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Orchards   
CHILDREN'S SERVICES

# IMPACT REPORT



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# WELCOME MESSAGE

I am incredibly proud to share the impact Orchards Children's Services has had on the lives of thousands of children and families across Michigan during our 2025 fiscal year. Orchards remains one of the largest private, non-sectarian child welfare agencies in the state, serving more than 10,000 children and families annually. Through a broad spectrum of programs, including family preservation, foster care and adoption services, domestic violence intervention, college scholarships, and more, we are changing lives and providing opportunities for growth and healing. Each of these services represents a lifeline, a stepping-stone, and a beacon of hope for those we serve.

2025 was a year of continued change. Amid shifting landscapes at the local, state, and national levels, the importance of the work being done at Orchards Children's Services has remained constant. This consistency and commitment to excellence is reflected in the outcomes and impact outlined in this report.

Looking ahead to the remainder of 2026, we are focused on ongoing advocacy for the support, safety, and security of the children, families, and workers at Orchards Children's Services and in child welfare services. Through times of change, we will continue to honor our past and the deep-seated roots we have in our community while adapting to meet the needs of new generations of Orchards alumni.

You may also notice a new look for Orchards this year. We are embarking on a brand and website refresh to reflect our evolving role in serving the community. We hope you follow us along on the journey by following us on social media on Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn.

Even as we look toward the future, I am continually filled with deep gratitude for the steadfast support, dedication, and encouragement of our remarkable staff, board members, volunteers, and cherished supporters. Your commitment makes our mission possible.

With deepest gratitude,

Nicole Lawson, Ph.D.  
President & CEO  
Orchards Children's Services



Nicole Lawson, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

# Who we are

**We are Orchards.**

Strengthening the community through quality services to children and families isn't just our mission, it's our promise in action. We walk alongside those impacted by abuse and neglect, helping them heal from trauma and rebuild their lives with hope and stability.

Our story began in 1962, when a small but determined group of women from the National Council of Jewish Women Greater Detroit Section dared to challenge the status quo. What started as a single residential home for seven boys has grown into an organization that now serves more than 10,000 children and families across Michigan. That same courageous spirit of advocacy and innovation continues to guide us today.

We believe in partnering with and empowering families and communities as active participants in their own futures for lasting change. Together, we build safe, nurturing environments where families can find stability,

strengthen relationships and move toward long-term self-sufficiency. We are able to do this work because of the unwavering dedication of our staff, the generosity of donors who believe in our mission, and the resilience of the families who strive every day for a better future. Their strength inspires us.

Their trust fuels us. And their success is the reason we do what we do.

**We are Orchards.**



# What we do

At Orchards Children's Services, we step up when children and families need support most. Our diverse programs protect children and provide safe, caring environments during times of crisis and uncertainty. By delivering services tailored to each family's unique circumstances, we help youth and caregivers overcome adversity, build resilience, and break harmful generational cycles.

Every day, we are moving closer to a community where all children and families can thrive together.



## OUR LEADERSHIP

### EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Nicole Lawson, PhD  
*President & Chief Executive Officer*  
Jennifer Wrayno, MSW  
*Chief Operating Officer*  
Lisa Finger, BA  
*Chief Human Resources & Compliance Officer*  
Troy Kulick, MBA  
*Chief Financial Officer*

### BOARD OFFICERS

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*Board Chair*  
Jonathan LoPatin  
*Secretary*  
Lakeisha M. Florence  
*Treasurer*

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Dan Fremer  
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Michael Winter



# Family Preservation

When a family is in crisis, the difference between a child staying safely at home or entering foster care often comes down to one thing: support at the right moment. That's where our Family Preservation Program changes outcomes.

Through these services, families facing overwhelming challenges receive compassionate, hands-on support designed to keep children safe and families together. Instead of waiting for situations to reach a breaking point, Family Preservation surrounds parents with the tools, guidance, and encouragement they need to build stable, nurturing homes, preventing many children from entering foster care.

