



CornerHouse

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

From the desk of our Executive Director



Greetings everyone –

I am filled with enormous gratitude for the innovation and dedication of our CornerHouse team of staff, partners, interns, donors, and volunteers. We have emerged from the worldwide pandemic and civil uprising a stronger, more robust organization with new service lines and expanded programming covering more territory than ever before.

Over the last year, our therapy team was able to develop a mental health clinic. We've offered therapy for a number of years; however, after completing the credentialing process, we are now a recognized provider across insurance carriers. Not only is this an incredible accomplishment, but our team also developed tele-health services. These services were not only crucial for helping children and families over the last year, but now allow us to serve families from any geography – including those in more rural areas – as we build up our staff. We have also been able to expand our services to adolescents and increase the number of clinicians who offer trauma-informed therapy in Spanish and Russian. We remain dedicated to contributing to equitable health access for children and families.

Our multidisciplinary response team- comprised of forensic interviewers, child & family advocates, and forensic specialists, along with our partners - has gone above and beyond traditional service delivery over the last year to ensure essential services were available for families. Offering forensic interviews and family support that starts with accompanying caregivers while children are being interviewed, is so much more complicated than imagined. When you add in small spaces, the need for interpreters, transportation challenges, reliance on technology practices never-before considered, and continued service within a troubled and grieving city, it was amazing that they were able to support over 400 families.

Despite the feverish need to find solutions for our daily operations, this team never wavered from the importance of using a trauma-informed approach, nor was there any compromise to our protocol, and built a team that is stronger than ever. They created remote family support sessions, expanded internships, developed remote practices for providers and multidisciplinary team partners, reworked our spaces to keep families safe, and explored pathways for interviewing more people over 18 who disclose abuse. As CornerHouse continues to grow, these accomplishments serve as a roadmap for scaling and integrating our work. CornerHouse's training team was nothing short of superb themselves. About a month before the pandemic, I said to the team "Wouldn't it be great if we could offer our training virtually?" Needless to say, my comment was followed by justified laughter. Yet within three months of lockdown, our amazing team transformed our training. CornerHouse has been a premier training institution offering forensic interviewing and first responder trainings for decades. We've secured that premier status by being a contributing member of the field, by asking our forensic interviewers to serve as trainers, and through the content and expertise we include in our trainings. However, that premier status also means that our trainings include comprehensive activities and practicum role plays with actors, which are complicated to transition into a meaningful, virtual experiences – yet they managed to make it happen. We hope to create a range of workshops with topics across program areas, lengthen our forensic interviewing pathway for continued and advanced learning, expand our Collecting Minimal Facts training as the number of mandated reporters increases, and offer prevention training for families and communities.

These are by themselves incredible accomplishments - but that's not all. When you consider that our staff were able to grow and adapt our programming, in addition to providing care to children and families, and undergoing layers of traumatic situations through the pain and grief of 2020 - it is truly remarkable. Our Board of Directors and I are forever grateful and in awe of all they have given.

Despite all of our work in 2020, we know that incidents of abuse, and potentially the severity of abuse, may have occurred at unprecedented rates over this last year. And we feel an obligation to be available to all of the children, adolescents, and vulnerable adults who need us. We know that these children and families need to rely on services that are trauma-informed and culturally responsive. This year was transformative in pushing CornerHouse and the Child Advocacy field to reflect on both our internal practices and the intersection of our services with larger systems to assure that we adhere to trauma-informed and anti-racist care. We know there is so much more work to do and are committed to centering cultural responsiveness in every aspect of our work.

With appreciation,

Mitzi Hobot, MPA, MBA Executive Director



A YEAR OF

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The COVID-19 pandemic meant changes in how CornerHouse reaches its clients. We knew that the lockdown would further exacerbate the issue of child abuse. We innovated our service delivery to ensure we could serve every child who needs us throughout the pandemic.

In 2020 we:

- Established a mental health clinic
- Developed tele-mental health and teleadvocacy services
- Transitioned our forensic interviewing and abuse response services to be COVID safe
- Moved our training services online
- Established a Cultural Responsiveness Committee and launched a staff-wide effort to address racial equity internally and externally
- Provided expanded virtual prevention, awareness, and fundraising opportunities

In 2021 we are:

- Completing our strategic plan, with cultural responsiveness at the center of our work
- Transforming to a trauma-informed center
- Developing outcomes to assure our practices are supporting children's healing
- Working to provide vicarious trauma resources for staff and partners who are exposed to traumatic experiences of clients

2020

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MULTIDISCIPLINARY DIVISION

This team of professionals includes Forensic Specialists, Advocates, and Forensic Interviewers who work collaboratively with each other along with law enforcement and child protection investigators, medical experts, and prosecutors to respond to children, adolescents, and vulnerable adults who have disclosed abuse.

