

CONNECTEDNESS



Pictured above: Participants from Willow Place (Project Self-Sufficiency Housing)



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Values-Driven Impact

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Project Self-Sufficiency Stakeholder,

Did you know that there are an estimated **2,410** single moms and dads with children under 18 living in poverty in Larimer County? And that the cost of living in Larimer County today requires that a single parent with two young children working minimum wage employment work 132 hours per week in order to survive without public assistance? Education is the basic premise of our work, and research indicates that earning a Bachelor's degree can increase income from \$400 per week with a high school diploma, to over **\$900 per week**. Our model proves this. There are other programs that support specific pieces needed to put the self-sufficiency puzzle together. What makes Project Self-Sufficiency unique is the fact that we pull all these pieces together, and combine them into an empowering case management model to support single-parent families pursuing career goals from start to finish. We get the job done and we are effective because of our model, our people, and our partners. **Thank you** for your interest in our work. I invite you to read on about what was accomplished this year at Project Self-Sufficiency, with the support of our many partners.

Our best,

OUR TEAM

11 staff members with a combined 105.9 years of service to the organization.

193 volunteers devoting 3,926 hours of their time (valued at \$90,574) all contribute to our community impact.

770 donors, businesses, and partners support our work with single-parent families in Larimer County.



Staff not pictured: Nicole Gawronski, Connie DeMercurio

FY2015 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL REVENUES			TOTAL EXPENSES	
Grant Income	\$	448,473	Program Direct Support	\$	366,107
Donations and Contributions	\$	565,881	Staff Salary & Wages	\$	508,029
United Way Income	\$	81,466	Payroll Taxes	\$	39,909
Endowment Designated Gifts	\$	37,551	Employee Benefits	\$	82,044
Other Income	\$	9,656	Occupancy & Office Expenses	\$	86,399
Interest Income	\$	387	Contract Services	\$	28,138
In-kind Value of Donated Vehicles	\$	62,645	Travel	\$	7,948
TOTAL \$		1,206,059	Recognition Activities -Staff, Volunteers, Donors	\$	6,235
			Liability Insurance	\$	8,171
			Depreciation	\$	10,020
			Miscellaneous	\$	7,655
			TOTAL \$		1,150,655

Program Expenses = 74%

Management = 13%

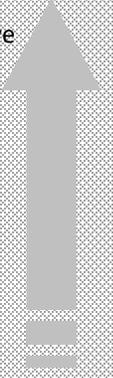
Fundraising = 13%

PROGRAM MODEL

30 years of service to over 1,000 single-parent families living in poverty has taught us that the most effective way to positively change a family's income is to provide intensive support to adults ready to pursue education and training opportunities and build career pathways. We begin by meeting each family where they are currently at in their journey and partner with them to stabilize their situation. This can include securing health insurance, housing, transportation and child care as well as resolving legal issues, physical and behavioral health challenges, and family safety. This period of stabilization empowers parents to focus on future education and career goals. Next, we provide tools and resources for each parent to create and pursue a realistic career plan that promises long term financial stability for the family. Along the way we have identified the many barriers that single parents face when trying to complete education programs or secure employment, so our model has built in resources to remove these barriers like car repairs, affordable housing, and academic tutoring and scholarships. Finally, parents are provided with tailored career placement services to secure that first job on their career path. Our goal is to move single-parents from making \$14,500 a year to \$56,887 a year to be self-sufficient.

\$56,887

\$14,500



WHO WE SERVE...

177
Single Parent Families in Larimer County

3.9% Men

64.7% With High School Diploma or GED

71.6% First Generation College Students

324 Children under 18

19.2% Hispanic

80% Victims of Violence

22% Homeless

8 out of **10** families have income below **125%** of Federal Poverty Level (*\$25,200 or less*)

53% are between **25-34 years old**

Average number of children: **2**

In 2015, we made a commitment to eliminate our long waitlist and better meet the needs of program applicants. We now offer weekly walk-in help sessions so that single parents interested in our program can come in and learn about our model, meet our staff, and discuss immediate needs. We provide referrals to other community resources and help applicants prepare for our interview process.

