



PROGRESSIVE  
LIFE CENTER, INC

for children and families

# **ANNUAL REPORT & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

OCTOBER 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2018



# A MESSAGE FROM DR. LAURENCE JACKSON, CEO & DIANA BANKS, CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each year, our friends at the Annie E. Casey Foundation release KIDS COUNT, one of the most trusted datasets on the well-being of our nation's children and families. The most recent data (for 2017) was released as Progressive Life Center finalized this annual report and there is some good news about the progress being made – increasing numbers of children with access to health insurance, decreasing teen birth rates, and improvement in the high school graduation rate. The report noted, however, that while there have been notable gains for children of all races:

- “...the nation's racial inequities remain deep, systemic and stubbornly persistent. Data show that children of color lack the opportunities and support they need to thrive, in large part because of national, state and local policies and practices that undermine their well-being and success. As a result, nearly all index measures show that children with the same potential experience disparate outcomes.”
- Youth in foster care experience much higher rates of school suspension or expulsion and are more likely to perform below grade level and be held back than their peers who are not in care. Once they age out of care, 20% become instantly homeless and only 3% graduate from college. And throughout adulthood, they face unemployment, PTSD and other mental health challenges, and more.
- Children of color are disproportionately represented in both systems, comprising more than 50% of those in foster care. African American youth are more than five times as likely to be detained or committed to the juvenile justice system, compared to white youth.
- Juvenile incarceration decreases the chances of high school graduation by 13 to 39 percent and increases the chances of incarceration as an adult by 23 to 41 percent.

For these reasons, PLC is more committed than ever to changing the life trajectories of children and young adults who are living in foster care or who are engaged with the juvenile justice system. We know that with community and educational supports, access to mental health care and treatment, and stable homes, these young people can have what every child deserves – the opportunity to grow up to be a happy, healthy, productive adults.

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With gratitude,

Dr. Laurence E. Jackson  
President and CEO

Diana Banks  
Chair

# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

### **Meet Me Half-Way Adolescent Club House**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 236 youth**

The Adolescent Club House (ACH) is a community-based prevention program focused on harm reduction. By offering a set of practical strategies, ACH helps youth avoid negative consequences through a reduction of high-risk behaviors such as excessive drinking, drug use, or unsafe sex. Our harm-reduction strategy offers a nonjudgmental approach that meets youth "where they are" with the behaviors that put them at risk. Instead of demanding perfection, ACH offers a pragmatic approach to support youth in minimizing high-risk behaviors and associated harms.

## BALTIMORE AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND

### **NIA Treatment Foster Care Program**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 75 children and youth, 15 mothers with babies**

PLC's Maryland NIA Treatment Foster Care Program (NIA) facilitates specialty certification for foster parents, and then after placement, provides support to ensure a holistic healing and treatment environment for those ages 2 through 21. Foster children and youth served through NIA have been diagnosed with emotional needs that have resulted from abuse, neglect and/or other trauma. NIA, which means 'purpose' in Swahili, offers family-focused treatment designed to strengthen and heal with a goal of reuniting children and families. NIA seeks to serve children and youth with emotional and/or behavioral needs in a home setting, providing structure, skilled supervision, and clinical support. NIA offers a unique and holistic approach to treatment, utilizing PLC's unique NTU therapeutic model of intervention for family-based treatment. NTU is spiritually-based and assists people and systems to achieve balance and healing.





# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

### Kinship Care

**Total Served in FY 2018: 86 families, 153 children**

The Kinship Care program is designed to provide case management and supportive services to caregivers raising relative children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and siblings living in Prince George's County. Our goal is to provide skill-building, advocacy, psychoeducation, and community awareness for families so they may prevent out-of-home placement, enhance children's well-being, and establish permanency using natural and community resources.

### Family Preservation

**Total Served in FY 2018: 66 families**

Interagency Family Preservation Services (IFPS) program is an intensive 6-8 week program designed to mitigate the risk of out-of-home placement. The program's service philosophy is to provide quality, strength-based and culturally-competent intensive family preservation services to identified at-risk youth and their families in an effort to foster family stabilization, reduce risk factors and maintain child placement in a healthy and safe family environment.

