



Nexus-Kindred
FAMILY HEALING



2020 Annual Report



SUSAN MCPHERSON
Executive Director
Nexus-Kindred Family Healing



DR. MICHELLE K. MURRAY
President/CEO
Nexus Family Healing

Fostering Hope

The pandemic disrupted many of our lives last year – our routines, our jobs, our health, and our ability to see our loved ones. Children in the foster care system faced another set of challenges as the pandemic reduced the ability for some to bring new children into their homes.

However, our team rose to the occasion, providing 158 foster families and serving 524 children in Minnesota this past year.

Our registered foster parents went above and beyond meeting the daily needs of children in their care – from home schooling to hybrid, working at home to childcare challenges, to taking special care of a child's physical and mental health needs – they parented with unending commitment.

The dedicated Nexus-Kindred Family Healing staff were right beside them providing foster care training and support, having Zoom visits when necessary, and ensuring families had adequate PPE available.

During this year, Nexus-Kindred wished the best to longtime Executive Director George Hendrickson as he retired and welcomed Susan McPherson as the new Executive Director. Susan is an exceptional community advocate who brings to Nexus-Kindred expertise in social services and deep passion for youth and families in our foster care system.

Thank you to our donors whose support was instrumental in providing our current foster families with masks, technology for distance learning and other necessities. You allowed us to continue restoring hope and reshaping futures for so many children and families during this challenging year.

Susan McPherson
Executive Director
Nexus-Kindred Family Healing

Dr. Michelle K. Murray
CEO/President
Nexus Family Healing

Rising to the Challenge

We are so grateful for our donors, foundations, and businesses that helped Nexus-Kindred with both cash and in-kind gifts throughout the pandemic, allowing us to send care kits to foster parents and to provide uninterrupted service to families in need. A special thank you to the Ticket to Dream Foundation for providing funds for laptops and school support for kids in foster care.



Why Our Work Matters

In Minnesota, during 2020, about 4,800 children and young adults needed out-of-home placement or foster care. Nexus-Kindred served 524 children and young adults, with the most common primary reasons for removal from the home as:

- 27% due to parental drug abuse.
- 13% due to allegations of neglect.
- 7% due to child mental health needs.

These are children suffering from past trauma, difficult family situations, and mental health issues. Nexus-Kindred worked tirelessly across the state of Minnesota, to find loving foster homes and permanent homes willing to provide a safe, secure environment for kids in need.

OUR IMPACT

158 foster families

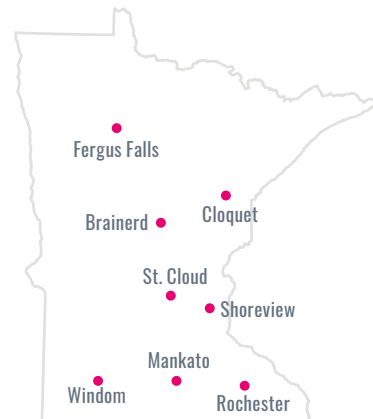
83 youth adopted

58 youth served through visitation services

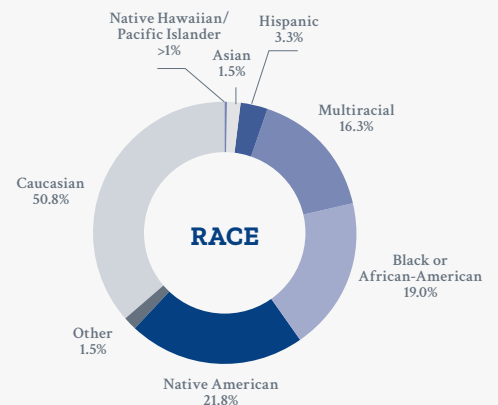
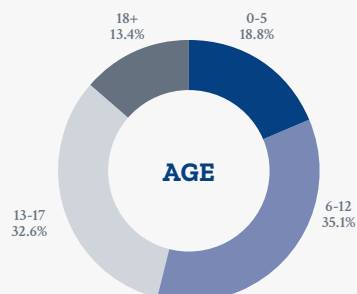
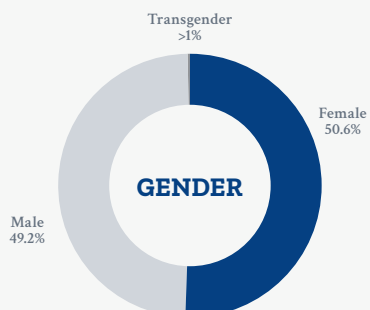
524+
youth

and their families
were served in 2020

WHERE WE SERVE



WHO WE SERVE



Your Support Makes A Difference

The work of Nexus-Kindred wouldn't be possible without the support of individuals who value making an immediate difference in the life of a child or family in crisis. Here are examples of how donations make a difference:

\$250 provides gas cards and other resource that help support families during their child's care

\$500 supports school supplies and extra-curricular activities that allow youth to just be a kid

\$1,000 furnishes an apartment with necessities for a youth aging out of foster care

\$6,500 supports the recruitment and training of one foster family

\$10,000 provides specialized training for a team of staff supporting youth in recovering from trauma

\$25,000+ supports the development of new initiatives to expand and enhance services for youth in foster care.



Healing Star's Light

Star, a frightened nine-year old, spent every day facing the verbal, emotional, and physical abuse of her mother's boyfriend. She watched as her mother was abused as well.

When star entered foster care, a loving couple, Darin and Joyce, stepped up to provide her a safe haven. The first few weeks were not easy. Star would shriek and sob when Darin got too close in proximity to her or Joyce, fearing the abuse she'd experienced at her mother's home. Because of the training Darin and Joyce received through Nexus-Kindred, they were prepared for the bumpy road ahead and knew right away that she needed additional therapy services to meet her needs.

