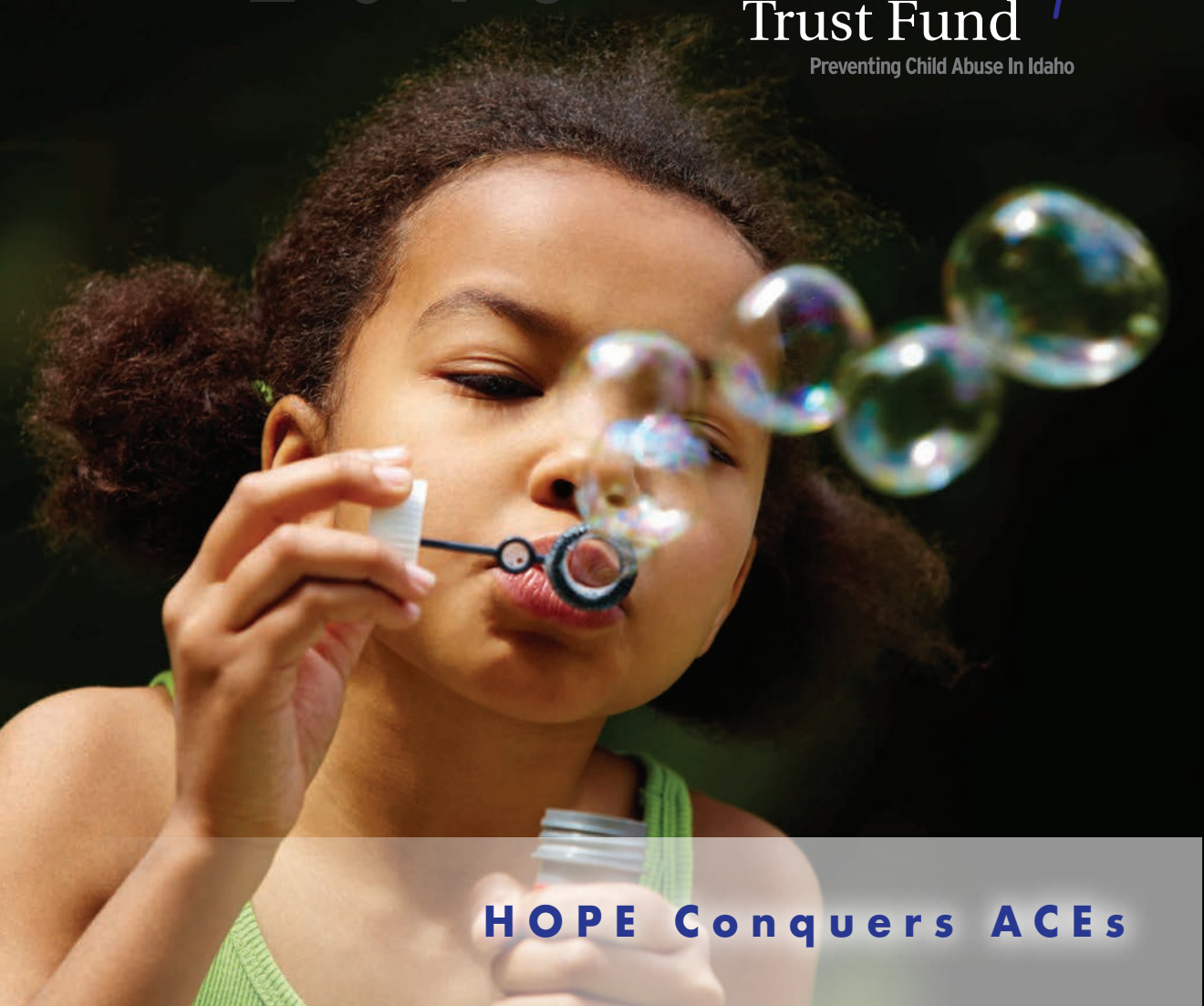


ANNUAL REPORT 8

Idaho
Children's
Trust Fund



Preventing Child Abuse In Idaho



HOPE Conquers ACEs

... WHEN POSITIVE EXPERIENCES OUTWEIGH ADVERSE ONES

HOPE Conquers ACEs is the Idaho Children's Trust Fund's training initiative focused on building awareness of the impacts of ACEs and the power of protective factors.