Our team facilitates the forensic interview process that seeks factual information about the allegation in a developmentally appropriate, person-centered, trauma-informed manner.

Simultaneously, our team provides support for non-offending caregivers and walks them through next steps whether that be an investigation, a medical exam, etc. and offers them safety planning, follow-up services, legal systems navigation, mental health, and community-based referrals.

In 2020, we provided:

- 437 forensic interviews
- Of the 437 interview sessions, 299 children were accompanied by a caregiver who was offered support while their loved one was interviewed.
- Our forensic services team took 445 intakes, provided 91 rides, coordinated 273 interpreters, and fielded 221 subpoenas/information requests.
- Advocates provided 299 interview accompaniments, 170 community calls, made 1,616 follow-up contacts, provided 144 law enforcement & CPS accompaniments, provided case management to 36 caregivers and provided legal systems navigation to 37 clients.
- In 2021, we began integrating trauma screenings as part of our response services.



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5 MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Our clinicians offer diagnostic assessments, individual therapy, curriculum-based group therapy, and caregiver support in both English and Spanish. Each professional is trained in evidence-supported and evidence-based modalities to help children, adolescents, and caregivers impacted by sexual abuse to heal. Services are offered in person and via telemental health to allow for greater accessibility.

In 2020, we provided:

- 2,056 intakes, diagnostic assessments, individual therapy sessions, and caregiver sessions for 114 clients
- 41 group therapy sessions for 31 children, adolescents, and caregivers
- In early 2021, CornerHouse officially become a recognized mental health provider for public and private insurance agencies.

TRAINING DIVISION

CornerHouse has been a formative contributor in the field of forensic interviewing with the development of the CornerHouse Forensic Interview Protocol[™]. Our experience and expertise are offered through practicum-based trainings that guide professionals across the globe on best practices in responding to children, youth, or vulnerable adults disclosing abuse, training professionals to listen in a person-centered, developmentally appropriate way.

Despite continued interest and requests for additional trainings, due to the challenges of the pandemic, we were unable to provide our Vulnerable Adult or Advanced Forensic Interview Trainings in 2020.

In 2020, we provided:

- 151 professionals with CornerHouse Basic Forensic Interview Training
- 21 mandated reporters with Collecting Minimal Facts Training
- 18 hours of direct technical support
- 10 professional and community-based trainings
- CornerHouse is evolving into a training institution that shares expertise in a wide range of topics involving trauma care for families and professionals along with community-based prevention.

6 MISSION MOMENT STRONG, BRAVE, FULL OF FIRE

CornerHouse runs a support group for young children and caregivers that help victims and their families process trauma. During an intake assessment for a child joining the support group, their teenage sibling asked us,



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We previously had not had the capacity to run a teen support group, but because it was a priority for our clients, it was a priority for CornerHouse.

With the support provided by our incredible donors, in 2020 we were able to develop the curriculum and run CornerHouse's first-ever Adolescent Support Group. The 12week group took place via telehealth during the pandemic.

Our first group happened to include all female-identifying clients. At the end of the 12 weeks, each girl received this shirt to commemorate their strength and courage throughout their healing journey.

7 MISSION GIVERS

\$50,000 and above

- Dorsey & Whitney LLP
- Emma B. Howe Memorial Foundation
- Otto Bremer Trust
- The Medica Foundation, multi-year
- The Sauer Family Foundation, multi-year

\$10,000 - \$19,000

Anonymous Donors

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- Frank Dutke
- John E. and Janet C. Desmond Foundation
- The GHR Foundation
- The Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation
- Minnesota Children's Alliance

