Front and back cover photos taken by youth in the SIP Service and Niki Trosky, Day Program Educator.

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Celebration of Macdonald Youth Services’ 85th anniversary of meeting the needs of youth in Winnipeg has made this past year exceptional; the growth of our services to include children, adults and families throughout Manitoba over the past two decades has made the celebration extraordinary! Thank you to everyone who has made this anniversary possible as each of you has kept the interests of those we serve foremost in your actions, minds and hearts.

The 2014-2015 year also brought the renewal of MYS’ Strategic Plan. As we reflected on the progress that was evident from our 2010-2015 plan and the insights we received from people who are inside and outside the agency, a path to 2020 became evident. The framework for continued improvements in our delivery and measurement of service impacts was developed through our Therapeutic Model of Care. Honouring the Indigenous communities with whom we work is also a priority as we move forward. Strengthening our internal resources as well as continuing to build partnerships with colleagues, the mental health system and businesses in The Pas, Thompson and Winnipeg will be evident as we implement our 2015-2020 strategy.

The Board of Directors concentrated on re-building its ranks over the past year and has been pleased with the experience and expertise of the volunteers who have joined us. We were disappointed with the lack of additional Indigenous representation; this is an ongoing mission as MYS strives to honour the communities that children, youth and adults in our care call home. Indigenous representation on the MYS Board of Directors and within Senior Management is vital to honouring communities through connecting and maintaining families.

As noted above, a Therapeutic Model of Care (TMC) was introduced this past year at MYS. Several years in development, with agency-wide participation, TMC is consistent with, strengthened and broadened MYS’ program principles. TMC is attachment and trauma-informed and consistent with the constructs of a resiliency-based framework. It is founded on the values of the Circle of Courage© which incorporates the four universal growth needs of children: belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. Most importantly, TMC describes how the entire agency works together to achieve our mission.
Over the past year, MYS has developed enhanced transition services for youth as they leave Child and Family Services. Ending homelessness in our province is an aspiration voiced by individuals, families and communities; preventing homelessness before it becomes entrenched is one of the solutions to which MYS can contribute.

The Board of Directors and management continued to collaborate with our colleagues to fight for fair wages within our sector of service. While other systems can and do refuse services, MYS and our colleagues continue to meet the needs of some of the most traumatized children, youth and families in Manitoba – at wages that are barely competitive with those offered by fast-food restaurants and gas bars!

Over the next year, MYS looks forward to continuing to develop awareness and knowledge of our services among the general public through informational breakfasts, our annual Spring Fling event, and unique opportunities in our neighbourhoods. MYS will meet the financial challenge of our Legacy Project so that we can become even more effective and efficient by combining many of our Winnipeg services under one roof to provide integrated therapeutic services to children, youth, adults and families.

As MYS closes its 85th Anniversary Year, we congratulate the United Way of Winnipeg on its 50th Anniversary and wish them well! They play an exceptional role in marshalling not only money but talent focused on key priorities. We also wish to thank everyone – volunteers, foster parents, employees, management, and corporation members – for their service over the past year. Your contributions have changed lives in real and positive ways over the past year and we wish to acknowledge the generous gifts that you have shared.

Respectfully,

Ian Gillies
Chair, Board of Directors

Erma Chapman
Chief Executive Officer
“I was struggling like most youth growing up in the system. I have been involved with the program since I was 15 years old; it was a place I could go to when I was in need of support and guidance. The staff at MYS are genuine and are a positive influence.”

Participant
Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)
Macdonald Youth Services (MYS) provides both placement programming and community services.

**Placement Services:**
- Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH)
- Alternative Parent Home Service (APH)
- Kisewatisiwin Service
- Specialized Individual Placement Service (SIP)

**Community Services:**
- Youth Crisis Stabilization System (YCSS)
- Coach Program
- Youth Resource Centre/Shelter (YRC)
- Transition Services
  - Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)
  - Life Train Program
  - Independent Living with Supports (ILS)

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**Agency Overview Stats**

**2014-15**

**Agency Overview**

Total number of clients served: **8,242**

**Placement Service**

Total number of clients served: **458**

Total number of days of care: **101,143**

**Community Service**

Total number of clients served: **7,784**

**Total number of staff**

Casual Staff: **440**

Permanent Staff: **305**

Total number of staff: **745**
Placement Services

Placement Services has embraced the MYS Therapeutic Model of Care (TMC) that was developed by Clinical Services. The goal for placement services is to meet the individual needs of each child, youth and adult by creating a safe environment that provides support and understanding so each individual can grow, heal and reach their full potential. Last year, MYS supported children, youth, adults and families through the Alternative Parent Home Service (APH) (including Purple Martin Program), Kisewatiswin, Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH) and the Specialized Individual Placement (SIP) Service.
Kisewatisiwin Service
Kisewatisiwin continues to play a key role in providing services to children, youth, adults and families in northern Manitoba. Program highlights include:

