



**FamiliesFirst**

**2014**

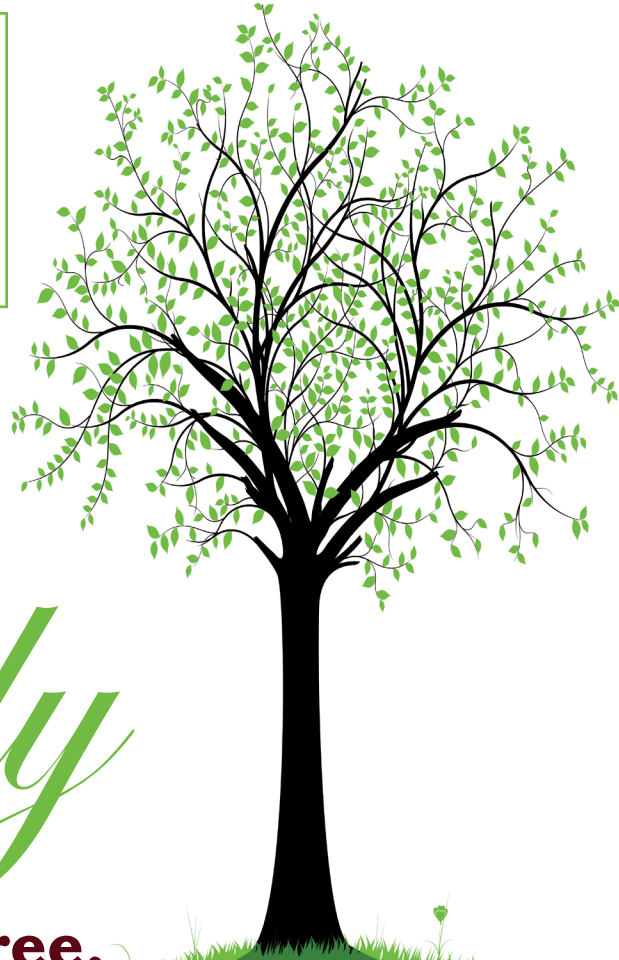
**Annual Report**

*Family*

**like branches on a tree,**

**we all grow in different directions,**

**yet our roots remain as one**





Families First was founded in 1835 by Indianapolis community leaders who believed that the success of our city was integrally tied to the success of the families who were settling and living here—an ideal we still believe today. Perhaps, the deepest roots of Indianapolis' culture of civic responsibility and hospitality were sewn by these men and women who established the Indianapolis Benevolent Society to welcome, embrace, and support local families.

In 2014, your generous support of Families First enabled us to be the roots and source of renewal for nearly 8,000 individuals, creating a nourishing environment where their families can grow safe and strong. Here at Families First, people find the strength to reach for possibilities and develop in new directions. Thank you for joining us in cultivating a community of healthy, loving, and capable families!

*Edie Olson*

***like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions***

### **The Trunk: Mission Centered—Family Focused**

Although no one is immune to the strains placed on family life today, not everyone has the resources to deal effectively with family crisis. Thanks to your investment in our work, Families First has steadfastly maintained its commitment to serve troubled individuals and families regardless of their ability to pay. We go to great lengths

to remove barriers for those who need our help--offering free child care while parents meet with their counselors or attend classes; sending staff out into the community to work with families in their own homes; and offering a sliding fee scale that ensures high quality professional help is affordable even for those with very limited resources. Without your help, none of this would be possible!



We can't thank you enough for joining in our mission to create healthier communities by strengthening individuals and families through life's challenges and changes. Here is just a sample of what we achieved in 2014 with your support:

- ☐ 1,911 people received counseling which helped repair relationships, heal from trauma, cope with loss, or find new perspectives for their lives;
- ☐ 2,375 primary and secondary victims of domestic violence were empowered to break free from lives of fear and abuse;
- ☐ 57 vulnerable seniors and adults with disabilities received in-home support that ensured their health and safety and shielded them from abuse, neglect, and exploitation;
- ☐ 96% of the men and women who received chemical dependency treatment improved their employment status and their ability to financially provide for their families; and
- ☐ 100 Ivy Tech students received on-campus counseling to help them stay in college and earn their degree.

## The Branches:

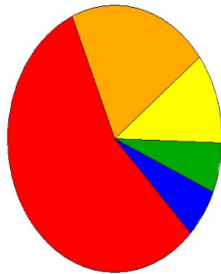
### Healthy Communities & Strong Families

A strong family depends on the health of each member. When one family member is struggling with an unhealthy lifestyle, everyone in the family is affected. That's why your gifts to Families First are put to work to address the needs of the entire family, not just the individual.

Last year, as our addictions counselors worked to free more than 1,055 people from the prison of substance abuse, they also helped partners, siblings and children better understand and cope with their loved one's disease. Your generosity helped 289 parents participate in parenting education courses that gave them the tools and knowledge base needed to build a solid foundation for their families. And 444 struggling families in our community received in-home therapy to resolve risk factors and strengthen their ability to provide safe, nurturing care for their children.

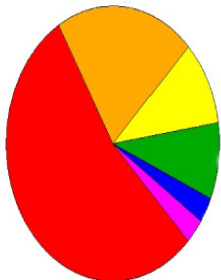
Because you reached out to help our clients with your generous support, parents are better equipped to lead healthy and productive lives and children are more likely to meet developmental milestones and achieve academic success. Together, we are growing stronger as a community and creating a better future for all of us, one family at a time.

*yet our roots remain as one*



#### Revenue by Source 2014

- 56% Government Contracts
- 21% United Way
- 11% Investment Returns (Realized)
- 6% Contributions and Special Events
- 6% Program Service Fees



#### Expenses by Division 2014

- 54% Counseling and Addiction Services
- 21% Safe Families Services
- 10% Independent Living Services
- 9% General and Administrative
- 3% Fundraising
- 3% Public Relations

\*85% of each dollar spent was used to provide program services to clients



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*“Let’s not judge why they have the circumstances they have.  
That’s not important anymore. The question is, how do we help  
them move forward?” ~Mark Winzenread, Chairman of  
the Board*

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We are grateful that you share our belief that strong family roots are the key to a healthy community. Thank you for joining us in creating an environment where central Indiana families can grow in healthy new directions and reach their full potential.

We deeply value all of the individuals, businesses, and organizations who contributed to our success in 2014.

A list of all of our 2014 supporters can be viewed in the digital version of this report, available at:

**[www.FamiliesFirstIndiana.org/media-room/in-the-news/](http://www.FamiliesFirstIndiana.org/media-room/in-the-news/)**

Learn more about how you are helping us build strong family structures online:



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United Way  
of Central Indiana



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