The time we spend with our children should always be treasured and enjoyed. Those little gems that life provides for us are often missed because we are too worried about other things right now to savor those moments. I recently had an opportunity to spend some one-on-one time with my youngest daughter. Marta is my nature girl, always worried about the animals, the plants and any critter that moves and breathes.

Marta was without reliable transportation for a couple of months, so I spent every morning driving her to work. Those 30 minutes became an opportunity to talk, ponder and share thoughts that otherwise we would have never shared. One of those mornings we got on the topic of gardening. For many years and up to now, I still plant a little garden in spring. When my children were growing up we spent many hours taking care of the plants, observing their growth and then picking the fruits of our labor. As we drove to work, Marta became really excited about the prospect of planting our garden this year. She talked about raised beds, about what we should plant and how to space the plants so we could have a better area for the pumpkins for the grandchildren. As she went on, I interjected and said “Marta, there is something you should know... I don’t like gardening that much.” Marta’s eyes grew big, and she looked at me in disbelief. “You have always loved gardening! We have had a garden in the backyard since I can remember.” After I thought about it for a minute I explained. “I don’t really like gardening that much. I really don’t. It requires a lot of time, a lot of care, weeding and tilling the soil, making sure you have enough water but not too much, those are many factors to be successful. But I’ll tell you what I do like. I like the time spent with you. I loved seeing you discover the flowers as the plants bloom. I greatly enjoyed making predictions of what will happen and how many tomatoes, peppers or eggplants we were going to harvest. I loved seeing the grandchildren selecting the flower that will produce the pumpkin that would be “their” pumpkin for Halloween. I loved those things so much, that gardening just became a tool to engage in something bigger and better.”

There are many things in life that require a lot of work, time, and patience. Sometimes we don’t even see the results for months or even years, but because we engage, because we are involved and we stay consistent, then the reward is beyond our imagination and we realize that the fight was bigger, at a higher level and worth it.

At Children’s Service Society, we are engaged at a higher level every year. We know this because we know many children are in safer, more loving and caring environments. They have a better chance in life, to be productive citizens. Some days can be difficult, full of clouds, maybe those days seem gloomy and gray, but we keep moving forward because the joy of knowing we make a difference gives us the strength to carry on.

We could not do it without our volunteers, funders, donors and those that have created a community of support around Children’s Service Society and all the stakeholders who are committed to our success and the well-being of children. You make a difference so we can provide the services. We can’t harvest great results without your great support and help.

I only can say thank you from the heart and we look forward to another year full of gardening.
Contributions

In Memorium & Honorarium

In Memory of:
Stephen Barlow (Marcy Barlow)
John P Redd (David Redd)
Jack and Bill Redd (Erma H. Redd)

In Honor of:
Emily Redd (Marcy Barlow)
David and Julia Weatherbee (Nona Weatherbee)
Lexy Udy (Nona Weatherbee)
Analee Walton (Harriett Gesteland)
Aileen V. Terry (Carol Morgan)
Denis and Marion Johnson (Larry and Judy Johnson)
Michael LiConti (Richard and Sherry LiConti)
Julie Hymas (Judy Hymas)
Owen, Sam, Madi and Sophie (Julianna Barney)
Marcelino Bateman (Lucinda Bateman)
Mickey Ibarra (Lornen Gomez-Alvarez and Ciriac Alvarez)
“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”
-Nelson Mandela

Children’s Service Society Supporters
We thank all of our generous contributors; individuals, foundations and organizations. For the complete donor list please refer to the 2016 – 2017 Annual Report on our website at: http://cssutah.org/about-us/annual-reports/

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Jeffrey and Gay Eggers
Deseret Book
Tori Miller
Laurie Larsen
Amber Blake
Utah University Extension Services
Carla Frampton
Financials
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Expenditures $2,439,305

- **Programs**: 89%
- **Fundraising**: 4%
- **Administration**: 7%

- Net Assets Beginning of Year: $755,618
- Net Assets End of Year: $688,933
- Net Change: $66,685
Financials
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Support and Revenue $2,372,620

Gov. Contracts 88%

Other (Inv. Return) 2%

Cash Contributions 2%

Fundraising 4%

Program Service Fees 4%
Home Studies Services- Adoption avenues, infant adoption, kinship adoption, foster care adoption and international adoption.

