

# 2020 Annual Report

The foundation of all Synergy Services programs are rooted in a trauma-informed care approach to mental health, with an enhanced commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion as a foundation for the organizational culture. Providing safety, promoting healing and building strength are at the center of our crisis response and key to ending family violence in our community.

Synergy serves children and youth 0-18, young adults 18+ and adults who may have experienced any of the following: mental health crisis, emergency shelter needs, domestic abuse, child abuse, sexual assault, classroom disruption, homelessness, teen parenting and bullying.

# 19,440 clients served! noticeable trends



29,008

nights of safety were provided to children and individuals in our residential program

Increase in depression, anxiety, and isolation among general client population

Increased incidences of youth suicide

Increased need for school-based integrated services

Increased need for affordable housing for homeless youth and DV survivors

Increased need for Batterer Intervention Program in Jackson County

# unmet needs (due to lack of resources)

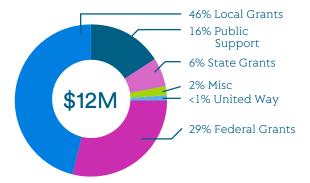
- Children's Center
- Domestic Violence Center
- Teen Transitional Living Program and Maternity Group Home
- Synergy House (teen shelter)
- Outpatient

145 children 1.889 clients

157 teens

303 teens 160 clients

## revenue



## expenses



# big accomplishments

Synergy worked hard to avoid COVID-19 furloughs. We worked with 220 staff members to help meet program and personal needs while continuing to provide best practice care for our clients and the community.

A fundraiser was held over the summer to establish a Scholarship Program through which staff may receive support to further their education. The Domestic Violence/Children's Center team created a food program for those experiencing food insecurity due to COVID-19. For 16+ weeks, clients and neighbors lined up in their cars to pick up fresh meat, dairy products, produce and pantry staples.

The Youth Campus sponsored a remote back-to-school fair in August, providing nearly 1,000 children new backpacks filled with school supplies.

We led an initiative with fellow domestic violence agencies (MFVC) to develop a new model for serving domestic violence victims and their children. This was required by the need to provide space for social distancing within crowded domestic violence shelters and to address the significant increase in violence that occurred during the pandemic as victims sheltered with their abusers.

We launched a Behavioral Support Program at NKC School District in the SBIS, brining a new dimension to our mental health and prevention services.

# board of directors

#### **Board Chair**

Michelle Brown CBIZ MHM, LLC & Mayer Hoffman McCann, P.C.

#### Vice Chair

Jason Bennett American Century Investments

#### **Board Secretary**

Susan M. Casey Community Member

#### **Board Treasurer**

Cheryl Givens Community Member

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Tom Isenberg
Community Member

Tommy W. Taylor Polsinelli Attorney Retired

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Brandy Shope QuikTrip Corporation, KC Division

Shane Smeed Park University

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WBT Strategy Consulting LLC

Marisa Wiruhayarn M&D Enterprise, Inc.

Johnny Waller Community Member

Mia Scott Client Representative

### Synergy Board Staff

Robin S. Winner Executive Director

Dennis Meier Executive Director

Taryn Waters
Finance Director

Jennifer Hurst Director of Development

## **OUR PROGRAMS**

#### **RESOLVE CRISIS**

- Crisis Hotlines: Children 816-321-7060, Youth 816-741-8700, Domestic Violence 816-321-7050
   Compassionate operators provide emotional support and referrals to shelters and other community resources for victims of family violence.
- Safe Place: 816-505-4811
   A network of sites throughout the community to connect youth in danger with safe shelter or other assistance.
- Street Outreach: 816-204-6747
   A collaboration between Synergy and partner agencies to provide basic necessities and assist homeless young people in reaching educational, vocational and housing goals.
- BridgeSPAN & Medical/Legal Advocacy: 816-321-7050
  BridgeSPAN provides hospital-based domestic
  violence intervention & support services, while
  medical/legal advocates guide survivors through the
  often complex medical and legal systems.

#### **PROVIDE SAFETY**

#### **Emergency Shelter**

- Children's Center: 816-321-7060
   Emergency shelter and counseling for children from birth to age 12 who are in custody of the state, from families in crisis, or who have experienced violence.
- Synergy House: 816-741-8700
   Shelter and counseling for youth ages 12 to 18 who are in crisis due to abuse, family dysfunction, abandonment, homelessness or parental emergencies.
- Domestic Violence: Center 816-321-7050
   Emergency shelter and support services for adult domestic violence survivors and their children.

#### **Temporary Housing**

- Transitional Living: 816-505-4814
   18 months of stable housing, counseling, case management and support to enable youth and young families to transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.
- Rapid Rehousing: 816-398-1966
   Safe, stable housing and the necessary support services to enable domestic violence survivors and their children to escape abuse without becoming homeless.

#### PROMOTE HEALING

- Medical, Dental & Vision Care: 816-505-4865
   Our on-site clinic is consciously designed and operated to overcome the barriers that prevent homeless and at-risk children and youth from accessing regular healthcare. A variety of services are provided utilizing collaborations between healthcare providers.
- Mental Health & Counseling Services: 816-587-4100
   A wide-range of counseling services to strengthen individuals and families and help them function in a healthy way including: Individual, Couple, Family & Group Counseling; Art, Movement, Music & Play Therapy; Other Behavioral Therapies
- School Based Integrated Services: 816-321-7470
   Trauma informed services delivered in schools to help students overcome trauma and develop the social and emotional skills necessary to be a successful learner and reach their full potential.
- Children's Advocacy Center: 816-321-7040
  A multidisciplinary team approach to preventing, investigating, prosecuting and providing healing services for child abuse victims. A collaboration between law enforcement, Children's Division and other child serving agencies to conduct forensic interviews and offer advocacy support to children and families who are navigating the child welfare system.

#### **BUILD STRENGTH**

- Teen Parent Support: 816-505-4816
   Education, case management and mentoring for pregnant and parenting teens up to their 22nd birthday.
- Youth Resiliency Center: 816-741-8700

  A unique place that promotes growth and healing for at-risk youth through: a clinic providing medical, mental, dental and vision health services; support groups; computer lab and education center; creative arts center and recording studio; indoor basketball court and teaching kitchen; and a drop-in center for homeless youth to eat, take a shower and do laundry.

#### **EFFECT CHANGE**

Batterers Intervention: 816-505-4805
An intensive therapy experience that holds domestic violence offenders accountable for their behavior and equips them with the tools they need to choose alternatives to violence.