Transitions
of Western Illinois

Helping People Live Full and Meaningful Lives

ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021

Founded in 1955, Transitions enters its 67th year of service to the Quincy and Adams County area. We are a CARF (Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) accredited agency and a United Way Partner agency. Our service array includes:

-developmental services for infants and toddlers
-counseling services for youth and adults
-co-occurring mental health and substance use services
-psychiatric services
-crisis intervention services
-on site access to primary healthcare services
-recovery services for persons who have a serious mental illness
-special education services for children who have severe developmental disabilities
-vocational services and life skills training services
-residential services (group homes and apartments)

Our Mission ... to provide services that inspire growth and empower people of all abilities to live full and meaningful lives.

Message

From the Executive Director

During this past year we delivered services and expanded our service offerings as we continued to cope with COVID19. The year presented challenges in terms of staffing, adjusting our service areas in order to provide social distancing, and keeping those who live in our residential facilities and our staff safe. We believe that we were successful in accomplishing our goals of maintaining our services and supporting those we serve and our staff.

In the following pages you can read about our major accomplishments during the past year. I believe our accomplishments will reflect our mission of empowering people of all abilities to live full and meaningful lives.

There are many to thank for their support during this very challenging year. To our staff, who went above and beyond to meet the needs of those we serve, thank you for your commitment and dedication. To our Boards of Directors, your leadership, guidance, and support is appreciated. And finally, to our donors and friends, we deeply appreciate your generous support and belief in our mission.

Mark Schmitz
Executive Director

The Year at Transitions. . .

Despite the pandemic, our Individual Placement and Support Program (IPS) placed 49 adults, who have a disability, into jobs in the community – this was a 20% increase in the number of placements in FY2020. Two consumers, who were placed into jobs, were named "Employee of the Month" at their places of employment!

The agency was awarded three grants from the State of Illinois that enhanced our services for those with a mental illness. Transitional housing services assist those returning to the community following an inpatient stay at a State Operated Facility.

The Living Room opened in the fall of 2020. This program, located at 224 S. 8th Street, provides crisis services in a comfortable setting. The program has served many guests and meets an important need in our community.

THE LIVING ROOM
SAFE, COMFORTABLE, CRISIS SUPPORT

Gazebos were added at two residential facilities, Community Manor Apartments and Hillcrest Manor Group Home. Thanks to a grant from the Marion Gardner Jackson Charitable Trust, the gazebos have been enjoyed by residents!

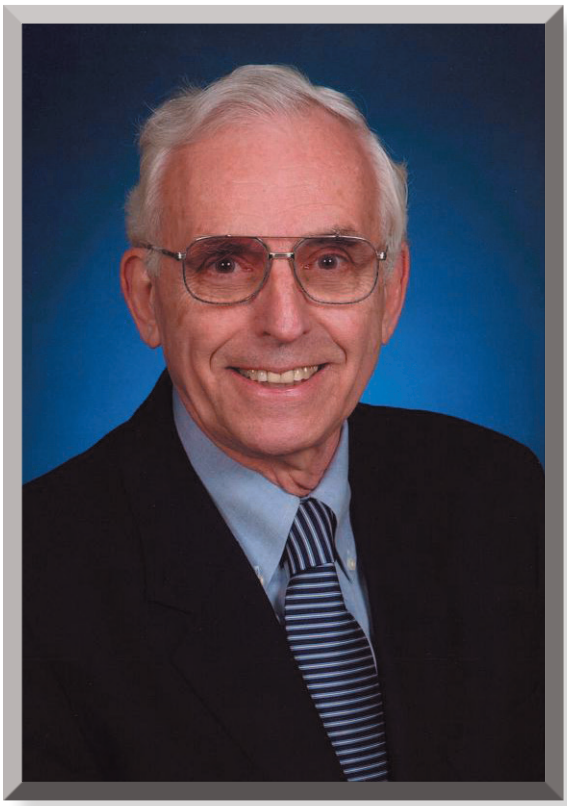
Telehealth services were provided to many consumers served in in our mental health, Parents as Teachers, and developmental disabilities programs. During the pandemic our goal was to maintain services to those most vulnerable in our community. Grant funding enabled us to enhance telehealth services for those served by the agency.

The agency handled more than 2,000 crisis calls to its suicide prevention hotline and SASS mobile crisis service during FY21.

Ali Scott was named the Williams Award winner for 2020. Employed by Transitions for five years, Ali provides case management services to those who have a mental illness. She consistently goes "above and beyond" to help those she serves. Ali represents the agency on the Adams County Mental Health Court and has been a strong advocate for those served by this court.

We completed a two day accreditation survey with CARF (Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities). We are proud that we again received CARF's highest accreditation, a 3-year accreditation!

In Memoriam



Robert "Mac" Bennett

September 3, 1928
to May 16, 2021

Mac Bennett served on Transitions Board of Directors for over 37 years. His involvement with Transitions began in 1962. In 1999, he was granted emeritus board member status. For 59 years he was closely connected to our agency as a Board member, friend, and advocate. At the time he was named an emeritus board member, Mike Rein, then Executive Director, stated:

"Through his 37 year involvement in Transitions, Mac served in a variety of leadership positions, including President, Secretary, and Treasurer. He has been an important advisor for us and an advocate for those who may need community-based services, but who cannot afford such services. Indeed he has been, and continues to be, an ardent advocate for the "working poor"... that group of people who are not eligible for Medicaid and yet, do not have insurance benefits and income to pay the full cost of behavioral health services. Mac has also been a strong supporter of our vocational training programs. Again, we can count on Mac to advocate for work opportunities for those with mental disabilities. He has always believed it was important that this group of people experience the sense of accomplishment and good self-esteem that all of us experience with a job well done. In 1998, Mac was honored by the Community Behavioral Healthcare Association as the recipient of their Lifetime Achievement Award. This statewide recognition is a testament to Mac's dedication and advocacy for behavioral healthcare services."