- The Northern Alternative Parent Home (NAPH) Service offers foster care in Thompson and The Pas and they successfully assisted in the adoption of two siblings by their foster parents.
- MYS acquired Fischer Place last year, a six-bed home for adults with disabilities. The Kisewatisiwin team has done an exceptional job of adjusting to this new area of service provision.
- Kisewatisiwin purchased sports equipment and furniture for youth from grants received from the Thompson Community Foundation - Moffat Family Fund and The Homelessness Partnering Strategy grant.
- MYTEAM - Manitoba Youth Transitional Employment & Assistance Mentorship Program is a four-year independent living pilot project. This past year the program adjusted their selection criteria so they could offer independent living services to permanent wards who are preparing to age out of care.
- Kisewatisiwin celebrated with a youth who had previously experienced significant challenges and has now realized her goal of working in the health care field. She is now well on her way to completing her Health Care Aide Diploma.

Specialized Individual Placement (SIP) Service
The Specialized Individual Placement (SIP) Service continues to support some of the highest needs youth in the province. Program highlights include:

- Connecting with former youth who stop by the office for resources, a meal, or just to let the staff know how they are doing.
- Hiring a former SIP youth and building in additional supports and resources to ensure her needs were being met.
- Creating opportunities for youth and staff to connect. This included an annual baseball game, Christmas breakfast and the annual Chris Surbey BBQ, an event to honour an SIP youth who lost his life to violence.
- Youth and staff participating in cleaning up the community through Take Pride Winnipeg.
- Practicum placements for Youth Care Practitioners and Occupational Therapists.

“It’s a joy to share our lives with these young people; to see them happy, to give them security, to help them with school work, to challenge them at a game, to force them to think critically and to watch them succeed.”

Els & Ken Penner
Respite Support Workers, Alternative Parent Home (APH) Service
Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH)
Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH) provides assessment and care to youth who are struggling. Program highlights include:

• Youth in two of our community homes had 98% to 100% school attendance.
• A former ARCH youth graduated and enrolled in the Welding Program at Red River College.
• A youth in her 3rd year of Cadets received a prestigious award and was promoted to Master Corporal and Troop Commander.
• Several youth in the WorkForce Venture Program opened their first savings account from money they earned while working.
• Celebrations with Dale Dubas and Lori Irwin, ARCH Program Managers who reached their 25 years of service milestone.
• Anna Catojo, WorkForce Venture, and Corrina Hildebrand, Outreach Worker were featured by Red River College on billboards in the City of Winnipeg.

Alternative Parent Home (APH) Service
The Alternative Parent Home (APH) Service provides specialized foster care to children and youth who require additional support. Program highlights include:

• In 2013-2014, there were 156 children and youth served and this increased to 161 in 2014-2015.
• Training for foster parents on drug & gang awareness, vicarious trauma, suicide awareness, child & youth development, attachment, life books and grief & loss.
• Connecting and discussing topics with foster parents through a monthly foster parent open forum.
• Offering a monthly social group for children and youth in APH.
• Holding several events including the first summer day camp, the annual foster parent appreciation lunch, the 2nd annual pancake holiday breakfast and the APH foster parent meeting and barbecue.
Community Services

Community Services is a critical resource that supports children, youth, adults and families. MYS looks for ways to enhance relationships and improve services that meet the ever-changing needs of the community. Last year, MYS supported children, youth, adults and families through Life Train, Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY), Independent Living with Supports (ILS), the Youth Resource Centre/Shelter (YRC), Youth Crisis Stabilization System and the Coach Program.

Transition Services
MYS has recognized the need to improve services for youth transitioning to adulthood. This led to the evolution of Transition Services which includes: the Independent Living with Supports Program (ILS), Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY) and the Life Train Program.

Independent Living with Supports (ILS)
Independent Living with Supports assists youth who are transitioning out of care and to independent living. Program highlights include:

- A new drop-in area at 161 Mayfair Avenue and expansion of the program from 6 participants to 15.

This led to an increase in participation at bi-weekly life skills groups and activities.

- Creation of opportunities for youth to volunteer at Siloam Mission and Project Echo.

- Offering youth the opportunity to participate in cultural activities including a moccasin and glove making workshop.

- Eight youth participating in a work mentorship program that was developed with the MYS Maintenance Department and Home Care Pharmacies.

- Hiring four students who were completing their practicum placements with ILS.

“I like what you’re doing here. Keep doing what you are doing. I don’t ever want her to leave Fischer Place.”

Mother of an adult living at Fischer Place
Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)

Positive Alternatives for Youth provides opportunities for young people to overcome barriers and develop their skills and take part in volunteer projects. Program highlights include:

• Expanded programming that included cooking classes, life skills workshops, and work experience which were funded by grants and donations.

• Continued support for youth who were volunteering at The Winnipeg Humane Society, Winnipeg Harvest and Riverview Health Centre. As well as fostering a new partnership with Winnipeg Animal Services.

• Increased participant attendance by 20%.

• Social work and youth care practicums to seven students from six educational facilities.

