OUR MISSION:

“TO HELP EVERY YOUTH FEEL SAFE, HAVE A SENSE OF BELONGING, AND FIND A PLACE TO CALL HOME.”
Fiscal 2018 was a year of change for Youth Homes—change in organizational leadership, change in the funding environment, and change in the views at the governmental level of how best to provide services to our youth and their families. Through these changes, Youth Homes has continued to do what it has done for nearly 50 years: provide critical services to youth and their families in our communities to give them a fair chance to develop to the best of their abilities.

Youth Homes’ organizational culture has allowed it to be agile in this ever-changing environment. The staff has continued to rise above challenges because they believe in the necessity of our mission. Taking cues from the youth they serve, they have shown great resiliency. They continue to build authentic relationships not only with the youth and their families, but with co-workers, and with other community partners.

Youth Homes is not alone in this work. We operate in generous communities that are willing to help youth become healthy, productive adults. Our donors continue to give their time and resources to allow us to continue fulfilling our mission to help every youth feel safe, have a sense of belonging and find a place to call home. For this I thank each of you.
It was in 1971 with the opening of the Missoula District Youth Guidance Home, a 7-bed group home for boys, that the foundation of Youth Homes was set. Since its inception nearly 50 years ago, Youth Homes has consistently stepped up to help our community’s most vulnerable youth and families. Today, Youth Homes operates a broad array of services to support children and families throughout Western Montana, providing a lifeline for youth who have experienced severe trauma, and support to help families heal.

2018 was a challenging year for Youth Homes. While demand for services remained high, reductions in Medicaid reimbursement threatened to impact many of the services we provide. As with the many challenges the organization has faced over its storied history, the collective effort of generous donors, community partners, the governing board of directors, and dedicated staff, ensured that we were able to continue to provide high quality services, and to achieve positive outcomes for children and families in need.

As Youth Homes’ newly appointed Executive Director, I am honored to be given the opportunity to lead an agency I have admired for years. Working with Montana’s most experienced and committed professional team, I am reminded daily of why Youth Homes is so highly regarded, and why the work we do is so essential to this community. While 2019 will likely present more challenges, Youth Homes will continue to evolve and adapt to fulfil our mission on behalf of those we serve, as it has through nearly five decades.

Warmest Regards,

Elmer C. “Skip” Rosenthal
SENIOR STAFF

Elmer C. “Skip” Rosenthal, MA
Executive Director

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Director of Residential Services

Barbara Cowan, MSW
Director of Operations,
Partnership for Children

Dann Swallow
Chief Financial Officer

Erin Williams, LCPC
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Patrick Corrick & Larry Flanagan
Youth Homes is based in Missoula, but has local operations in Polson, Kalispell, Hamilton and Helena. We care for children who are facing abuse, neglect, emotional trauma and substance abuse problems.

Through our emergency shelters, therapeutic group homes, foster care & adoption programs, and counseling services, we provide a safe refuge for these youngsters while they begin the difficult process of healing. We offer an environment that supports healing in a community-based setting. We give these children and their families the chance to stop their cycle of unhealthy relationships.

Since 1971, we have cared for more than 12,000 children and their families in Western Montana, but have never lost sight of the importance of making a difference for one.
Corey came to the Flathead Youth home when Child and Family Services discovered her living with her mother in unsafe conditions in a motel room. They lost their home when Corey’s mother lost her job and could no longer pay her rent. Despite the living conditions, the instability, and her mother’s struggles with alcohol abuse, Corey loved her mother and was devastated by the separation. Her mother was devastated too, and was determined to get her daughter back. Over the next several months, she got sober, found a job, and obtained stable housing. Meanwhile, Corey had a safe place to stay and a loving staff at the Flathead Youth Home to help see her through this difficult time. When she was reunited with her mother, they were both ready to create a brighter future together.

Shelter Care in FY 2018

- the average stay was 32 days
- 86% of youth improved in school
- we served 252 teens in crisis
Sam and Evan were bounced around from one unhealthy family member to another after a car accident caused by their mother’s methamphetamine use. Eventually the State placed them in a foster family, but that arrangement did not last long because the family was not prepared for the boys’ high emotional needs. Following a stay in one of our therapeutic group homes, they were placed with a family trained and licensed for therapeutic foster care by the Dan Fox Family Care Program. With ongoing support from Dan Fox, the family was able to address the boys’ emotional needs and provide the stability needed to allow them to begin to heal from their childhood abuse and neglect. A year later the family adopted the boys. Today they are continuing to build healthy relationships with each other and their adoptive family and are gaining greater stability and normalcy in their lives.

Family Care in FY 2018

5 local children were adopted

staff completed 1,508 home visits

15 local children were matched to foster families
**FY 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**SOURCE OF FUNDS - $6,180,863**
*Total Annual Operating Income*

- Fees for Services - $3,926,511
- Donations - $1,114,491
- Public Grants & Contracts - $747,188
- Miscellaneous - $392,673
  *Includes Dividends & Interest, Realized & Unrealized Gain on Assets, & Partnership for Children Reimbursement*

**ASSETS - $5,284,506**
*Total Assets*

- Property, Plant & Equipment - $2,234,431
- Investments - $1,684,687
- Cash & Equivalent - $586,712
- Accounts Receivable - $406,412
- Endowment - $336,844
  *$35,420 (1%) of ‘Other’ Total Assets is not included in this graphic*

**USE OF FUNDS - $5,991,601**
*Total Annual Operating Expenses*

- Program Services & Support - $5,139,128
- Administration - $559,722
- Fundraising - $292,751
Shannone Hart rejoined our board in 2018. She previously served on our board from 2006 to 2013 and was Board President in 2010 and 2011. She is a Registered Client Associate at UBS Financial Services. She has graciously volunteered over the years for numerous Montana charities and organizations. Shannone is passionate about helping children and believes that Youth Homes serves an important need in Montana.

Maegan Rides At The Door serves as the Director of the National Native Children’s Trauma Center at the University of Montana. She is an enrolled member of the Fort Peck Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes and a descendent of the Absentee Shawnee Shawnee Tribe. As a previous employee and volunteer, Maegan looks forward to ensuring Youth Homes provides culturally sensitive and trauma-informed services to children and families.
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