



STARR  
COMMONWEALTH

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2009

“in their  
OWN  
words”

## strategic direction:

Be a national leader in strength-based programs for children; invest in our people; achieve financial stability and independence.

## mission:

Create positive environments where children flourish.

## vision:

Be a national leader in strength-based practices for children and youth.

## core values:

Honesty, compassion, respect, responsibility and fairness.

## beliefs:

We believe...

there is no such thing as a bad child.

everyone has the responsibility to help and no one has the right to hurt, physically or verbally.

people can change and problems are solvable opportunities that facilitate growth and development. in recognizing and developing the strengths of all children and families.

in the oneness of humankind and will embrace all people as social equals, valuing their diversity. all children deserve positive relationships.

in the principles of servant leadership and are obligated to help one another reach their full potential.

all people can be contributing members with a commitment to social interest and volunteerism.

all people are spiritual beings and, in order to reach their full potential, children and families must be given opportunities for spiritual growth.

Starr Commonwealth is internationally recognized as a leader in transformational programs for children, families, schools and communities. Founded in 1913, Starr's treatment philosophy is rooted in seeing something good in every child, which serves as the guiding principle in its strength-based approach. Starr offers a full spectrum of community-based early intervention and prevention services along with specialized residential programs. Through the Starr Institute of Training, parents, clinicians, educators and childcare professionals now have access to Starr's highly successful and innovative techniques aimed at bringing out the best in every child. For more information, visit [www.starr.org](http://www.starr.org)





Martin Mitchell

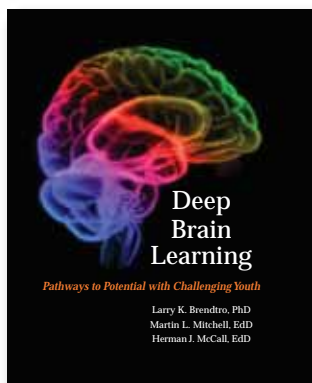
## letter from leadership:

Throughout this report you will find heartfelt, emotional, inspiring and motivational stories from the very people who have benefited from Starr Commonwealth’s programs, and ultimately from the support of those who believe in our mission. There’s no better way to demonstrate our impact than to hear from those who have benefited from our services. Youth and families in need of our services today are experiencing challenges beyond what we have known in the past.

At a time when financial resources have decreased, the demand of specialized treatment has increased. Our organization, like so many others, is fiscally challenged, but we cannot afford to NOT take care of these youth. Hearing the stories of how our youth came into Starr’s Continuum of Care is often difficult and tugs at the heart strings of those who care deeply, as we do, about their futures.

This past year, Starr Commonwealth acquired the Children’s Home of Detroit and The National Institute for Trauma & Loss in Children (TLC™). With the acquisition came the expansion of our ability to impact the lives of even more youth and families, especially in Southeast Michigan. We are honored by this opportunity and will continue the legacy of the Children’s Home and preserve its 173-year history of service to families and youth.

The National Institute for Trauma & Loss in Children is growing and thriving. This year alone, 16,000 traumatized children will benefit from the TLC interventions provided by the 322 Trauma Specialists who became certified by TLC last year.



Together with the Circle of Courage, we released the book “Deep Brain Learning: Pathways to Potential with Challenging Youth,” which provides evidence for using relationships built on strength, trust and resilience for success with troubled children. The book has been well received by professionals from across the country and internationally, and trainings are being conducted for child-care professionals and educators on implementing the book’s recommended strategies we have employed at Starr over our 97-year history.

Unfortunately, many youth experience trauma at some point in their lives. We also know how inherently resilient they are. Our mission is to strengthen that resiliency through environments where they can flourish. A new Starr Model is emerging based on these beliefs, one that seeks “The Vital Balance” created when youth have Attachment, Autonomy, Achievement and Altruism in their lives, and one that will guide us in the years ahead.

Please accept my deepest appreciation for your support. Because of you we are able to make a difference in the lives of children. I hope you enjoy hearing from them, “In Their Own Words.”

Martin L. Mitchell, Ed.D.  
President & Chief Executive Officer

# Bricks & Benches

The purchase of commemorative bricks and benches helps support campus environments in Albion, Michigan and Columbus and Van Wert, Ohio. Benches are available for \$2,000, and two sizes of bricks are available for \$100 and \$200.

