



2016 Annual Report

For over 66 years, it has been ECFA's mission to improve the quality of life for individuals and families, and protect and nurture abused, neglected and dependent children by providing quality social services from a biblical perspective. This year, we have been privileged to serve 496 individual and family cases through our social service programs in the metropolitan Chicago area and in the state of Wisconsin.

As a Christian faith-based agency, ECFA served 73 women in our Pregnancy Support Services Programs. We placed a total of 20 children in adoption, including 12 children from 6 foreign countries. Our family therapists carried 82 counseling cases and served 121 clients. Thirteen individuals were assisted through our post-legal adoption services program. In addition, 439 individuals from 143 families were served through our Intact Family Services Program. Fifty-seven families and 73 children were cared for in the Safe Families for Children Program this year.

ADOPTION PROGRAM



Many children are in need of nurturing adoptive homes. ECFA's Adoption Program provides services to those interested in adopting children of all ages, domestically or internationally, healthy or with special needs.

Tim and Karen were blessed with one biological daughter at the time they first began to consider adoption. They felt they had love to offer another child. They started their Congolese adoption in June of 2013 and were matched with Nadia at the end of August 2013. In September 2013, the Congolese government placed a ban on all exit letters for children under the age of 18 (even those legally adopted). This prevented anyone from taking a child under the age of 18 out of the country. There were about 1,000 legally adopted children "stuck" in the country at that time.

Karen and Tim did not give up hope; they continued to pray for Nadia and God's plan. Via proxy they legally adopted Nadia in March 2014. In November 2015, the government announced that children who were legally adopted would be granted exit letters. There were seven lists of approved names altogether and Nadia's name was on the last list. Nadia is thriving in her new home with her permanent mom and dad as well as siblings, Audrey and Gavin.

ILLINOIS ADOPTION STATISTICS

Adoption Program	
New Cases during FY16	12
Home Studies Completed	10
Total Placements	10
Domestic	3
International	7
China	1
Hungary	2
Ethiopia	2
Congo	1
Uganda	1
Total Cases Served	54
Post Legal Adoption Services	
New Cases during FY16	12
Total Cases	13
Total Reunions	4

PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES



Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) provides free services to women and families facing an unplanned pregnancy, or having a difficult time emotionally and/or financially during a pregnancy. PSS social workers are able to travel to meet with clients at a location that is convenient for the client. In addition to assisting clients with adoption planning, or preparation for parenting, PSS covers a wide range of other needs, including free pregnancy testing, professional counseling, and community referrals. Also included in services are material items generously donated to the program such as maternity and baby items and emergency financial assistance.

"Sandra" left her family and her life in Africa to come to the United States after her name was selected in the Lottery system. She told her worker that she had "one friend, like a brother" in the United States but other than that, she had no supports. She worked hard at a part-time job to make ends meet, and was quite uncertain what to do about her unexpected pregnancy. She wasn't sure that the father would choose to be involved, but believed her daughter had a right to know who he was. After talking to him, they were able to come up with a plan for his monetary as well as emotional support. Sandra worked hard for her baby and set goals to obtain a better job to help provide for her new family. She was able to find a lot of joy in her new role as a parent and carefully watched her baby's health and growth. She thanked her worker after services and said that she felt "God's love" and "doesn't know how she would have managed" without the program.

ILLINOIS PSS STATISTICS

New Cases during FY16	23
Mothers Parenting	20
Mothers Placing	1
Infants in Baby Care	0
Total Cases Served	35

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING



ECFA counselors engage with individuals and families who are going through difficult situations in their lives. “Donna” is a single mother who sought support from our counseling staff this year. She and two of her middle school age children, “Jenny” and “Joe”, were not getting along in the family. Joe was angry because he felt isolated from his mother and sister and was not able to communicate with them about the difficulties he was having in school. Donna felt that she had a good relationship with Jenny but did not know how to encourage Joe and make him feel more supported.

ECFA counselors met with family members individually and the family as a whole. This family truly cared for each other but were not able to communicate feelings in a healthy man-

ner. Over time, they started scheduling family meetings on a regular basis, had dinner together on school nights, and developed a list of chores for each family member. In addition, they made their Christian faith a priority in their family life.

With the help of our counselors, Donna and her family made changes in the way they function. These changes gave their family new ways to relate to each other and to bond more closely together. It is our desire that all our clients have the success that Donna and her children experienced in counseling.