### African American Domestic Violence Faith-Based Training Initiative

**Total Trained in FY 2018: 64 faith leaders**

Provide culturally specific Domestic Violence (DV), including dating violence and family violence, training program targeting faith-based leaders within the Prince George's County. The training program supports faith leaders expand their knowledge and understanding of DV, including different forms of abuse and red flags; support and guide congregants experiencing or witnessing abuse; make appropriate referrals to and build partnerships with organizations that can help; and become proactive in working to prevent all forms of abuse and victimization.

### African American Community-Based Bystander Prevention Education

**Total Trained in FY 2018: 603 faith leaders, congregants, community bystanders, service providers**

The purpose of the African American Community-Based Bystander Prevention Education Program is to (1) to develop an education and prevention strategy targeting the African American community in Prince George's County



that highlights culturally-specific issues related to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; (2) increase the communities' capacity to provide culturally-specific support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and (3) increase awareness of local resources to address domestic violence and sexual assault.

# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES, MARYLAND

### **Subira Semi-Independent Living**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 10 youth**

Subira is Swahili for 'patience' and embodies the program's goal of helping youth overcome past traumas, develop self-worth, and build life skills toward becoming productive adults. Comprehensive support is provided in a nurturing and stable environment, with an emphasis on each youth's needs and goals for permanency. Subira is contracted to serve 10 youth - 6 in Prince George's County and 4 in Montgomery County.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

### **Family Connections**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 67 families**

Launched in September 2018, Family Connections provides comprehensive parent education designed to improve outcomes for the entire family. Areas of focus include parenting skills, relationship building, school involvement, and making connections with community resources to bolster a healthy family life. Family Connections is offered with funding and in partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.



# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## WASHINGTON, DC

### Community Programming Initiative

#### Total Served in FY 2018: 140 youth

PLC's Washington, DC office continued its partnership with the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), with its Community Programming Initiative (CPI). CPI represents a partnership between PLC, DYRS and a cadre of dedicated community-based nonprofits to deliver direct services to youth and families who are in the care of DYRS. Services are delivered in the community where the youth reside or in one of the city's two DYRS Achievement Centers. As the program administrator, PLC provides quality assurance, training, capacity building, and financial oversight to 15 partnering service nonprofits. CPI offers a wide range of youth development services including training in graphics, digital design, television/video production, martial arts and barbering; mental health services; driver's education; financial education; tutoring; substance abuse education; and family support services. During fiscal year 2018, the most utilized services were tutoring, substance abuse education, and family support services.

### Project Connect

#### Total served in FY 2018: 35 families representing more than 100 individuals

Project Connect is designed to keep children safe by helping substance-affected families pursue and maintain a lifestyle of recovery. The program provides intensive, home-based clinical and case management services, substance abuse assessment and monitoring, relapse prevention, family assessment and counseling, transportation assistance and court advocacy.

Project Connect's objective is to increase the number of children who remain safely in their homes by helping parents achieve a substance-free lifestyle. Eligible families have a current or past history of substance use that impacts parenting and/or the safety of children. Our interventions with families last an average of seven months.





# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE

### Delaware ICAN Program

**Total Served in FY 2018: 36 youth**

The Independent Care Action Network (ICAN) provides independent living services toward achieving self-sufficiency for New Castle County foster youth ages 16-21. To this end, ICAN staff assists youth in finding secure housing, employment, appropriate educational opportunities and supportive community connections.

ICAN's client services and case management connects youth to housing vouchers and transitional housing referrals. Through skills-building and vocational training, youth learn about and discuss money management, goal setting, hygiene and sexual health. Youth are offered opportunities to build lasting and positive relationships in the community, attend social and cultural events, obtain a driver's license or state ID, apply for employment, college and/or trade school, and earn a monthly stipend relative to their effort in the program

During fiscal year 2018, ICAN exceeded all state treatment outcomes established for the domains of education, employment, career development, financial literacy and capability, physical and mental health, housing, and youth engagement. ICAN staff also plays a major role in the planning and development of the annual statewide Youth Advisory Council Conference, and the Destined for Greatness National Foster Care Month Recognition Event, each with audiences of more than 200.



# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## THE STATE OF DELAWARE

### **NIA Treatment Foster Care**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 55 youth and their families**

Like our Maryland NIA Treatment Foster Care, the Delaware program facilitates certification for foster parents to accept high-needs foster care placements. Since its 2003 inception, year-over-year, Delaware NIA has experienced increased service capacity. NIA's mission is to make positive changes for families through the provision of services that support child and public safety, behavioral health and individual, family and community well-being.

To achieve this, NIA's social workers utilize PLC's unique NTU treatment model. Those served include sibling groups, youth with mental health and/or behavioral treatment needs, adjudicated youth transferred from juvenile justice centers, and youth with other challenging placement needs. NIA ensures minimal placement disruptions for youth, and most clients are reunified with family, adopted, or exit to an independent living programs to receive assistance through age 22.

Our NIA foster care program has a positive reputation in the child welfare community and throughout the state service area, exceeding state, and national service outcomes. The program regularly receives recognition for its work with birth parents and families, involvement with domestic violence services, supervised family visitation availability, and youth graduation/ academic progress numbers. NIA is noted for its social service community involvement, stakeholder engagement, client participation in thriving behaviors, and for its offering of community special events. NIA foster care parents are identified through a rigorous targeted recruitment, then undergo 32-hours of training. Their state licensing process includes home inspection, home study, and compliance with the DELACARE child care regulations as is required for therapeutic foster parents. Reflective of our ongoing growth, Delaware NIA added five new foster homes in FY 2018.





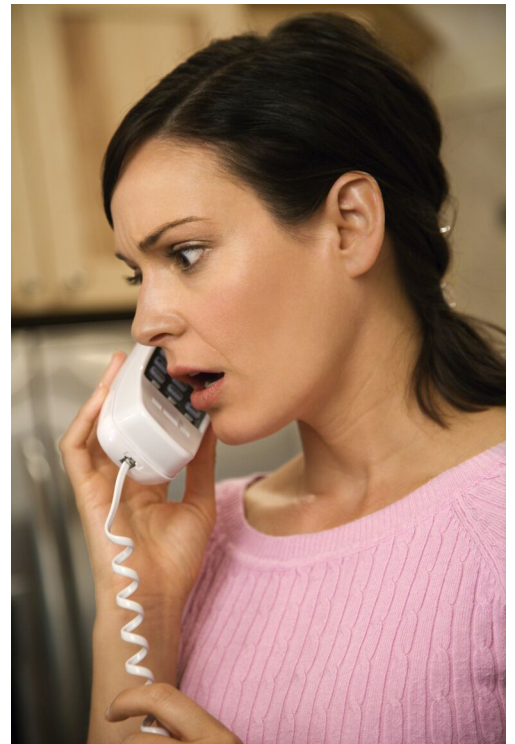
# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## THE STATE OF DELAWARE

### After-Hours Crisis Support Line

#### Total Served in FY 2018: 15 youth and their families

The After-Hours Crisis Support Line opened in 2014 to support foster families and youth in need of assistance, beyond the regular operating hours of the Delaware Division of Family Services (DFS). During these hours - evenings, weekends and holidays - families lacked effective therapeutic supports, and access to emergency behavior management and de-escalation techniques. Born from this deficiency were negative outcomes for youth, foster parents, DFS service providers and emergency respondents. With the institution of our Crisis Support Line, PLC's trained staff of social workers offer effective communication and risk assessment skills to provide immediate de-escalation solutions for real-time interventions. With access to a mobile crisis support team, the staff can call on in-person support as needed. Staff helps de-escalate threats of harm to self, others or property, and decreases the likelihood of youth run-away following such conflicts. Our After-Hours Crisis Support Line outcomes include a reduction in police involvement, legal implications and psychiatric admissions, while helping to ensure the family's immediate safety and long-term stability.



# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## THE STATE OF DELAWARE

### Delaware Parent Partner Program

#### Total Served in FY 2018: 12 youth and their families

Since 2014, the Delaware Parent Partner Program has provided therapeutic support to New Castle County foster youth who are at risk for placement disruption. The Parent Partner Program also serves youth requiring a higher level of treatment service, who have been admitted into Pennsylvania residential treatment centers by the Division of Family Services. Through twice monthly, individualized visits and related follow-ups, program staff establishes an effective working relationship with foster youth and families, biological family members, other support systems, and staff providing care in residential centers.

In fiscal year 2018, our Parent Partner Program achieved designated outcomes by assisting with increased family involvement, family reunification, adoption, transition to independent living, or return from Pennsylvania centers to Delaware foster care or to other less restrictive permanency in closer proximity to the youth's natural supports. Trauma informed practices, attention to adverse childhood experiences, and a strengths and resilience perspective, contributed to advancements in functioning potential and improvements to quality of life.

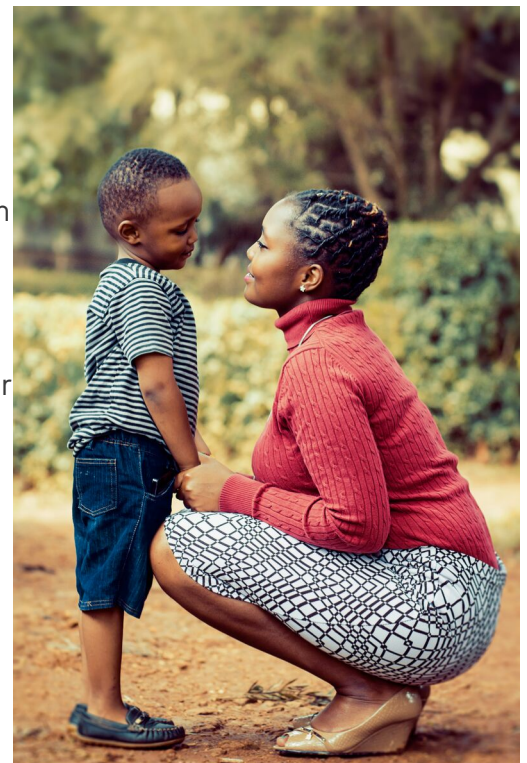
The Parent Partner Program has resulted in an improved ability to support youth with high physical, mental, behavioral and developmental needs through administration of individualized residential treatment. It has resulted in the establishment and maintenance of professional linkages, youth participation in care and team meetings, individualized education and service planning, effective monitoring of youth needs and youth advocacy.

## PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

### Resource Home Care

#### Total Served in FY 2018: 361 children and youth

Since 2012, PLC has provided general and specialized behavioral health resource home care services for the Philadelphia Department of Human Services. Our staff recruits, trains and licenses new foster parents and homes for the safe and nurturing placement of children and adolescents in need of temporary out-of-home placement. It is our goal to help biological parents or other primary caregivers resolve and improve safety and parenting mandates so that children may be returned to their care. Meanwhile, PLC supports foster parents with child-centered and stabilization training, by identifying and linking foster parents to community and material resources, and through safety monitoring. In fiscal year 2018, PLC's Resource Home Care assisted in the reunification of 43 children/youth, 2 youth achieved independence and 7 youth and families completed permanent legal custodianship.



# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

### **NIA Foster Care Program**

#### **Total served in FY 2018: 37 children/youth and their families**

In Philadelphia, since 2004, PLC has provided general, treatment and mother-baby foster care services for children and youth who require temporary, out-of-home care until safety and parenting concerns are resolved with their birth families or legal guardians. Like our Maryland and Delaware programs, NIA facilitates certification for foster parents. We also provide guidance and support to biological parents and families, resource foster parents and children and teens with safety, well-being and permanency services, and stabilize foster care placements to meet youth needs and improve safety. NIA seeks permanency for the youth served, which may include reunification with their birth family, permanent legal custodianship with another family member, adoptions, emancipation or independence.