*We appreciate the following friends who provided commemorative bricks and benches in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.*

## Bricks - Albion

Ms. Susan L. Beazley  
Rev. Geary F. Bird  
Dr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Britt  
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Delamarter  
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Dick  
Mrs. Diane Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Jones

Mrs. Ada Mead  
Mr. and Mrs. Randy R. Neumann  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Nowlin  
Ms. Roxann Repasy

## Bricks - Columbus

Mr. Bryan Brown  
Mrs. Lindsay N. Hileman

## Bricks - Van Wert

Starr Commonwealth  
VW Administrative Team



*Before going to Starr Commonwealth my dream of going to college and doing well for myself was slipping away fast by hanging out with the wrong crowd. I lost sight of my goals and started engaging in activities that would end me up in the opposite direction. Being at Starr Commonwealth reinforced what I needed to do in life and how to go about it to be successful. I truly think without the rude awakening from the staff, my peers, and my parents throughout my stay at Starr Commonwealth, I would not be where I am right now. I learned that getting into trouble with the law, hanging around gang members, and lying to the ones I love will either end me up in jail or in a place no one wants to be in. Once I finally realized that the life I was living was not how I was raised or not what my parents wanted for their daughter while they worked hard to provide a beautiful home and gave me all the chances to do well, that is when I changed. I made this change by using the tools I learned from Starr Commonwealth, I took advantage of all the positive opportunities, I disengaged from the negative peer group, and built healthy relationships as a support system to keep me on the right track in moving forward.*

**- Vanessa, a Montcalm School for Girls alumna**



“in their own words”

We appreciate the following individuals, foundations, groups, businesses and organizations who have made donations of \$500 or more to Starr Commonwealth during the 2008-2009 fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009).

**Individual Donors:**

*Highlighted names indicate legacy gifts*

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Adams  
 Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Allen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond I. Anderson  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Babcock  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Stephen Bennett  
 Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bernardon  
 Mr. and Mrs. Noble Billingsley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Simon Bisson  
 Ms. Justine Borchers  
**Mrs. Helyn M. Bowersock**

**The Numbers:**

*A total of 1,644 donors made 3,167 gifts to Starr in the past year.*

Dr. Marcia C. Bowling  
 Mrs. Doris M. Bradley  
 Dr. and Mrs. Larry K. Brendtro  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Brittan  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley R. Browne  
 Ms. Erma Bulgrin  
**Ms. Eva M. Burford**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig J. Cain  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Caldwell  
 Ms. Diane Carleton  
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig Carrel  
 Drs. David and Edie Cole  
**Frank A. Collins Estate**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Crist  
 Mr. Fred E. Dauterman Jr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Bud Davis  
 Mrs. Rebecca Davis  
 Mr. Spencer L. Davis  
**Mr. Frederick R. Dennison**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dixon  
 Mr. and Mrs. Keith Dufrane  
 Mr. and Mrs. David Dunshee  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Dean Eckersley  
 Ms. Kelly A. Edds  
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edwards  
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Efrehoff  
**Mrs. Elsie Eggebrecht**  
**Mrs. Dena K. Eleveld**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Elwood A. Ellis  
 Mr. and Mrs. Melvin D. Ely  
 Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ernster  
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fassold  
 Mr. and Mrs. Parker T. Feldpausch  
 Mrs. Walter Fisher  
 Mrs. Shirley Flanagan  
**R. M. Freedman Trust**  
 Mrs. Winifred K. Fox  
 Mr. Robert W. Garthwait  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Gerholz  
 Mrs. Dareth Gerlach  
 Mr. and Mrs. William R. Gillam  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Givens  
 Mr. and Mrs. George D. Goodman  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jon M. Gould  
 Mr. Stephen Grand