Through in-home counseling, practical parenting education, and help accessing essentials like housing, healthcare, and employment resources, families are met with dignity and understanding, not judgment.

Our workers walk alongside parents, creating personalized plans that strengthen relationships, build confidence, and turn moments of crisis into opportunities for growth.

This strength-based, preventative approach doesn't just solve immediate problems. It helps families develop lasting skills, resilience, and hope for the future.

Your support helps keep children where they belong, safely at home, and connected to the people who love them most. Together, we are preventing trauma, preserving families, and creating brighter, more stable futures for children and their caregivers.

**98% of the over 4,000 children and 5,000 adults we served were able to safely stay together**

# Placement Services

When safety concerns require out of home care, our Placement Services Department helps ensure the safety, stability and well-being of children in need of temporary or permanent homes. We support placements with families and environments that support each child's developmental, educational, and emotional needs as well as ensuring safety.

Orchards offers a variety of services through our Placement Services department, to support children and families, such as:

- Recruitment efforts to find foster families to support children in care
- Licensing services to help families obtain and maintain their foster care license
- Adoption services for families supporting children who cannot be safely reunified with their biological family
- Supporting relative placements, when possible, to keep children in their family of origin
- Services to help families through their parenting journey, such as support groups, ongoing education and training, transportation, respite support, and more.
- Support for older youth such as Independent Living and Scholarship Programs

**290 families**

received services through Placement Services

**50 children**

were safely reunified with their families

**52 adoptions**

were completed

**63% of children**

in foster care were placed with at least one sibling at intake

**3,600+ transports**

were completed by Orchards this last year to facilitate children visiting with parents





## Clinical & Parenting Services

The various clinical and parenting services offered at Orchards are designed to help support the parent/child relationship, offering parenting support and guidance and supporting the mental health and overall well-being of the family unit. They are structured to support families at various stages of involvement, including those working toward reunification, meeting court-ordered requirements, or simply seeking to enhance their parenting capacity. By addressing both safety concerns and parenting skills, we aim to empower families to create nurturing, secure environments where children can thrive and long-term stability can be achieved.

## Domestic Violence Intervention

Our Domestic Violence Intervention Program provides a safe place where survivors can begin to rebuild their lives. Through individual and group therapy, adults and children are given the space to process their experiences, regain a sense of safety, and learn healthy coping skills. These services do more than address trauma, they help restore confidence, strengthen family bonds, and create a foundation where healing can truly begin.

### **Our services range from:**

- Support Groups
- Trauma Assessments
- Parent Education Groups
- Domestic Violence Intervention

# Parent Education

In Oakland and Macomb Counties, our Parent Education Program offers another powerful path toward safer, healthier families. This program provides a welcoming, judgment-free space where parents can learn, grow, and practice positive parenting skills, through guided group sessions, where they can explore new ways of thinking, communicating, and responding to their children. They learn how to manage stress, build stronger connections, and create home environments where children feel secure, understood, and valued. As parents gain confidence and healthier perspectives, family relationships begin to transform, often in ways they never thought possible.

## Foster Care Supportive Visitation

Foster Care Supportive Visitation Program plays a meaningful role in helping families stay connected during some of the most difficult moments in their lives. The program creates a safe and welcoming space where children in foster care and their biological families can spend time together, rebuild trust, and nurture their relationships while working toward the shared goal of reunification when it is safe to do so.

For children, these visits help preserve important family bonds, offering comfort, familiarity, and a sense of belonging during time of uncertainty. Each session is supported by trained Orchards staff who prioritize safety while gently coaching parents, helping them strengthen skills such as communication, emotional regulation, and effective caregiving.



Using a trauma informed approach, staff the emotional impact of recognize separation and past experiences, meeting each family with compassion and understanding.

