

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

The Methodist Home for Children & Youth



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HOME FOR CHILDREN
AND YOUTH

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WE LOVE
READING!



The Methodist Home for Children & Youth

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



The Methodist Home for Children & Youth

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St. Marys - Valdosta - Waverly Hall

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VP/Development

EDITOR

Elizabeth Hart

MISSION STATEMENT

In response to Christ and the Church, the mission of the Methodist Home for Children and Youth is to be a model agency that restores childhoods, strengthens families and cultivates a people-building organization.

CIVIL RIGHTS STATEMENT

We accept children and youth regardless of race, color, creed, national origin or religious background.



It is difficult to imagine the barriers facing the Rev. Jessie Boring (former Civil War Chaplain) when he led efforts in the North Georgia Conference (1871) and our South Georgia Conference in 1872 to establish an orphanage. The South was struggling to rebuild while the hardships of widows and orphans of the war still remained. The orphan was all too often the expendable child with many becoming wandering waifs. Yet, in those difficult of times, it was the church, the Methodist Church, which committed itself to serve.

2009 was a profoundly difficult year for children and the organizations that serve them. The economy is in a slow recovery. State and federal funding has been greatly reduced and is projecting more cuts. Daily newspapers report the tragedies of children who become expendable and are the victims of horrible crime. In Georgia, 40 more licensed programs and facilities closed in the second half of 2009 due to decreased funding (over 200 have closed since January, 2008)

And just as it did in 1872, the United Methodist Church of the South Georgia Conference has committed itself to make the difference. We are grateful for all the churches, foundations, and individuals who have literally made our ministry possible and effective.

We are pleased to report that in a recent Methodist Home staff survey 98% of our staff knew and supported our mission statement. It is our mission that drives our work and it is our mission that has not only sustained us, but has led to significant achievement in 2009. Your support has been unwavering and we are grateful.

Mission Statement

In response to Christ and the Church, the mission of the Methodist Home for Children and Youth is to be a model agency that restores childhoods, strengthens families and cultivates a people-building organization.

“In response to Christ and the Church ...”

Our chaplaincy program continues to be dynamic and productive. Led by Dr. Edwin Chase, 11 of our residents were baptized. Almost all our eligible youth attended one of the two children's/youth retreats at Epworth, our chapel services and weekly our youth in Macon and at all our regional group homes have a local church to attend. We continue to host scores of youth groups and events at The Home. Our Cultivating Character program continues to be important to both staff and youth as we promote values and servant leadership.

“To be a model agency ...”

In 2009, we again completed our EAGLE accreditation review with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries. The EAGLE review team gave us a standing ovation and lifted up over 40 commendations. We were awarded the Organization of the Year for Senior Workers by Experience Works. “Papa Joe” who works with our independent living and college youth was Senior Worker of the Year in Middle Georgia.

We continue to receive “A” audit reports on our community mental health services. Our Intensive Family Visitation Program has been recognized as one of the most innovative in Georgia. We serve families at the point of their greatest crisis. Those families having their children removed by DFCS receive counseling, parenting skills and coaching during the time they are separated from their children. We know the sooner they visit and the more frequently they visit the greater the likelihood the family can be restored.

“To restore childhoods ...”

Just before Christmas, I received a call from “Joe” who had left our program to be with his father at age 13, twenty years ago. The results were tragic and Joe has spent much of the last six years putting his life back together. Married with two children, he called to catch up. After we talked for an hour, he and his wife stayed up for more than three hours as Joe reminisced about his childhood at The Home ... the pool, the big trip to the Braves game, a visiting family, Christmas, Christmas, Christmas. He then told me what I have heard many times, “The childhood I had you gave me.” We always realize it is an unfortunate experience for any child to lose their family and go to a children's home. Our task is to make that the most fortunate experience possible.

“To strengthen families ...”

We want to have our children return to their families when possible or prepare them to be responsible adults and parents. Our Lighthouse for Families continues to lead us in these efforts. We are seen as a leader in Family Centered Practice, with our program highlighted in state-wide training by Georgia State University.

We were the first organization to be approved in a “permanency initiative” which will allow us to continue to work with youth and their families for up to six months after the child returns home. This is exciting work while still providing a safety net for the child. This work will begin in Macon, but will eventually involve all our sites.

“A people building organization ...”

We can only do our mission with great staff, a committed board, our volunteers and donors. Just as our mission statement permeates our entire organization this coming year will focus on the core competencies we need all our staff to reflect. Competencies such as “maintaining a safe environment, managing challenging behavior, helping children in distress, being an effective team member and recognizing cultural diversity and inclusiveness.” These competencies are important tools for all our staff.

DFCS workers from every county in Georgia have been on our campus for training. In Georgia, our training in family center practice, behavior management, etc. is second to none!

Fourteen of our residents are now in college or vocational school including Morehouse, Georgia State College and University in Milledgeville, Clark and Oglethorpe. Two of our former residents just returned from Afghanistan. Ian and Richard are great Americans. We know of three others serving in the military.

We have had three consecutive years of budget cuts, retooling staff and services and “right sizing.” As a result, we are one of the most effective and respected programs in the state of Georgia. Community partnerships over the years have blessed our programs and the youth we serve.

For 2009, our report is exciting. We have been challenged, but we seem to be at our best in those times. Thank you for standing beside us.