207 Program Applications received

244 Walk-In Help Sessions totaling **82** hours of advisement

359 referrals to partner organizations

HEALTHY FAMILIES

Families enrolling in Project Self-Sufficiency benefit from comprehensive supports that help them create a healthy foundation on which to build their education and career goals.

\$60K

Rent Assistance

25

Participants

\$7,375

Behavioral Health Supports

87

Children in Enrichment Activities



19

Donated Vehicles

60

Car Repairs

CAREER EXPLORATION & PLANNING

Project Self-Sufficiency empowers Participants to make educated career decisions using a proven model and the latest tools to develop a realistic career plan.

- ▶ **Career Assessments** to learn about personal career skills, interests and values
- ▶ **Career Exploration** to match careers with skills, interests, and values
- ▶ **Self-Sufficiency Wage Calculator** to determine the income each family needs
- ▶ **Career Research** to learn about job duties, work environment, hiring requirements and outlook
- ▶ **Informational Interviews** with professionals working in career fields of interest
- ▶ **Job Shadows** to experience a career for a day

776 Self-Sufficiency Action Plan services including goal setting and career map

559 Career Planning services including assessments, future budgeting, and informational interviews

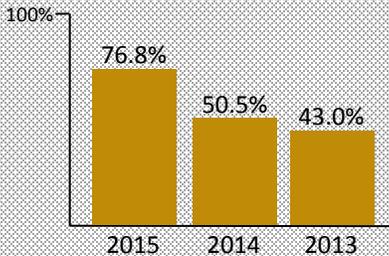
84% have stabilized or increased job skills outcomes

ADULT EDUCATION, TRAINING & JOB READINESS

GEDs, Certificates, Degrees and internships are the pillars on which program Participants build their careers in order to be competitive in the job market.

64%

Participants are earning STEM Degrees



2015 Degrees:

Engineering ◀

Human Resources ◀

Education ◀

Dental Hygiene ◀

Human Service ◀

Social Work ◀

Business ◀



The percentage of Participants enrolled in post-secondary education is growing



\$80,700 Project Self-Sufficiency Education

Scholarships awarded to **53** Participants enrolled in school

\$47,718 Project Self-Sufficiency Child Care

Assistance Awards to **23** Participants enrolled in school

1,611

Completed Credit Hours

2.78

Average GPA

1,394 education services including academic coursework check-in, financial health and budgeting, and scholarship application support/recommendations

96% have stabilized or increased their education outcomes

CAREER-RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Preparing for job search includes internship placement, job skill development and relationship-building, leading to career successes and living-wage earning potential.



2015 Careers:

- ▶ **Long Term Care Specialist**
- ▶ **Housing Coordinator**
- ▶ **Registered Nurse**
- ▶ **Dental Hygienist**
- ▶ **Price Controller**
- ▶ **Lab Technician**
- ▶ **Production**

100%

Program Graduates
Employed in their
Career Field

295 employment services such as job skills development and job search support

\$38.00 was the highest graduate wage per hour, full-time employment

80% of graduates increased their employment outcomes

3.54 years is the average time in program for successful graduates

JOIN US IN PAVING CAREER PATHWAYS...

Today, single-parent families in Larimer County are faced with challenging times. A highly educated workforce means that the resumes of moms and dads with high school diplomas or GEDs are left at the bottom of a pile for jobs that pay better wages. Parents who work in low paying jobs are then confronted with rents that top \$1,200 per month for a two bedroom apartment and child care costs for an infant that can exceed \$1,400 per month. For families that cannot afford a car, public transportation is inadequate as they try to get children to daycare or the doctor, buy groceries, do laundry and get to school or work on time. When these same parents decide that earning a certification or degree is their pathway out of poverty, they often rack up student loan debt that leaves their family surviving paycheck-to-paycheck. Many families also face challenges such as learning disabilities and health concerns that impact the achievement of education and career goals for adults and impact growth and development for children. At Project Self-Sufficiency, we support families in each of these areas and many others, so that they can chart a sustainable career path and create a vibrant future for themselves and their children.

Will you consider strengthening our community by becoming a partner in our work?

▶▶ STAY IN TOUCH ◀◀

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OPPORTUNITY