Every family receives an individualized visitation plan, and workers provide supportive, real-time feedback that helps parents build confidence, enhance their parenting skills, deepen connections, and move forward with hope.

**224 families in Wayne County**  
received services through our  
**Supportive Visitation Program**

**95% of families in**  
**Wayne County**  
achieved reunification within 6  
months following the program



# Independent Living/Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care

Young people transitioning out of foster care often step into adulthood without the natural safety nets many of their peers rely on. Through our Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care (YAVFC) and our Independent Living program, youth ages 16–21 receive individualized, consistent support as they build the skills and confidence needed to live independently. Agency caseworkers walk alongside each young person, providing guidance in education planning, employment readiness, financial literacy, bill management, relationship building, and everyday life skills that create long-term stability. For youth who have not been reunified with their birth families or achieved permanency through adoption or guardianship, these services offer something critical: a dependable support system during one of life's most vulnerable transitions. We celebrated the following successes this last fiscal year:

- Orchards was able to support more than **30 young adults** through Independent Living and YAVFC programming
- **10** of those young adults successfully exited after reaching the program's maximum age.
- **100%** of youth in Independent Living chose to continue their connection with Orchards by voluntarily entering Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care after wardship ended, demonstrating the value of ongoing guidance and trusted relationships.
- **90%** of participating youth maintained eligibility by staying engaged in employment or educational programs
- **100%** of young people who aged out of services exited with safe and stable housing.

Through initiatives like the **Orchards Promise Scholarship**, youth exiting foster care also receive financial and emotional support from community donors, like you, as they pursue college or trade school opportunities, helping ensure that their goals remain within reach. Together, these programs provide more than services, they create pathways to independence, stability, and a future defined by possibility rather than circumstance.



# Adoption Resource Consultants



Adoption Resource Consultants (ARC) work every day to help youth across Michigan move closer to what every child deserves: a safe, loving, and permanent family.

This program focuses on recruiting and supporting adoptive connections for youth waiting in foster care, helping turn hope into permanency. Through individualized, one-on-one support, ARC workers take the time to understand each young person's strengths, personality, and interests, ensuring they are thoughtfully matched with families where they can truly belong and thrive.

Beyond working directly with youth, ARC engages communities across the state to raise awareness about the urgent need for adoptive families. They educate and prepare prospective parents, helping them better understand the unique experiences and needs of children in foster care so families can begin their adoption journey with compassion, confidence, and support.

To bring this work to life, we want to share some of our program outcomes...a glimpse into the lasting impact your support makes possible for the ARC program and the children it serves.

**265 children/youth have been serviced through 2 Regions in Michigan through ARC**

**ARC Supported 83 legal permanencies through Adoption, Guardianship, Permanent Placement with a Fit and Willing Relative and APPLA (Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement) in 2 regions in Michigan**

# Post Adoption Resource Centers

The Post Adoption Resource Centers (PARC) program provides ongoing, community-based support for families in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties who have completed their adoption journey. Adoption is a lifelong commitment, and PARC ensures families never have to navigate its challenges alone. When families reach out, whether they need guidance, reassurance, or more intensive support, our team meets them where they are, responding with compassion and understanding at every stage of need.



PARC offers adoption- and trauma-informed services designed to strengthen and stabilize families, including education, ongoing training, advocacy, resource connection, service coordination, and case management. These supports help families better understand their child's experiences while building the tools and confidence needed to grow together successfully.

At Orchards Children's Services, we believe our responsibility does not end at adoption finalization. Just as we walk alongside families through foster care and adoption, we remain committed to supporting them for the lifetime of their adoption journey, helping ensure every family has the stability, connection, and support they need to thrive.

**PARC provided in-home services for up to 12 months to 24 adoptive families in two counties**

**6 trainings and 4-day long parent conferences were completed, focusing supporting and strengthening the adoptive family**

**PARC offers monthly support groups in Southfield and Sterling Heights, both facilitated by adoptive parents**



# Because of donors like you...



491 donated food baskets brought comfort, nourishment, and togetherness to families during the holidays.