Life Train

Life Train offers an individualized approach that supports adults to develop their life and employment skills. Program highlights include:

• Adjusting the program’s focus to help meet the needs of participants. Emphasis was placed on stabilizing participants and helping them overcome barriers so they could return to the workforce.

• Assisting 15 youth participants to save money and learn money management skills through the Asset Building Program.

• Increased referrals and shared knowledge through networking with organizations such as Milner Ridge Correctional Centre, Headingley Correctional Centre, and Villa Rosa.

• New volunteer opportunities for participants to give back to their community.

“Macdonald Youth Services offered me the chance to explore different opportunities that life has to offer. The program has given me the chance to learn more about myself and to grow with independence. I was able to have hands-on experience as to what different jobs had to offer. I continue to keep in contact with many of the staff at MYS and they continue to support and guide me in the right direction.”

Participant

Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)
Youth Crisis Stabilization System (YCSS)
YCSS is a partnership program that provides community-based crisis intervention services for youth under 18 years of age and their families. Program highlights include:

- Commitment of staff to ensure the care and safety of the youth and families we serve while dealing with stressful situations and high volumes of calls.
- Implementation of a third stabilization unit to address the needs of girls who are at high risk of being exploited.
- Numerous community presentations which included a presentation to the Winnipeg Police Service Cadet class.

Coach Program
Coach is a comprehensive school program that addresses the needs of students who are not able to be successful in the existing educational system. Program highlights include:

- The expansion of the Coach program to include students who are 12-15 years of age.
- The Program Manager and School Psychologist completing the Circle of Security Training, an international relationship-based parenting program. They also wrote an article that was published in the Circle of Security national newsletter.
- Summer programming which included camping for students and their families, who may not otherwise have had the opportunity.
- Several events for the students and their families including the annual Christmas dinner, an awards ceremony and end of the year celebration.

Youth Resource Centre/Shelter (YRC)
The YRC offers 24-hour short-term emergency shelter and basic needs walk-in services to youth. Program highlights include:

- Becoming a licensed facility and moving into the new Shelter in August of 2014. Feedback from youth has been extremely positive.
- The Home Depot Canada Foundation generously donating money and staff from the Winnipeg stores to volunteer their time to help prepare the grounds of the YRC for landscaping.
- Generous donations including: hand-made mitts from a 94 year old grandma, brand new winter coats from a donor in Toronto, household items, new Christmas decorations, and Christmas dinner was ordered and delivered to our front door thanks to one of our long-time generous donors.
The journey to become a trauma-informed organization has begun.

In the last few years, MYS has started to promote trauma awareness and understanding among employees and foster parents. Many have had the opportunity to attend training to increase their knowledge of the effects of trauma on the development and behaviour of those who have experienced it, as well as the practices or interventions that may facilitate healing. These initial efforts to become more informed about trauma and its effects are just the beginning of a continuous process MYS has committed to as it embarks on a journey to become a trauma-informed organization. Additional training, consultation, and supportive supervision will be key to ensuring trauma awareness guides all that we do. This knowledge is the foundation of our Therapeutic Model of Care.

The MYS’ Therapeutic Model of Care (TMC) is our compass.

This year MYS unveiled its Therapeutic Model of Care (TMC), a significant achievement for the clinical direction of the agency. A Therapeutic Model of Care is a way of describing how the whole agency works together to achieve its mission. The goal of TMC is to lay the foundation for an environment that fosters a sense of safety, connection and understanding for the people we serve, their families and the MYS community as a whole.

The Therapeutic Model of Care is underpinned by a strong theoretical base to ensure sound understanding of trauma, disrupted attachment and developmental needs. It provides a solid foundation for the therapeutic approaches and methods involved in the direct work with the children, youth and adults in our care.

The Therapeutic Model of Care represents a holistic and integrated approach to growth and healing. The model is attachment and trauma-informed and consistent with the constructs of a resiliency-based framework. The Circle of Courage® aligned with the MYS Mission Statement and Client Services Guiding Principles provide the philosophical foundation and value base for our model.

In the coming year, the recommendations for implementation of the TMC, developed by the TMC Project Team, will be operationalized into a plan that will include specific actions the agency will undertake to integrate the model into all that we do. An evaluation plan will also be developed to measure the impact of the TMC implementation.
The MYS' Clinical Team will help us navigate.

MYS is fortunate to have a diverse group of experienced and knowledgeable people representing various professional disciplines to help steer the agency toward clinical excellence. As a therapeutic organization, MYS relies on its clinical team of dedicated professionals to ensure the needs of those we serve are properly assessed. Once specific needs are identified, members of the clinical team collaborate with individual clients, their caregivers and guardians to develop goals which then become the focus of their therapeutic interactions moving forward. This ongoing process is integral to the healing work being done across the agency regardless of the type of service provided or the population being served. Consistent with MYS' Therapeutic Model of Care, this practice fosters a sense of safety, connection and understanding for the people we serve and their families.

“’The goal of the MYS’ Therapeutic Model of Care (TMC) is to lay the foundation for an environment that fosters a sense of safety, connection and understanding for the people we serve, their families and the MYS community as a whole.”

