



2009 Annual Report

For over 59 years, ECFA's mission has been to offer quality social services from a biblical perspective, to provide compassionate care for abused, neglected and dependent children, and to improve the quality of life for individuals and families. This year, we have been privileged to serve 670 individual and family cases through our social service programs (unduplicated count) in five office locations in Illinois and Wisconsin. Ninety-four of our clients received services from more than one ECFA program.

As a Christian, faith-based agency, ECFA served 162 women in our Pregnancy Support Services Program. We placed a total of 53 children in adoption, including 18 children from 8 foreign countries and 22 foster children. A total of 326 children were served through our various foster care programs. Our family counselors served 119 clients, and 43 individuals were assisted through our post-legal adoption services in Illinois. In addition, 42 families and 173 individual family members were served through the Intact Family Services Program.



PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES

Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) are provided free of charge to anyone facing an unplanned pregnancy. These services include pregnancy testing, professional counseling, medical referrals, housing alternatives, financial assistance, preparation for adoption or parenting, and aftercare services.

When "Rebecca" first called PSS she was feeling anxious, depressed and overwhelmed. Yet, she was committed to bringing her unborn child to term rather than terminating the pregnancy. The first thing her counselor did was to re-assure her and help her to calm down emotionally. She also addressed her fears about becoming a new mom.

Over time, Rebecca prepared for her baby's arrival. She was very thankful that her pregnancy counselor was there to support her shortly after delivery. She also felt blessed to receive diapers, a blanket, and other items from our "Rattles and Things" closet to help supply some of her needs.

Rebecca grew to feel much more positive and confident about her abilities to be a nurturing mother. She is interested and open to spiritual matters and her pregnancy counselor is available to assist her in this area as well. We want every expectant mother who comes to us to feel accepted, loved, supported, and well prepared for whatever the future may hold.



ADOPTION PROGRAM

There are many children who are in need of loving and nurturing adoptive families. Some are infants, while others are older or have special needs.

"Abby" was just 18 when she discovered her pregnancy. Because she felt unprepared to be a single parent, her thoughts went immediately to adoption. With the assistance of her counselor she began making an adoption plan for her unborn child. She chose a particular couple from profiles of waiting families since they already had a child in preschool. Abby really liked this couple because they are committed Christian parents who have a strong marriage and a stable home life.

She gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Because both Abby and the adoptive parents want to maintain contact with one another, the baby will grow up knowing his birth family and the reasons for his adoption. Meanwhile, Abby plans to complete her college program and would like to become a social worker in the future.

ILLINOIS PSS STATISTICS

New Cases during FY09	43
Mothers Served	
<u>Age Ranges</u>	
under 18	8
18 and over	66
Total	74
<u>Race</u>	
Caucasian	37
African American	27
African American/White	1
Hispanic	6
Hispanic/Caucasian	1
Asian	2
Total	74
Infants in baby boarding care	2
Mothers choosing adoption	4

ILLINOIS ADOPTION STATISTICS

	Age	
	Under 1	1-5
Caucasian	5	1
African American	3	2
Hispanic	1	0
Asian	1	3
International Adoptions	9	
Domestic Adoptions	7	

Post Legal Adoption: New cases accepted: 19
Total cases served: 43



FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

ECFA receives referrals for children who are dependent, abandoned, neglected, or abused. Our staff works to care for these children through placement in trained and licensed foster families, who care for them from several weeks to two years or longer.

“Michael” was a very young child when he came into foster care with his younger half-sister, “Maria”, due to a serious incident of physical abuse. Their mother was incarcerated and pregnant with her third child at the time. Michael’s father has virtually abandoned him. Since his mother is no longer in the area, plans are being made for his eventual adoption by his foster parents. Maria’s father is involved in her life and hopes to gain custody of her in the future.

The children are very happy and bring lots of joy to their foster family. Michael has improved greatly after experiencing some developmental delays. Maria has recovered well from the physical injury she sustained, and is now walking and beginning to talk. We are pleased to see that the children are thriving in a safe and nurturing home environment.



INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY COUNSELING

ECFA Counseling Centers’ professionally trained and licensed therapists provide individual, marital, and family counseling for a wide range of personal and relational problems. Special play therapy techniques are used with young children who have experienced emotional trauma from painful experiences.

“Marco”, a little 5 year old, received play therapy for over two years. Sadly, his behavioral problems were the result of physical and sexual abuse. His therapist provided a safe environment for him to “play out” his painful feelings from the past. Over time, his behavior significantly improved and he became better adjusted in his foster home, school, and church.

We believe that a biblically-based counseling is the most effective way to assist persons with critical issues and concerns in their lives. Counseling services are also available in Spanish, and fees are based on a sliding scale to keep costs affordable for anyone in need of our services.



INTACT FAMILY SERVICES

At any one time, as many as 20 families receive Intact Family Services from ECFA in their own homes. This program provides an alternative to removing children from their parents due to founded reports of child neglect or abuse. Referrals are received from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Our case managers provide intensive in-home casework services and make counseling referrals for family members to address mental health needs, domestic violence situations, alcohol and substance abuse problems, and parent education and training.

ECFA has been providing Intact Family Services in DuPage County since 2004. Our goal is to help families resolve problems and situations that brought them to the attention of DCFS and, in some cases, Juvenile Court. We assist parents in learning how to function in healthier ways, improve parenting skills, and meet the essential needs of their children. On average, families remain in the Intact Family Services Program from six to twelve months.