Many volunteers helped make the holidays brighter for our children and families by donating their time in our toy room organizing our donations and helping fill bags.



94 families felt the stress of the holidays lifted through Sponsor-a-Family support and 1,793 were able to receive gifts this holiday season.

# ...moments like these are possible.



73 children discovered the magic of camp, many creating happy childhood memories, some for the very first time.



Our youth were able to have a night of fun with former NFL players, learning about their stories of overcoming and inspiration for the future.



Foster parents were able to have an afternoon to holiday shop while Orchards staff provided fun activities and a day of games, crafts and fun for our foster youth.



Your generosity didn't just provide services, it created stability, dignity, and moments children, families and staff will carry with them forever.



Dedicated staff were cared for through wellness and appreciation efforts, including appreciation events and free on-site massages, helping them continue showing up every day for the children who rely on them.



400 children walked into school feeling confident and prepared with new backpacks and supplies. Children and families were able to participate in a community backpack event supported by Orchards.

Every child who dreamed of having a bike experienced the freedom and joy of riding one this summer.



# Community Partner



## Birmingham Rotary Foundation

Overnight camp is a powerful experience for any child; a place where confidence grows, friendships form, and young people are given the freedom to explore new activities, build independence, and simply enjoy the joy of being a kid. For many of the youth we serve, these opportunities are not always accessible, making the experience even more meaningful. We are so grateful for the generous support of the **Birmingham Rotary Foundation**, who sent **17** young people to an overnight camp last year. Their investment created moments of connection, adventure, and belonging that will leave a lasting impact long after camp has ended.



“ My child is Autistic and the camp was a very good exposure to helping develop his total child growth and abilities. There is no way I could afford to send my son to a summer camp so without Orchards help, he would not be able to attend summer camp. ”

“ Wow, firstly my child is still talking about camp and it has been over a month. She loved it, it really helped her confidence and attachment to me. She also does not fear heights as much! ”

“ They both loved it! The camp activities got high praise and they both can't go back again. ”

Our Doris and Irving Goldman Play Center was able to be transformed to create a warm, safe and welcoming space for the children we serve thanks to the Klein and Kasdan families. Because of their incredible kindness, foster children now have a bright, engaging environment where they can play, relax, and simply be kids while waiting for visits with their birth families. These can be moments that can often bring both excitement and uncertainty for children, so having a comfortable space for them to relax and have fun takes away some of the stress of the moment. This newly renovated space offers comfort, stability, and a peaceful place during an important part of their journey, reminding every child who enters that they are cared for and valued. Their generosity has created more than a playroom; it has created a place of reassurance, connection, and healing.

## Klein & Kasdan Family



Our clothing corner for families received a much needed refresh through Ford Philanthropy. This grant allowed Orchards to update our existing space to provide a safe, welcoming, and personal area for children and families to find gently used and new clothing. When the children we serve first come into foster care, they often only have the clothes they are wearing. The clothing corner refresh allowed us to welcome children and their caregivers into a space where they can easily identify clothing and necessities, try things on, and have a supported and dignified shopping experience. Volunteers assembled and installed equipment, such as clothing racks and shelving units, and added decorations such as wall decals. They also helped to restock the space with clothing, ensuring everything was neatly displayed and accessible.

