

...BY SUPPORTING THE WORK OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

ICTF is proud to continue our work providing funding, training, and technical assistance to organizations that work directly with families and children. We have worked diligently to create a network of organizations that are connected both to each other and to national prevention movements and resources. We ensure that our network has access to the newest research and most effective approaches to building strong communities and families in order to prevent child maltreatment from ever happening.

In 2017, ICTF funded 11 organizations. We started the first year of a new multi-year cohort including four organizations which are focusing on pushing their efforts into the rural parts of Idaho in order to reach more isolated populations. They include: Bannock Youth Foundation from Pocatello reaching out to all of southeast Idaho, Family Advocates from Boise who will be bringing services to Mountain Home, ICARE of Coeur d'Alene bringing services to rural counties of the Idaho panhandle, and Advocates Against Family Violence in Caldwell.

In addition, we funded seven annual grantees. Highlights include:

- 331 Native American families took part in community outreach events including parenting classes
- 115 direct service providers received training on child sexual abuse prevention
- 50 adults with children who are experiencing homelessness were connected to each other and to resources to secure housing in strengths based way.
- 20 Families, many of which have children with disabilities received training on positive parenting.
- A much needed fatherhood group was established in Idaho Falls, with many of the first cohort formerly incarcerated fathers.
- Children facing neglect were matched with Big Brother/Big Sister mentors to support them during and after school.
- Youth in detention were provided parenting classes

We will continue to reach out and bring more organizations into our fold through training and outreach. With every phone call, email, event, meeting, and conference, we are systematically laying the connective fibers of Idaho's prevention network, which in turn works to build the movement and build hope.

...BECAUSE WE CANNOT DO THIS WORK ALONE

Helen Keller said, "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."

As we reflect on 2017 and the goals the Idaho Children's Trust Fund achieved alongside our partners across the State, we are proud of those accomplishments; and we are hopeful and intentional that we will do even more in 2018.

As you'll see as you review this Annual Report, we worked in

concert with many organizations across this great State to prevent child abuse and neglect. Nothing significant is ever accomplished solo. We are grateful for our community partners, donors, and the many volunteers who do this challenging and rewarding work with us.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund, thank you for your commitment to Idaho's children, your support of the Children's

Trust, and for being hopeful about preventing child abuse and neglect. We believe that Idaho's children are its greatest resource. We are grateful to walk alongside you in hope and solidarity that our work ensures them safe and nurturing childhoods. Together, we will achieve even higher goals in 2018, safeguarding a bright and hopeful future for Idaho's children!

— Sarah Leeds, Board Chair

Created by the Idaho Legislature in 1985, the Idaho Children's Trust Fund is governed by a ten member board of directors appointed by the Governor and representing every region of the state as well as the offices of the State Department of Education, the Attorney General and the Department of Health and Welfare.

Trust Fund Financials by the Numbers\*

Grants/Donations received:	\$328,519
Interest earned on the Fund:	\$26,346
Grants awarded:	\$73,000
Special Initiatives and statewide conference:	\$57,599
Market Value of Trust Fund:	\$1,501,934

(50% of tax donations deposited in account each year since 1985; earned interest used for annual operations)

\*as of July, 2017. Details available upon request.

Thank you

to all who made donations to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund in 2017!

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



Idaho Children's Trust Fund

Preventing Child Abuse In Idaho

TOGETHER WE BUILD HOPE...

...BY CREATING A FUTURE WHERE ALL CHILDREN THRIVE

We say that children are our future. And they are. But it is up to us and many others to create a future where all children thrive.

Hope is an essential part of building that future. What we hope for makes us restless. It makes us want to work to make what we hope for real. I came across a quote recently that said in part "those who hope... can no longer put up with reality as it is..." It made me think about the reality for too many of Idaho's kids:

- Over half have had at least one ACE or Adverse Childhood Experience.
- Nearly one in four have had two or more.
- Many live in households that are not financially stable.
- The recently released National Survey of Child Health tells us that parents in Idaho are struggling to cope with parenting—significantly more than parents in other states.