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Greene  
 Dr. Robert Greenway  
 Mr. Robert Guiney  
**Eugene B. Hamilton**  
 Mrs. Robert J. Hampson  
 Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hartzell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hastings  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Hepp  
 Mrs. Joan Hinkamp  
 Mr. and Mrs. William W. Houghton  
 Mrs. Blanche Howard  
 Mr. and Mrs. William C. Jackson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Johanningsmeier  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ted F. Johnson  
 Ms. Gretchen Wendel Kah  
**Mrs. Frances Kiger**  
 Ms. Jenny Klitch, Esq.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Koegel  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kolassa  
 Mrs. Mary Ann Krauss  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis J. LaFleur  
 Mr. and Mrs. William E. LaMothe  
 Ms. Janice Langley  
 Dr. George H. Lauff  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Lawter  
 Mr. and Mrs. Peter P. Lenkey  
 Dr. and Mrs. Clyde LeTarte  
 Mrs. Margaret S. Leutheuser  
 Mr. Austin D. Bryan and Ms. Ann Longfellow  
 Ms. Olga Lucia  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Maldegen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jason Manzagol  
 Mrs. Mary E. Marxen  
 Dr. and Mrs. Russell G. Mawby  
 Dr. and Mrs. Herman J. McCall  
 Mrs. Patricia A. McJoynt and Mr. Robert Griffith  
**Mrs. Eleanor McNeil Clark**  
 Mrs. Frances M. Miller  
 Ms. Paula Miller



**Alumni Giving:**  
*Gifts from former students of Starr and Montcalm increased by 118% during 2009.*

Dr. and Mrs. Martin L. Mitchell  
**William R. Monroe Trust**  
 Mr. and Mrs. James A. Moore  
**Minnie L. Morrison**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Murray

**Mr. Lawrence E. Niemann**  
 Mr. Richard A. Patterson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Pettengill  
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger Pitzer  
**George J. Pohl**



Parents Showing Appreciation  
*Contributions from parents of children enrolled in our private therapeutic boarding school, Montcalm Schools, increased by 52% last year. Thanks to grateful parents, we also witnessed this past year, the completion of Koby Cottage, a place for parents to stay with their children while visiting campus.*

**Zora B. Pohl**  
 Ms. Kimberly S. Pruett  
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Raithel  
 Dr. and Mrs. David Reimann  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jon A. Rhoades  
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Ribar  
 Mrs. John P. Ribar  
 Mrs. Margaret A. Riecker  
 Mrs. Margaret Rink  
 Mr. Gerald D. Robinson  
 Mrs. Rochelle Rocco  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Saeger  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Schafer  
**Mrs. Georgene Schmeckpeper**  
 Ms. Evelyn M. Schwarz  
 Mr. Jared C. Scofield  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Shaw  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Shelton II  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ahmad Sinno  
 Mr. and Mrs. John S. Slavens  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Lee Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher L. Smith  
 Dr. Daniel Smith and Ms. Angela Murray  
 Mr. and Mrs. Eddie M. Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith  
 Ms. Joyce Soebbing  
 Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Southwick  
 Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Speirn  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard I. Spence  
**Miss Virginia Spieth**  
 Mr. William Steele  
 Mr. and Mrs. Erick Stewart  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Stewart  
 Mrs. Eleanor K. Stewart  
**Mrs. F. Lucille Stewart**  
 Mr. William K. Stoffer  
 Mrs. Elinor L. Sykes  
 Mr. Harry Sykora  
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Tate  
 Mr. Gary L. Taylor  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kurt O. Tech  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Traver

**Miss Virginia M. Tripp**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas A. Valentine  
 Dr. and Mrs. Warren Van Wicklin  
 Mrs. Mary M. Wagoner  
 Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wasserman

Mrs. Madeline G. Weidman  
 Mr. Harvey M. Weitkamp  
**Alma L. Weixelbaum**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Weyers  
**Mr. Glenn M. Williams**  
 Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson  
 Mrs. Joan M. Wilson

**Foundations, Corporations, Groups and Organizations:**

Accenture  
 Anna Paulina Foundation  
 BalletMet Columbus  
 Band From TV, LLC  
 Battelle  
 Battle Creek Community Foundation  
 Bob Evans Farms, Inc.  
 Business First of Columbus  
 Cardinal Health  
 Chase Home Finance LLC  
 Chemical Bank Shoreline  
 The Cleveland Foundation  
 The Colina Foundation  
 Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation  
 The Columbus Foundation  
 Combined Federal Campaign

**Online Donations:**

*The online donation option was popular with more than \$7,000 contributed through our website [www.starr.org/donate](http://www.starr.org/donate) in the past year.*



**Continuing a Legacy:**  
\$8,290,023 was recorded as gift income from the acquisition of Children's Home of Detroit. Starr is honored to have been selected to continue their legacy.

Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan  
DeRoy Testamentary Foundation  
O.P. & W.E. Edwards Foundation  
The Walter and Marian English Foundation  
Erdis G. Robinson Charitable Trust  
J. F. Ervin Foundation

**Fitch H. Beach Charitable Foundation**  
Forks Senior Center  
Garrison Architects  
Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation  
Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C.  
Grange Insurance Companies  
Hannah Neil Center Foundation  
Hartzell-Norris Charitable Trust  
Hastings Mutual Insurance Co.  
Helen L. Kay Charitable Trust  
Holiday Inn on the Lane  
**Jessie R. Stewart Trust**  
Leo Yassenoff Foundation  
Limited Brands Foundation  
Longfellow Investment Management Company  
Managed Care Advisors, Inc.  
Mansfield Correctional Institute  
MGM Mirage Voice Foundation  
Nationwide Foundation  
Nationwide Insurance  
North Congregational Church  
Ohio Fair Plan  
Underwriting Association  
Delmar and Audria Olson Family Foundation  
Nina B. Pohlman Fund

Primore, Inc.  
RMHC of Southeastern Michigan  
The Rodney Fund  
Ronald McDonald Children's Charities  
Sam's Club Foundation  
Sidney Frohman Foundation



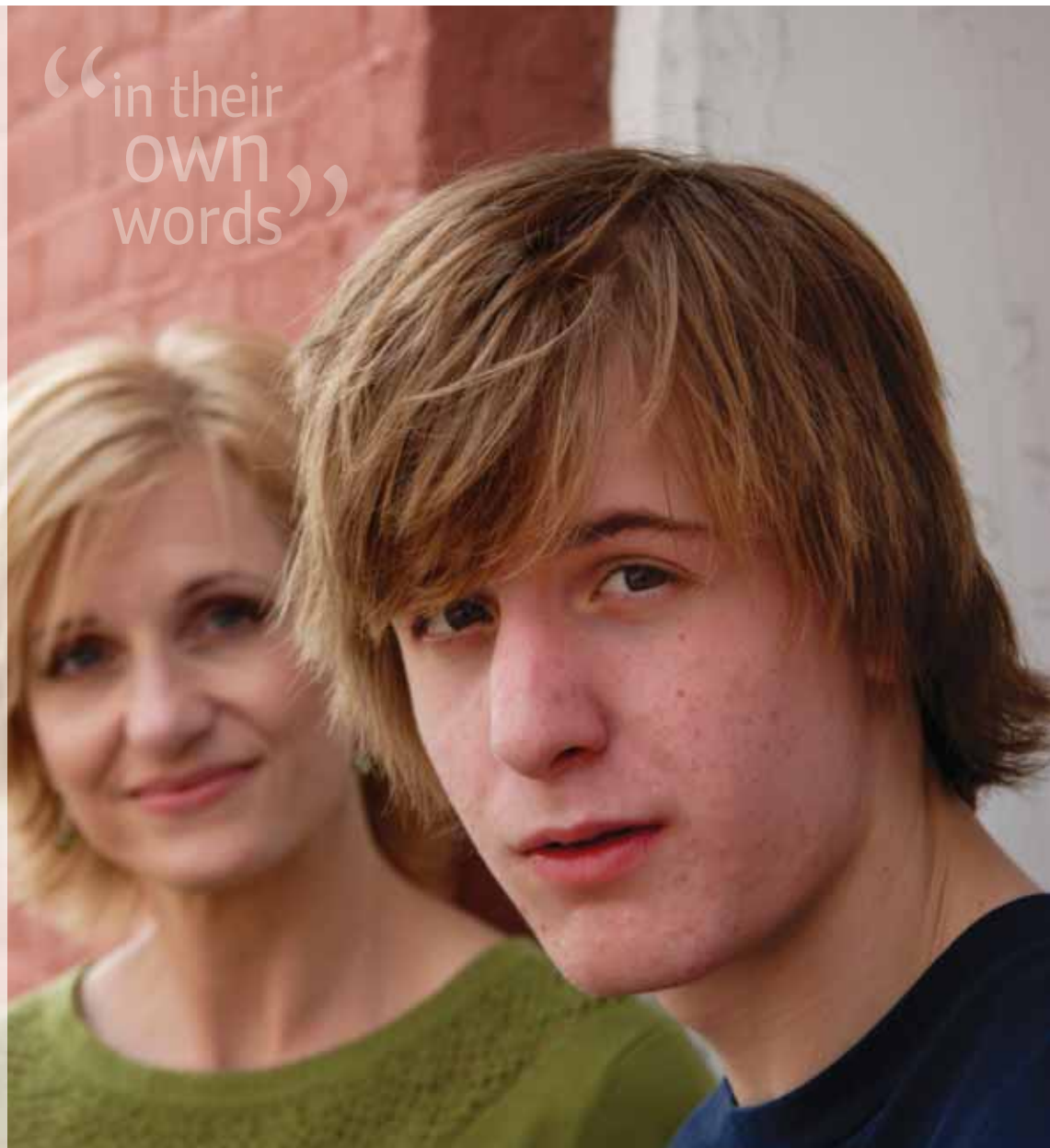
**Chemical Bank:**  
Montcalm School for Boys staff and students are shown here with Mark Montross and Diane Ramirez of Chemical Bank who helped purchase new Smartboard technology for the classrooms.