## Ford Philanthropy



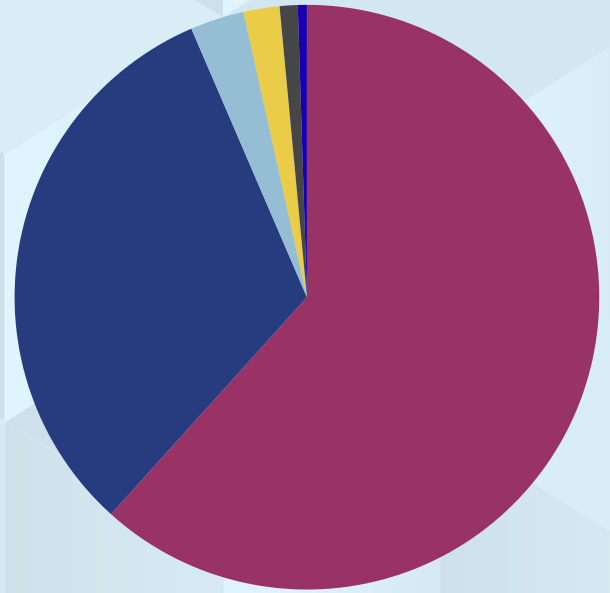
# Financials

Fiscal Year 2025 (Oct 2024-Sep 2025)

## Revenue

Family Preservation	\$16,797,143	62%
Placement Services	\$8,575,940	32%
Clinical	\$750,324	3%
Fundraising	\$482,729	2%
Community Programs	\$294,039	1%
Education Services	\$16,797	0%

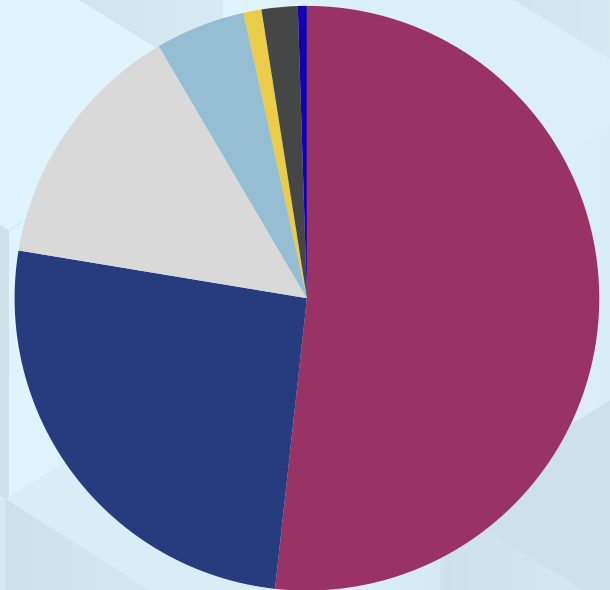
**Total Revenue**  
**\$26,916,973**



## Expenses

Family Preservation	\$13,520,301	52%
Placement Services	\$6,813,361	26%
Management	\$3,761,163	14%
Clinical	\$1,249,772	5%
Fundraising	\$320,629	1%
Community Programs	\$410,196	2%
Education Services	\$38,787	0%

**Total Expenses**  
**\$26,114,208**



# Looking Forward

As we look ahead to 2026, our focus remains on strengthening communities through quality services to children and families. We remain committed to meeting the needs of the families we serve, expanding our impact in the community, and continuing to provide meaningful experiences for children. Some of our key goals for the year include:

- Identifying and supporting the needs of children and families to help ensure their success and stability in each of our programs.
- Building awareness of our mission in the community, to ensure as many families as possible can receive support from Orchards.
- Supporting children through enriching camp experiences, giving them opportunities for growth, fun, and connection.
- Exploring new ways to engage with our community, creating opportunities for partnership, volunteerism, and collective impact.
- Hosting another successful Gerald L. Levin Champions for Children fundraising event, which will be Thursday, April 30, 2026 at the Henry Ford Museum.
- Hosting our inaugural Open House celebration on July 24<sup>th</sup>, to honor and support our Promise Scholars and other graduates.

Together, we can make this a year of growth, hope, and lasting impact for children and families in our care.