HOPE, which stands for Health Outcomes from Positive Experiences, is based on building resiliency and other protective factors that have been shown to mitigate the impacts of trauma.

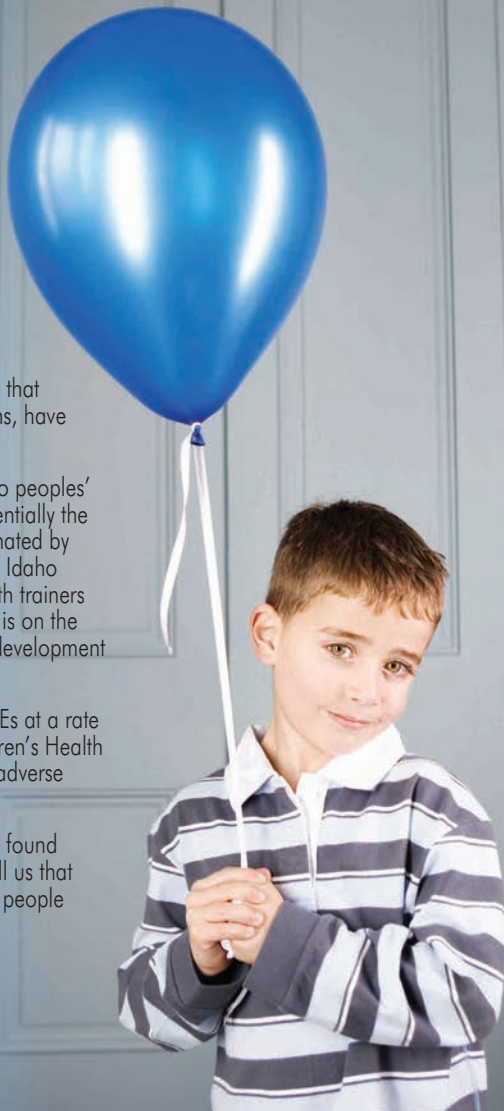
The other half of the initiative is **ACEs**, which is the acronym for Adverse Childhood Experiences and is based on the findings of an extensive epidemiological study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Kaiser Permanente. Begun in the 1990's, the ACE Study showed that childhood trauma, abuse, neglect and serious family dysfunctions, have long-term behavioral and health effects into adulthood.

ACE Researcher, Laura Porter, says if we get ACE information into peoples' hands, wise people will come up with wise solutions. That is essentially the plan behind the HOPE Conquers ACEs training initiative coordinated by the Idaho Children's Trust Fund and funded by the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation. The initiative is a large scale education program with trainers in place from Sandpoint to Salmon. The focus of the education is on the impacts of both positive and adverse experiences on children's development and lifelong well-being.

A 2016 study found that children in Idaho have experienced ACEs at a rate higher than the national average. The National Survey of Children's Health found that over 50% of Idaho's kids had at least one of the ten adverse experiences measured by the survey.

So knowing this, what can we do about it? While the ACE study found that these adverse experiences are common, researchers also tell us that what is predictable is preventable. That is where the role of wise people comes in. That is where our hope lies.

– Roger Sherman, Executive Director



...WHEN WE SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS THAT STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

ICTF plays a crucial role in supporting organizations that support children and families. Through our annual and multi-year grant cycles, we provide strategic funding to organizations that share our vision and philosophy to promote the protective factors that make families strong and more able to handle life's stresses in a positive way.

In 2018, ICTF funded 12 organizations. Our second year of multi-year granting brought new opportunities to deepen our connections and strengthen ties in order to build programming in rural areas and reach underserved populations. Our multi-year grantees include ICARE of Coeur d'Alene and Bannock Youth Foundation from Pocatello, both bringing child sexual abuse prevention education to northern and eastern Idaho respectively, Family Advocates from Boise who have implemented successful parent support and education programming as well as a curriculum for children to Mountain Home, and lastly Advocates Against Family Violence in Caldwell for bringing critical education to parents, teens, and children.

