



Meet Ronnie.

HopeSparks
family services



2019 Annual Report

Dear Friends of HopeSparks,

Each year we are in awe of the support our community shows for the work we do every day as we walk alongside children and families toward success. Your generosity allows HopeSparks to live its mission to strengthen families.

Since 1895, HopeSparks has been providing behavioral health and family services to children and families in Tacoma and Pierce County. As both a behavioral health agency and family serving organization, HopeSparks is uniquely positioned to meet the changing needs of families and communities by providing services not only in our clinics, but also in the home and community. HopeSparks is a recognized leader in behavioral health, early intervention, kinship care, home-visiting, and parent education. Each year, thousands of children and families turn to HopeSparks for critical and life-changing support. Our work would not be possible without you.

2019 was an exciting year for HopeSparks. Along with key community partners, we built Pierce County's first and one of the state's first pediatric collaborative care models that will combine mental health and physical health for children and their families. This is groundbreaking and innovative work. HopeSparks also purchased a new building at 3408 South Union Ave. to be the home of our growing Children's Developmental Services Program. We can't wait to share the results of these efforts with you.

In the following pages, we share a glimpse of the positive and powerful impact we are making in our community. Please enjoy reading our 2019 Annual Report, and thank you for being a part of creating lasting change with us.



Joe Le Roy, LICSW
President & CEO



Nicole D. Gates, CTP, VP, CashPro Specialist,
West Commercial Banking, Bank of America
Board Chair

Our vision

We envision a world where ALL children and families are safe, secure, and stable

Our mission

We strengthen families by inspiring courage and confidence to make a lasting change



Ronnie has autism, a condition that impacts his communication, social, and behavioral skills.

His mother, Charlette, struggled to get him the diagnosis, therapy, and counseling they both desperately needed. There is no cure for autism but specialized therapy makes a big difference, and Ronnie found that difference at HopeSparks.

Charlette wanted to strengthen her confidence as a parent of a child with special needs. Through weekly visits with Infant Mental Health Therapist Bridget, they expanded on what was going well and incorporated new skills to support her relationship with Ronnie. Every week Charlette would surprise Bridget with a new creative play idea or a way that she was able to understand Ronnie's perspective, even though he wasn't talking yet.

Over time, Ronnie developed a love of reading, music, his kitten "Feisty", vehicles, and having fun at the playground with his Mom. The dynamic duo learned how to explore together and trust each other while embracing and enjoying routines that promoted his socialization, health, and happiness. They also participated in Parent-Child Interaction Therapy at HopeSparks and bonded with their counselor, Alexis. "Alexis has been part of the puzzle, the missing piece."

Today, with the support of counseling at HopeSparks combined with speech and occupational therapy through one of our partner organizations, Ronnie plays happily and his communication has vastly improved. He can now express himself easily with the help of sign language and a special communication tablet, and for the first time his mother heard him say "I love you." A year ago, Charlette felt that this never would have been possible. Now the future for their family is bright. "We have found our village."



Program Reach in 2019



Behavioral Health Services provided crucial, preventive, and evidence-based behavioral healthcare to **1,410** children and families.

Children’s Developmental Services provided Early Intervention in the natural environment to **1,102** children from birth to three years old.

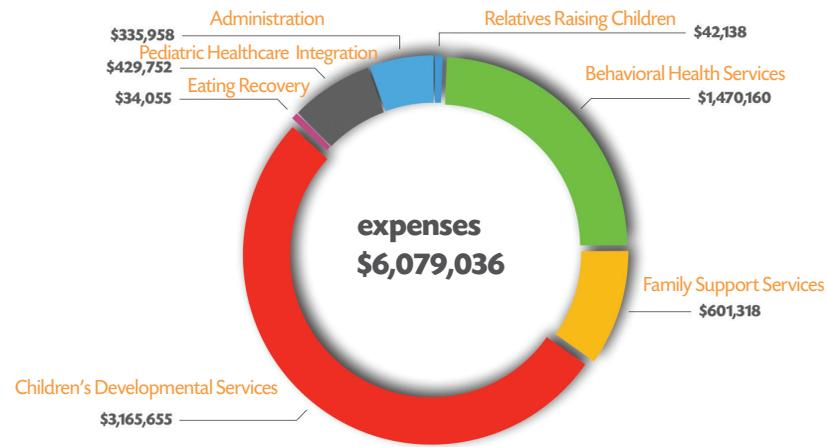
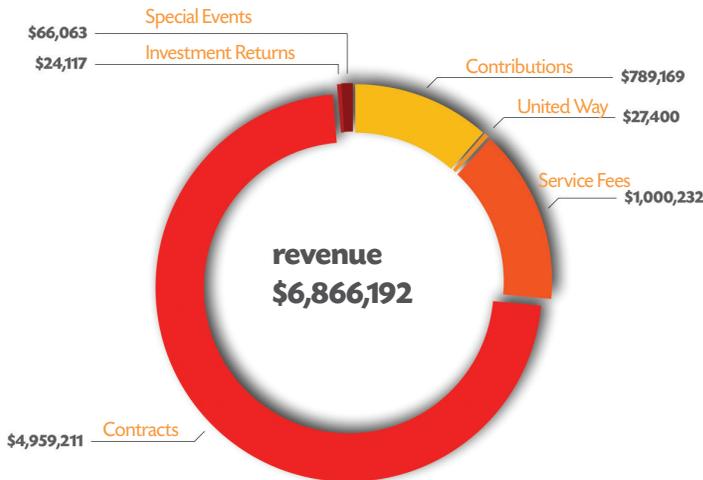
Family Support Services provided home-visiting and community-based programs to **229** families that helped promote safety and stability.

Relatives Raising Children helped **367** families who are raising children not theirs by birth with the resources and support they need to stay together.

99% of children who received services in our **Children’s Developmental Services** program demonstrated improvement in positive social emotional development.

Our new **Pediatric Healthcare Integration Program** partners with pediatric practices to provide evidence-based collaborative care. Both medical and behavioral healthcare are provided in the primary care setting. Program reach and outcomes will be provided in our 2020 Annual Report. To learn more about this innovative program and our other programs, please visit our website.

Financials Year ended December 31, 2019



Our Impact

Hope. Care. Support.

Our clients see an increase in family stability, a reduction in symptoms of stress and trauma, and improved relationships.

In 2019, HopeSparks served a total of **4,308** children and families living throughout South Puget Sound, providing over **20,294** clinic, community, and home-visits.



HopesCloset



Our basic needs boutique served an additional **3,368** individuals and distributed over **25,754** items.

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