

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Imagine a child. Her parents lost to addiction or violence. Maybe dad was abusive, as his father was to him. The police come. Now the child lives with strangers. These new parents are nice, but the child doesn't know what to do with nice. So she acts out, gets in trouble. She is moved. Now there are new parents. Then maybe more new parents. Now the child is a teenager. No one talks about adoption anymore. Now they're talking about independence. Someone asks what the child will do when she's "on her own."

To which the child could credibly reply, "I already am."

No more. Though our community's most vulnerable children face abuse, neglect, raging heroin and meth epidemics, and a child welfare system that simply cannot keep up, they have an important ally against the odds.

They have you.

By supporting the Coalition in 2017, you joined a movement to radically alter the way children experience foster care. As you'll see in this year's annual report, we've made incredible strides. Take pride in these accomplishments. They are equally yours.

And after reflecting on all we've achieved, imagine that child again.

Her story isn't over. There's still time. Let's finish it together.

With gratitude,

John Phillips  
President, Board of Directors

## TOGETHER WE...

RAISED

**\$4,052,622**

FROM

**3908 DONORS**

WITH THE HELP OF

**835 VOLUNTEERS**

WHO GAVE

**6,256 HOURS**

TO SERVE

**15,258**

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**



### VOLUNTEERS

"We volunteer at the Coalition because we are passionate about supporting children in foster care and their families in our community. The Coalition makes our volunteer experience meaningful and fun."

-Great Southern Bank

Volunteer Group of the Year, 2017

Volunteers and donors granted 3,773

Little Wishes in 2017.



### 30 Days to Family®

"You finished what you set out to do, and that's find a home for this child and create an opportunity for these kids to grow up together. Because of you a child has a home and a real chance at life. You're pretty dope."

- Local Foster Dad

30 Days to Family's groundbreaking methods are being replicated at over 17 sites around the country.



### JONES PROGRAM

"The training and support is unbelievable. It just prepares you so well. It's amazing that people can rely on the Coalition's resources."

- Tonya Campbell, Foster Parent

The Jones Program trained and prepared 43 of 62 new foster families licensed in our region in its first year.



### DONORS

"It gives us great joy to support the Coalition because we know the Coalition will find a child their forever family. A family who will love and support that child. We believe this persistence and dedication profoundly enhances a child's quality of life. Family saves lives."

- David & Rachel Eidelman

The Coalition's innovative programs save taxpayers more than \$8 million each year.



THE FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION STRIVES TO CREATE PERMANENCY IN EVERY FOSTER CHILD'S LIFE BY RECRUITING

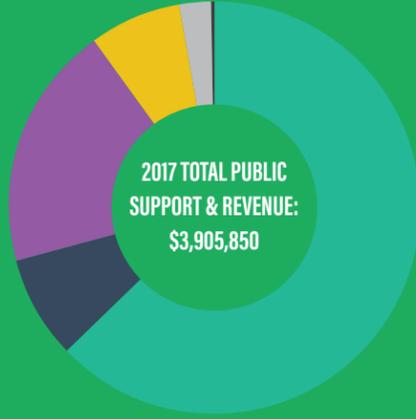
AND SUPPORTING FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES IN THE ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY.

FOR EVERY CHILD . . . A PLACE TO CALL HOME

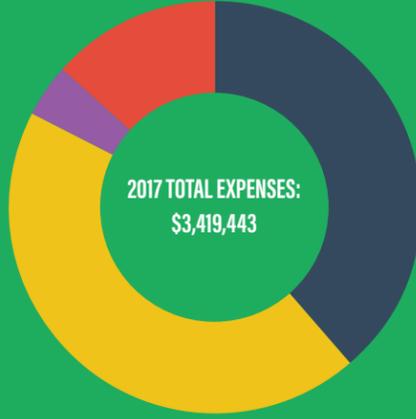


1750 S. Brentwood Blvd., Suite 210, Saint Louis, Missouri 63144  
800.FOSTER.3 | Fax 314.241.0715 | www.foster-adopt.org

## FINANCIALS



- Grants: \$2,452,692
- United Way Allocation: \$314,014
- Contributions: \$754,995
- Special Events: \$285,046
- Return on Investments: \$90,829
- Other Income: \$5,359
- ReFresh: \$2,915



