

A N N U A L R E P O R T

2019



THUMBS UP FOR IDAHO KIDS...

Idaho
Children's
Trust Fund



Preventing Child Abuse In Idaho

...WHO PUT CHOCOLATE FINGERS EVERYWHERE / WHO LIKE TO BE
TICKLED / WHO STOMP IN PUDDLES AND RUIN THEIR NEW PANTS
/ WHO SNEAK POPSICLES BEFORE SUPPER / WHO ERASE HOLES IN
MATH WORKBOOKS / WHO CAN NEVER FIND THEIR SHOES

#THUMBSUPIDAHO



Blue thumbnails were on display around the state during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April 2019 to build awareness around prevention of child abuse and neglect. Thumbs Up 4 Idaho Kids got the social media world humming. People from Sandpoint to Salmon, including Governor Little, mayors, college presidents, broadcasters and many of us not so prominent Idahoans, painted our thumbnails blue to spark a conversation about what we can all do to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Building awareness has brought us to a tipping point. People in many fields are talking about ACEs and resilience. For several years, the prevention field has had to push that boulder uphill but these days people in health care, people in the courts, local and state office holders, and even people out in the public know what we are talking about when we talk about ACEs and resilience. I am not saying our awareness work is done but the boulder is rolling downhill slowly.

New research is telling us what I think we've always believed: Positive childhood experiences based in protective factors are the antidote to adverse experiences. As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been telling us for the last few years, preventing child abuse and neglect and serious family dysfunction will require a variety of strategies from individual and family work to community and public policy efforts.

We all have a role to play because we are all in this together!

– Roger Sherman, Executive Director

...WE CARE ABOUT CHILDREN WHO WANT TO BE CARRIED / AND
FOR THOSE WHO MUST / FOR THOSE WE NEVER GIVE UP ON /
AND FOR THOSE WHO DON'T GET A SECOND CHANCE / FOR THOSE
WE SMOTHER / AND FOR THOSE WHO WILL GRAB THE HAND OF
ANYBODY KIND ENOUGH TO OFFER. (ADAPTED FROM INA HUGHES)

TRAINING INITIATIVES

>>HOPE Conquers ACEs

The Idaho Children's Trust Fund currently promotes three training initiatives geared towards preventing child abuse and neglect before they occur. The longest standing of these encourages the implementation of a Crying Plan to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome or what doctors call Abusive Head Trauma. Our initiative to prevent child sexual abuse began in 2013 and has trained over 20,000 Idahoans. Our latest training initiative is called HOPE Conquers ACEs and began in 2018. Since January 2018 we have trained over 3,000 people and have 45 trainers statewide.

The HOPE Conquers ACEs Training Initiative is designed to build awareness and implementation strategies focused on Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE). This initiative is geared towards preventing and mitigating the impacts of adverse childhood experiences (ACE), which contribute to at least 5 of the 10 major causes of death. The focus of this effort is on schools, local government, social services and other family serving entities.

HOPE Conquers ACEs addresses some of the underlying causes of serious and chronic diseases and conditions including obesity, diabetes and mental illness. ACEs are also a major contributor to suicide and suicidality. By promoting HOPE, that is by intentionally working to create positive experiences, we create the antidote to the adverse or toxic experiences that have a negative impact on physical, emotional and mental health of children and the adults they become.

Our vision for this initiative is that all organizations, institutions, and entities in Idaho that work with children learn prevention strategies and become trauma-responsive. Research tells us that understanding leads to empathy which leads to positive relationships and resilience. When people understand why children who have experienced trauma behave the way they do—recognizing that the right question is “What happened to you, not “What’s wrong with you”-- they are better able to be a supportive relationship to that child, to buffer the stress of that child, and become part of the movement to prevent abuse from happening to children in the first place.

...WHO BRING US STICKY KISSES AND FISTFULS OF DANDELIONS /
WHO SLEEP WITH THE DOG AND BURY GOLDFISH / WHO HUG US
IN A HURRY AND FORGET THEIR LUNCH MONEY / WHO COVER
THEMSELVES WITH BAND-AIDS AND SING OFF KEY / WHO SQUEEZE
TOOTH PASTE ALL OVER THE SINK / WHO SLURP THEIR SOUP