Additionally, we funded 8 organizations from all across the state through our annual grant process. Highlights include:

- 77 families experiencing homelessness were connected to each other and to resources to secure housing in a strengths-based way.
- 40 parents, 19 of whom are teens, participated in Parent Cafes, an educational support program.
- 12 families in Sandpoint took Circle of Security parenting classes to learn about fostering healthy attachments with their children.
- 72 incarcerated women were taught to build resilience in themselves and their children.
- 88 families in some of the most rural parts of central and eastern Idaho participated in trainings on parenting and building resilience.
- 900 Nez Perce tribal members took part in events including parenting classes, job fairs, and social gatherings.
- Refugee families participating in the home visiting program, Parents as Teachers, in the Boise area were provided with interpreters.

Supporting organizations through strategic funding, training, and technical assistance remains a core part of ICTF's mission. By bringing organizations together in a way that connects them to a larger prevention strategy, we are ensuring that systematic steps are taken to strengthen families through the promotion of protective factors and positive experiences. This is how we build HOPE- one positive experience, one organization, one child...at a time.

...WHEN WE LEARN ABOUT AND SHARE WHAT WORKS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified five strategies shown to prevent child abuse and neglect:

- Strengthening economic supports for families
- Changing social norms to support parents and positive parenting
- Providing quality care and education early in life
- Enhancing parenting skills to promote healthy child development and
- Intervening to lessen harms and prevent future risks.

The lead author for the CDC's "technical package", Beverly Fortson, was the keynote speaker for the 19th annual Strengthening Families Training Institute (SFTI). She helped the 240 Idaho prevention practitioners understand what they can do to implement these strategies.

Other speakers shared their expertise on building resiliency, preventing child sexual abuse and child neglect, poverty and a host of other topics to build the capacity of professionals and parents to dig deeper into the strategies presented by the CDC in order to prevent abuse and neglect before it occurs.

The conference theme, Together We Build Hope, centered on the idea that "hope" is not a wish or a dream but an action that we must take to create the future our children need to thrive. We are confronted

by "the fierce urgency of now" as we realize that childhood is short and that everything we do now matters.

The Training Institute closed with a powerful discussion by four fathers from throughout the state who shared their triumphs and challenges as fathers in difficult circumstances. These men described traumatic experiences in their own childhoods and struggles in young adulthood that required them to step up to be the fathers they wanted to be. For all of them change happened because other people believed in them and gave them the support they needed to become the exemplary fathers they are today. We build hope together.



Roy Elizondo from Payette talks about being a father in the 21st century

...WHEN WE HONOR COMMUNITY LEADERS WHO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

Bannock Youth Foundation (BYF), this year's recipient of the Ed Van Dusen Legacy Award, has reached tens of thousands of individuals in southeast Idaho since it opened its doors in Pocatello in 1978 as a runaway project and family counseling center. Over the next decade, the organization grew and flourished, developing programs in the areas of youth substance abuse treatment and prevention, child sexual abuse prevention, and family strengthening.

BYF is a leader in Idaho in offering programming that strengthens families and works to prevent child abuse and neglect. They work to implement services and strategies that promote the five Strengthening Families Protective Factors from the Center for the Study of Social Policy. As early as 2005, BYF was implementing the Nurturing Parenting Program, an evidence-based Parenting Program.

BYF has also been a leader in southeast Idaho in the prevention of child sexual abuse. Currently,



BYF is the lead partner with the Idaho Children's Trust Fund (ICTF) and four other southeast Idaho and Magic Valley organizations on a project to increase education to prevent child sexual abuse: Stewards of Children. BYF is a critical partner in the ICTF's efforts to reach the "tipping point" of 5% of Idahoans trained to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse.

BYF has been a collaborator with many local organizations over the years, often providing the foundational support that allowed organizations and initiatives to grow enough to become their own entities. Two examples of this include Project Safe Place and the 6th Judicial District's Court Appoint Special Advocates (CASA).



In Wendell...



In Fruitland...