Photo taken by youth in the SIP Service and Niki Trosky, Day Program Educator.
MYS Powwow Circle
In April of this year, at the request of the youth, Indigenous Cultural Services (ICS) began offering a community model of engagement. It is through the vision of the youth and community helpers that the MYS Powwow Circle emerged.

Role modeling Indigenous ways of knowing and being helps to break the cultural stress often experienced by our children, youth, adults and families who seek our services. The Powwow Circle offers the opportunity for exploration of Indigenous cultural identity. As well, it gives our community the opportunity for cultural exchange as spirit is awakened through cultural expression of dance, song and ceremony.

Children, youth, adults and families from all service areas attended our first MYS Powwow Circle in the spring of 2014. Traditional knowledge and teachings were an essential component. Each young person had the opportunity to learn the Grass Dance, Jingle Dress, Fancy Shawl, Traditional and Prairie Chicken Dance. After experiencing each of the dances, each individual decided which dance connected them to self as a way of self-expression. Each of the 18 youth who participated were gifted with Powwow regalia of their choice and were honoured on June 20, 2014 at the annual MYS Powwow at The Forks.

Based on the community’s response, we continued the MYS Powwow Circle in the fall of 2014. There was an opportunity for discovery of self through cultural engagement and another 16 youth were gifted with Powwow regalia. In March of 2014, the Powwow Circle co-hosted the Winter Gathering and the youth performed an ancient Indigenous legend for the community titled “How the Turtle Got his Shell”.
Annual Indigenous Day Powwow
Each year since 2011, MYS co-host’s the Indigenous Day Powwow at The Forks with Founding Nations of Manitoba Tribal Village/Artist Co-op. This event is a celebration of community while honouring the traditions of Indigenous people.

Annual Winter Gathering
MYS held its 6th annual Winter Gathering at the Circle of Life Thunderbird House with more than 100 people in attendance. Foster parents, youth, staff, board members and the community participated in a pipe ceremony followed by a feast, drumming, dancing and singing.

Indigenous Awareness Training
The Coordinator of Indigenous Cultural Services delivered all four modules of Indigenous Awareness Training to 327 participants throughout Manitoba. Indigenous knowledge keepers and resource helpers were called upon to share their knowledge and cultural teachings. The encirclement of the Indigenous community makes each training session unique as they create safe environments that allow participants to be curious about Indigenous and Western worldviews. Participants are provided with the opportunity to foster empathy and acknowledge the cultural genocide inflicted upon the original people, the First Nations of Turtle Island. This fosters reconciliation for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants as we delve into meaningful discussion about the intergenerational effects of colonization while moving towards the process of decolonization.

Land-Based Therapy Excursions
Throughout the year, there have been opportunities for youth to participate in medicine picking, ceremonies and skill builders. Indigenous Cultural Services partnered with the Independent Living with Supports (ILS) Program to offer ten youth participants the opportunity to learn how to make moccasins or gloves by learning how to bead and work with leather.

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<tr>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Average %</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH)</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Parent Home (APH)</td>
<td>52%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach Program</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kisewatisiwin</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Train</td>
<td>59%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)</td>
<td>67%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialized Individual Placement (SIP)</td>
<td>66%</td>
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I am a survivor of a system that both traumatized me and yet provided me with the opportunity to grow, heal, and become the strong woman and mother that I am today. When I look back on my life, I do not have any regrets and would not change anything. These experiences have happened for a reason and each experience has given me insight into who I am and how I want to live my life.

I grew up in The Pas and came into foster care when I was four months old. My dad had just passed away and my mom was an alcoholic and was not able to take care of me and my two brothers. Over the next several years, my brothers and I would bounce back and forth between foster care and living with my mom in hopes she could provide a safe and stable home for us. Unfortunately, she was not able to provide this and neither were the foster homes. At home, I was abused and molested by my mom’s boyfriend and in foster care I was molested by my foster mom’s brother. When I told people what was happening - nobody believed me. That is when I started acting out.

By age 11, I was labelled a troublemaker and liar. I left The Pas to move to Winnipeg to live with an aunt, but by that point I was an angry out of control kid who was heading down a path of self-destruction. I was cutting my wrists, involved with drugs and alcohol, running away, hanging out with friends who were involved in prostitution and physically hurting people who tried to show they cared about me.
“When I think of family - I think of Katie Isaac and Jennifer Sheppard, staff from MYS.”
“Having had the opportunity to watch Larissa blossom and flourish from a young child facing many obstacles into the remarkable and beautiful woman she is today has been an absolute privilege. Her strength and perseverance are awe inspiring and the power of her will and determination are impossible to ignore. Larissa never ceases to amaze us and we are truly honored to have her as a friend”.