Darin and Joyce quickly connected Star with a therapist to work through her traumatic experiences and eventually Star disclosed more details of what had happened at her mom's home. She missed her mom very much and worried constantly about her safety. As time went on, Star's mother began joining her at therapy and their relationship began to heal.

Her mother left her unsafe relationship, and eventually, Star was able to move back in with her. Now, Star and her mother consider Darin and Joyce a part of their family, with Darin being a primary male role model in Star's life.

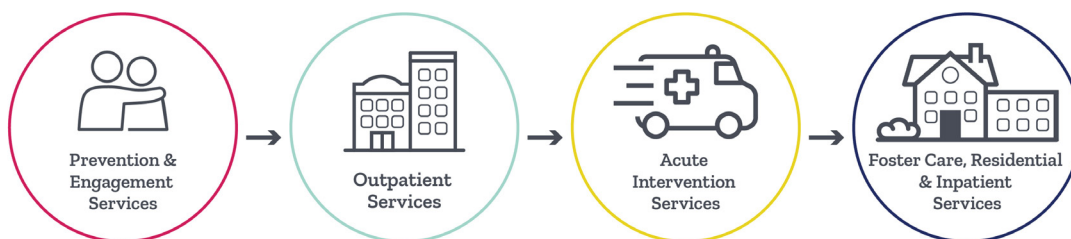
**Name and treatment facts altered for privacy*

Creating A Healthier Tomorrow

At Nexus-Kindred, we are full of hope for the future and know that with your support we can positively impact even more children and families that are struggling. Across all Nexus Family Healing agencies, including Nexus-Kindred, we're focused on offering a Continuum of Care that reaches individuals when and where they need our services most. Our organization's history is deeply rooted in foster care and residential care. Over the next few years, we will expand our community mental health programs to include more prevention, outpatient, and intervention services – providing help earlier and averting the need for a more critical level of care later.

We are also taking our trauma-informed care to the next level, creating even safer, caring, and inclusive environments for all we serve. And we will implement new, innovative programs that wrap around the entire family, not just the individual.

Continuum of Care



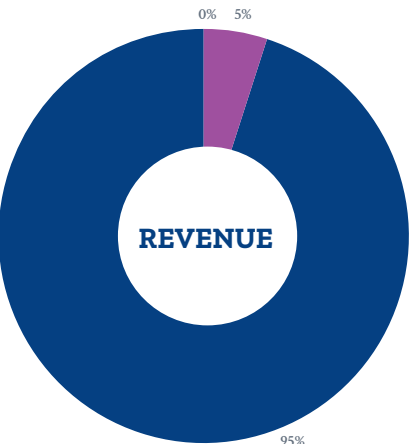
Cherishing the Simple Things

A group of three high-spirited brothers, Joe* (13), Jeremy* (9), and Jared* (7), entered foster care because of neglect in the home from parental drug use. The boys' therapists and case workers knew that this may be a difficult foster placement because of the boys' past experiences. It would take time and patience and someone willing to open their home to all three brothers. One of our Nexus-Kindred foster parents raised his hand and was ready for the challenge. Tim, a single foster father with Nexus-Kindred knew he could make a difference in the lives of these boys. As he helped them to bed on one of the first nights in his home, the youngest brother, Jared said, "Thank you for having safe beds for us so we can sleep." It was at that moment that Tim realized that something as basic as a good night's sleep may have been rare for these boys.

Over time, Tim taught the brothers simple things like how to make a meal and how to play basketball, and their relationship continued to grow. Joe, Jeremy, and Jared did very well in Tim's home. He was there for them through highs and lows, and when the boys were freed for adoption, Tim gave a resounding "YES!" when he was asked if he would adopt the boys. The new official family of four celebrated their adoption day at the courthouse, followed by a family game of basketball in the driveway.

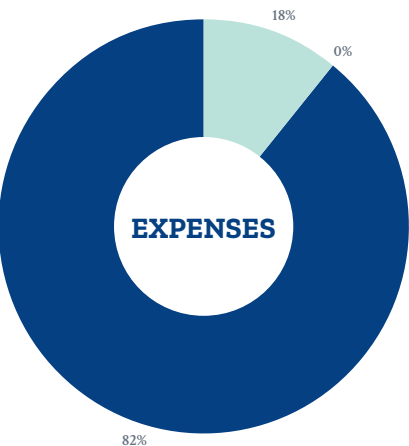
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Financials



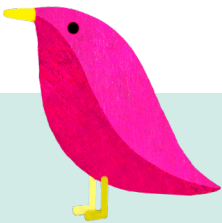
Revenue

Contract Revenue	6,601,110
Other	613
Donations, Grants, Events.....	363,091
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Total.....	6,964,814



Expenses

Program	5,847,891
General and Administrative.....	1,255,626
Fundraising	33,973
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Total.....	7,137,490



Board of Directors

- Dr. Michelle Murray**
President/CEO
Nexus Family Healing

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Nexus Family Healing

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Nexus Family Healing

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Vice President of Service Development
and Strategy
Nexus Family Healing



Nexus-Kindred Family Healing

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No child or family is ever beyond hope.

Nexus-Kindred Family Healing is part of Nexus Family Healing, a national nonprofit network of mental health agencies with over 45 years of restoring hope for thousands of children and families through outpatient/ community mental health services, foster care and adoption, and residential treatment. Whatever your needs, Nexus Family Healing is here to help. Learn more at NexusFamilyHealing.org.