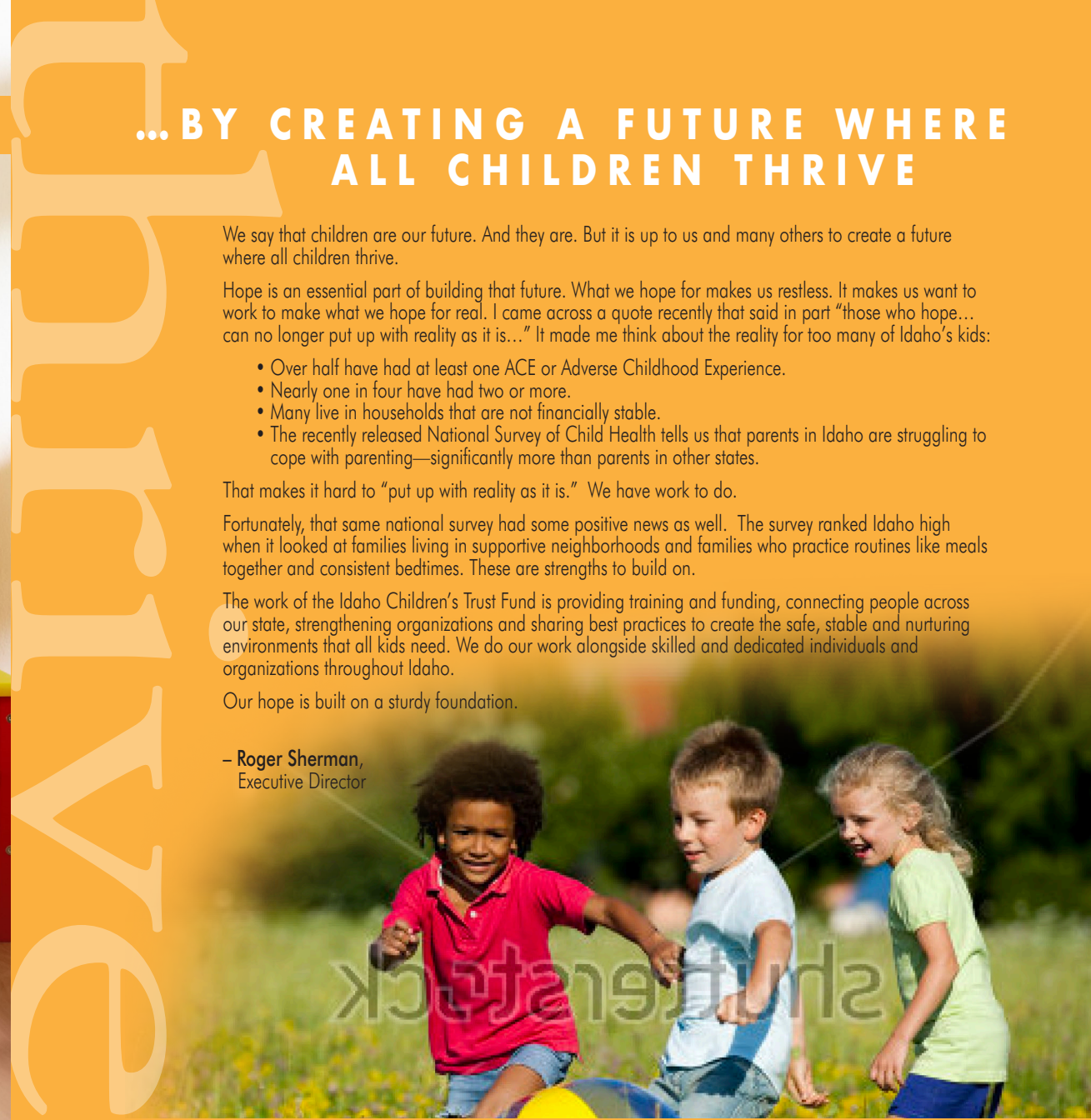
That makes it hard to "put up with reality as it is." We have work to do.

Fortunately, that same national survey had some positive news as well. The survey ranked Idaho high when it looked at families living in supportive neighborhoods and families who practice routines like meals together and consistent bedtimes. These are strengths to build on.

The work of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund is providing training and funding, connecting people across our state, strengthening organizations and sharing best practices to create the safe, stable and nurturing environments that all kids need. We do our work alongside skilled and dedicated individuals and organizations throughout Idaho.

Our hope is built on a sturdy foundation.

— Roger Sherman, Executive Director





## ...BY SHARING EACH OTHER'S EXPERTISE

The theme of the 18th annual Strengthening Families Training Institute, "We're all in this together" reminded us that the work of strengthening families and preventing child abuse and neglect is really everyone's work. Each of our futures and quite literally the future of the world depends on raising children who are resilient, who are socially and emotionally mature, and who have the capacity to deal with the inevitable challenges of life in whatever role they may play in our communities. Whose job is it to raise those extraordinary (because they are all extraordinary) kids? Of course parents but also teachers, coaches, community volunteers, clergy, politicians, you, me, and pretty much anybody else we can think of has a role to play.