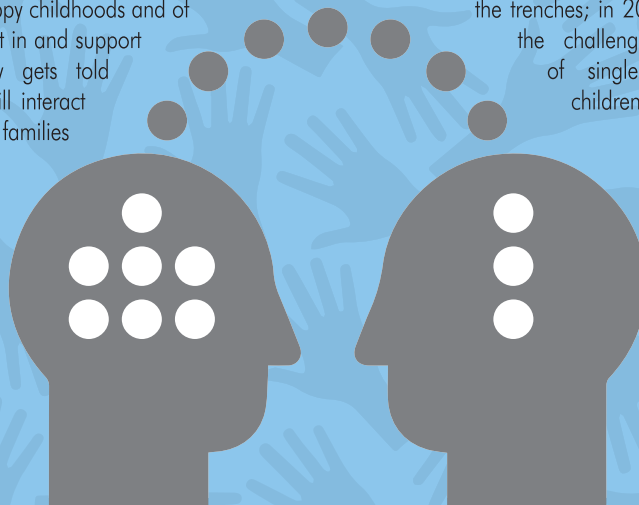
SFTI: SHARING OUR STORIES

To kick off our 2019 Strengthening Families Training Institute in March, we invited Coeur d'Alene based fatherhood expert and storyteller, Patrick Mitchell, to give the keynote address and lead the 225 attendees to explore their own family journeys.

Patrick helped us explore our own stories. We know the stories of abuse and neglect, of people dealing with substance abuse, mental illness and other adversities. We also know that those experiences are not fate because for every story of struggle and hardship there is also a survivor story, a great parent story, and the amazing teacher story--the stories of hope and resilience. We know the stories of happy childhoods and of communities that invest in and support families. Which story gets told determines how we will interact with families. Are the families

we work with problems to be solved or are we all in this together for the best possible outcomes for our kids? As one participant commented "As a counselor, I am so excited to use storytelling to help families connect. I also plan to make sure dads are more comfortable and welcome without a doubt in my office."

We had a tremendous slate of workshops focusing on everything from attachment to public policy and lots in between. "It was great reminder to focus on building on strengths and empowering parents and caregivers," one participant commented. We closed the conference as we have the last few years with a panel from the trenches; in 2019 we focused on the challenges and successes of single mothers raising children.



... WHO NEVER GET DESSERT / WHO WATCH THEIR PARENTS WATCH THEM DIE
/ WHO HAVE NO SAFE BLANKET TO DRAG BEHIND / WHO CAN'T FIND ANY
BREAD TO STEAL / WHO DON'T HAVE ANY ROOMS TO CLEAN UP / WHOSE
PICTURES AREN'T ON ANYBODY'S DRESSER / WHOSE MONSTERS ARE REAL

WINNER OF THE
**2019 ED VAN DUSEN LEGACY AWARD
FOR EXEMPLARY PRACTICE IN PREVENTION
OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:
THE MAHONEY HOUSE**

The Mahoney House in Salmon is a great example of the kind of work that can be done in a rural and isolated community--of which Idaho has many! Because it is a small agency, the Mahoney House staff wear a lot of hats. Although organized as a domestic violence program, it has taken on youth empowerment, protective factors based parenting classes and a broad effort to educate about ACES and protective factors.

The Mahoney House: Community Advocacy and Empowerment is a non-profit agency that provides assistance and supportive services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. It also houses the Salmon Empowerment Project which works with youth in the community around healthy relationships, self-confidence, and good decision making.

The Mahoney House staff has worked with schools, the local hospital, social service organizations, and city government to increase awareness of the impacts of

adverse childhood experiences and the importance of building protective factors in an impressive way. Last year they brought together 70 people in the community (comparable to about 5,000 in Boise on a per capita basis!) to watch the film Resilience and to discuss what can be done in the community. Through an ICTF grant the Mahoney House trained its staff in the STRONG curriculum and has been providing parenting classes.

The work of the Mahoney House has brought a level of hope to the community which at this point may not be quantifiable but is crucial to maintain community integrity and to keep Salmon's youth and families healthy.