- Program Services
  - Recruitment: \$1,430,521
  - Retention: \$1,400,804
- Support Services
  - Management: \$108,952
  - Fundraising: \$479,166

VISIT [WWW.FOSTER-ADOPT.ORG](http://WWW.FOSTER-ADOPT.ORG) FOR DETAILED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President John Phillips
- Stifel Bank & Trust
- Vice President Marcia Ambrose
- Community Volunteer
- Secretary David Singer
- Warehouse of Fixtures
- Treasurer Christina Schoemehl
- Community Volunteer
- Bob Ahern
- Scottsdale
- Carla Allen-Hughes
- The Allen Law Firm
- Melanie Barrier
- IBM
- Joe Bergan
- Edward Jones
- Ryan Blackburn
- Matter® Family Office
- Robert Cahn
- Simmons Hanly Conroy LLC
- Maryanne Dersch
- 50creative
- The Hon. Jack Garvey
- Carey, Danis & Lowe
- Barb Giudici
- Community Volunteer
- Jim Martin
- Dowd Bennett LLP
- Misty Narayan
- Danna Mckittrick, PC
- Mike Normile
- First Bank
- Jackie Olinger Rochelle
- Maune Raichle Hartley French & Mudd
- Christine Pennell
- Community Volunteer
- Leslie Ridgley
- FedEx
- Joann Sandiffer
- Husch Blackwell LLP
- Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Ph. D.
- Washington University
- Cari Wegge
- XIL Consulting
- Joe Williams-Nelson
- Author
- Diane Williams
- Community Volunteer

Tony and I became foster parents in South Carolina in 2002. Since then, we've adopted 10 children through foster care. Back in November, we adopted Hannah and Zachariah, two siblings from St. Louis who we found out about through the Coalition's Extreme Recruiter, Angela Chewe.

We knew they were our kids the moment we met them. Hannah is very animated and creative, but it's easy to misunderstand her behavior. She has a strong imagination. It just needs a little positive direction. Zachariah hadn't had a male role model in his life, ever. He was sort of in awe of Tony when we met them.

They were both nervous, sitting across the table at the restaurant. They were worried they'd "mess up." They thought we'd decide we didn't want them. We made it clear they couldn't mess up when it came to us, and soon Hannah was talking. She told us that they felt like the musical "Annie," that it had been a "hard-knock life." She actually said that! I loved it. Pretty soon she leaned over to Zachariah and said, "See, I told you they'd like us."

Tony and I have a simple rule – when we commit to children, that's it. It wasn't long after that first visit that Zachariah and Hannah came to South Carolina to live with us.

Hannah and Zachariah are so different from the day we met them. They make straight A's, they're both on the honor-roll. They love to fish. They love having siblings. Zachariah wants to do everything with his brothers and his dad. Years ago we bought a farm because we felt nature was a healing resource for the children in our home. It was a salve on their trauma beyond our love. That's been true for these two kids. They can explore and grow and heal. They eat healthy. We describe it as "fun chaos."

Tony likes to say it's not easy, that you have to think of these kids as diamonds in the rough – they don't come shiny and perfect. We rely on patience and prayer, and on each other. We also like to say you can't make kids fit inside a box – we like to meet them where they are. Focus on their strengths. Let them find out what they're good at. They're often good at so much.

## A PLACE TO CALL HOME



RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS:

120 CHILDREN PLACED IN 2017

80% CONNECTED OR PLACED WITH FAMILY

AVERAGE OF 148 RELATIVES IDENTIFIED PER CHILD



Camree was adopted by her forever family in 2017

FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME