



Annual Report  
2013-2014

# GUIDING LIFE through the 7 principles

Reality

Responsibility

Respect

Communication

Negotiation

Education

Love



## LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends,

We've had a wonderful year together! Your support has meant the world to us as we work to advance the mission of "Helping Children to be Victors." Education remains a key principle here at Wolverine, and we are proud of our 16 high school graduates and 13 GED recipients.

Our partnership with the Beck Institute is continuing to move forward, which will allow us to continue to set the standard for quality of care in juvenile justice treatment. Finally, we saw the creation of 60 forever families through finalized adoptions!

I invite you to explore this year's Annual Report and learn more about our wonderful families and staff, how we're growing and being challenged, and how we seek to share our stories with you. You'll see numerous examples of how supporters like you have made a major difference in "Helping Children to be Victors."

Thank you,

Judith Fischer Wollack, LMSW, ACSW

Chief Executive Officer



Reality •  
Responsibility  
Respect •  
Communication •  
Negotiation •  
Education •  
Love •



*The WHS Board of Trustees is excited to welcome two new members of our team, Ritchie Piert and Christopher Flores! These gentlemen each bring a wealth of knowledge to the WHS team, and we look forward to many years of working together in "Helping Children to be Victors."*

**RITCHIE G. PIERT, Sr.**, is a 17-year veteran of the entertainment industry as a producer, associate director, and co-founder of Marjin Group, LLC.

He has worked on hundreds of projects ranging from web series, to live to tape, to music videos, to feature films, to commercials in both the film and video entertainment industry. Ritchie has also served as Head of Production for the YouTube channel "The Comedy Shaq" and co-produced Kevin Hart's theatrically released "Let me Explain."

He has worked with such production companies as Working Title, Anonymous Content, HSI, Mars Media, as well as Hart Beat Productions, Codeblack, and Lionsgate.

**CHRISTOPHER J. FLORES** is currently the V.P. for Business Development with the Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center. Some of his accomplishments include the founding of Community Recovery Services and Executive Director of Insight Recovery Centers. He has a Paralegal Certificate from the Adelphi University and has extensive training in board governance, having completed the Michigan Health and Hospital Association Excellence in Governance Fellowship in 2009.

Mr. Flores is quite active in community affairs at the State and Federal levels. He is the current chair of the Genesee Chamber of Commerce Global Action Team, Flint Institute of Arts Board Member, and Hurley Medical Center Board of Managers and representative to the MSU School of Research to name a few.

In 2008, Flores was appointed by the Governor of Michigan to serve on the Michigan State Board of Psychology (2008-2011). He is currently serving as Chair of the Quality Management & Accreditation Committee.



Ritchie Piert



Chris Flores

The Board of Trustees at **Wolverine Human Services** wishes to express our deepest thanks for the continued support of "Helping Children to be Victors."

We've been thrilled to see the changes and growth of Wolverine Human Services throughout the past year, and are honored by the commitment and generosity shown by our supporters.

We want to take this opportunity to introduce two new members of our team, Ritchie Piert and Chris Flores, who are giving their valuable time and expertise to advancing the mission of "Helping Children to be Victors."

We want to express our thanks to each and every donor, and express our excitement to continue many years together as we work to support the most vulnerable children and families of Michigan. Thank you,

**Bruce A. Kintz** - Chairman  
**Robert E. Wollack** - Second Vice-Chairman  
**Jerry Meter** - Treasurer  
**James Libs** - Secretary  
**John Wangler** - Trustee  
**Karen Paciorek, Ph.D.** - Trustee  
**Vince Brennan** - Trustee  
**Marty Daly** - Trustee  
**Chris Flores** - Trustee  
**Ritchie Piert** - Trustee

“ I love working with our employees, and I love the experience and the challenges that this work creates. But more importantly, I love the opportunity to witness a child’s life becoming whole again. ”

## TALKING WITH TOM: LOVE



Thomas Krolicki

I have had the pleasure of working with Wolverine Human Services for over 25 years. In today’s world that may seem strange to hear, especially as job markets change and people move from state to state, switch professions, reinvent themselves, and aspire for the next best thing.

Frankly, there is only one reason why I stay: Love.

At Wolverine Human Services, we have a rich history of providing care to those in need. In doing so, we utilize seven guiding principles as the foundation

of our relationships with our children and families. **The seven guiding principles are: Reality, Responsibility, Respect, Communication, Negotiation, Education, and Love.**

And yes...Love has always been my favorite principle.

This is why: I love the WHS mission, I love working with our employees, and I love the experience and the challenges that this work creates. But more importantly, I love the opportunity to witness a child’s life becoming whole again.

Working at a job for over 25 years may seem like forever- especially to those to who are just starting their professional journey. But it really it isn’t. “Forever” is a word that should be utilized for something more powerful. Forever is commitment - Forever is for love - and Forever should stand for Family.

We have beautiful children throughout Michigan that need love and support. Please consider supporting these children by becoming an adoptive or foster parent, or learning more about how you can contribute resources to help children in their journey to finding a Forever Family.

Contact us at [providecare@wolverinehs.org](mailto:providecare@wolverinehs.org) or (888) 625-8669

Thomas Krolicki, LMSW, ACSW, CAADC, is Vice President of Development and Community Based Programs at Wolverine Human Services. He has over 28 years of administrative and clinical service experience with a special focus in policy and program development, legislative action, and advocacy for children and families involved with Michigan’s Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Mental Health Systems. Tom is also highly invested in the development of new social workers and is a field placement advisor with several Universities and Colleges.

**GUIDING LIFE**  
through the 7 principles  
[www.wolverinehs.org](http://www.wolverinehs.org)

# UNACCOMPANIED Minors Update

You may have seen us in the news last summer--we received a lot of press coverage about our willingness to care for unaccompanied minors from Central America.

During the summer of 2014, over 10,000 of these children traveled alone over 500 miles to escape the violence, poverty, and danger of their home countries in Central and South America. Many of these children qualify for UN-sanctioned child refugee status and the increased numbers created an overload in US housing facilities.



Wolverine Human Services has a firm resolve to help any child in need. We built relationships with Hispanic partner agencies, governmental entities, and social service providers, and prepared to open our doors to welcome between 60-120 child refugees.

Before receiving an official contract, Mexico began stopping these children from crossing their southern border, which dramatically reduced number of children entering the United States. As a result, services are no longer needed, and pre-existing housing facilities are now able to adequately provide services for the children.

WHS is always willing to respond to any humanitarian crisis to which we can provide relief for children in need.

## WHS Moving Forward with the Beck Institute and University of Indiana



Wolverine Human Services (WHS) continues to move forward in our 5 year plan to become the first and only residential juvenile justice agency accredited in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)! On March 9th we will launch into the staff development phase of CBT training, in partnership with the Beck Institute and the University of Indiana.

During the training phase, all staff will be introduced to the concepts of CBT, principles of behaviorisms, as well as general competencies. The team will also focus on assertiveness training and first responder techniques for our program leaders and mid-level managers. This will get us underway with concrete intervention and supportive treatment tools to enhance our service delivery.

Finally, we will develop a data collection strategy to monitor our progress and lessons learned, so that we can remain true to our commitment of providing the highest quality of evidence-based services to our clients.

“ On March 9th we will launch into the staff development phase of CBT training, in partnership with the Beck Institute and the University of Indiana. ”



## CELEBRATING

### "LAST CHANCE" GOLF OUTING

We love the Annual Award Banquet and the "Last Chance" Golf Outing!! Both are wonderful times to celebrate with our supporters, staff, and clients. Check out the pictures, maybe you'll spot yourself!

We're always working to add quality experiences for our event-goers! If you are interested in learning more about our events, please contact [DevelopmentDept@wolverinehs.org](mailto:DevelopmentDept@wolverinehs.org)!





# CELEBRATING

## ANNUAL AWARD BANQUET



# GUIDING LIFE

through the 7 principles

RECOVERY SURVIVAL AND RECOVERY  
 THE WHS YOUTH  
 ARE YOUTH  
 PEOPLE UPLOAD  
 STORIES TO SHARE OF COURAGE  
 SURVIVAL AND RECOVERY  
 STORIES TO SHARE OF COURAGE  
 RECOVERY  
 COURAGE SURVIVAL AND RECOVERY

By **Katrina Brock**, LMSW, CAADC, CCS,  
 Director of Clinical and Quality Services

**GIVING VOICE  
 to YOUNG  
 PEOPLE**

- Giving Voice to Young People with stories to share of courage, survival and recovery;
- Debunking and demystifying stigma about our clients.
- Allowing healing and learning through story-telling and creative expression.
- Continuing the human connection of resiliency and healing.