\$20,000 - \$49,999

- Anonymous Donor
- Anonymous Donors
- Children's Minnesota

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Hennepin County Bar Foundation
- Margaret H. and James E. Kelley Foundation
- Mary Lynn & Warren Staley
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- Al & Audrey Gerhardt
- Bonnie & Stan Jorgenson
- C. Skye Cook
- Creme de la Creme
- Deann Weis
- Dianne Austgen
- Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
- Heather Grazzini-Sims
- Jan Callison
- Jason Francisco
- Jeffory Southard
- John & Carrie Sandgren
- Justin Koch
- Karen Melby

- Keith Beneke
- Kelly & Troy Bengston
- Lisa Cotter
- Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies
- Mark & Angelique Anthony
- Mary Nelson
- Michael Ruetz
- Michael & Shelly Hanson
- Minnetonka United Methodist Church
- Nick Frattalone
- Steven E. Anderson & Associates
- Drs. Sumanth & Jennifer Ambur
- Tracy Alba

CORNERHOUSE CHAMPIONS

Amidst the uncertainty of 2020 and cancelation of our major fundraising events, these incredible companies stepped up to sponsor CornerHouse. Because of them, we were able to provide essential abuse response and advocacy services. Thank you to our CornerHouse Champions!

\$5,000 and above

• Allina Health

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- API Group, Inc.
- Frattalone Companies
- Hunt Electric Corporation
- Kraus-Anderson Construction
- MedCraft Healthcare Real Estate
- Metropolitan Mechanical Contractors
- NorthMarq Capital
- Wells Concrete

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Carciofini

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- Custom Drywall, Inc.
- Gresser Companies, Inc.
- Horwitz, Inc.
- Jorgenson Construction
- MBJ Engineering
- Olympic Companies, Inc.
- St. Paul Linoleum
- Top Dog PC Services
- Twin Cities Tile & Marble

\$2,500 - \$4,999

- Contract Hardware Co,
- Major Mechanical
- Northland Concrete & Masonry
- Ramsey Companies
- RTL Construction
- Sonus Interiors
- W.L. Hall

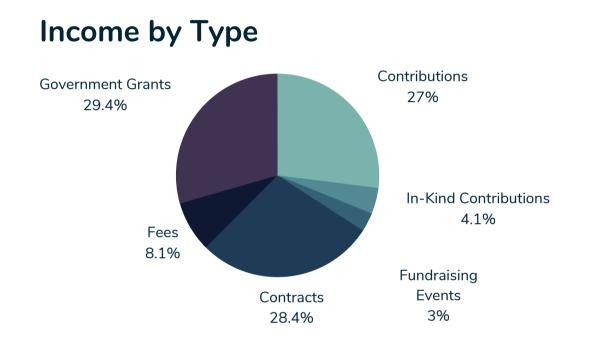


9 FINANCIALS

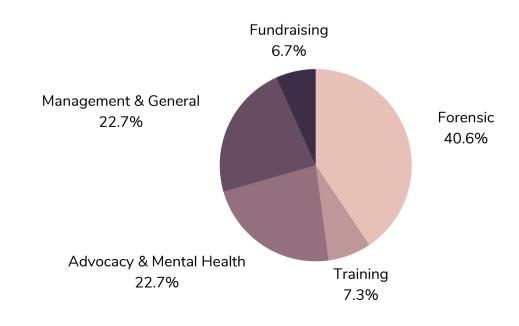
Revenue: \$2,057,138

Expenses: \$1,975,153

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Expenses by Program



10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



OFFICERS

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Chair: Kerri Gordon Vice-Chair: Michael Ruetz Treasurer: Lisa Hauser Secretary: Lori Whittier

MEMBERS

Dianne Austgen, Community Volunteer Keith Beneke, MedCraft - Event Committee Co-Chair Commissioner Angela Conley, Hennepin County Board of Commissioners C. Skye Cook, Cushman and Wakefield - Philanthropy Committee Chair Sue Erdman, Community Volunteer Kevin Fossum, Piedmont Office Realty Trust Jason Francisco, AdvisorNet Financial Chief Dan Wills, Rogers Police Department Kerri Gordon, Allina Health Lieutenant Dennis Hamilton, Minneapolis Police Department Lisa Hauser, Community Volunteer - Finance Committee Chair Richard Jacobson, Kraus-Anderson Construction - Event Committee Co-Chair Karin Keitel, Community Volunteer John Marti, Dorsey and Whitney LLP Karen Melby, StevenDouglas - Governance Committee Chair Jeff Potts, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association Michael Ruetz, Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies Lori Whittier, Hennepin County Attorney's Office



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