



The Mockingbird Society
Building a world-class foster care system

2012

Annual Report



Dear Friends,



You made a wise choice to invest in The Mockingbird Society in 2012.

Thanks to you, our programs are thriving and we continue to lead critical advocacy that benefits the thousands of children, youth and families impacted by foster care.

As you will read in this report, our highlights in 2012 are many, including:

- Led advocacy to pass Extended Foster Care, putting Washington State among a select few states to offer these important services to youth aging out of care;
- Saved approximately \$12 million in potential cuts to child welfare and youth homelessness programs;
- Engaged more than 427 youth in building leadership skills, humanizing foster care issues, and presenting youth-led reform ideas;

- Laid important groundwork to replicate the Mockingbird Family Model as a world-class model of foster care; and
- Ensured the sustainability of our organization by significantly expanding the capacity of our Board of Directors.

Our role as independent advocates has flourished because of the value we place on building lasting relationships based on transparency, respect, results, and mission-driven focus. We appreciate our relationship with you, too, and we thank you for making our work possible.

With gratitude,

Jana Heyd
President, Board of Directors

Jim Theofelis
Executive Director and Founder

THE MOCKINGBIRD SOCIETY STATISTICS OF IMPACT FOR 2012

40

youth-led trainings were held, including The Culture of Foster Care (10), Voice Development (10), Legislative Advocacy (6), Transitions (5), Educational Advocacy (5), and Your Rights/Your Life (4)

225

youth who participated in leadership trainings

96%

youth from the Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit who reported feeling more confidence in seeking support from community leaders when advocating for an issue

111

youth-submitted contributions to the *Mockingbird Times*, with approximately 22,000 copies distributed monthly

The Mockingbird Youth Network

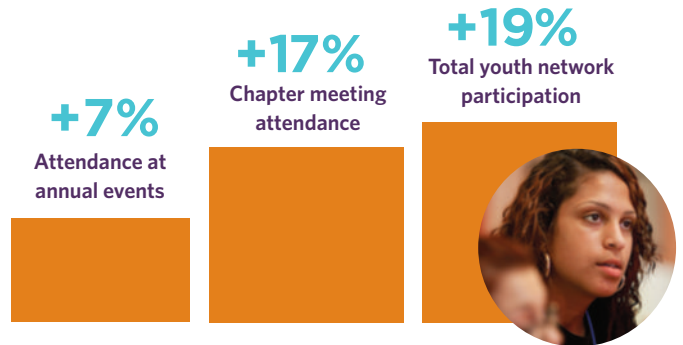


Our Voice. Our Future.

The Mockingbird Youth Network (MYN) was established to be a leader in providing youth and alumni of foster care a vehicle for leadership development,

civic engagement, and participation in system reform efforts to improve the foster care system.

The MYN maintains Chapters in major population zones throughout Washington state, including Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Olympia, Spokane, and Yakima. The Chapters serve youth, ages 13 to 25, with approximately 63% of participants being persons/people of color.



Mockingbird Youth Network On the Rise
(from 2011 to 2012)

The Mockingbird Family Model

The Mockingbird Family Model (MFM) is an innovative method for delivering foster care with the promise to improve safety, stability, and permanency for children and adolescents in the child welfare system.

The MFM is grounded in the assumption that families with ready access to resources and support are best equipped to provide a stable, loving, and culturally supportive environment for children and adolescents in their care.

The MFM unites six to ten foster/kinship families living in close proximity to a central, licensed, and experienced Hub Home.