**Every Family Deserves a Future That Shines.**

# Thank you for your support!

## Over \$100,000

Toys For Tots

## \$50,000-\$99,999

Flinn Foundation  
The Pathways  
Foundation

## \$25,000-\$49,999

Big Family of Michigan  
Enterprise Holdings  
Foundation  
Kasdan Family  
Foundation  
Klein Goldman Family  
Foundation

## \$10,000-\$24,999

AlixPartners  
Aptive Foundation  
Joan Binkow  
Brown & Brown of  
Detroit, Inc.  
Ford Motor Company  
General Motors  
Jack, Evelyn & Richard  
Cole Family Foundation  
K Squared Foundation  
Kroger

Magna International  
National Council of  
Jewish Women |  
Michigan

Francis & Elaina Lusko  
Food Gatherers

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Drew Besonson  
Katherine & Matthew  
Daugherty  
Sandra Edwards  
Frances & David  
Grossman  
Anessa & David Kramer  
Nicole & Robert Lawson  
Jo Elyn & George  
Nyman  
Jonathan Reiner  
Ryder  
SchoolPictures.com

## \$2,500-\$4,999

AIAG  
Lynette and Kendrick  
Adkins  
Assured Partners of  
Michigan  
Black Family  
Development Inc.  
Children's Foundation  
DTE Energy

Eisenberg Family  
Foundation

LaKeisha Florence  
Foster Love  
Vanessa & Daniel  
Fremer

Barbara & Fred  
Goldberg

Jockey Being Family  
Foundation LTD  
Geoff Kretchmer & Jody  
Lipton

Randie Levin  
Jennifer & Mark  
LoPatin

Narens Family  
Foundation

Arlene & Eric  
Oppenheim

Sammy Family  
Sigmund & Sophie  
Rohlik Foundation

Sharon & Andrew  
Spilkin

Laurene & David  
Wathen



Kaniqua & Stefen Welch  
Madison Wilson  
Woods Construction

\$1,000-\$2,499

Sandy & Michael Adkins  
Austin Benefits Group  
Savannah Berning  
Leslie Carroll-Michals  
Krystn Clark  
Katora & Rodney Cole  
Comerica IAM Team  
Carmine DeVivo &  
Stephanie Smith  
Ferndale First United  
Methodist  
Lisa & Paul Finger  
Judy Floyd  
Fostering Futures  
Scholarship Trust Fund  
Employees of Gallagher-  
Kaiser Corporation  
Darryl & Mylitta Gardner  
Robert George  
Tom J. Goldberg  
Tara & Jay Hack  
Judy & Michael  
Harrington  
Hoodies For The  
Homeless  
Linda & Arnold Jacob  
Connie Jacob  
Carol & Mitchell Klein  
Jackie & Lawrence Kraft  
Zina Kramer

Troy & Shelley Kulick  
Kresge Foundation  
Foundation  
Robert Sloan  
Lee & Maxine Peck  
Foundation  
Sally Jo & H. Barry Levine  
Mary Beth & Richard  
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Michael J. Morse, P.C.  
Michigan First  
Pam Miglione  
Mihalich Charitable  
Foundation  
Matthew Miller  
Janet & Joseph Moravec  
Muchmore Harrington  
Smalley & Associates,  
LLC  
Lea & William Narens  
Janet Nawrocki  
Michael Newhall  
Noreen Owens  
Photography  
Oakland University  
Old National  
Victoria & David Orleans  
Marcie & Robert Orley  
Robyn & Dale Rands  
Martha & Robert Sachs  
Walter Schwartz  
Spectrum Child & Family  
Services  
Spectrum Human  
Services, Inc  
Telemus Capital  
Partners, LLC

Union Grace Church  
Rosa Thomas  
Tom & Sarah Borman  
Foundation  
Total Quality Logistics  
Marianne VanWulfen  
Maddison Zych



## How can you continue to support Orchards?

- Participate in our Open House for graduating youth on July 24th, 2026
- Sponsor a Family for our annual toy drive
- Donate food items during our holiday food drive

**We are Orchards.**



### Administrative Headquarters

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