



EVANGELICAL CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY

2017 Annual Report

For over 67 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 463 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 22 children in adoption, including 12 children from 6 foreign countries. Our family therapists carried 98 counseling cases and served 118 clients. 19 individuals were assisted through our post-legal adoption services program. In addition, 604 individuals from 148 families were served through our Intact Family Services Program. 32 families and 40 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.

Leitha took an early retirement in 2012 from being a Special Education teacher to volunteer in areas of interest where she was passionate. She took her first short term mission trip in April of 2013 to Haiti where she met John Paul. He was diagnosed at birth with cerebral palsy and at age 9 had never walked. "I met my son at an orphanage in Haiti. Once I established residency in Haiti, I was granted permission to bring John Paul to the United States on a medical visa. God has answered one prayer after another in John Paul's and my life. John Paul began walking within months of coming to the United States. Via Skype, his birth parents were able to see their son walk. What a blessing that was for all of us!"

Leitha had hoped to adopt another boy from John Paul's orphanage in Haiti. She sought God's direction, but that door was closed. Still believing she was to adopt one more child, she searched various websites, and found out about a little girl, Qi Tu Dang, in China with cerebral palsy. Though it seemed like a long journey to get the final approval to adopt Bliss Grayce, Leitha says, "I learned more about my loving God, who planned before I was born, before my son was born, and before my daughter was born that we would be a family. I learned my heart's passions were gifts from my loving Father, not my great plan. I experienced what it meant to really trust God. His plan for my life was not in the timing I had imagined or dreamt it to be, but in His perfect timing. My Father has not only forgiven me, He has redeemed me with His perfect timing in becoming a mother."

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ILLINOIS ADOPTION STATISTICS

Adoption Program

New Cases during FY17	13
Home Studies Completed	10
Total Placements	11
Domestic	4
International	7
Burundi	1
Camaroon	1
China	3
Columbia	1
Taiwan	1
Total Cases Served	41

Post Legal Adoption Services

New Cases during FY17	11
Total Cases Served	19
Total Reunions	7

PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES



Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) provides free professional counseling and support to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies or unexpected challenges during a pregnancy. Services may include pregnancy tests, education on the options of parenting or placing for adoption, assistance in development of either plan, practical support such as maternity clothes or diapers, emergency financial assistance and community referrals. One factor that sets PSS apart from other supportive programs is our ability to travel to meet the client wherever it is convenient for her.

"Marie" was 6 months pregnant with her third child when she found ECFA. She was drawn to the PSS program because of the support and educational components, as well as the practical help of free diapers and wipes. Having grown up in a traditional Hispanic family, she was excited to have a large family but was concerned how her young children would feel about the new baby. Allison worked with Marie to help ease the transition and they soon were able to embrace their roles as big brother and big sister to the newest addition to the family. As her case drew to a close, Marie expressed her sincere appreciation for PSS providing a safe place to process the changes in her family, as well as the parenting resources received. Marie felt better prepared to parent her children because she utilized the PSS program.

ILLINOIS PSS STATISTICS

New Cases during FY17	27
Mothers Parenting	25
Mothers Placing	2
Infants in Baby Care	3
Total Cases Served	37

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING



Often ECFA counselors engage with individuals and families who are facing difficult situations. “Abby” first started seeing her ECFA counselor, Julie, over a year ago. She came to us feeling anxiety ridden over many concerns in her life. Her biological parents were not married and she was raised by a single mother. Sadly, she has never had the chance to meet her birth father or to have the love of a fatherly role model in her life. She felt insecure about herself and wondered if she really belonged anywhere.

Julie helped Abby learn how to manage her anxious feelings so she would not be so troubled by them. Among other things, Abby began to rely upon prayer and scripture reading to better understand God’s love for her and His presence in her life. Over time, she has become a much more confident wife, mother and office worker.

Abby feels that “God has her back”, according to Julie. She is able to manage new challenges with a sense of calmness and believes that in the end everything will all work out for the best. Julie says, “Abby is becoming grounded in God’s Word”. She described her as being a very loving, caring, sensitive and conscientious person. We believe that Abby will continue to grow spiritually as she has learned to rely upon God’s promises for her life.

INTACT FAMILY SERVICES



The Intact Family Services Program (IFS) serves families referred to us by DCFS due to 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 improving overall family functioning.

“Jamie” and “Ryan” were referred to Intact Family Services after Jamie delivered a substance exposed infant. While the case was open with ECFA, Jamie was able to receive substance abuse services and also engage in mental health services. She and Ryan also requested couples counseling which was provided to them. After Jamie had maintained sobriety for several months, she and Ryan wanted to move out of Ryan’s parents’ home. The ECFA worker was able to assist the family in obtaining housing and the family moved into their own apartment. The case was successfully closed and the family was thankful for the help of ECFA through the Intact Family Services Program.

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 past year, “Mary,” a young single mom who was raising her preschool aged daughter, desired to complete her high school education. However, in order to do this, she needed additional support. Her daughter, “Zoe,” was placed with a host family who not only cared for Zoe, but also provided Mary with encouragement and emotional support. While Zoe was in the Safe Families program, Mary finished high school, found a transitional living program, and participated in a job training program. Zoe was returned to her mom’s care in the spring. We are thankful for the host families who care for these children and families in crisis.

Although ECFA is no longer directly involved with Safe Families, those interested in the program are encouraged to contact Lydia Home Association in Chicago at 773-653-2200.