...WHEN WE ALL GET IN THE ACT!

...For the first time, every county in Idaho was involved in promoting child abuse prevention during the month of April, the officially designated National Child Abuse Prevention commemoration. In big and small counties, in libraries and city halls, sheriff's office and schools, blue and silver pinwheels dotted our communities to remind people that preventing child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility.



At Hope's Door...



In Coeur D'Alene...



At the College of Southern Idaho...

... WHEN WE SHARE KNOWLEDGE WITH THE COMMUNITY

Recently Oprah Winfrey learned about and talked about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and their impacts on CBS 60 Minutes—a sure sign that this issue has gone mainstream! The HOPE Conquers ACEs (HCA) statewide training initiative is capitalizing on this interest to work with teachers and other school personnel, city employees, United Way staff, social service providers, pre-school and child care programs, and others about how they can improve the outcomes for kids.

The Trust Fund staff and 25 trainers who are part of a statewide community of practice have trained over 1500 professionals and community members since January on various aspects of brain development, ACEs and protective factors. Trainings have been held in Salmon and Idaho Falls, Pocatello and Malad, Caldwell and Boise, and to statewide conferences for teachers and other school personnel, librarians, professional counselors and early childhood educators.

The trainings are designed both to bring greater awareness of the impacts of positive and adverse experiences on children's development and to help people take action to prevent or mitigate the impacts of ACEs.

These trainings have been powerful in shifting perspective and providing practitioners and parents with concrete tools. Some comments following the training highlight the impact:

- The training was practical and useable
- It will help foster parents understand foster children's behaviors
- I have more hope and will focus energy on rebuilding with my son now that I know not all is lost (from correctional facility)
- I will take a step back when dealing with kids and take a look through their lens
- ACEs are not set in stone
- I will think: "What happened" as opposed to "what is wrong with you"

We have experienced a number of similar comments reinforcing the importance of building peoples' awareness and moving them into action.

Research tells us that all children need at least one caring adult in their lives to develop normally and thrive. With this information in hand, we have many wise people in this state who will take this information to change the lives of Idaho's children for the better.

... WHEN WE EXPERIENCE HOPE

Archbishop Desmond Tutu said, "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

However, it's challenging to see the light sometimes because the darkness can seem so vast and overwhelming. Over the past year, we have heard and witnessed heart-wrenching stories of child physical and sexual abuse and neglect. We've listened to adults coming forward with stories of abuse they experienced as children or teens and the terrible emotional consequences that abuse had on their lives. It can be difficult during

these times to feel hope.

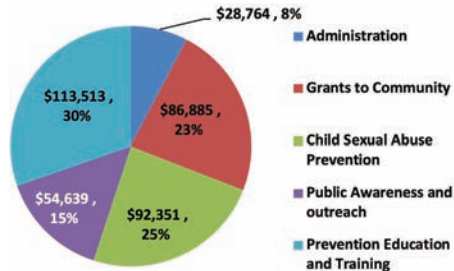
Yet the tide is changing. Youth-serving organizations, big and small, are making more effective policies to protect children. Resilient adults who experienced childhood trauma are taking steps to overcome the toxic stress those adverse experiences caused them. We know this progress could not happen without the work of dedicated professionals, parents and policymakers like you.

In 2018, the Idaho Children's Trust and our partners around the state educated

adults in child sexual abuse prevention, supported parents in strengthening their protective factors, created both systems and programs that encourage positive experiences for families and children, and so much more. Our 2018 Annual Report showcases some of that work and the impact we're having on the children of Idaho. Together we will continue to move the dial in the right direction – getting ever close to our goal of ending child abuse and neglect in Idaho. Hope abounds!

– Sarah Leeds, Board President

Trust Fund Financials by the Numbers*



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.

REVENUE

Grants and donations	\$323,755
Earned revenue and interest	\$61,972
Total	\$385,727

(50% of donations received through the state income tax form are used for prevention work; 50% goes to an interest bearing trust fund. Interest earned on the trust also supports prevention.)

*as of July, 2018. Details available upon request.

Thank you

to all who made donations to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund in 2018!