LETTER FROM THE
Executive Director

It’s my great pleasure to present our 2014-2015 Community Report. In these pages, we share our year with you and it’s my hope that you will catch a glimpse of the “heart” of Center for Human Services (CHS) and the impact we have in our community.

This has been an exciting year for us! We celebrated 45 years of providing services to youth and families in Stanislaus County, we moved into a new building, and successfully completed a Capital Campaign. The purchase and move into our new home (2000 W. Briggsmore Ave. in Modesto) was a real highlight. A lot of you know the building as the former Roller King. Many of our staff reflect fondly on their time here, with other young people and their families. We’re honored we could make it a place for youth and families once again. With the move into our new facility, there was an immediate impact. The new space continues to provide opportunities to serve more individuals in need of counseling and substance abuse services, in addition to providing a more functional working environment for our growing staff. We want the community to see this facility as one that belongs, not just to CHS, but to all of you. We’re inviting other non-profits and community partners to use the space for meetings, extending the capacity of our space in service to our community. If you’re interested in seeing the space for yourself, I encourage you to contact us for information about agency tours.

This year, I’m acutely aware of how important partnerships are in support of the work we do. Our partners come in many forms – board members, volunteers, donors, and public and private partners who work with us to strengthen our families and communities. With our partners, we accomplished much. Through the generosity of our amazing community supporters and donors, in just 6 short months, we raised $1.175 million dollars to fund the build-out of our new building! This gift will have an impact in our community for many years to come. We’ve also experienced expanded programming, therefore bigger impact, due to strong partnerships with community, city and county groups. At CHS, one of our core values is partnerships and we embrace it fully, both within CHS and our community. We know there is so much to be done and we couldn’t do it without you.

I hope you enjoy what’s in these pages. We’re proud of our impact and the stories we have to tell. Thank you for allowing us to share them with you.

Sincerely,
Cindy Duenas

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changing lives building futures helping families
THESE ARE OUR MOMENTS
Center for Human Services (CHS) was established as a local 501(c)(3) non-profit in 1970 to serve youth and families. Our mission is to **change lives and build futures through programs that strengthen and support youth and families.** CHS served tens of thousands of children, individuals and families last year in Stanislaus County through six core program areas.

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
- **Community Counseling** - no or low cost counseling services
- **Support Groups** - depression and anger management support groups
- **Parent Mentor Program** - providing support services to parents
- **LMFT & LCSW training site** - in association with local universities
- **LIFE Path** - treatment, support and connections for youth and young adults experiencing early symptoms of psychosis (A partnership with Sierra Vista Child & Family Services)
- **Pathways to Self Sufficiency** - assisting noncustodial parents facing unemployment or underemployment to build skills (A partnership with Stanislaus County Child Support Services)

### YOUTH SERVICES
- **Friday Night Live** - youth development / leadership training program
- **Alcohol and Other Drugs** - prevention, intervention & education programs
- **Harvesting Futures** - youth leadership and entrepreneurship training
- **Youth Court** - a peer jury program for first-time juvenile offenders

### SCHOOL BASED SERVICES
- **Counseling Services** - for youth, individuals and families
- **Student Assistance Program** - education, prevention and intervention for students K-12
- **Nurtured Heart** - evidence based curriculum intended to transform the cultures of schools and build emotional resiliency in students
- **Graduation Coach Program** - comprehensive student engagement program targeting 7th and 8th graders at risk of dropping out (A partnership with United Way)

### FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS
“One-stop shops” providing services and support to families
- **Ceres Partnership for Healthy Children**
- **Oakdale Family Resource and Counseling Center**
- **Patterson Family Resource Center**
- **Newman Family Resource Center**
- **Welfare to Work** – assisting welfare recipients to obtain or prepare for employment. (A partnership with Stanislaus County Alliance Worknet and Community Services Agency)

### SHELTER SERVICES
- **Hutton House** - temporary shelter for 13-17 year old youth in crisis
- **Pathways** - transitional living, life skills and employment training for 18-21 year olds experiencing homelessness

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT
- **Substance Abuse Treatment** - teen and adult alcohol and other drug abuse treatment
- **First Step** - outpatient treatment for pregnant and parenting women with children 5 years of age and younger (A partnership with Sierra Vista Child & Family Services)
At Center for Human Services our work is directed by our core organizational values.
THE way WE WORK

We view individuals and families in terms of their strengths, not deficits, and build on existing assets to support growth and development.

WHAT WE DO

We offer concrete support to individuals and families in times of need.

We provide opportunities for people to build new skills.

We provide activities that foster healthy social connections with others.