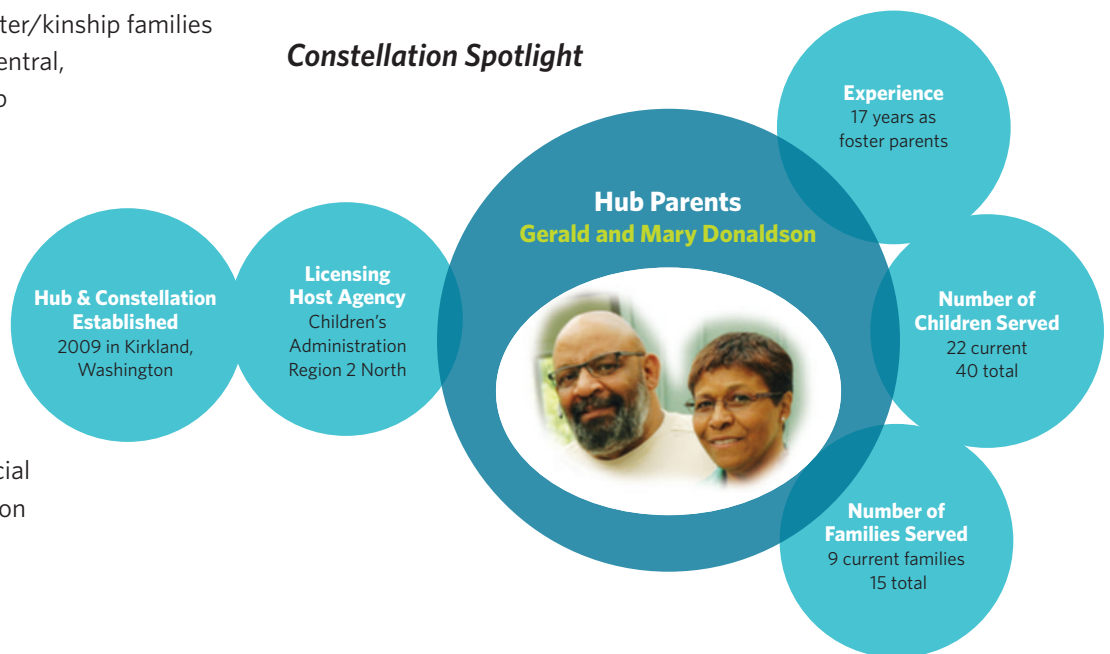
The Hub Home provides resources and support to the families in the Constellation, including:

- Planned and emergency respite care 24/7;
- Monthly trainings and social events with peer interaction for caregivers; and

- Unlimited access to social support and mentoring for caregivers.

In 2012, 17 MFM Constellations were active in Washington state, Washington D.C., and Kentucky. Mockingbird continues to provide training and technical assistance to organizations and agencies that wish to adopt the model while continuing to advocate for wider replication across systems of care.

Constellation Spotlight



"We feel empowered by great Children's Administration liaisons who have been very attentive to our needs... We feel confident supporting our parents knowing we have the eyes and ears of an administrator in the system."
Mary Donaldson, Hub Home Parent, on working with Children's Administration, their MFM constellation sponsor.

2012 Advocacy Achievements

Mockingbird's Public Policy and Communications program led or supported advocacy efforts to secure or retain approximately \$11.9 million in funding for Washington's Child Welfare System. Based on program costs, our

advocacy efforts yielded a return of approximately \$38 for every \$1 invested. We continue to advocate for upstream reforms that will benefit thousands of children, youth and families impacted by the foster care system and youth homelessness.

In addition to the legislative work highlighted below, our team also serves on more than 30 community coalitions and workgroups. Our strength is underlined by the independent voice for reform that we offer.

Priority	Result	Community Impact
 Extended Foster Care	HB 2592 enacted into law. Approximately \$626,000 in annual services for youth in care.	All youth pursuing a high school diploma, GED, post-secondary education or vocational training have the option to remain in foster care and have access to services including safe housing.
 Homeless Housing Assistance	HB 2048 enacted into law. \$4.4 million in funding over the next year.	The Home Security Fund will provide crucial resources for important homeless youth programs, including the Independent Youth Housing Program (IYHP) and HOPE Centers.
 Street Youth Programs	Saved \$956,000 from being cut.	Provides important on-the-ground outreach services for street dependent youth, ensuring that they have access to the supports necessary to get off the streets and on the road to stability.
 Family Reconciliation Services	Saved \$4.7 million from being cut.	Under consideration for being cut, this would have stopped intake and referral services aimed at keeping families intact and promoting positive behaviors for about 525 families who seek assistance.
 Responsible Living Skills Program (RLSP)	Saved \$908,000 from being cut.	RLSP provides shelter and support services for adolescent youth at risk of becoming homeless. Services include short-term shelter, education programs and life skills trainings.
 Office of the Family & Children's Ombudsman (OFCO)	Saved \$327,000 from being cut.	The "watchdog" of the child welfare system, OFCO provides critical investigative oversight of the various programs and services meant to serve Washington's most vulnerable children, youth and families.

