Believing in childhood
for 40 years

Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report
October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014
Formerly Children Shelter of the Upstate and Ellen Hines Smith Girls’ Home

Our mission is building stable, healthy families and providing children a safe place from abuse and neglect.

In Fiscal Year 2014, Hope Center for Children served:

1,209 Children
470 Parents
1,679 Total individuals in Upstate SC

P.O. Box 1731
Spartanburg, SC 29304
(864) 583-7688

www.hopecfc.org
www.facebook.com/HopeCenterforChildren
Dear Friends,

This month, we celebrate two years since Hope Center for Children was born from the merger of two strong organizations, the Ellen Hines Smith Girls’ Home and the Children Shelter of the Upstate. We are also celebrating 40 years of believing in childhood as we mark the 1974 founding of the Ellen Hines Smith Girls’ Home. We now offer a full array of services for children and families impacted by child abuse and neglect. We are excited to share with you our first, complete full year of program outcomes.

This year, our prevention services expanded, and we helped 1,413 parents and children in our community. In our new group education classes, parents are learning better, healthier ways to communicate and to interact with their children.

Our Transitional Living Program for homeless youth, many of whom recently aged out of foster care, completed its first full year of operation. We are pleased to report that 100% of youth discharged had safe housing at the time of discharge and 90% of youth served had obtained employment.

Happy, healthy childhoods don’t happen by accident. Thank you for believing in childhood and supporting our mission of building stable, healthy families and providing children a safe place from child abuse and neglect. The outcomes and results achieved this past year show that your investment and belief in childhood are changing lives in our community. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Cheryl Lang, 2014 Board Chair
Chamlee Loscuito, CEO
A Little Help Makes All the Difference

Fourteen-year-old Maddison’s favorite sport was basketball, and she liked horses. She enjoyed country music and wanted to be a singer. Like many teenage girls, she was independent. She was accustomed to being the one in charge; after all, she had been taking care of herself since she was very young. When she first came to Anchor House, it was hard for her to follow the house rules because she had been on her own and in charge of herself for so long.

With the help of family teachers, she came up with a list of skills she wanted to work on. “Think before you speak” was one of them. Her strong independent streak had sometimes contributed to difficulties with other girls in Anchor House. Another item on her list was “Be more sensitive.” Role-playing with a family teacher helped her work out better ways to communicate. The other girls even took turns role-playing situations with Maddison to help her improve her skills.

Maddison also had some long-term goals, one of these was to have a home. She had been sad and angry since learning that she would not be going back to her mother, even though she understood why. She struggled academically, and she found herself dealing with her emotions in ways that were unhealthy. She was insecure about her appearance too, especially her crooked teeth.

During her time at Anchor House, she connected with several volunteers. Some tutored her in math, helping her to pass the class. She became close with a group that held a monthly Bible study. Because Medicaid does not cover orthodontic care for children in foster care, Maddison had little hope of getting braces to correct her teeth, but she came up with an idea. She asked one of the Bible study volunteers to help her write a letter to an orthodontist explaining her wish for braces. She was ecstatic when the

*Names and identifying information have been changed to protect privacy.*
orthodontist agreed to donate his services and supplies necessary for braces.

Through an adoption agency, Maddison met a family; she spent time with them at their home and invited them to her school activities. She was so excited when she heard they wanted to adopt her. After being at Anchor House for 11 months, Maddison was leaving to go to a home with a new family.

On her last day at Hope Center for Children, Maddison had many reasons to be excited, and she left Anchor House with a big sparkly smile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residential Care</th>
<th>Faucette House + Anchor House</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>245</td>
<td>children served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>felt safe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>had no substantiated abuse or neglect while in care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98%</td>
<td>visited appropriate family regularly</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor House</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>of seniors graduated and were accepted to college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>attended school regularly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92%</td>
<td>showed academic improvement while in care</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transitional Living</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>youth served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>had safe housing at discharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>obtained employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92%</td>
<td>maintained employment when discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>185</td>
<td>hours spent in volunteer service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Our **VOLUNTEERS** Rock

2,426 hours given in FY'14

$54,706.30 dollar value*

*Valued at $22.55 per hour by National Independent Sector
Breaking the Cycle, Building a Strong Family

Tara had a childhood that was characterized by **violence and abuse**. She wants to give her children a better life than she had, but it’s tough as a single mother. Lately, her teenage son, Adam, had been extremely defiant and disrespectful, and this was causing major problems at home as well as at school.

When an Empowering Families caseworker first met with the family, Adam was very rude and disrespectful to her and to his mother. As the caseworker continued to visit with the family over time, Adam, like many teenagers, finally opened up and told the worker that his mom just did not understand what it is like to be a teenager. As the worker talked more with Adam and his mother, she realized that he could really benefit from counseling and that there was more going on with him than the typical teenage emotional turmoil. **The worker helped to link the family to community resources that could provide affordable counseling for Adam.** This connection to available community resources is an important piece of the Empowering Families Program’s services for families.

Through counseling, Adam received an appropriate mental health diagnosis, and he began to have a better understanding of his feelings and behaviors. In addition, the caseworker helped his mother to understand his diagnosis, and they discussed what parenting approaches would be most helpful.

Today, Tara and Adam get along well. Adam is now involved with extracurricular activities and attends church. He is following his mother’s house rules and is more respectful. Tara’s receptivity to support has allowed her to **strengthen her family and build the peaceful home** for her children, and for herself, that she missed out on as a child.

*Names and identifying information have been changed to protect privacy.*
## Empowering Families

- **839** children served
- **423** parents served
- **100%** of families who completed services showed an increase in healthy family functioning
- **96%** of families who achieved their program goals at case closure had no new cases of abuse or neglect

## Family Strengthening

- **104** children served
- **47** parents served
- **93%** of parents served showed positive changes in knowing how to manage their children’s challenging behaviors
- **96%** of families served had no new cases of abuse or neglect

### Total People Served in Prevention Programs:

1,413

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"{My caseworker} has a way of explaining things that include my side and my child’s side and makes them one and the same."

~ comments from a parent served through our Family Strengthening Program

## The Hottest Events of the Year

**Tinis and Tapas**
A Night at the Oscars
February 21, 2015

**Tailgate Trot**
The South’s Best Tailgate Party
August 14, 2015
Thank you to our superheroes!

**Smith Stahley Society**  
*Gifts of $10,000 or more*

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- The Beach Ball Foundation
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- SC Children’s Trust Fund
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- Women Giving for Spartanburg

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“It’s a loving and compassionate environment at the most traumatic time for children. The staff spend time with the children, and they help the children have suitable clothes. They help the children feel special and do things with them.”

~ comments from a stakeholder

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“Once in Family Conference, she told us when people ask if she has kids, she says, ‘Yes, 14 girls.’ I think she loves us.”
~ Anchor House resident about a family teacher
Thank you to our superheroes!

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2014 Audited Financials

2014 Audited Expenses

Percentage of Expenses Dedicated Directly to Services

Program Services 86%

Mgmt & Fundraising 14%

Expenses by Program

- Residential Programs: 52%
- Strengthening Families: 15%
- Empowering Families: 12%
- Transitional Living Program: 14%
- Support Services, Management and Fundraising: 7%

To view the full financial report, please visit www.hopecfc.org and click About then Accountability.
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