Katie Isaac & Jennifer Sheppard
Kisewatsiwin Service
In order to keep me safe, my social worker put me in a locked facility. At this point, I had been in 20 different placements. At age 13, I was given the option of staying with my mom in Winnipeg or moving to Wuskwatim, an MYS group home in Thompson. I knew my mom’s was not a safe place so I opted to move into the MYS group home - that is when my life started to look up. MYS saved my life. At MYS, even though I tried to push the staff away, they did not give up on me, they listened and believed what I had to say. They pushed me to reach my full potential and saw something in me that I did not see in myself.

At age 15, I had my first child. Being a young Aboriginal single mother, I experienced a lot of judgement but I was determined to be a good mom and to provide a better life for my son. MYS continued to support me through the Independent Living Program. They helped me get into a school program that offered parenting classes and MYS provided the supports and resources I needed to be successful.

When I think of family - I think of Katie Isaac and Jennifer Sheppard, staff from MYS. Katie and Jennifer were at the hospital when both my kids were born and they have always been there for me when I needed them. If I need to cry, talk or vent – they are who I call.

Today, I am a 30 year old proud mother of two teenage boys. For the last 6 years, I have worked as a Youth Care Practitioner at Macdonald Youth Services. Recently, I have applied to go to university to complete a Bachelor of Social Work. My goal is to become an advocate for kids in the child welfare system. I want to listen, give them a voice and be the person that does not give up – just like what Katie and Jennifer did for me!

I have learned that I can’t dwell on the past – I need to move forward in life and push myself to be better. I don’t want people to feel sorry for me but rather I want them to embrace my story and learn from it. I believe that if it was not for MYS, I would not be the person I am today. Likely, I would have followed the same path as my mom.
Ursula’s Story

Inspiring those around her...

Remarkable, compassionate, understanding, determined, warm-hearted, generous, loving, self-less, forgiving, considerate, tenacious, spiritual, exceptional, humble, patient, and accepting. These are just a few words to describe Ursula Delaronde, a 70 year old Indigenous woman who is an inspiration to those who know her. She is a retired Child Welfare Social Worker who has dedicated the last 40 years of her life to fostering more than 50 kids, many of whom still remain connected to her today.

50 lives changed
As a foster parent, she not only opens her heart and home to the kids but also to their families. She knows how important family relationships are for kids and has seen many of them return to their natural families after leaving care. Her vision is simple, to build stronger families by empowering and supporting natural parents to become healthy individuals who are able to care for their children.

Parent involvement is not always an option and Ursula knows this too well. She recognizes that for some kids all they have is her. Many of the young people who come to her have a difficult time trusting, they have been traumatized, experienced significant loss and come with many years of painful memories. She comforts each child by listening to their stories, laughing and crying with them, hugging and holding them and when they act out their frustrations, she embraces the moment and reassures them that together they will overcome this.

Building meaningful relationships and connecting with kids seems effortless and natural for Ursula. It is her intuition, understanding and her ability to look at life through the eyes of each individual child that makes her special. As she shares stories about each child who has lived with her, you can’t help but feel the admiration and appreciation she feels for each of them. A memory that brings tears to her eyes is when a child told her ‘you taught me how to love’ but this is just one of many memories she shares.

Teaching kids about forgiveness, respect, taking responsibility and accountability for one’s own actions is a value that she tries to instill in the young people she cares for. “They need us to see the good in them and to see their potential”, she says. It is important to Ursula to give each child the gift of new experiences, to help them to trust, to become resilient and to realize they are safe. Once a child has these, then the healing process can begin.

Ursula cannot help but smile as she reflects on her “wall of knowledge” - a wall that features the graduation photos of youth she has cared for. Ursula has believed in each one of them, has supported them as they turned their goals into reality and has helped them realize their full potential. With warmth and kindness, she proudly speaks about what each child has had to overcome and how hard they have had to work to accomplish their goals.

Sam, Jasmine, Kurt, Calvin, John, Sarah, Peter, Chad, Ronnie, Catherine, Lana......these are just a few of the young people who have experienced Ursula’s generosity. These young people’s lives have been touched in ways that are unexplainable and unimaginable – she has given them unconditional love and has helped them find their way.

*Names of the children in Ursula’s care have been changed to protect their identity.*
“Ursula understands that healing, loving, and being loved requires a balance of body, mind, heart and spirit; and that each person’s inner concept of “home” is the only place where that balance is set and reset.”

Al Hammond
Clinical Case Manager
Alternative Parent Home Service
A staff’s unwavering commitment to students...

I remember the first day I started at Coach – I instantly fell in love with my job and knew that it was where I was meant to be. I realized that I could have a significant impact in the lives of the children we work with, their families and the community.

Each young person we meet at Coach is unique. They have often experienced significant trauma and are misunderstood by society. When we meet them they often do not trust people, are struggling to find their way and have not yet had the opportunity to discover their gifts. As we build relationships, over time and with patience, the students start to open up and realize we genuinely care about their well-being and that we want them to succeed.