174

Speak Up! learning opportunities, providing youth with the skills to effectively share their stories and facilitate trainings

14

community service projects, including youth volunteering at shelters, cleaning public spaces, visiting with the elderly, and creating a donation center for youth aging out of care

98%

youth who felt their participation made a difference at Youth Advocacy Day

17

active MFM constellations in Washington, Kentucky, and Washington D.C.

68%

youth at Advocacy Day who had the opportunity to directly engage with a policymaker

**The Mockingbird Society
2012 Board of Directors**

President

Jana Heyd

Society of Counsel

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Washington State Budget & Policy Center

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Lisa Matchette

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Amy Poley

Healthcare Realty

Alan Rothblatt, MD

Virginia Mason Medical Center

Carol Wood

United Way of King County

Robert D. Wyman Jr.

Cascade Youth Law

**The Mockingbird Society
Executive Leadership Team**

Jim Theofelis

Executive Director and Founder

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Ros Ghan

Deputy Director

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Fred Kingston

Director of Youth Programs

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Brian Lawrence

Director of Development

brian@mockingbirdsociety.org

2012 Financial Summary

Revenue by Funding Source*

Private Grants	\$888,061
Contributions	\$65,971
Special Events, net of expense	\$221,538
Program/Service Revenue	\$183,390
Interest Income	\$2,605
In-Kind Income	\$11,111
Total Income	\$1,372,676

Expenses by Program

Public Policy & Communications	\$316,072
Mockingbird Family Model	\$142,655
Mockingbird Youth Network	\$898,845
Management and General	\$224,968
Fundraising	\$253,089
Total Expense	\$1,835,629

Change in Net Assets **(462,953)**

Assets

Cash and Equivalents	\$1,134,824
Pledges and Program Services Receivables, Net	\$738,619
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	\$17,621
Total Assets	\$1,916,836

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$111,821
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$692,315
Temporary Restricted Net Assets	\$1,112,700
Total Net Assets	\$1,805,015

Total Net Assets & Liabilities **\$1,916,836**

*The statement above matches The Mockingbird Society's IRS filing using the accrual method of accounting. Time restricted income that was committed in a prior year (e.g. from multi-year grants) is not reflected as income in the current year. Time restricted income released in 2012 was \$715,000 and, when added to the current year income of \$1,372,676, total funds for the year exceed expenses by \$252,047.

The Mockingbird Society

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www.mockingbirdsociety.org

facebook.com/mbociety

twitter.com/mb_society

Our mission is to advocate for systems reform based on the personal experiences of children, youth and families impacted by the foster care system.

Our vision is to build a world-class foster care system that ensures the care, support and resources necessary for children, youth and families to thrive.

Be *inspired* while showing you care



Show your support for youth and alumni of foster care by joining us for our 7th Annual Benefit Luncheon on September 24, 2013. Register online to become a Table Captain or attend as a guest, at www.mockingbirdsociety.org

With Gratitude to Our Supporters

The Mockingbird Society relies on private contributions to support our advocacy mission. We are grateful to the thousands of individuals, forward-thinking foundations, and dozens of corporate partners that provided financial support in 2012. We surpassed our fundraising goals in 2012, and our donor base has grown by more than 60 percent since 2007.

To all, we are tremendously thankful for your investment! Our supporters are always welcome to stop by and visit The Mockingbird Society's offices for a tour and personal update. Please call 206.323.5437 to schedule a visit.

Please help us stop duplicate mailings. If your household receives more than one copy, please contact Amber Carrigan at amber@mockingbirdsociety.org. Thank you.

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