



Nexus
FAMILY HEALING

Connection

A Nexus Family Healing Newsletter
Fall 2025

Story of Hope

Timely Care When Needed Most

At 17, Taylor* was caught in a cycle of intense anger that left her family feeling unsafe and out of control. One winter night at 11:00 p.m., in desperation, her parents called Nexus Family Healing's Family Response and Stabilization Services (FRSS).

A crisis team arrived within the hour — a service we can provide 24/7, 365 days a year. This swift action changed everything. Over the next eight weeks, Taylor received therapy to heal from underlying trauma, while her family rebuilt communication and trust through in-home visits and guidance.

Early intervention made all of the difference. Taylor stayed in her home, avoided hospitalization, and learned healthy ways to cope. Her parents now feel supported, connected, and hopeful for their and Taylor's future.

Youth crisis services like FRSS are the only program of their kind in Minnesota—providing immediate, in-person help when families need it most. Because of you, families like Taylor's don't just survive crisis — they find a path to healing and lasting stability.



Voices of Inspiration

From Complex Needs to Extraordinary Futures

Joe and Anne always dreamed of a big family. After adopting five children, they still had room in their heart and home and were compelled to become foster parents. A friend introduced them to Nexus Family Healing to help them with their journey.

"Working with an agency provided the additional support we needed," said Joe, "even though there were times when fostering felt challenging, having that support was important for making this work.... Their support enabled us to take multiple children into our home, many with complex needs."

With Nexus' guidance, Joe and Anne welcomed several children into their home, including sisters Maria and Cassandra, who had complex care needs. Nexus helped them navigate behaviors, build relationships with biological families, and stay consistent through challenges. Maria and Cassandra found stability and love in Joe and Anne's home and the couple formally adopted them.

Today, Maria works at a high-end salon, helping others feel confident, while Cassandra earned a bachelor's degree in environmental science. Joe and Anne continue to empower their children to embrace their adoption stories and maintain healthy connections.

In April 2024, Joe joined the Nexus Family Healing Board of Directors to further give back and support our mission.

"The clinical models that Nexus Family Healing has developed to help families is so important."

**- JOE,
FOSTER AND
ADOPTIVE FATHER**

The Power of Support: How Healing Changed One Family

Family Focus

Kattie's life had been marked by hardship—struggles that left her feeling overwhelmed and uncertain about her future. As a mother, her greatest hope was to find success and stability for her two young sons, but the challenges they faced at home and within school made that feel out of reach.

When Kattie met with Maddie Hawes at Nexus-PATH Family Healing, everything began to change. Maddie, a Social Worker Supervisor for Nexus-PATH, connected Kattie and her sons to the School Linked Services program, which serves as a vital bridge between school, home, and community for vulnerable youth and families within school districts. Through this program, youth with high-needs like Kattie's sons receive an individualized care plan—developed by gathering insights from teachers, school staff, community providers, and family members.

With the guidance of Maddie, her case manager, caring therapists, and a supportive network, Kattie started to heal from past hardships and rebuild her confidence. Her sons, too, received the nurturing and structure they needed—learning, growing, and succeeding alongside their mother.

Together, they found new routines, new ways to communicate, and a renewed sense of purpose and connection. Slowly, the chaos turned into stability, and the uncertainty into opportunity.

Today, Kattie and her boys are thriving—living each day with more hope than the one before. At Nexus Family Healing, we know that healing does not just change one life—it carries forward to change families and create stronger, healthier communities for years to come.



“

Kattie's was just one of the classic families who...was struggling, she was overwhelmed, and she didn't know where to start.

- Maddie Hawes, Social Worker Supervisor

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Help transform youth and families
in your community today.

Scan the QR code or visit
nexusfamilyhealing.org/nlgive.

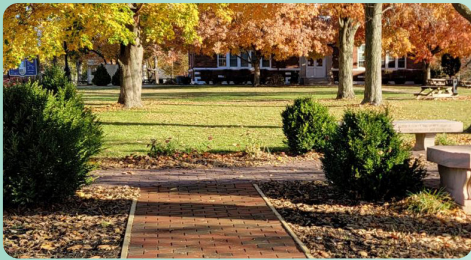


Agency Updates

YOUR SUPPORT **Impacts Lives**

Illinois

Nexus-Onarga is thankful for the continued support of alumni of the former **Onarga Military School (OMS)** through their Memorial Sidewalk Brick Project. Each brick helps build a lasting memorial pathway and supports the youth receiving services through Nexus-Onarga. Are you an OMS alumni interested in being part of this special project? Contribute today and leave your mark.



Maryland

We're excited to welcome **Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.** as a new partner supporting the Youth Work Program at **Nexus-Woodbourne**. Their sponsorship helps youth in our Residential Treatment Program gain hands-on job experience, build academic and technical skills, and grow personally in safe, supportive environments—empowering lifelong success.

William Blair has selected **Nexus-Woodbourne** as a 2025 Global Community Partner! This three-year, employee-driven partnership will enhance our youth programs and create opportunities to collaborate with William Blair's Baltimore team in providing safe, trauma-informed care.



Thanks to the generous support of Nexus Foundation Board Member **Tere Geckle**, we've launched a birthday program for youth in residential treatment.

We are so grateful to Tere helping us to create a program that celebrates each and every youth on their special day, and we look forward to sustaining the program in the new year. For more information on how to join the celebration and helping to make each of our youth feel valued during their time in care, please contact Meghan Butterworth at mbutterworth@nexusfamilyhealing.org.

Minnesota

The **PwC Foundation, Inc.** made a \$25,000 grant to support Nexus Family Healing's **Family Response & Stabilization Services**, providing immediate, in-person mental health services to youth and families in Hennepin County (Minn.)

Foster and adoptive families gathered at Lions Park for food and fun, thanks to **Vikings Table, JonnyPops, and Enterprise Fleet Management**. Special thanks to the Minnesota Vikings for LED Nite Lites and to all who donated toys, books, and more—your generosity made for an unforgettable day topped off by a day at Valley Fair made possible by a donation from a Nexus-Kindred Family Healing Board Member!



In August, **Nexus-Gerard** held their Family Fun Day right on campus, in Austin, MN, complete with a grill out, dunk tank, giant Jenga, putt-putt golf, cotton candy, ice cream, and endless laughter. Donors made it possible for the youth to simply relax, play, and feel supported by their Nexus community.

Upcoming Events – Get Involved!

Oct. 24, 2025 - Night for Nexus
Metropolitan Ballroom
Golden Valley, MN

Nov. 6, 2025 - Building B'more Connections
Four Season Hotel
Baltimore, MD

To stay updated on our events visit
NexusFamilyHealing.org/events

North Dakota

We're thrilled to share that Giving Hearts Day in February was a heartwarming success, raising an incredible \$52,000 for **Nexus-PATH**! Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we can continue providing vital care and services to youth and families across our community. Your kindness truly makes a difference!

We're grateful to **Scheels** in Bismarck for donating sports and recreational equipment to support our foster care skills coach. Their generosity helps provide kids with healthy physical outlets, promoting wellness, confidence, and fun. Thank you for making a positive impact in the lives of these children!



Did You Know?

One of the many ways you can provide support to the youth and families who turn to us for care each year is through a Donor Advised Fund (DAF).

DAF charitable contributions increase the impact of your gift, as well as provide an immediate tax deduction and the opportunity to recommend grants to Nexus over time.