

City of Lawrence Outside Agency Annual Report For Calendar Year 2017

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org by Thursday, February 15th 2018 at 5:00pm. For the following questions please refer back to your [2017 application for funding](#).

Reporting Period: Calendar Year 2017

Agency Name: The Children's Shelter DBA: The Shelter, Inc.

1. Refer to the program in which your agency received funding; provide a participant success story that helps demonstrate the accomplishments of the program.

Juvenile Intake Program received funding from the City of Lawrence in Calendar Year 2017 for disbursement of emergency funds for families with children either through self or other agency referral. In October 2017 a veteran of the armed forces referred himself and made contact with Juvenile Intake to inquire about receiving emergency funds. He was married with two young children. He applied for the full amount of \$200.00 to go towards a past due Westar energy bill. On his application he reported falling behind in their bills due to him taking unpaid leave from work for a period of 10-11 days to address an infection caused by his on-going dialysis treatment. He reported he was in need of a kidney transplant and has dialysis treatment twice a week. We were able to fund his request for the full amount allowing him and his family some financial breathing room until they could get caught back up on their bills from the time he took off. We also set down to look at possible changes the family could make to help save money for their future monthly budget. We also discussed his options for applying for VA or SSI benefits that he may be eligible for.

2. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide a brief narrative of the activities funded with City funds.

The funds that we receive from the City are administered through our Juvenile Intake Program, which provides services to children as they are identified by law enforcement. Services designed to prevent system involvement are also connected to that program. Our City funds provide primary prevention for families meeting certain criteria for financial need. Since 1997, we have used City funds to pay for "Family Services" such as tutoring, drug/alcohol evaluations, monitoring, and treatment, as well as various other specific needs to help children remain out of the system, in school, and productive. We receive referrals for these funds from not only our Juvenile Intake and prevention staff, but also other agencies in the community, such as the Housing Authority, Bert Nash, DCF, infant/toddler programs, the schools, and the court. As we have been reporting for the last few years, the requests we have funded since 2008 have been shifting toward requests to pay for emergency needs to maintain basic housing and utilities for families. Lack of adequate housing is certainly a risk factor for system involvement, and therefore meets the criteria for these funds. Along with requests for housing and utilities, we have continued to serve at risk children by providing drug and alcohol monitoring for specifically identified children who are participating in our prevention/diversion programs. Use of drugs and alcohol contributes greatly to system involvement for the children we serve.

3. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide specific detail (use supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate what progress was made toward your proposed outcomes.

In the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, we received 177 total requests for these funds. We approved a total of 159 of those requests. The requests we approved were submitted on behalf of 159 families, 11 of those families were approved for more than one request. In these situation a family may

have an on-going cost they apply for every few months or may apply for multiple bills to be paid in the same month, up to \$200.00. Of the 159 that were approved, 22 were for services (mental health, substance abuse monitoring, translator cost) 136 were for utilities and housing, and 1 was for purchase of hard goods, specifically the purchase of a new mattress and frame so a child would have their own bed and not share sleeping space or have to sleep on a couch.

Goal 1: We stated we would serve 215 families in 2017. While we did not serve as many families as we anticipated and indicated above, all of the City funds we received to help children and families in 2017 were expended for that purpose. The number of families we served was lower than our goal for a number of reasons, the first being that we approved more than one request for 11 families, as indicated above. Second, we did not pay for UA's for as many children in the prevention programs due the change of UA service provider in 2016 where UA's were billed to insurance the families that were medically insured. Third, we raised our limit per family to \$300 instead of \$200 for a few of the months we saw a decrease in the number of referrals.

Goal 2: We will provide budgeting help to 95% of families served in 2017. As has been the case in the past, we are excluding from this outcome the families who have received only UA services for their children. We continue to provide UA services for children we believe need them, without assessing the family's financial situation. In doing so, we have avoided potential resistance from families and made sure those children who need UA's get them. Excluding the 5 families who received UA services only, we served 154 families in 2017, all of whom received budgeting services.

Goal 3: At least 90% of families who have received Family Services funds will not have a child go through Juvenile Intake within 6 months after their case is closed. In order to monitor this goal, we first looked at families we served with Family Services funds from July 2016 through June 2017. We served 166 families in that time period. Out of 166 families served, 3 families had a child come through Juvenile Intake within six months after their case was closed, leaving 164 families whose children had no Juvenile Intake contact in the subsequent six month period ($166/163=98.2\%$). We met this goal for 2017.

4. Refer to the line-item budget provided in your 2017 application for funding; is this accurate to how your allocation was actually spent? If no, what changed and why?

In 2017, we spent a total of \$28,574.76 from January through the end December for the year. In 2017, we received \$28,575 from the City for this purpose.