WHAT PEOPLE NEED FOR WELL-BEING:

People need a safe environment and the capacity to protect and support their families.

Relationships create the foundation for well-being and people are healthiest when they have positive connections with others.

Healthy communities create opportunities for people to connect with one another, access natural systems of support, and act together to improve their lives.

HOW WE WORK:

We provide a caring environment where people are accepted and treated with compassion and respect.

We build partnerships with individuals, families, and communities so we can help them help themselves.

We connect people to their natural systems of support.
Growing Confidence

Nick is a perfect example of a model student. His hard work and dedication show what can be accomplished when you stay focused on your goals, no matter the barriers.

At first, Nick was very timid. He shied away from attention. This occasionally led to some trouble in his classes. Nick would not ask questions, even when he needed help, because he misunderstood the material. He was afraid to ask a question about something everyone else already understood.

Nick started the Graduation Coach Program halfway through 7th grade. His Grad Coach met with Nick weekly for individual meetings. He started to gain more confidence. In less than a year, Nick went from being a student with a 1.6 GPA, to a student living out his potential, now on the Honor Roll.

When asked what career path Nick wanted to choose as an adult, he answered quickly, but not with one of the usual answers (professional athlete). He said, “I want to be a manager at Google”. He knew to accomplish this goal, he would have to accomplish the goals set for him in his individual coaching sessions.

Nick continues to build confidence and has learned more social skills. The Graduation Coach program has challenged him with goals that are small and obtainable. Working towards these goals, he is learning to develop habits that enable his success in the classroom. Goals include things such as using a planner or keeping his backpack organized. They are small but vital to student success.

Over the summer Nick attended the Students Who are Gaining Ground (SWAGG) Summer Program, also run by the Graduation Coach Program. Nick became a leader for his group and for his class. By the end of the summer program, Nick could say with confidence that his 8th grade year would be better than his 7th grade year, because of the experiences and confidence he gained.

Nick now has a 3.0 GPA and has become a member of a couple different volunteer student and community groups, holding leadership positions in some.

Nick was recently reclassified as fluent and English Proficient. This is a feat not easily reached. When asked who has contributed to his success Nick said, without hesitation, “My Graduation Coach, because he was always checking up on me and my math teacher because he would do everything possible to help me understand the material.” When Nick’s math teacher was asked about him he shared, “Nick is eager and likes to learn. He always asks for help, shows that he cares about his grades by coming in after school. He has become a student that I have come to respect.”

*This is a United Way of Stanislaus County program implemented in partnership with Center for Human Services.*
Getting To Tomorrow

Last winter, an uneasy and recently unemployed, Mr. Johnson walked into a Center for Human Services’ Family Resource Center (FRC) to apply for CalFresh benefits. Standing in the front office he repeated more than once, “I never thought I'd find myself in here. I'm not the type to live off the government. This will only be temporary.”

Mr. Johnson shared his story with FRC staff. He was in a difficult situation after recently being laid off from his job, trying to take care of himself and his children. Although he had signed up with a temporary employment agency, he was uncertain when his next paycheck would come in or when steady work would begin. He needed help getting back on his feet. FRC staff reassured him that there was no shame in taking advantage of the services available to him and that as soon as he secured employment he could cancel his benefits. That seemed to ease his mind.

Before the appointment was finished, Mr. Johnson applied for Medi-Cal and signed up to work in our community garden. FRC Staff supplied him with food from the food pantry, two bags filled with bread and juice from a morning donation. Mr. Johnson shared his surprise at how easy and friendly it all was. He seemed more at ease as he prepared to leave and shared, “Thank you. I am grateful and my children will be grateful.”

By treating each person who walks through the door with dignity and respect, CHS creates a safe environment for people like Mr. Johnson, allowing them to ask for help when they may feel like they have nowhere else to go. Often what people need most is that concrete support in the form of food, clothing and shelter, just to get through to tomorrow.

Putting Down Roots

During his young life, Michael lived with a variety of family members and friends after the death of his parents. There was no place he really saw as home. At 18, he found himself without a place to live. Without a home or work, he moved into the CHS-Pathways program. Michael committed himself fully to this program. He quickly earned extra privileges by completing objectives like working and going to school, attending regular meetings, counseling and case management. He started to volunteer two days a week at the Harvest of Hope and found a part time job. Not long after, he began taking classes at Modesto Junior College and eventually decided to join the National Guard.

Although he had to leave for basic training, Michael sent regular letters to Pathways telling us how he was doing. Once he completed his training, he returned to Pathways to live and continued to thrive.

He’s been deployed two times since then. Michael is successfully making a career through the National Guard. He continues to check in and visit Pathways staff, not unlike a young college student visiting their parents. He stays in touch with roommates he had in the program and his past employers. They are all people he's come to rely on.

