ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2018-DECEMBER 2019

Former California Day Reporting Center client Berto showcases his sculpture at a 2019 art exhibit.
LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN AND CEO

Dear Friends of Community Solutions, Inc.,

Like many young people, Roger* was struggling in school and became involved in the juvenile justice system. Rather than take a punitive approach with Roger, his Probation Officer referred him to Community Solutions’ Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) program. MST is an intensive community-based treatment for young people and their families. Trained therapists use an evidence-based, structured approach to working with youth to decrease concerning behaviors and prevent out-of-home placements. At the end of his time with our MST program, Roger shared this about his therapist and experience, “In this therapy I learned how to think before I make a decision, I learned how to communicate with my mom more, and I learned active listening. Working with Mr. David was great and helpful.”

Since our founding in 1962, we have worked to promote the independence, responsible citizenship, and well-being of individuals and families. From working with young people like Roger, to providing residential work release programs for people leaving incarceration, our staff work diligently to create conditions for change. What started as one halfway house in Hartford, Connecticut has evolved to be an organization with over 60 programs in 11 states. We have grown through the years with an approach grounded in our values of compassion, integrity, service and responsiveness.

This year, CSI developed a new strategic plan to guide our work as we approach our 60th anniversary. We added new programs in Rhode Island, Kansas, and California, as well as expanded our Training and Resource Center contracts in several jurisdictions.

CSI also came to agreement on a merger with LISA, Inc., a renowned youth-serving organization in Connecticut. Integrating operations will help us expand our continuum of services and broaden our collective impact in the communities we serve. The merger became effective on January 1, 2020. As you will see, our annual report includes an overview from LISA, Inc. highlighting the distinguished programs and services they offer victimized youth in child protection services throughout the state.

To the many board members and donors who have supported CSI, the staff who have worked with clients over the years, and especially to the adults and youth who have benefited from our programs and have thus benefited society, we say thank you.

Highest regards,

William Fiochetta
Board Chair

Fernando J. Muñiz
CEO

*Name of client changed to protect identity
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CPA, Cigna
Our work has changed significantly since Community Solutions, Inc. (CSI) opened our first halfway house in Hartford, in 1962. CSI has grown to operate more than 60 programs in 11 states and Canada.

CSI is preparing for the challenges of a new decade. Over the last 18 months, we completed our strategic planning process. Our new strategic plan, supported by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, was released in April, 2019. The plan shapes the work we will accomplish over the next five years. The process gave us the opportunity to further define our agency by refining our mission and articulating CSI's vision and values providing a roadmap for shaping our work over the next five years.

To see CSI's full Strategic Plan click here: CSI-Strategic-Plan-2019-2024
ADULT SERVICES

ALTERNATIVE IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (AIC)

AIC programs are community-based alternatives to incarceration that provide multifaceted intervention services for individuals awaiting trial, or who are on probation or parole. Some services include substance abuse evaluation and education, job training/job search/job placement, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), community service opportunities and many more.

RESIDENTIAL WORK RELEASE RE-ENTRY CENTERS (RRC)

CSI’s RRC programs assist returning citizens releasing from state or federal custody transition back into their communities. Individuals are supported as they obtain employment and set individual goals to help them become self sufficient.

COMMUNITY COURT PROGRAM

In this program, individuals charged with misdemeanors are assigned to perform one to three days of community service in lieu of fines or jail time. Community Court staff meets with neighborhood associations to match projects with local needs.

DAY REPORTING CENTERS (DRC)/ PROBATION REPORT AND RESOURCE CENTERS (PRRCs)

DRC and PRRC programs provide community-based alternatives to incarceration using Motivational Interviewing techniques and curricula-driven, evidence-based model designed to assess the needs of each client. Individuals work closely with case managers and employment specialists to develop individual goals and make positive changes in their lives. Services provided at the PRRC can include Cognitive-Based Services (CBS) provide cognitive-based group services to individuals within the Probation Department.
MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY (MST)

MST is an evidence based, home-centered treatment that targets youth aged 12-17 who have been violent, are abusing substances, or are chronically involved in the juvenile justice system. MST endeavors to effect behavioral change by treating youth at home, leveraging the strengths inherent in his or her natural environment of family, school, neighborhood, and peers. MST youth have lower re-arrest rates and decreased incidence of substance use. Out of home placements generally are reduced by 47 to 64 percent, allowing youths to stay in school and increase prosocial activities. By treating the youth at home, public entities realize an estimated cost savings of between $31,000 and $131,000 for each youth served by MST.

FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY (FFT)

FFT is an in-home service that is an outcome driven and highly successful family intervention program for at-risk youth and justice involved youth from the ages of 11- to 17-years-old and their families. FFT can be provided in a variety of systems, including schools, child welfare, probation, parole/aftercare, mental health, and as an alternative to incarceration or out of home placement.

MST TRAINING AND CONSULTATION

As an approved MST network partner, we offer new and existing licensed MST teams, five-day orientation training, clinical supervisor training, and weekly consultative services to initiate and maintain quality MST services.

MST EMERGING ADULTS (MST-EA)

MST-EA is for 17- to 26-year-olds with criminal justice involvement and can also serve individuals with serious mental health conditions. These emerging adults are old enough to emancipate from their families and may be living independently or in foster care. There is additional focus in this adaptation on social network, individual factors, mental health treatment, housing, vocation, and life skills.

ADOLESCENT RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

The Adolescent Residential Treatment model provides clinical services, education, substance abuse assessment, treatment and monitoring, structured recreation, life skills, and individual, group and family counseling for youth ages 12 to 17 who need help reducing antisocial behavior and transitioning back into the community.
CSI TRAINING & RESOURCE CENTER (TRC)

CSI has been providing evidence-based training, consultation, and Quality Assurance (QA) to federal, state, and private agencies since 2004. The TRC provides services in four main categories:
- Training System Evaluation and Recommendations
- Training Staff in Evidence Based Practices and Interventions
- Quality Assurance (QA) Coaching, Certification & Training
- Consulting/Data Collection

CSI EXPANSION

CSI AWARDED IN-CUSTODY PROGRAM CONTRACT IN SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

In July 2019 CSI was awarded a contract to begin providing in-custody programming for individuals in the Santa Barbara County Jail. This contract adds staff to facilitate Reasoning and Rehabilitation II (R&RII) cognitive behavioral groups and Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) groups inside the facility. These staff will also lead in the implementation (and use of) the Change Companies® Interactive Journaling® System.

CSI SECURES MST CONTRACT IN KANSAS

In October 2019, CSI was awarded a contract by the Kansas Department for Children and Families to establish and provide MST services in 18 counties in Kansas, serving up to 260 youth and families each year. CSI established four regional offices adding 24 staff positions for the program. The funding, provided by DCF’s Family First Program, is intended to invest in evidence-based models such as MST and will help reduce the use of out of home placements for youth.

QUALITY ASSURANCE-KANSAS

In November of 2019, CSI’s Training and Resource Center (TRC) was awarded a two year contract in Shawnee County, Kansas to provide Quality Assurance (QA) services for probation staff. The TRC works closely with probation to observe and coach officers on the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessment. This helps ensure all clients get directed to the correct type of community services or interventions. QA services increases the accuracy of correctly identifying clients’ risk levels, giving judges and prosecutors more confidence in the assessment results. Quality Assurance increases community safety by making sure those who are at higher risk are appropriately matched with services that will lower their risk of recidivism.
PROGRAM OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS 2018-2019

ADULT SERVICES

- The total success rate for all Adult Residential programs was **80%**.

- The number of community service hours completed was **13,063**. Calculated at CT State minimum wage, our clients provided **$143,693** worth of labor to nonprofit agencies and municipalities.

YOUTH SERVICES

- CSI served more than **1,165** youth (residential and non-residential).

- CSI's MST and FFT outcomes exceeded most national averages. The percentage of youth living at home at time of discharge was **87%**; youth in school or working at time of discharge was **83%**, and youth with no new arrests **86%**.

- CSI's entire MST division in GA, MD, NJ, and PA were recognized by MST for the Whatever It Takes (WIT) 2019 award. Administrative Assistant Kimberly Seda, Pennsylvania MST was nominated for a WIT award. Thameka Miller was awarded the MST Adherence Award in 2019.

- Connecticut residential clients paid **$44,178.96** to the Connecticut Victim Compensation Board.

- In November 2019, Watkinson Prisoners' Aid Society awarded a **$3,850** grant to provide a new phone system at the Aileen O'Connor house in Hartford, CT. These funds will allow for increased engagement for clients.