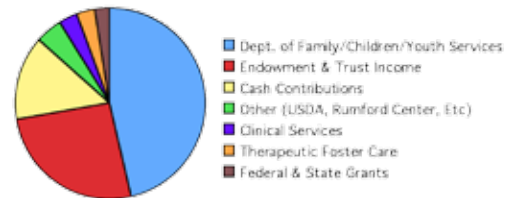
Respectfully submitted,
 Elizabeth Ogie, Board Chair
 Steve L. Rumford, President/CEO
 Derek W. McAleer, VP Development

The Methodist Home of the South Georgia Conference, Inc.
FINANCIAL STATISTICS
 Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009



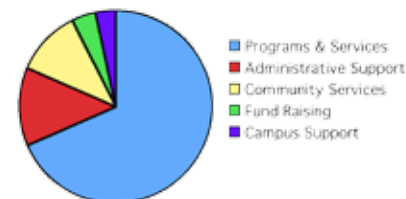
Revenues

Dept. of Family/Children/Youth Services	\$6,533,127	47%
Endowment & Trust Income	\$3,222,216	23%
Cash Contributions	\$2,034,967	15%
Clinical Services	\$952,126	7%
Other (USDA, Rumford Center, Etc)	\$545,345	4%
Therapeutic Foster Care	\$355,811	3%
Federal & State Grants	\$125,158	1%
	\$13,768,750	100%



Expenses

Program Services	\$9,389,725	69%
Administrative Support	\$1,839,760	13%
Community Services	\$1,506,017	11%
Fund Raising	\$580,753	4%
Campus Support	\$452,495	3%
	\$13,768,750	100%



The Methodist Home for Children & Youth

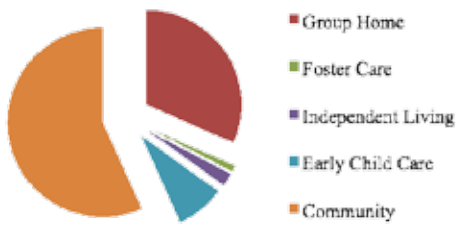
SERVICES

During 2009:

2009

- The Methodist Home for Children and Youth served more than 262 children and families in all of its residential group homes and foster homes with an overall average length of stay of 1.8 years.
- The residential capacity is 133 beds and the average occupancy for 2009 was above 87%.
- Lighthouse for Families (Community services in Macon) served over 470 children and families through their array of community services that include direct clinical care for 152 clients and families, wrap around services for 16 families, intensive visitation for 85 families, 31 substance abuse evaluations, and 75 comprehensive child and family assessments.
- Nineteen youth were served in our Independent Living Program that includes at least 12 attending college.
- The Early Child Care Program called the Eagle's Nest served 59 families in the daycare and 20 children and families in the Summer Camp Program.
- The Volunteer Program celebrates over 150 members in the Auxiliary and 4 volunteers that are specifically assigned to our youth population.
- In addition to the direct services to children and families, the Rumford Center provides community and statewide training sessions and meetings. In 2009, the Rumford Center hosted 817 events with 19,285 people that included 2453 hours of occupancy. This generated over \$100,922 in invoices to The Methodist Home.

Services offered in 2009



POPULATION SERVED

- The Group Home, Independent Living and Foster Care population varied in 2009 from 2 children under the age of 6 years to 42 youth 18 and over.

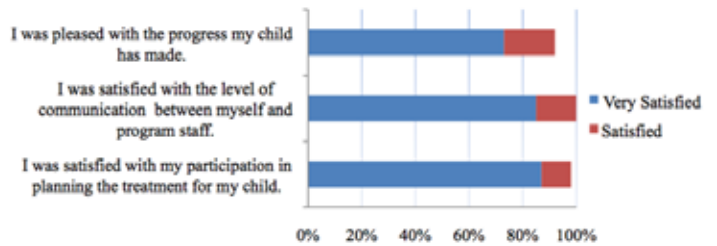
Population served in 2009



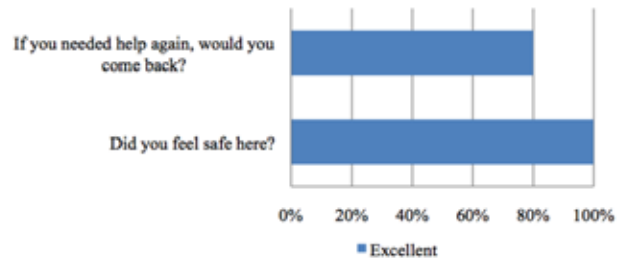
OUTCOME SURVEY OF CONSUMERS

Another important dimension of service delivery is consumer satisfaction. Upon discharge from most of the programs, services recipients and their parents are surveyed for satisfaction of services obtained and areas of improvement are identified. Below is a synopsis of three different tools utilized during 2009.

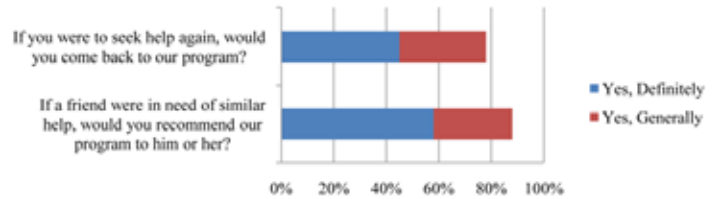
Outcomes of Care Expressed by Parents and Guardians of Children Served



Outcomes of Care viewed by the Children Served that are 6-11 years old



Outcomes of Care Expressed by the Youth Served that are 12 years old or older



THE METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
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