Connections Program- Adoption search requests from adult adoptees and birth parents.

Post-Adoption Counseling- post-adoption mental health counseling.

Special Needs Adoption- children with disabilities, neglect and trauma histories, and older children.

Expectant/Birth Parents- Individuals seeking information on placing their child for adoption.

Adoptive Families- Hopeful adoptive parents seeking information on adoption.
Exceptional Family Member Program

The Children’s Service Society’s (CSS) Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) partners with Child Care Aware of America to assist families in the United States Air Force who have children with special needs to receive quality respite care. The CSS EFMP program provides respite child care for active duty Airmen who have children diagnosed with moderate or severe special needs. Each family receives up to 40 hours per month, per child at no cost to eligible families. A CSS EFMP Program Specialist provides referrals and monitor visits to ensure that each family is receiving the best care from their providers. Twenty seven families received respite child care services at Hill Air Force Base in fiscal year 2017.

Home Visitation Program

Early childhood is a period when investments in health, development and prevention of maltreatment pay high dividends in terms of children’s readiness to succeed in school and in life. Investing in children in low income and high-risk families, starting with the earliest years, produces significant long-term impacts for individuals and communities.

Home Visitation at Children’s Service Society is a critical community service in Salt Lake County that targets low income and high-risk families throughout pregnancy until their child enters kindergarten to promote maternal, infant, and early childhood health, safety and development. The program uses the Parents as Teachers evidence-based home visiting model designed to provide the information, support and encouragement that high-risk parents need to prevent child abuse and neglect and help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. Home Visitation places priority on the well-being of the whole family which is central to the health and success of young children.
Grandfamilies Kinship Care provides the following prevention services:

- **Children’s drug and alcohol prevention support group**
  - Teaches drug and alcohol prevention
  - Addresses grief and loss
  - Addresses abuse and neglect

- **Adult support group**
  - Teaches appropriate boundaries with children’s parents
  - Provides an understanding of behaviors of abused and neglected children
  - Provides drug and addiction education
  - Prevents drug addiction in the next generation
  - Provides monthly family-centered activities after completion of the 10-week course
  - Assists with guardianship or adoption of the child/children

- **Wrap-around services**
  - Assists obtaining Medicaid for the children
  - Assists caregivers to obtain Specified Relative Grant
  - Assists registering children in school
  - Advocates with formal systems such as courts, Division of Child and Family Services, Division of Workforce Services and the school system
  - Provides crisis trauma interventions

**Grandfamilies Kinship Care July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017**

Grandfamilies Kinship Care services are offered year-round in Salt Lake, David, Weber and Cache counties.

**Adult Grandfamilies First Support Groups and Children’s Psycho Educational Support Groups**
(Children’s groups are held concurrently with adult groups in a separate classroom)
- 12 series of the 10-week sessions
- 3 series of the 8-week summer session
- Attended by 151 adults and 146 children

**Friend 2 Friend Support Groups**
These groups are offered to participants who complete the psycho educational groups, offering family and community events.
- 45 events were offered
- Attended by 1,137 adults and 1,487 children

**Case Management and Clinical Counseling**
Services provide support, crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for kinship families.
- 1,792 hours were provided
- 281 hours of therapeutic counseling for children in kinship care
The mission of Care About Childcare is to promote quality environments for all children through education and support. Child care is much more than simply caring for children. Child care is a family issue, a business issue, an employment issue, an education issue, and a community issue.

Care About Childcare at Children’s Service Society is a Child Care Resource & Referral agency that provides support to working parents and those experiencing unemployment, child care providers, refugees looking to start an in-home child care business and early care professionals participating in professional development opportunities. The Care About Childcare statewide online system is designed in partnership with the State Office of Child Care. It is intended to promote quality child care and help parents locate licensed caregivers in their area.

Data for Care About Childcare July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Care About Childcare programs are funded by the Federal Child Care and Development Fund, the Department of Workforce Services, and the Office of Child Care.