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**Rhode Island's Coventry House**

Swiss Family Robinson Play

MST Clinical Supervisor Thameka Miller (center) was awarded the 2019 MST Adherence Award
$28,260,372
FEES & GRANTS FROM GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

$1,896,202
OTHER PROGRAM REVENUE

$461,768
RESIDENTIAL SUBSISTENCE

$413,528
INVESTMENTS

$40,550
PUBLIC SUPPORT

$19,739
CONTRIBUTIONS

$3,635
INTEREST

$31,095,794
TOTAL REVENUE
FUNDING SOURCES

Federal Bureau of Prisons
United States Probation Office
CA Department of Correction and Rehabilitation
CA Interface Children and Family Services
CA Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Department
CA Santa Barbara County Probation
CT Court Support Services Division
CT Department of Corrections
CT North American Family Institute
DE Criminal Justice Council
GA Chris 180, Inc.
GA Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Dekalb, Fulton, Houston, and Richmond Counties
GA Department of Juvenile Justice
GA Evidence-Based Associates
KS Department of Children and Families
KS Shaenee County Department of Corrections
MD Baltimore County Health and Human Services, MST Services, Inc.
MD Baltimore Department of Juvenile Justice
MD Department of Social Services
MD Local Management Board, Baltimore
NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Behavioral Services
NY Administration for Children’s Services
PA Berks County Children and Youth Services
PA Berks County Juvenile Probation Office
PA Clinton County Children and Youth Services
PA Clinton County Juvenile Probation Department
PA Community Care Behavioral Health Systems
PA Lehigh County Children and Youth Services
PA Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Office
PA Luzerne County Children and Youth Services
PA Luzerne-Wyoming Mental Health and Developmental Services
PA Lycoming County Juvenile Probation Office
PA Magellan Behavioral Health
PA Northampton County Children and Youth Services
PA Northampton County Juvenile Probation Office
PA Pike County Children and Youth Services
PA Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services
PA Sullivan County Children and Youth Services
PA Wayne County Children and Youth Services
PA Wayne County Juvenile Probation Department
PA Wyoming County Children and Youth Services
PA Wyoming County Juvenile Probation Office
RI Department of Children, Youth, and Families
RI Department of Corrections
RI Tides Family Services
RI Providence Center
UT Department of Corrections

CANADA Kinark Children and Family Services

Aileen O’Connor Staff with CT DOC Commissioner Rollin Cook (center)
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Armando Muñiz
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Scott and Marianne Mckenzie
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Terese Rogers
Theresa Ebhart
Thomas and Joan Jenkins
Tom O'Connor
Wayne and Margo Chapman
William and Pat Fiocchetta
Yogi Dawson

New York FFT Program Staff
### CORPORATE DONORS

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**CSI's Mission:**

*To promote the independence, responsible citizenship, and well-being of individuals and families.*
A transitional apartment program in Meriden supporting 12 male and female youth, including pregnant and parenting youth who are working toward independence. Highly trained staff provide 24/7 support to residents that promotes healing from their traumatic experiences, and offers case management, independent living skills training, and educational and vocational development.

Supervised Apartments And Independent Living (SAIL)

An 8-bedroom supportive living program in Plainville gives a safe, stable home to girls 17-21, who have no available family to turn to. With 24/7 care, our experienced staff help them build a solid foundation for a successful future by focusing on healing, life skill development, and educational support.

Life Skills Academy

This multi-faceted program provides a diverse set of programmatic options to help youth, ages 14-23, gain the tools they need to succeed in life and become healthy, productive members of our community.

Lisa’s Wish

An 8-bedroom supportive living program in Plainville gives a safe, stable home to girls 17-21, who have no available family to turn to. With 24/7 care, our experienced staff help them build a solid foundation for a successful future by focusing on healing, life skill development, and educational support.

OUR MISSION:

To provide safe, supportive, and empowering programs that build skills, awaken hope for the future, and help young people successfully transition into adulthood.

"I definitely have matured and learned how to take responsibility."

-Autumn, 19-yr-old Resident
IN MEMORIAM

MICHAEL BEAUDRY

November 27, 2018

Michael is deeply missed at Community Solutions, Inc. As the Program Director of Cheyney House, Mike built partnerships with networks, funders, and neighbors for the benefit of our residents. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness and compassion.

Michael was awarded the John Stein Employee of the Year Award in October 2018.

Michael Beaudry
Employee of the Year Award

In 2019, CSI established the Michel Beaudry Employee of the Year Award in Michael's honor to recognize all of his positive contributions to CSI. The award is given to an employee who promotes a sense of community and inclusivity, demonstrates integrity, and exhibits leadership strengths.