Siemer Family Foundation  
Stryker-Johnston Foundation  
Swan Club Inc.  
Team 1 Plastics  
The Deuble Foundation  
The Montei Foundation  
Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation  
Tyler-Little Family Foundation  
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)  
United Jewish Foundation  
United Way of Central Ohio  
Frederick S. Upton Foundation  
Van Wert Dance Club  
Van Wert Propane, Inc.  
W. K. Kellogg Foundation  
J. Ernest & Almerna Gray Wilde Foundation  
Woman's National Farm & Garden Association  
Young Woman's Home Association  
Zanetti Foundation

**My son had been in and out of hospitals and was successfully learning how to be a patient. Things were not improving. We wanted to find a place that would actually rehabilitate our son, not just promote his helplessness. Montcalm treated him with respect. They encouraged him to talk with others in his group about self-worth and accountability. They required physical activity and community service. The boys worked together to prepare meals, clean the house and do laundry. He took responsibility for his actions, and today accepts responsibility for his success.**

**– Parent of former Montcalm School for Boys student**

“in their own words”





*I don't really get along with my family. There's nobody to talk to. But here, the Starr staff is like my family. They listen. There's somebody there for you, who accepts you for who you are and they don't talk bad about you. I can't stay in Battle Creek around the same peers and my family. The Starr staff always tells me that I got a lot of potential. I didn't even know what that meant before. Now I know that it means I can do anything I put my mind to, and I can be successful.*

*– Shantell, youth in Starr Battle Creek's Day Treatment Program*

“in their OWN words”

## Champions for Children<sup>SM</sup>

The good work of Starr Commonwealth would not be possible without many friends giving at all levels during their lifetime and beyond. Starr Commonwealth's Champions for Children recognition society was created to recognize this support and celebrate those who help us transform the lives of troubled children and families.

All costs associated with our three stewardship programs are underwritten by special friends who join us in saying, "Thank you for caring!"

### Arlin E. Ness Circle

*"There are no disposable kids."*

Named after Starr Commonwealth's President Emeritus, this recognition society remembers our history as a working dairy farm, and symbolizes our work of nurturing children's bodies, minds and spirits. Each bottle represents \$2,500 of accumulated gifts to Starr Commonwealth. Receiving eight bottles represents total accumulated giving of \$20,000 or more.



*The following donors reached the next level of accumulated giving and qualify for new milk bottles in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.*

#### **Milk Bottle 1 – Summary of Gifts \$2,500 - \$4,999**

##### **Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. J. Stephen Bennett  
 Dr. and Mrs. Rudrick E. Boucher  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley R. Browne  
 Mr. Thomas P. Butler Jr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Crist  
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edwards  
 Mr. and Mrs. Russell A. Gill  
 Mrs. Jane C. Hendron  
 Mrs. Margaret J. Kemper  
 Mrs. Ada Mead  
 Mrs. Rochelle Rocco  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Schafer  
 Mr. Donald E. Schmeckpeper  
 Dr. Daniel Smith and  
 Ms. Angela Murray  
 Mr. Woodrow N. Waldrop  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom M. Walworth Jr.

##### **Organizations:**

The Colina Foundation

#### **Milk Bottle 2 - Summary of Gifts \$5,000 - \$7,499**

##### **Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. Chris T. Christ  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett C. Dickey  
 Mr. and Mrs. James R. Greene  
 Mr. and Mrs. William C. Jackson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McNeil  
 Mrs. Frances M. Miller  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Shaw

##### **Organizations:**

BalletMet Columbus  
 R. M. Freedman Trust  
 Hastings Mutual Insurance Co.