During my time at Coach, I have grown as a person. I have gained a deeper understanding of what it means to influence change and be part of a team. Every day I get to witness the power of kids, families, teachers and Coaches working together to help better the lives of the students. I have come to appreciate that no two situations are the same and diversity is one of the things I love about my job. I am honoured that the families
“Every day I get to witness the power of kids, families, teachers and Coaches”
Kerri’s Story

I work with have trusted me to build meaningful relationships with their children. This is something I do not take lightly. As a mother, I know first-hand how hard it is to trust someone with your child. The joy I get from watching these youth grow into their potential puts a smile on my face daily.

As a manager, I also take pride in the fact that I can affect change in many ways at MYS. I feel fortunate that I have had the opportunity to learn and be supported by some of the most amazing people I have ever met. As well, I am always impressed by the dedication and commitment of the staff in the Coach Program who go above and beyond to empower our young people to become the best that they can be!

Kerri Koblun has been with the Coach Program since 2001. She was one of the first Coaches hired in the program and in 2012 she was promoted to the position of Program Manager.

The Coach program is a comprehensive school program that includes after school/evening and summer components. In partnership with the Winnipeg School Division, the Coach Program is designed primarily to support the needs of children between 6-11 years of age who are having difficulty being successful in the existing educational system. In September 2015, the Coach Program will be expanding to include students 12-15 years of age.

“Kerri has a passion for Coach and the students in the Coach program – whether they attend now or attended years ago. She is one of the most caring and non-judgmental people I have ever worked with and we are lucky to have her at MYS.”

Kelly Schettler
Coordinator, Transition Services
“I like that I can speak my mind about what I feel.”

Youth
Macdonald Youth Services

Photo taken by youth in the SIP Service and Niki Trosky, Day Program Educator.
MYS by the numbers
Placement Services
Alternative Parent Home (APH)
• 161 children & youth served
• 47,124 service days

Kisewatisiwin Service
• 157 children, youth & adults served
• 34,019 service days

Adolescent Resources in Community Homes (ARCH)
• 52 youth served in community homes
• 11,597 service days
• 39 youth involved in WorkForce Ventures
• 125 customers served by WorkForce Ventures

Specialized Individual Placement (SIP)
• 49 youth served
• 8,403 service days

Community Services
Coach Program
• 26 families served

Youth Resource Centre/Shelter (YRC)
• 6,618 youth contacts, 1,680 parent contacts and 9,810 professional contacts
• 1,931 safe overnights provided to youth

Youth Crisis Stabilization System (YCSS)
• 1,474 community visits made by the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT)
• 278 referrals to the Brief Therapy Team
• 560 referrals to the Crisis Stabilization Units
• Most frequent callers were parents and guardians
• Average age of youth utilizing YCSS was 12.91
• The main reasons for calling intake were concerns about self-harm/at-risk behaviours, difficult behaviours, mental health issues and parent/child conflict

Transition Services
Positive Alternatives for Youth (PAY)
• 628 participants served
• 37 volunteers

Life Train
• 75 participants served
• 313 follow up contacts made
• 15 participants in the Asset Building Program

Independent Living with Supports (ILS)
• 16 youth served

Photo taken by youth in the SIP Service and Niki Trosky, Day Program Educator.
MYS Supports Day of Pink
On April 9, 2014, MYS proudly supported Day of Pink! It is a day when communities across the country and across the world can unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobic, transphobic and all forms of bullying. It was a great opportunity for us to celebrate our diversity at MYS!
Agency Appreciation
On May 28, 2014, MYS held its annual appreciation event at the Marlborough Hotel. We recognized our volunteers, foster parents and staff for their years of service. This is an amazing group of people who go above and beyond to ensure the children, youth, adults and families of Manitoba are taken care of. Thank you to all of these individuals for their hard work and dedication!

MYS Receives Prestigious Award
On Saturday, June 7, 2014, MYS was presented with the “Employer of the Year” Award from CDI College. MYS has a long standing history of providing practicum placements for CDI students in the Addictions and Community Services Worker Program. It was an honour to receive such a prestigious award!
Agency Appreciation

MYS AGM

Raising the Roof

Dragon Boat Race
Paddling for Hope
On Saturday, June 7, 2014, the MYS Paddle for Hope team participated in the Canadian Cancer Society River City Dragon Boat Festival. This year the team raised over $2800 in support of the fight against cancer. This was our way of recognizing individuals who have lost their lives to cancer, to support individuals who are still on their journey of fighting cancer and to celebrate those who have won the battle.

Alternative Parent Home Service Brings MYS Community Together
On Wednesday, June 18, 2014, the Alternative Parent Home Service held their annual BBQ for foster parents, youth and staff. It was a great opportunity for the MYS family to come together.

Local Magician Gives Back to the Community
Evan Morgan, a local magician who inspires youth through magic offered classes at no cost to eight kids ages 9-13 in the Alternative Parent Home Service. Evan not only volunteered his time, but he also raised funds to pay for the cost of the program. He had received so much support for this initiative that he exceeded the amount that he needed to cover the cost of the program. Evan generously donated the additional funds to the MYS Education Fund. Evan is a remarkable individual and it was our privilege to work with him.