INTACT FAMILY SERVICES



The Intact Family Services (IFS) Program serves families indicated by DCFS for abuse or neglect. Many families have experienced significant issues leading to DCFS involvement such as substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health concerns. Through referrals to community organizations, IFS assists parents in preventing future abuse and neglect from occurring and works to improve overall family functioning.

“Lauren” and her children were referred to ECFA’s Intact Family Services due to the father physically abusing one of the children. Lauren and the children were immediately referred to counseling at ECFA, and the family members participated in

counseling for 7 months. Since case opening, Lauren has been empowered to obtain an order of protection against the children’s father and the children have remained safe. Lauren has also learned parenting techniques in counseling that have resulted in overall improvement in the family’s functioning. Furthermore, Lauren has a better understanding of how to keep her children safe. Through the IFS program, ECFA was able to support Lauren not only with services but also with practical assistance. ECFA was able to obtain furniture and beds for the family as prior to case opening the children did not have beds. Lauren also experienced various medical issues while the case was open and ECFA was able to be a support to her during these challenges. Through a conjoint effort between the IFS program and ECFA’s counseling program, Lauren’s family case has closed successfully.

SAFE FAMILIES PROGRAM



Safe Families for Children (SFFC) is a ministry that provides help for parents in crisis by connecting them with volunteer host families who temporarily care for their children. This summer, “Sue” was in need of a care plan for her son due to the involvement of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Though Sue has two older children who do not live with her, DCFS wanted to help Sue keep her family intact. While Sue participated in services to address mental health, substance abuse, and parenting concerns, a host family cared for her son, “John”. John has medical needs and the host family was able to get him set up with various medical appointments. John is now home with his mom and dad, and they reside with Sue’s mom. The host family continues to be a source of support for this family. We are thankful for the host families who care for these families in crisis.

ILLINOIS COUNSELING STATISTICS

New Clients accepted	72
Total persons served	121
Clients served through:	
Individual Counseling	64
Family Counseling	42
Premarital/Marital Counseling	8
Couple Counseling	2
Group Counseling	5
Total Cases Served	82
Total Number of Counseling Sessions ..	1002.5

ILLINOIS INTACT FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICS

New Cases	47
Cases Closed	60
Total Cases Served	109
Total Children Served	245
Total Parents Served	194
Total Individuals Served	439

ILLINOIS SAFE FAMILIES STATISTICS

New Cases	57
Total Days of Care	3029.5
Total Cases	86
Children Placed	73
Host Families on 6/30/16	51
New Host Families in FY16	18