#### **Milk Bottle 3 - Summary of Gifts \$7,500 - \$9,999**

##### **Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond I. Anderson  
 Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hartzell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jon A. Rhoades  
 Mrs. Margaret Rink

#### **Milk Bottle 4 - Summary of Gifts \$10,000 - \$12,499**

##### **Individuals:**

Ms. Evelyn M. Schwarz  
 Mr. Robert W. Garthwait  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kurt O. Tech

##### **Organizations:**

J P Morgan Chase & Co.  
 J. Ernest & Almena Gray  
 Wilde Foundation

***While residing at Starr Commonwealth, I learned multiple skills, as well as learned how to cope with my childhood issues.***

*I received intensive therapy at Starr which allowed me to open up and deal with the internal suffering I endured from being neglected and rejected by my parents, family and friends. My troubles had followed me and caused me to start failing in school, become depressed and have a severe anger management problem. After completing Starr Commonwealth in March 2007, I successfully graduated from high school the following June. I then started seeking higher education at Wayne State University. Being at Starr, I saw how the staff devoted so much of their time in helping each individual with their personal problems. During the completion of this program I admired the staff and decided to pursue my education in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement. Thanks to a Starr Scholarship, I am now enrolled at Wayne State where I joined a fraternity and am learning new interpersonal and leadership skills.*

***- Antwuan, former youth of the Starr Albion residential program and Starr Scholarship Program recipient***



“in their own words”

**Milk Bottle 5 - Summary of Gifts \$12,500 - \$14,999**

**Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Koegel  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Maldegen

**Milk Bottle 6 - Summary of Gifts \$15,000 - \$17,499**

**Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Babcock  
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin D. Ely  
Mr. Douglas W. Jardin  
Mrs. Phyllis Karseboom  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tate

**Organizations:**

Chemical Bank Shoreline  
RMHC of Southeastern Michigan  
Band From TV, LLC

**Milk Bottle 7 - Summary of Gifts \$17,500 - \$19,999**

**Individuals:**

Mr. Austin D. Bryan and Ms. Ann Longfellow  
Mr. and Mrs. Parker T. Feldpausch  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hastings  
Mrs. Blanche Howard  
Mr. and William Traver

**Organizations:**

Cardinal Health

**Milk Bottle 8 - Summary of Gifts more than \$20,000**

**Individuals:**

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Allen

**Organizations:**

Young Woman's Home Association

An Investment in Their Future Gifts, pledges and deferred commitments totaled \$2,910,656, a 58% increase over the last fiscal year.

**ANNUITANTS**

We are pleased to recognize our friends who created a Charitable Gift Annuity during the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gerholz\*

\*Multiple annuities with Starr Commonwealth

**CHARITABLE TRUSTS**

We are pleased to recognize our friends who created Charitable Trusts on behalf of the children of Starr Commonwealth.

Mrs. Robert W. Bell  
Dr. and Mrs. Delwin K. Buckhold  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis  
Miss Nellie J. Drake  
Mrs. Warren A. Genee  
Ms. Helen J. Grinnell  
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kratzet  
Mrs. Margaret Starr Leutheuser  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kelly

“in their own words”



***Starr Commonwealth has helped me tremendously improve my relationship with my family.** Before attending Starr, I was distant from my family and heading down the wrong path. I was in my own world and would not listen to my parents nor did I care what they had to say. When I first arrived at Montcalm School for Girls, I was an extremely angry person and did not want to talk to anybody. I soon realized that my parents truly were trying to help me get better. I learned how to control my emotions in a positive way, how to communicate with my parents, and how to connect with other girls who were going through similar problems. I was able to open up and express my thoughts and feelings during therapy sessions and receive positive feedback from my group members. Starr Commonwealth has helped me control my anger and find coping skills. I have learned that no matter what, I will always have my family, what is most important in life. My parents' decision to send me to Starr Commonwealth was probably the hardest decision they have ever had to make in their lives. I am now very thankful for them and I understand that they sent me to Starr because they loved me and wanted to mend our relationship.*

*– Mallory, a Montcalm School for Girls alumna*

## Floyd Starr Founder's Circle

*"There's no such thing as a bad boy."*

Floyd Starr Founder's Circle recognizes friends who give to Starr Commonwealth through their wills or estate plans. Members receive a beautiful replica of the statue "Floyd Starr with a Boy" that graces the entrance of our Albion campus, as well as other benefits.

