety percent of our young adults were also engaged in school or work, and 40 percent were able to maintain both. Ninety-two percent of our VOCA young adults also participated in clinical emotional and mental health support programs.

Healing – we provided 248 hours of individual and family therapy sessions and expanded our clinical network of available emotional and mental health support services to all young adults.

Opportunities – we engaged 185 teens and young adults aging out of foster care through our Youth Connections Resource Center by providing 285 hours of tutoring and college readiness. 52 young adults entered post-secondary education and 14 earned their high school equivalency. Eight-three young adults participated in our Opportunity Passport financial literacy and match savings program, saving a total of \$42,387. Sixty-three young adults participated in sexual health education classes. A new evidence-supported, career development and engagement program for young adults called Works Wonders will launch in January 2020. The program received Harvard's 2018 Innovations in American Government Award. Monroe Harding partnered with Metro Nashville to establish one of two Opportunity Now Reengagement Hubs for young adults who experienced traumatic crime-victimization, to provide collaborative, community-based support in education and employment.

Engagement – 633 supportive adult volunteers contributed a total of 2,920 hours of their time and \$86,000 in financial support. We worked cooperatively with more than 25 community organizations and partners to further our mission.

Monroe Harding developed a new, three-year strategic plan (2019-2022) representing the shared priorities of over 80 area and national partners and supporters who participated in its development. We are focused on building and implementing systems with an integrated network of partners to: (1) enhance the support of children and young adults with complex needs in the foster care system; and (2) assist young adults who lack family support in gaining strong social and emotional skills and a clear vision

of their education-to-career path.

Monroe Harding evolved to a much higher performing organization. On January 3, 2020, we successfully closed on the sale of the Glendale Lane campus. The sale netted over \$6 million and ensures our continued ability to deliver our mission. Proceeds of the sale were placed immediately into Monroe Harding's endowment trust which is professionally managed and carefully overseen by our board. No trust funds were used for operations in 2019.