The Coach Program Boston Pizza
In August 2014, the staff of Boston Pizza at Polo Park hosted a volleyball clinic and treated the youth in the Coach Program to a pizza lunch. It was a fun-filled day and the kids had a blast!

MTS Day of Caring
On August 27, 2014, MYS was honoured to host MTS employees for the United Way Day of Caring. More than 50 employees joined us to give back to the community. They helped clean up the yard in front of the Youth Resource Centre/Shelter and they painted the inside of the building so the Independent Living with Supports Program could move in. MYS is pleased to be part of such a caring community.

85th Annual General Meeting
On September 16, 2014, MYS held its 85th Annual General Meeting at Fort Gibraltar. Attendees enjoyed lunch followed by a guest speaker who shared his story of how accessing the Youth Resource Centre/Shelter positively impacted his life and helped him find his way. A reflection of how we are making a difference!

MYS CEO Participates in CEO Sleepout
On Thursday, September 18, 2014, Erma Chapman, CEO of Macdonald Youth Services participated in the Downtown Winnipeg Biz - CEO Sleepout and raised over $400 to help end homelessness. That night everyone’s spirits were high and there was a strong commitment from the community to end homelessness. It was impressive how Winnipeggers came together – an example of our community’s spirit!

The Home Depot Canada Foundation Supports MYS
This past year MYS has received an amazing amount of support from The Home Depot Canada Foundation. The Home Depot associates from across Winnipeg raised $18,108 through The Orange Door Project
fundraising campaign in support of the Positive Alternatives for Youth Program. In September 2014, they also provided a $5000 grant and a team of volunteers to build fences and prepare the grounds of the Youth Resource Centre/Shelter for landscaping. We are so grateful for their support!

**Foster Parent Appreciation Week**
Foster Parent Appreciation Week was held in October. The Alternative Parent Home Service had a foster parent appreciation luncheon for all of our dedicated and caring foster parents. Our foster parents are an essential part of our agency and we feel honoured to have such wonderful people caring for kids.

**MYS Participates in CancerCare Manitoba’s Inside Ride**
On October 15, 2014, staff from the Coach Program participated in the Winnipeg Inside Ride presented by CancerCare Manitoba. This indoor cycling celebration helps raise awareness and funds to support clinical trials for kids and teens living with cancer in Manitoba. This is our way of giving back and acknowledging the difficult journey of kids living with cancer.

**A Successful Raising the Roof Campaign**
Once again, MYS participated in “Toques in Your Community Program” with Raising the Roof to bring awareness and help raise funds to end homelessness. We raised $216.11 in donations and sold 386 toques with 80% of proceeds going towards ending homelessness.

A huge thank you to Intact Insurance and Husky Convenience Stores for helping us sell toques.

**New Year’s Eve Gala Held in Support of MYS**
On New Year’s Eve at Winnipeg’s Downtown Radisson Hotel, Mercedes-Benz Winnipeg sponsored the Resolution NYE Gala in support of MYS! It was a fabulous evening that raised awareness of MYS’ services and the $7000 raised was donated to the Positive Alternatives for Youth Program. A special thank you to the event organizers, Kevin Manswell and Bryan Salvador, the event committee, and all the sponsors and donors who supported the event.

**Morning Breakfasts with MYS**
This past year MYS hosted two morning breakfast events. We were pleased to have Damon Johnston, President of the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg and David Northcott, Executive Director of Winnipeg Harvest as our guest speakers. This was an opportunity for us to connect with our community.

**A Community of Caring**
MYS staff are always looking for ways to give back to the community. Once again, MYS participated in the annual United Way Campaign. This year staff donated over $11,000 that will be invested back into the community to improve the lives of individuals and their families. MYS staff never cease to amaze us!
Donors and Sponsors
April 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015