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Impact of Services

Andrew and his mom, Lara, were referred to the Parents as Teachers program when Andrew was 6 months old. Lara was a single mom and she had concerns about her son's development. He was not yet sitting up or showing signs of wanting to crawl.*

Lara was not employed and had a history of substance abuse. She was also suffering from depression and anxiety. She believed she needed support in order to ensure she was meeting her children's needs. Since Lara was not currently seeing anyone for her depression, the Parent Educator serving the family connected her to mental health services. The Parent Educator knew that parenting would prove to be more difficult for Lara if she didn't take care of herself first.

Andrew was developing appropriately with only a few concerns regarding his development. The family was doing well until the start of the COVID pandemic. The Parent Educator started to notice Lara was withdrawing and cancelling visits, which was not typical for this family. Lara started to isolate herself. Although the Parent Educator persisted in trying to connect with her, it proved to be a challenge. After a couple months of reaching out to the family, Lara finally admitted to the Parent Educator that she had relapsed on drugs and she needed help. The Parent Educator connected Lara to substance abuse counseling and helped mom re-engage in treatment services. After Lara re-engaged in services, she started keeping her visits with the Parent Educator. Lara believes that without the support of her Parent Educator and the strong relationship she developed with the Parent Educator, she may have continued her use of drugs.

Today, the family has been in the Parents as Teachers program for almost two years. Lara is back on her road to recovery and Andrew is 2 years old and doing well. He is at age level developmentally, his mother has stable employment, stable housing, and has not missed a visit with her counselor or Parent Educator since re-engaging in services.

** This is a story of a family served at Transitions. Names have been changed to protect the family's privacy.*

Transitions' mission is to inspire growth and empower people of all abilities to live full and meaningful lives. Our staff live this mission every day.

FY21 Service Statistics July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Total Consumers Served

Number of Registered Consumers Served	2,400
Emergency/Screening Contacts	2,420
Number of Collaterals Seen	1,584
Community Education Contacts	254
Total	**6,658**

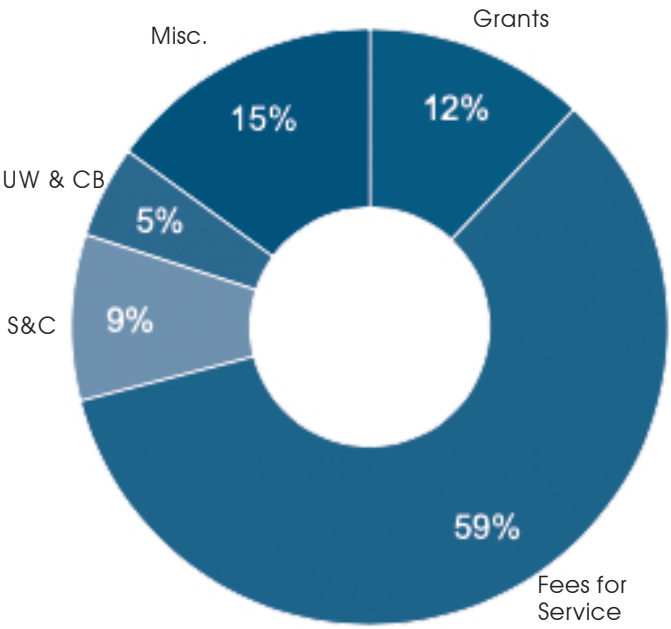
Staff

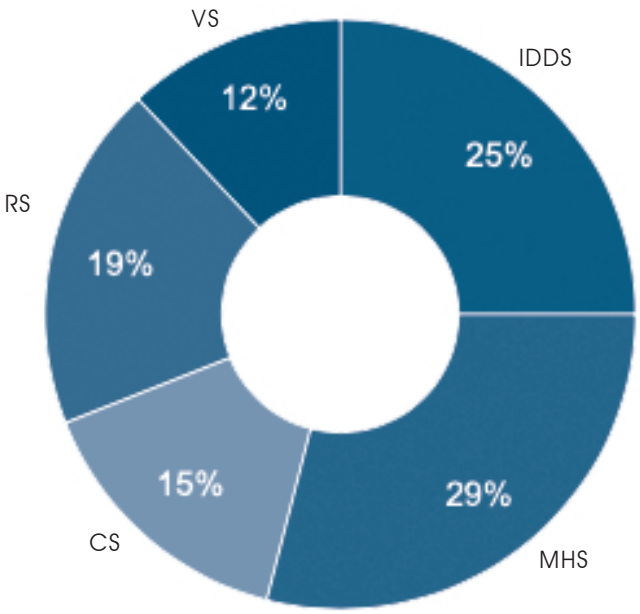
Full Time Employees	132
Part Time Employees	69
Contractual Employees	9

Financial Information July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

REVENUE	
Grants	12%
Fees for Service	59%
Sales and Contracts	9%
United Way & County Board (UW & CB)	5%
Miscellaneous	15%

EXPENSES	
Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services (IDDS)	25%
Mental Health Services (MHS)	29%
Children's Services (CS)	15%
Residential Services (RS)	19%
Vocational Services (VS)	12%





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July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Gifts to Transitions of Western Illinois, the Transitions Foundation, and the Transitions Association. We deeply appreciate the generosity of individual, business and foundation donors.

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