**Over two hundred prevention practitioners from around Idaho gathered for two days in Boise** in late March to learn from experts and to share their own stories and expertise with each other. Dr. David Sanders, Senior Vice President at Casey Family Programs and the recent Chairman of the congressionally appointed National Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities delivered the opening keynote. We followed Dr. Sanders with a new tool called the Brain Architecture Game from the Harvard Center on the Developing Child, which has created some tremendous tools for learning about brain development and toxic stress. The game is a hands-on opportunity to experience how both positive and adverse experiences impact children's brain development. After 12 amazing workshops and a first time showing of the film Resilience, the Training Institute closed with a panel of parents and young adults who have experienced the challenge of arriving in Idaho as a refugee. Each had a remarkable story of negotiating their new world as parents raising their children with different rules or as children adjusting to a new culture.

## ...BY RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE WORK EMBRACES PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

**Family Services Alliance of Southeast Idaho (FSA)**, this year's recipient of the Ed Van Dusen Legacy Award, provides trauma-informed victim services to children and parents that build resilience, reduce the effects of exposure to violence, and increase confidence and self-efficacy among survivors of violence and abuse.

Since participating in a multiyear, national research and learning project five years ago, FSA has been serving community members with evidence-based, trauma-informed care for children exposed to violence. FSA was recognized as a leader among project participants around the country and had the opportunity to present their service model to key stakeholders in Washington, DC.

In the past five years, over 750 children have received services

from FSA. Last year, 900 children received essential information through their awareness campaigns and classroom based education efforts. Several thousand adults have benefited from FSA's trauma-focused parenting education and counseling.

For the first time, the Trust Fund's Board of Directors also presented Pinwheel Awards to the Boise, Buhl and Parma School Districts for their comprehensive efforts to educate their teachers and other school personnel on how to prevent child sexual abuse. A pinwheel award was also presented to Janet Guerin who was instrumental in bringing strengthening families and prevention work to women's correctional facilities.



## ...BY INCREASING AWARENESS THAT EACH OF US CAN HELP PREVENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

*Throughout Idaho, communities mobilize during April to bring awareness to their prevention efforts and bring a hopeful message that we are all in this together to make sure that all kids have the brightest future possible. Last April...*

A new baby was born in Boise and celebrated Wear Blue Day on the same day



The Exchange Club in Idaho Falls each painted a fingernail blue to encourage people to ask them about preventing child abuse!

Staff and volunteers at the Children's Village in Coeur d'Alene displayed their Pinwheels for Prevention



A father and son puzzled over a creation at the Día del Niño event in Caldwell



Kids at Head Start took a lap for prevention on the canyon rim in Twin Falls

## ...BY CREATING SHARED STRATEGIES

**Reaching the Tipping Point in preventing child sexual abuse:** At its first ever national conference in October 2017, Darkness to Light announced a new goal: 4 million people trained nationwide to prevent child sexual abuse by 2020! Five Idahoans joined around 200 people from 32 states and 4 countries in Atlanta, Georgia, to commit to that goal and to learn from each other how that goal will be achieved.

We are well on our way towards doing our share. This year, facilitators statewide trained nearly 3,000 adults putting our statewide total over 15,000 by year's end. Our share of the 4 million? 20,000. We'll meet and surpass that goal and contribute more to the nationwide total.

Why do the numbers matter? This must be a community effort. We know that each trained person has impact. They understand what they can do to create a safe environment. They know what to do when they see someone crossing boundaries. They know that they need to report if they suspect abuse. They are the leaders in the prevention effort. We are working towards a goal of having 5% of the adult population or about 60,000

adults trained so that children will have the protectors they need in all of our communities.

One story among many illustrates the program's impact. Last summer in Meridian a child abuser was caught and arrested because of the actions of Meridian City employees who had recently taken the training. By reporting their suspicions, they prevented the perpetrator from doing more harm.

**Resilience Matters:** Throughout the year, the Trust Fund worked with Optum, the Speedy Foundation and Federation of Families to present screenings of two films, Resilience and Paper Tigers, which focus on the impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences or ACEs on children's developing brains and ongoing behavior and health. These

films have helped to open the door for more intensive trainings on the impacts of trauma and the protective influence of positive experiences that Trust Fund staff have conducted for schools and community groups from St. Anthony to Coeur d'Alene. The work of preventing childhood trauma, described through the ACE study as abuse, neglect and family dysfunction, is gaining traction as educators and others learn that stressed brains cannot learn.



Idaho  
Children's  
Trust Fund

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