...WHO'VE NEVER SQUEAKED ACROSS THE FLOOR IN NEW SNEAKERS
/ WHO NEVER "COUNTED POTATOES" / WHO ARE BORN IN PLACES
WE WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD / WHO NEVER GO TO THE CIRCUS
/ WHO LIVE IN AN X-RATED WORLD



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

"Thank you to those pinwheels. Thanks to those who took the time to put them there, to those people who will speak up and stand out. Thank you for caring! Without amazing people in my life who didn't give up I would not be here... Thanks pinwheels for reflecting the sun as you spin round and round for all of us to see." (From an abuse survivor in southeast Idaho)



In Nampa

In Coeur D'Alene

In Idaho Falls

... WHO SPEND ALL THEIR ALLOWANCE BEFORE TUESDAY / WHO THROW TANTRUMS IN THE GROCERY STORE AND PICK AT THEIR FOOD / WHO LIKE GHOST STORIES / WHO SHOVE DIRTY CLOTHES UNDER THEIR BED AND NEVER RINSE OUT THE TUB / WHO GET VISITS FROM THE TOOTH FAIRY / WHO DON'T LIKE TO BE KISSED IN FRONT OF THE CARPOOL

GRANTEES

One of the ways that ICTF is moving toward a world where all children are safe, happy and thriving is to strategically fund organizations on the ground that work directly with families and children. We proudly carry out this part of our mission through two separate grant cycles- an annual grant cycle that begins and ends each year and a multiyear grant cycle that runs for three years.

In 2018, ICTF funded 12 organizations. Four organizations were part of our multiyear cohort on their second year of that grant cycle: Bannock Youth Foundation out of Pocatello, working on child sexual abuse prevention with a coalition of southeastern Idaho organizations, Family Advocates of Boise, bringing parent support and education groups to Mountain Home, ICARE of Coeur d'Alene working on child sexual abuse prevention in the most rural areas of the Idaho panhandle, and Advocates Against Family Violence, working on teen and parent education nights.

Eight funded organizations were part of our annual grant cycle. Highlights from their work include:

- 72 incarcerated women took parenting classes to

help them rejoin their families.

- 48 parents participated in Parent Café's- over half of which were teen parents
- 232 children in Salmon, Idaho took part in strengths-based curriculum- including social and emotional learning.
- 1006 people participated in family-centered community events for the Nez Perce tribe.
- Northern Idaho families participated in a Circle of Security parent training series through Early Head Start.
- Boise families experiencing homelessness were treated to "Family Nights" that included networking and fun activities.

Every organization we fund reaches families in deep and meaningful ways. Each of the numbers above represents a parent who feels a little less alone while they develop a new skill to discipline their children in a more positive way. Or it may represent a child who is learning to regulate their emotions and navigate a complicated world. These positive experiences- skill building and making connections to peers and resources- will reverberate through that person's life in ways that build their resilience and offer hope for the future.

...WHOSE NIGHTMARES COME IN THE DAYTIME / WHO WILL EAT ANYTHING / WHO HAVE NEVER SEEN A DENTIST / WHO AREN'T SPOILED BY ANYBODY / WHO GO TO BED HUNGRY AND CRY THEMSELVES TO SLEEP / WHO LIVE AND MOVE, BUT HAVE NO BEING

As I write this, there is almost a foot of snow here in Blackfoot and I'm reminded of what Edith Sitwell, wrote regarding this time of year- "Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

Home is where we expect and should find comfort, love, and safety. In my role as a member of the board for the Idaho Children's Trust Fund, I see the time, energy, and resources that

are needed to strengthen families and provide what is necessary for children to feel and enjoy these qualities that we associate with home.

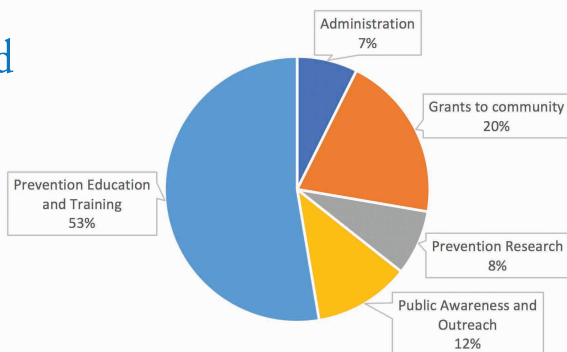
Putting together an annual report has us looking at our accomplishments and the important things that we've worked on throughout the year, and it's a time to reflect and contemplate the future. Our goal at the Idaho Children's Trust Fund is focused on protecting children. Our mission is to strengthen families and in turn support and help

provide nurturing and loving homes for children. In doing that, we have the greatest chance of preventing child abuse.

We know we can't reach our goals alone. We are so fortunate to work alongside so many dedicated parents, professionals, and policy makers that have made a real difference, and we look forward to a new year in which to continue our efforts in improving the lives and futures of our children.

– Brenda Stanley, 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	\$356,054
Earned revenue and interest	\$45,879
Total	\$401,933

(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, 2019. Details available upon request.

Thank you

to all who made donations to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund in 2019!