ILLINOIS COUNSELING STATISTICS

New Clients accepted	63
Total persons served	118
Clients served through:	
Individual Counseling	63
Family Counseling	27
Premarital/Marital Counseling	2
Couple Counseling	6
Total Cases Served	98
Total Number of Counseling Sessions	642

ILLINOIS INTACT FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICS

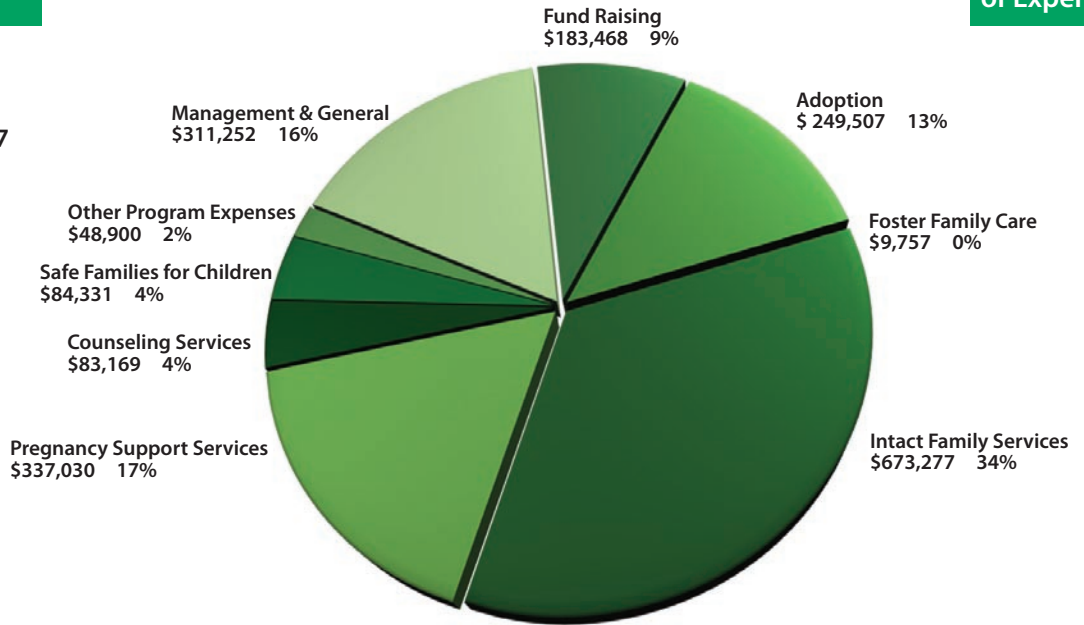
New Cases	102
Cases Closed	82
Total Cases Served	148
Total Children Served	343
Total Parents Served	261
Total Individuals Served	604

ILLINOIS SAFE FAMILIES STATISTICS

New Cases	20
Total Cases	32
Children Placed	40
Host Families on 4/30/17	50

Agency Financial Information

Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-2017



**Evangelical Child and Family Agency
Annual Report Statistics
For FYE 6-30-2017**

	Illinois	Wisconsin	Foundation	Combined 2017	Combined 2016
Contributions	354,406	203,421	14,944	572,771	635,039
State Purchase of Services	733,148	0		733,148	682,413
Wills & Bequests	207,776	4,039		211,815	0
Program Service Fees	102,004	75,370		177,374	134,475
United Way	7,830	15,133		22,963	32,516
Special Events (net)	225,711	56,485		282,196	241,046
Resale Shops (net)	0	40,607		40,607	59,863
Gain/(Loss) on Assets	13,603	2,115	187,301	203,019	68,570
Total Support & Revenue	\$1,644,478	\$397,170	\$202,245	\$2,243,893	\$1,853,922
Expenditures					
Adoption Services	161,349	88,158		249,507	275,742
Foster Family Care	0	9,757		9,757	10,822
Intact Family Services	673,277	0		673,277	689,672
Pregnancy Support Services	143,901	193,129		337,030	375,125
Counseling Services	83,169	0		83,169	91,208
Safe Families	84,331	0		84,331	102,454
Other Program Expenses	0	0	48,900	48,900	39,000
Program Expenditures	\$1,146,027	\$291,044	\$48,900	\$1,485,971	\$1,584,023
Management & General	257,587	45,931	7,734	311,252	286,682
Fund Raising	104,993	78,475		183,468	178,603
Total Expenditures	\$1,508,607	\$415,450	\$56,634	\$1,980,691	\$2,049,308
Income(Loss) from Operations	\$135,871	(\$18,280)	\$145,611	\$263,202	(\$195,386)

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 33 years, the compassionate staff of ECFA, have 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 services including goal-setting, tailored referrals for birth mothers and fathers, and placed over 480 children into their forever homes through the gift of adoption.

Life-valuing options, tailored services, a safe sleep Baby Box component, and an incentive program are offered to those expectant parents facing an unplanned pregnancy at no cost to them. Voluntary, respite foster care placement is also available for infants and young children in our licensed loving foster family home.

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 level of comfort with future contact. For those interested in pursuing an adoption of a child or children from a foreign country many options are available.

The Almost Anything Resale Shop concluded business on June 30, 2017, after 31 years of operation. It was faithfully staffed by two part-time workers and over 50 dedicated volunteers.

WISCONSIN SERVICE STATISTICS

Pregnancy Support Services

New Cases during FY17	20
Mothers Parenting	13
Mothers Placing	1
Infants in Baby Care	0
Total Cases Served	36

Adoption/Foster Care Program

New Cases during FY17	11
Home Studies Completed	5
Total Placements	11
Domestic	1
Interstate	5
International	5
China - 4 Bulgaria - 1	
Total Cases Served	45

Corporate Office

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Wheaton, IL 60187
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EVANGELICAL CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY

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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)
Illinois Collaboration on Youth

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