ILLINOIS FOSTER CARE STATISTICS

Total children cared for in FY09	311
<u>Sex</u> Girls: 161 Boys: 150	
<u>Race</u>	
African American	152
African American/Caucasian	13
Asian	2
Asian/Caucasian	2
Hispanic	18
Hispanic/White	10
Native American/African American	1
Native American/White	4
Caucasian	109
Family Reunions:	45
Subsidized Guardianships:	6
Adopted:	22

ILLINOIS COUNSELING STATISTICS

New Clients accepted:	71
Total persons served:	142
<u>Clients served through:</u>	
Individual Counseling	75
Family Counseling	24
Premarital/Marital	14
Couple Counseling	6
Total Number of Counseling Sessions:	1003

ILLINOIS INTACT FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICS

Families served	42
Adults	78
Children	95
Total Clients	173
Cases closed	22
Foster Care Placements	3



WISCONSIN DISTRICT

This is the 25th year ECFA staff has been providing social services through our Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) and Adoption Programs. During these 25 years, the Wisconsin District offices have provided case management and care for 2,779 expectant mothers, and placed 374 children with adoptive families.

Life-affirming options and individualized services are provided at no cost to expectant parents facing an unplanned pregnancy. Temporary foster care placement is also available for infants and young children in licensed homes.

Birth parents interested in an adoption plan, review profiles of waiting adoptive parents, then select a couple to meet in person. Varying degrees of openness are discussed between birth and adoptive parents. Opportunities are also available for those interested in pursuing adoptions of children from foreign countries.

Two agency resale shops, Almost Anything & Almost Anything 2, help provide income throughout the year in support of the PSS and Adoption Programs. They are primarily staffed by volunteers.

WISCONSIN SERVICE STATISTICS

Pregnancy Support Services

Race	Clients	Adoption
Caucasian	26	2
African American	57	3
Hispanic	2	
African American/Caucasian	1	1
African American/Native American	1	
Hispanic/Caucasian	1	
Total PSS Clients:	88	
Face-to-Face sessions:	2,733	

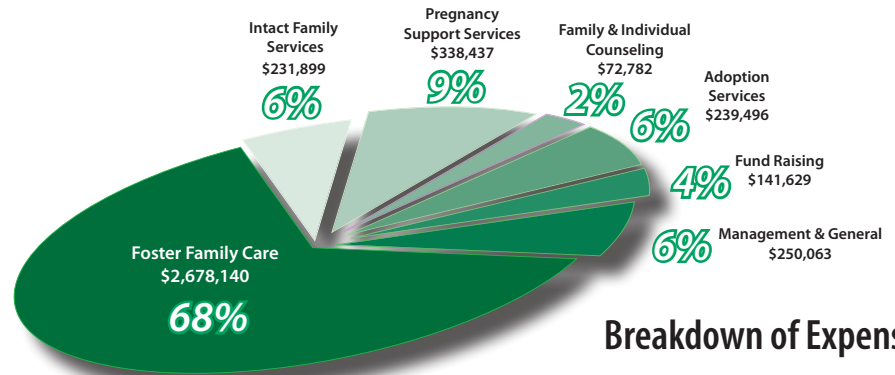
PSS clients under 18 years of age:	3
Domestic Adoptions:	6
International Adoptions:	9
Foster Children cared for in FY09:	13
Days of foster care provided:	438



Agency Financial Information

Illinois & Wisconsin

Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2009



Support & Revenue	Illinois	Wisconsin	ECFA Foundation	Combined 2009	Combined 2008
Contributions	416,316	195,026	10,000	621,342	570,542
State Purchase of Services	3,005,723	0		3,005,723	2,527,858
Wills & Bequests	25,000	0		25,000	12,841
Program Service Fees	141,920	73,942		215,862	192,056
United Way	10,163	22,817		32,980	39,091
Special Events (net)	113,928	27,673		141,601	154,810
Resale Shops (net)	0	44,383		44,383	55,277
Investment Income	(100,626)	(151)	(94,907)	(195,684)	(71,303)
Total Support & Revenue	\$ 3,612,424	\$ 363,690	(\$ 84,907)	\$ 3,891,207	\$ 3,481,172
Expenditures					
Adoption Services	163,821	75,675		239,496	261,892
Foster Family Care	2,667,577	10,563		2,678,140	2,456,843
Intact Family Services	231,899	0		231,899	211,389
Pregnancy Support Services	198,848	139,589		338,437	389,084
ECFA Counseling Centers	72,782	0		72,782	96,885
Other Program Expenses	0	0	8,000	8,000	0
Program Expenditures	\$ 3,334,927	\$ 225,827	\$ 8,000	\$ 3,568,754	\$ 3,416,093
Management & General	216,535	33,458	70	250,063	271,474
Fund Raising	88,985	52,644		141,629	147,886
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,640,447	\$ 3 11,929	\$ 8,070	\$ 3,960,446	\$ 3,835,453
Increase (Decr) in Net Assets	(\$ 28,023)	\$ 51,761	(\$ 92,977)	(\$ 69,239)	(\$ 354,281)

(Financial information may be subject to change upon finalization of annual audit.)

A copy of the audited financial statement will be provided upon written request and may also be viewed at the Agency corporate office.

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Licensed by:

Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Children & Families
Council on Accreditation for Children & Family Services

Accredited by:

Affiliated with:

Member of:

National Association of Evangelicals
Child Care Association of Illinois
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
United Way Combined Federal Campaign

Child Welfare League of America
National Association of Christian Child & Family Agencies
United Way of Greater Milwaukee (Donor Choice Program)

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* Part-time

** Wisconsin Employee