I will admit that nothing is more frustrating than stopping at a local store or gas station when proudly wearing my WHS I.D. badge and having a community member say...“OH—You work with those bad kids!” My response is always a look of wide-eyed amazement. “No. We work with those amazing and courageous kids!”

When I consider this oft repeated banter, it occurred to me that the level and nature of the misunderstanding our community friends may harbor about our population of young people. So, we decided to try to do something about that misconception. WHS has created a venue on our website called: **The Youth Upload**.

The **WHS Youth Upload** provides our clients and their families with opportunity and venue to share recovery-oriented stories of healing and overcoming adversity. We are encouraging our clients to share their work on our WHS website. Our goal is to help our larger community understand the amazing and courageous clients we are honored to work with at WHS.

We invite you to visit [www.wolverinehs.org](http://www.wolverinehs.org) to check out the poetry, art, positive/ motivational raps, recovery stories, education based articles, and research related to the human journey, recovery, and healing.



- Reality • Responsibility • Respect •
- Communication • Negotiation •
- Education • Love •



## Justin Found his FOREVER FAMILY in the Richardsons

Justin and his five siblings were removed from an abusive home in 2010. The children entered foster care, and like so many siblings groups, were placed in separate homes.

Unfortunately, Justin's first foster home was not a resting place for him. The family asked for his removal, due to some of Justin's behaviors that they felt were inappropriate. The lack of stability in Justin's life had him constantly on the move, from house to house with new strangers to meet.

It was among these strangers that Justin found his forever family in the Richardsons. "Family" is not

defined as the DNA that runs through you, but by the people who love you for who you are and who are willing to do absolutely anything for you. DNA did not bond Justin to his foster family, but love did.

When we see Justin with his forever family, we see the potential that adoption has to give a child a new chance.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can be a hero to a foster or adoptive child like Justin, please call (888) 625-8669 or email [providecare@wolverinehs.org](mailto:providecare@wolverinehs.org).

*“ When we see Justin with his forever family, we see the potential that adoption has to give a child a new chance. ”*

# Wolverine Human Services 2014 Financial Statement

## REVENUES

<b>Government:</b>	\$25,128,823.00
<b>Other:</b>	\$621,014.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,749,837.00</b>

## EXPENSES

**Supervision and Treatment:** \$17,605,820.00  
MAS (Salaries + Benefits + Payroll Taxes +  
PF (Gen Personell; Gen Pers WC; GW Psych Exp;  
FC Ref Fee) + Emp Contrib)

**Supplies:** \$1,343,309.00

**Communication:** \$375,017.00

**Facilities and Equipment:** \$1,534,636.00

**Transportation:** \$592,612.00

**Specific Assistance:** \$627,608.00

**Other Operational:** \$829,122.00

**Depreciation:** \$1,074,230.00

**Interest:** \$987,272.00

**Total** **\$24,957,602.00**

**Revenues Over/Under  
Expenses:** \$780,211.00



## LOVING OUT LOUD: *THE STANLEY/SMITH FAMILY*

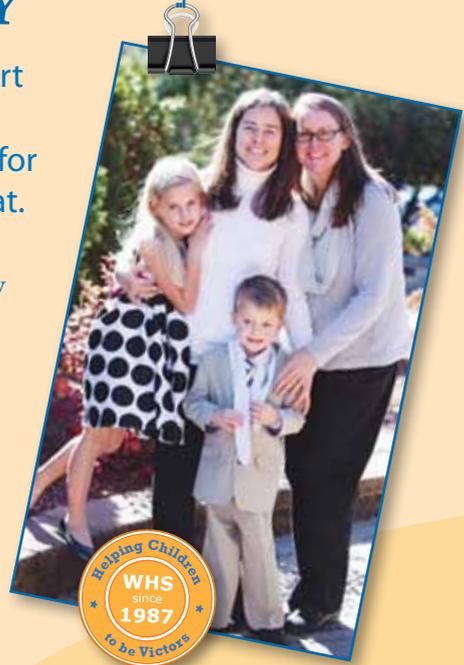
Being a family means you are a part of something very wonderful. It means you will love and be loved for the rest of your life, no matter what.

Greyson was a toddler when he met Ms. Stanley, Ms. Smith, and their daughter Alex. He had a very sweet demeanor that was easy to love, but it was falling in love with his not-so-sweet behaviors that set Ms. Stanley and Ms. Smith apart as truly patient, kind, and generous caregivers. They worked diligently to prove to Greyson that he was part of their family, no matter what.