*Floyd Starr Founder's Circle celebrates "Uncle" Floyd's dedication to children, and the dedication of those who continue to support his vision.*



### Legacies:

*Several friends passed away last year and remembered our children in their wills and estate plans. We will never forget them.*

Mrs. Helyn M. Bowersock  
Mrs. Bliss B. Cartwright  
Mrs. (Mary) Betty B. Catto  
Mrs. Elsie Eggebrecht  
Mr. Stanley A. Evans  
Miss Meta M. Fogas  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Kern  
Mr. Charles F. Kline  
Mr. Levi R. Marttila  
Mrs. Eleanor McNeil Clark  
Mr. Lawrence E. Niemann  
Mrs. Georgene Schmeckpeper  
Miss Virginia Spieth  
Mr. Emery C. Traver  
Miss Virginia M. Tripp

### Will Inclusions:

*We are pleased to recognize our friends who have informed us that they have included Starr Commonwealth in their wills and estate plans.*

Mrs. Miriam A. Abbott  
Mrs. Pearl Albert  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Allen  
Dr. and Mrs. Rick E. Amidon  
Mrs. Lee R. Baker  
Ms. Gloria Baltzer  
Mrs. Lavonne G. Bauer  
Mrs. Robert W. Bell  
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce H. Bellard  
Mrs. Irene Beshgetoor  
Mr. Jim Bolton  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Brown  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Buhler  
Mrs. Helen Z. Bunker  
Mr. Paul E. P. Carlson  
Mr. William E. Chapman  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Colness

Ms. Julia Crenshaw Patterson  
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Culp  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis  
Mrs. Rose F. Doane  
Ms. Nellie J. Drake  
Miss Barbara P. Garrett  
Mrs. Dorothy Greider  
Ms. Mary S. Hargraves  
Ms. Elizabeth Heaton  
Mrs. Janet C. Hewett  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Higby  
Mr. Ronald Hooker  
Miss Ruth J. Husung  
Ms. Diana S. Langley

A Permanent Legacy:  
*63 Donors are remembering Starr in their Estate Plan, an endorsement of their faith in our mission.*

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Leibowitz  
Mrs. Genova Leonard  
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Maddox  
Mrs. Beryl H. Martin

Mrs. Mary E. Marxen  
Dr. and Mrs. Russell G. Mawby  
Dr. and Mrs. Herman J. McCall  
Drs. Thomas and JoAnne Milburn  
Mrs. Frances M. Miller  
Mr. Kenneth Miller  
Dr. and Mrs. Martin L. Mitchell  
Dr. and Mrs. Arlin E. Ness  
Mrs. Richard Owen  
Mr. Richard A. Patterson  
Mrs. Ruth B. Phillips  
Prof. Richard L. Pinkerton  
Mrs. Sylvia S. Richey  
Mrs. Margaret Rink

Mrs. Grace Sagendorf  
Mrs. MerryAnn L. Sauls  
Mr. and Mrs. Ferris L. Shenk  
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Sheridan  
Mrs. Ann J. Simpson  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher L. Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stearns  
Mr. William K. Stoffer  
Mr. Richard W. Sturgis  
Mrs. Mary M. Wagoner  
Dr. and Mrs. Charles W. Walton  
Mrs. Robert A. Weber  
Mr. Robert A. Whiting  
Mrs. John E. Yarnelle



“in their  
own  
words”

*At the age of 15, I was living the life of how many 21-year-olds celebrated their 21st birthday. School was not a priority for me. In fact, days I tried to go, I only made it to my second class. Family meant nothing to me. I had no respect for authority. In five words: I was out of control. Starr Commonwealth was the first group of people to tell me I had a problem. Starr Commonwealth held me accountable for my choices. I look around my neighborhood and I cannot even begin to tell you how many people have died or overdosed on drugs or alcohol. I feel very fortunate to have the entire staff of Starr Commonwealth right beside me to overcome my many obstacles. I might not have liked all the decisions my workers made, but they were necessary! Not only has Starr Commonwealth helped me become sober, but they have also helped me go back to school. Without an education, you cannot have successes in life. I had too much pride to admit I had a problem, and that alone stopped me from getting my diploma. I can now say I am a high school graduate! The greatest accomplishment I completed was walking across the stage for my diploma. Everyone who thought I could not make it watched me finally graduate high school in four long years! I can say the same for Starr Commonwealth. You truly went above and beyond your job to reach out to me and show me a better life. When no one else could help me, you were right beside me encouraging me. That is truly what I needed. Without your help I do not think I would be the person I am today.*

*- Patrick, a former foster care youth*

## Gladsome Circle

"Beauty is a silent teacher."