During one of his last visits, Michael said, “Pathways is my home. I wouldn't be where I am today without this program.” He said, “The staff pointed me in the right direction and helped me find lost family and make new friends.” He also acknowledged that CHS helped him find the tools he needed to live a good life.

For a young man without roots, Pathways became a secure base for him. Now he is on the road to success, making those who know him proud of his accomplishments and service.
Every day we change lives and build futures through programs that strengthen and support youth and families.

88% of youth staying at Hutton House would tell a friend to go there if they needed help.

23,000+ children, individuals and families were served last year through six core program areas: Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Treatment, Youth Services, Shelter Services, School Based Services and Family Resource Centers.

More than 83% of those participating in drug and alcohol treatment, felt more connected to their community after completing treatment.

6,400+ student contacts were made across three school sites by our Graduation Coaches working to increase student engagement in youth at risk of dropping out. (A United Way of Stanislaus County program implemented by Center for Human Services)

55% confidence increase At the beginning of counseling only 22% felt they could cope when things went wrong. After a year, over 77% of clients reported feeling like they can cope when things go wrong.

93% of parents accessing support from one of our Family Resource Centers in Ceres, Newman, Patterson and Oakdale, reported feeling like capable parents after receiving services.

78% of youth living at Pathways, transitional housing for homeless young adults, secured employment.

More than 94% of staff surveyed at over 50 school sites stated that the student benefited from Student Assistance Program services.
Ways to Give

Center for Human Services (CHS) is thankful for the many ways our community supports our work. Here are some different ways you can support CHS:

**TIME**

Become a volunteer in one of our many programs by lending a helping hand to our staff, sitting on a fundraising committee, or joining one of our active Boards.

**TREASURE**

Provide monetary support by giving through the Annual Fund, sponsoring or attending a special event like Edible Extravaganza, donating in-kind goods or supplies or by making a planned gift.

**TALENT**

Offer to share one of your talents and create teachable moments with the people we serve and our employees. You could help teach a class, provide general maintenance and repairs at our facilities and more.

Gift Your Legacy

Center for Human Services (CHS) is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization that provides quality prevention, education, counseling and shelter services for youth and families. Gifts through estate planning support the work we do and can provide significant federal and state tax deductions for you. Contact our Fund Development Department for more information.

Center for Human Services
Making gratitude look easy since 1970

For more information, please contact our Chief Gratitude Officer (aka Development and Communications Director) Kate Trompetter at (209) 526-1476 or ktrompetter@centerforhumanservices.org
I’m proud to be associated with an organization that has such a strong focus on doing the right thing – both in our neighborhoods and in the Board Room. CHS’ fiscal responsibility has resulted in a continuous stream of successful financial audits. Doing the right thing is part of the culture at CHS and we should feel lucky that CHS is part of our community.

- ANDREW MOSIER, Current Board President
Chuck and Kristi O’Brien are CHS donors, community leaders, and generally two of the most generous people you’ll ever meet. They have been friends to CHS in many ways for 17 years. Whether through O’Brien’s Market, event support, or personal contributions, Chuck and Kristi continue to give of their time and their resources in support of the work CHS is doing throughout their community.

In 2014, CHS honored Chuck and Kristi with our Children First Distinguished Leadership Award, an award created to honor people in our community who support services for children and families at extraordinary levels. At that time, one member of our selection committee remarked, “They have a vision for how they can make a difference and they are putting their hearts into making it happen.”

Most recently, The O’Briens agreed to participate on our Framing Our Future Capital Campaign as Cabinet members. The goal was to raise $1 million towards the construction of our new building. The Cabinet was successful and CHS couldn’t be more grateful to them and the O’Briens for their continued commitment.

We recently had a chance to ask the O’Briens about their continued connection to CHS.

“Our favorite program is Pathways. We’d never really thought about the young adults at age 18 that have no where to go. It is an amazing place for them to land and get on their feet.”

Chuck and Kristi went on to share, “Center for Human Services is unique to this community because they provide positive alternatives to those struggling to find a better path for their lives. The many programs offered provide safety, acceptance, education and encouragement to many people.”

At CHS, we are proud to have Chuck and Kristi O’Brien as part of our extended family. Their passion for our work and the youth and families we serve is felt throughout the organization every day. They have the best interest of their community in mind at all times and we’re so thankful CHS has become a part of their lives.

“Center for Human Services is unique to this community because they provide positive alternatives to those struggling to find a better path for their lives.”

- CHUCK AND KRISTI O’BRIEN

Proud Supporter of CHS for 17 Years
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