The Stanley/Smith's have faced unique challenges because of being a two-mom family—but they have never let this stop them from building a beautiful life and loving home. They have spent the past 8 years blending their families together to become one strong unit, based on unconditional love, patience, understanding, support, tolerance and acceptance.

Our team at Wolverine Human Services proudly welcomes LGBTQ families. We believe that love creates a family, and our goal is to see the children in our care placed with loving, stable and strong forever families of all shapes and sizes.

If you've ever thought about opening your home to a child, please call (888) 625-8669.



“Wolverine Human Services proudly welcomes LGBTQ families. We believe that love creates a family, and our goal is to see the children in our care placed with loving, stable and strong forever families of all shapes and sizes.”



+



## WHS raised just under \$50,000 through online fundraising via the Rise Detroit campaign set up by our partners at Crowdrise.

Rise Detroit. Did you hear about it? Maybe you read about it? You probably got an email from us? Or saw our Facebook posts? Or maybe you totally missed it, which is ok, but not cool.

So, here is what happened. Wolverine raised just under \$50,000 through online fundraising via the Rise Detroit campaign set up by our partners at Crowdrise. Through the six-week campaign, we participated in a bunch of crazy challenges and raised tons of money. We even got to play Rock, Paper, Scissors for \$3,000. Don't worry, we threw Scissors and we WON (I mean we are helping

children to be victors, so we better be the Victors at Rock Paper Scissors, it only makes sense)!!!

Now, what are we going to do with all that money??? We already used some of it. We're talking about holiday presents for over 400 kids.

The rest of it? Yeah, that's going toward our land renovation project on Detroit's east side. It makes sense, right? The challenge was called "Rise Detroit," and we believe in the D!

**Want to help our project? Donate at [www.wolverinehs.org](http://www.wolverinehs.org)**

## Fresh Era Detroit

Wolverine is excited to announce the creation of the Fresh Era Board.

The Fresh Era Board is currently comprised of a Young Professionals Board founded by Wolverine's Development Department. The Fresh Era is currently comprised of 12 individuals in their twenties and thirties that are striving for success in their professional careers and personal lives. Each member serves a two-year term, with 10 new members joining every year. So, on average there will be twenty Fresh Era board members at any given time.

The inaugural board is a diverse and driven group: from

college and med-school students, to professional athletes, foster parents, city employees, public figures, apparel designers, elite business professionals, and everything in between.

In the inaugural year, the board will create a logo, website, mission, rules and procedures, and execute multiple events to benefit Detroit, Wolverine and our Youth. Most notably, they will take the lead in our Detroit Land Renovation project.

## 2014 Media Spotlight Finally Get's the Job Done!

Did you see our cameo on *Fox 2 News Detroit* last summer? Amy Lange, Fox 2 News Reporter visited the Wolverine Center, our Detroit residential facility, to cover the story of the abandoned house next door. When I say, "next door," I mean about 10 feet away!

This house has been a danger to the 30-40 kids who live at Wolverine Center and the staff who work there. It was abandoned and unmonitored- we didn't know what was going on in there after dark, and we didn't want our kids to find out!

We've been working to get it removed for many years, but it wasn't until Mayor Mike Duggan's blight removal efforts went into full force that we started getting our phone calls returned. Steadily, we made progress on removing the house...and we are happy to announce that it has FINALLY been demolished!!



Our team has been providing high-quality care for children and youth for over 27 years.

We personalize each treatment plan to fit the needs of the child. Our caring and qualified staff are licensed therapists specializing in the needs of children and youth.

We have onsite medical, dental, and educational facilities to ensure that your child's health and educational needs are met. Our 135-acre campus includes an indoor weight room, gymnasium, outdoor football, basketball, volleyball and baseball facilities, wilderness trails, as well as gardening and agricultural opportunities.

[www.wolverinehs.org](http://www.wolverinehs.org)

# 2014 Wolverine Human Services Supporters

*Thank You!*

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*Thank You!*

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We are excited to announce the  
**Piggy Bank Project!**

**100%** OF FUNDS go directly  
towards the children and families of  
**Wolverine Human Services.**

Check out

[www.wolverinehs.org/PiggyBankProject](http://www.wolverinehs.org/PiggyBankProject) to learn more!



15100 Mack Avenue  
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