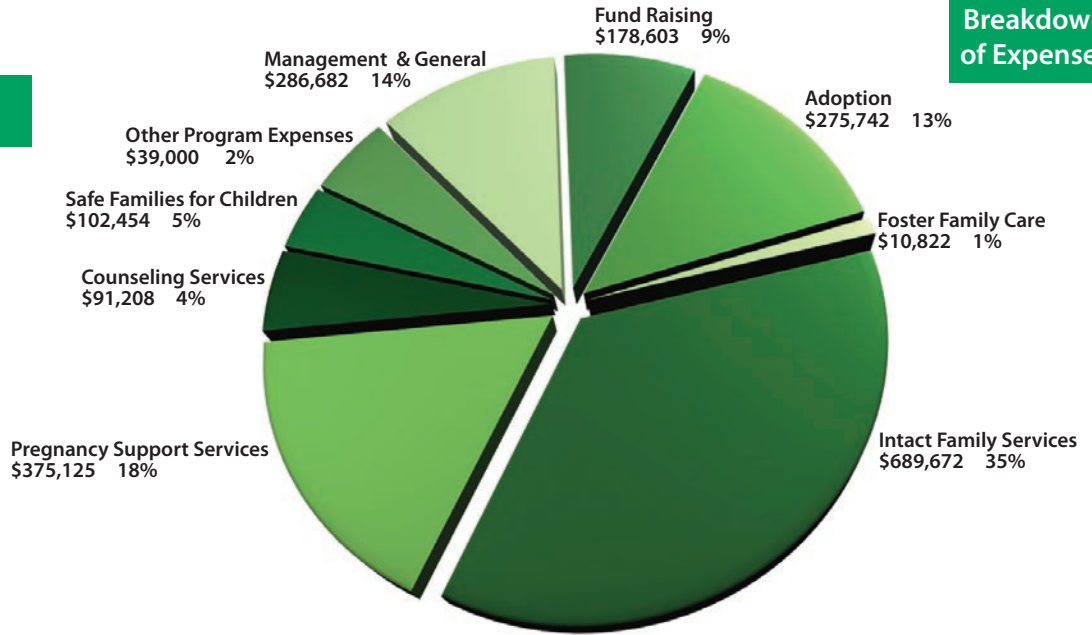


Illinois & Wisconsin

Agency Financial Information

Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2016

Breakdown of Expenses

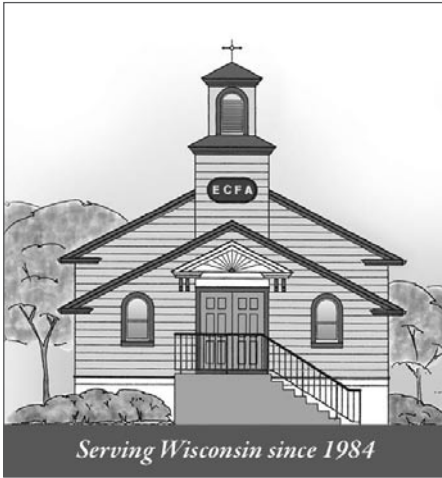


**Evangelical Child and Family Agency
Annual Report Statistics
For FYE 6-30-2016**

	Illinois	Wisconsin	Foundation	Combined 2016	Combined 2015
Contributions	426,048	193,991	15,000	635,039	703,043
State Purchase of Services	682,413	0		682,413	799,473
Wills & Bequests	854,773	0		854,773	25,833
Program Service Fees	80,460	54,015		134,475	213,320
United Way	8,668	23,849		32,516	35,518
Special Events (net)	230,146	10,900		241,046	249,737
Resale Shops (net)	0	59,863		59,863	57,303
Gain/(Loss) on Assets	0	0	68,570	68,570	371
Total Support & Revenue	\$2,282,508	\$342,617	\$83,570	\$2,708,695	\$2,084,598
Expenditures					
Adoption Services	159,909	115,833		275,742	283,363
Foster Family Care	0	10,822		10,822	10,704
Intact Family Services	689,672	0		689,672	738,168
Pregnancy Support Services	163,301	211,824		375,125	366,875
Counseling Services	91,208	0		91,208	115,703
Safe Families	102,454	0		102,454	86,172
Other Program Expenses	0	0	39,000	39,000	103,380
Program Expenditures	\$1,206,544	\$338,479	\$39,000	\$1,584,023	\$1,704,365
Management & General	237,502	42,059	7,121	286,682	224,585
Fund Raising	106,162	72,441		178,603	175,320
Total Expenditures	\$1,550,208	\$452,979	\$46,121	\$2,049,308	\$2,104,270
Increase (Decr) in Net Assets	\$732,300	(\$110,362)	\$37,449	\$659,387	(\$19,672)
Year End Net Assets	\$574,969	\$323,364	\$1,822,956	\$2,721,289	\$2,021,036

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

WISCONSIN DISTRICT



For over 32 years, the compassionate staff of ECFA has been privileged to provide quality social services from a biblical perspective, through the Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) and Adoption Programs. During these years, the Wisconsin District office has provided case management including goal-setting, and referrals for 2,941 birth mothers and fathers, and placed a total of 475 children into their forever homes through the gift of adoption.

Life-valuing options, tailored services, and an incentive program are offered at no cost to expectant parents facing an unplanned pregnancy. Voluntary, respite foster care placement is also available for infants and young children in licensed foster family homes.

Birth parents who are interested in an adoption plan may review profiles of available adoptive parents either online or when meeting with their worker. Open adoption offers birth parents and adoptive couples the opportunity to

meet and appreciate each other while discussing their comfort with future contact. For those interested in pursuing an adoption of a child or children from a foreign country, many options are available.

Our agency's resale shop, Almost Anything, generates income and provides community awareness throughout the year in support of the PSS and Adoption Programs. It is staffed six days a week by two part-time employees and over 50 dedicated and selfless volunteers of all ages.

WISCONSIN SERVICE STATISTICS

Pregnancy Support Services

New Cases during FY16	28
Mothers Parenting	19
Mothers Placing	2
Infants in Baby Care	0
Total Cases Served	38

Adoption/Foster Care Program

New Cases during FY16	10
Home Studies Completed	11
Total Placements	10
Domestic	2
Interstate	3
International	5
China - 4 India - 1	
Total Cases Served	45

Corporate Office

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- Licensed by:** Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Children & Families
- Accredited by:** Council on Accreditation for Children & Family Services
- Affiliated with:** National Association of Evangelicals
- Member of:** National Association of Christian Child & Family Agencies
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
United Way Combined Federal Campaign
United Way of Greater Milwaukee (Donor Choice Program)
Child Care Association of Illinois

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