Clemento Adamo
All Charities Campaign
Olenka Antymniuk
Frank Azevedo
Eddie & Rose Aziman
Anonymous
Anonymous
Bell Media
Benée Rubin Jewellery
Design Corporation
Marjorie & Morley Blankstein
B’nai Brith Canada
Bootlegger
Boston Pizza
Dennis Brears
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Canada Revenue Agency Employees
Anonymous
Philipa Caplan
James & Gayle Carson
Dr. Erma Chapman
In Honour of Brett Becker
Chipman Family Foundation Fund
Cisco Systems Inc.
Clearwater Colony - Lightly School
Confusion Corner Bar and Grill
Luciano Costa
Anonymous
Ryan Downey
In Honour of Fletcher McDougall
Kim Dyck
Floral Philanthropy
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Freightliner Manitoba
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Andrew Gagnon
Jennifer Giesbrecht
Wayne & Cathy Goodman
Laurie & Sharon Gorenstein
Granny’s Poultry
Anonymous
Stephen Gregg
Sandra Gustafson
Anonymous
The Home Depot Canada - Team Depot Project Day
Victoria Huntrods
Lyana Hydald
Ink Spotz Apparel
Jewish Foundation of Manitoba
In Memory of Carlyle Johannson
Johnson Waste Management
Marion & Bill Kinnear
M. Kostiu
Joyce Laidler
In Memory of Tim Smith
Anonymous
Magellan Vacations
Manitoba Federation of Labour
Women’s Committee
Manitoba Hydro
Manitoba Public Insurance
Marrbeck Construction Inc.
Mawer Investment Management
Judy McGibbon
Karen McKim
Marilou McPhedran
Dale Oughton
In Memory of Tina Fontaine
Mercedes - Benz Winnipeg
The Morberg Family
EvanMorganLIVE
Kristin Moser
MTS (Day of Caring)
In Honour of Rose Oughton
In Memory of Mrs. Helen Waggoner (Oughton)
Darryl Peck
Ginette Poirier
Anonymous
Joanne Preject
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Project Echo
Raising the Roof
Anonymous
RealCare Inc. - Elba Haid
Patrick Reid
Anonymous
Kevin Rosen & Judi Price Rosen
Anonymous
Anonymous
Jennifer Sacco
David Schellenberg
Dustin Schneider
Alexis Schoen
Anonymous
Nancy Scott
Derrick Sheldon
Christine Sohan
Sorrento’s Pizza
Gary & Gwen Steiman
Karen Stuart
Anonymous
Anonymous
Elane & Barry Talbot
Tek Trucks
Harry Tetlow
Cam Thang

The Home Depot Canada Foundation
The Orange Door Project campaign
The Hotel Fort Garry – Ida Albo
The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company
The Winnipeg Foundation -
  Christina Hay Bowie, Charlotte Alvis Bowie, Ann Wilson Gibson Memorial Fund
Anonymous
Victor Tomassetti
Chris & Ginny Toni
Katie Thompson
Marilyn Trepel
Anonymous
Anonymous
United Way - Dream Seats
VIP Productions
The Walker Chase Family
Arlene Wilson
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg Blue Bombers
Winnipeg Bulb Project - Derek Yarnell
Winnipeg Goldeyes
WOW! Hospitality – Doug Stephen
Stefania Zaurrini
James Zulyniak

Grants
April 1, 2014-March 31, 2015

Canada Post Community Foundation

City of Thompson
  · Homelessness Partnering Strategy
  · Thompson Community Foundation

Downtown Winnipeg Biz

Province of Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning
  · School and Community Arts Program

The Home Depot Canada Foundation

The Winnipeg Foundation
  · Camp and Summer Program
  · Community Grants
  · Nourishing Potential
  · Youth in Philanthropy
    · Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg
    · Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
    · Garden City Collegiate
    · Westwood Collegiate

MYS Thanks You!
MYS Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015

REVENUE

Government of Manitoba 10,417,105
Child and Family Service Agencies 18,053,234
Employment and Social Development Canada 16,736
United Way of Winnipeg 185,813
Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative 381,922
Private Donations 35,157
Miscellaneous Grants 78,428
Other 278,589

TOTAL OPERATING FUND $29,446,984.00

Capital Fund 221,943

TOTAL AGENCY $29,668,928.00

NOTE: Government of Manitoba includes
Family Service and Housing 9,349,896
Healthy Child Manitoba 703,600
Justice 162,500
Children and Youth Opportunities - Urban Green Team 10,367
Children and Youth Opportunities - Lighthouse 12,000
Children and Youth Opportunities - Youth NOW 178,742

10,417,105

EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Benefits 19,132,001
Living and Care Costs 7,006,789
Operating Costs 1,643,306
Travel and Transportation Costs 524,975
Programming Costs 1,034,033
Capital and Facilities Costs 253,535

$29,594,639.00

Excess of Revenue over Expenditures 74,289

$29,668,928.00
Board Executives:

President:
Darlene Searcy
until June 2014

As of September 16, 2014
President:
Ian Gillies

1st Vice President:
Carla Dewar

2nd Vice President:
Warren Sawatzky

Treasurer/Secretary:
Joyce Laidler

Board Members:
Sarah Corley**
Donna Glover
Roxanne Greene*
Amanda Haney
Ryan Haney**
Jim Krovats
Thai Lam
Tom Liontas
Mandeep Rai**
Dave Schellenberg
Darlene Searcy*
Shane Storie**
David Thorne**

Members:

Al Burrows
Brad Wolfe
Dave McCulloch
Gilbert Manitopyes
Larry Karpiak
Michael Walker
Jim Venn

Committee Chairs:

Executive:
Darlene Searcy until June 2014
Ian Gillies, starting September 16, 2014

Finance and Financial Audit:
Warren Sawatzky

Infrastructure:
Jim Krovats

Board Development & By-Laws:
Carla Dewar

Legacy:
Ian Gillies

Honorary Lifetime Member:
Phyllis Dixon

* Board Members who left during the year.
** Board Members who joined during the year.
“I like that there are people to listen to me when I need someone to talk to.”

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1-866-809-5187

Youth Crisis
Stabilization System
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Toll Free
(outside Winnipeg):
1-888-383-2776

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