### **Adoption and Permanency Services**

#### **Total Served in FY 2018: 30 Adoption Finalizations, 61 Child Profiles, 38 Family Profiles, 13 Child Preparations**

PLC's Adoption and Permanency Services provide child-specific parent recruitment, child profiles, family profiles, adoption finalization, and preparation for children and families in want or need of support in preparing for adoption or permanent legal custodianship. Staff provides children and families with assistance and resources to facilitate a smooth and informed transition. We also provide children and parents with opportunities to share thoughts, fears, opinions and ideas while identifying permanent homes. With our help, families enjoy opportunities to bond and understand each other better.

During fiscal year 2018, with the support of experienced staff under new leadership, we realized 30 adoptions/finalizations and 13 child preparations while coming in 15% under budget.





# OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

## PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA (CONTINUED)

### Parents Progressing With Life

#### Total Served: 116 parents

Since 2004, Parents Progressing with Life (PPWL) has provided culturally sensitive parenting skills training that engages parents in Philadelphia and the Greater Delaware Valley region. Our training assist parents in child reunification and offers support to parents seeking improved and enriched parent-child interactions. PPWL teaches parents skills in communication and discipline strategies, and demonstrates ways to inspire their children to learn and grow through modeling.

For fiscal year 2018, in recognition of our high performance, PPWL was granted a contract increase allowing us to deliver service to more parents through community outreach and professional networks.

## YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

### Homebuilders® Intensive Family Preservation

#### Total Served: 15 children, 4 families

In the midst of fiscal year 2018, PLC began a partnership with York County Office of Children, Youth and Family (OCYF) to offer the Homebuilders model of family preservation. Our intensive treatment model seeks to keep children in their biological homes by correcting a situation in which children are at imminent risk of foster care placement. Those supported include: families with children up to aged 17 who are at risk for removal from their home; families with children currently in an out-of-home placement with the goal of reunification within seven days; or families experiencing substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse, mental health, chronic neglect or physical abuse issues. Acceptance into Homebuilders requires the family's willingness to fully participate in the program 8 to 10 hours per week over a total of 4 weeks.

PLC's Homebuilders credits its success to the offering of services to families in their natural environment at times that they are most receptive to learning and practicing learned skills. Family partners collaborate with PLC therapists and the OCYF to set service goals and safety plans. Throughout Homebuilders' services, PLC therapists teach skills to prevent future crisis and out-of-home child placement.

During the program's shortened fiscal year 2018, Homebuilders helped create improved home environments to prevent 11 children from entering foster care.



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# Progressive Life Center, Inc.

## Summarized Audited Financial Statements

September 30, 2016 thru' 2018  
FINANCIAL POSITION

### ASSETS

	2018	2017	2016
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 12,044,890	\$ 10,140,844	\$ 10,319,020
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	7,394,704	6,214,198	6,493,043
TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,650,186	3,926,646	3,825,977
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 12,044,890	\$ 10,140,844	\$ 10,319,020

### ACTIVITIES

	2018	2017	2016
REVENUE AND GAINS			
Fees for social services provided and other income	\$ 23,617,287	\$ 18,438,236	\$ 16,814,532
EXPENSES AND LOSSES			
State of Maryland Programs	3,541,022	3,261,295	3,283,260
State of Delaware Parpgrams	1,270,651	1,305,747	1,242,615
District of Columbia Programs	10,989,743	7,395,028	6,790,574
State of Pennsylvania Programs	4,842,148	3,999,788	3,091,475
Other Programs	145,675	234,664	135,459
Management, General and Fundraising Expenses	2,104,508	2,141,045	1,936,489
Total Expenses and Losses	22,893,747	18,337,567	16,479,872
Increase(decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 723,540	\$ 100,669	\$ 334,660

The statement of financial position and statements of activities for 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 are summarized on this page. The financial statements were audited by our auditors, George Nwabukwu & Associates, CPAs, who issued clean audit opinion on them. Copies of the complete audited financial statements are available upon request.



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