Gladsome Circle recognizes our friends who fund named endowments, endowed scholarships, charitable gift annuities, and charitable trusts. These planned gifts secure the future financial stability of Starr Commonwealth. Each member of Gladsome Circle receives a limited edition print of "The Old Barn," depicting Floyd Starr's original barn and the story of its significance, as well as other benefits.



*Gladsome Circle celebrates the ongoing mission of Starr Commonwealth and our friends who ensure that our services are available to children in need as long as these services are needed.*

### Named Endowments:

*We are pleased to recognize our friends who have fully funded named endowments and endowed scholarships for Starr Commonwealth. The income from these gifts is used to provide services and scholarships, while the principal is kept intact.*

Charles & Russell Amidon Endowment Fund  
Norma T. Anderson Endowment Fund  
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Kathleen Barnett Endowment Fund  
Robert O. & Edna I. Barstow Endowment Fund  
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Lucille Beebe Coles Endowment Fund  
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Julia Dalrymple Memorial Endowment Fund \*  
Jeannette A. Davis Memorial Named Endowment  
Leland F. & Gertrude A. Deibele Endowment Fund  
Dent Family Endowment Fund  
David W. & Amanda B. Deshler Endowment Fund  
Theodore S. & Adelaide M. Diehm Endowment Fund  
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Anna & Raymond Dowden Endowment for Fine Arts  
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I. Janet Field Endowment Fund  
Dorothy Jean Fowler and Elizabeth Leone Heaton Endowment Fund  
J. Deloras (Cashman) Friderichsen Endowment Fund  
Edna A. Frobenius Memorial Endowment Fund  
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M. Gene Smith and Joseph J. Gondol Education Endowment Fund  
George & Judith Goodman Endowment Fund  
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Dale & Rita Hollandsworth Music and Art Therapy Endowment Fund \*  
William Johnston & Ronda Stryker Endowment Fund  
Helen E. Jones Endowment Fund  
Robert A. & Anita M. Junker Memorial Endowment Fund  
Calvin W. & Mary E. Kalte Endowment Fund  
Howard W. & M. Josephine Kern Endowment Fund  
Sophie C. Kunz Endowment Fund  
Charles W. & Alma M. LaFleur Named Endowment  
Andrew & Greta Lamberson Endowment Fund  
Jerry Neil Lantz Memorial Endowment Fund  
William C. & Gladys E. Larson Endowment Fund  
Lauff Family Endowment Fund  
Frances Lehmann Memorial Endowment Fund \*  
John & Judy Lore Endowment Fund  
Betty Lowman Memorial Endowment Fund \*  
Carl G. & Betty L. Maple Endowment Fund  
Ruth & Russ Mawby for Continuing Education Named Endowment  
Ruth & Russ Mawby for the Fine Arts Named Endowment  
Edward F. & Sarah McCauley Family Endowment Fund  
Donald J. & Dorothy C. McIntosh Endowment Fund  
Chandan Mehta Endowment Fund  
Mary L. Melvin Endowment Fund  
Peter J. E. Mitchell Endowment Fund  
Phyllis Mitchell Memorial Endowment Fund  
Stewart Payne Moffatt Endowment Fund for Payne Family Cottage  
Francis E. Morse Endowment Fund  
Arlin E. & Barbara A. Ness Endowment Fund  
Keith O. Palmer Endowment Fund  
Verne and Marlene Plassman Endowment Fund  
Glen & Joan Rager Endowment Fund  
Margaret Ann Riecker Endowment Fund  
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William Sallach Memorial Endowment Fund \*  
Gail M. Seitz Endowment Fund  
Herbert & Christine Sellers Memorial Endowment Fund

Chad M. Shelton Memorial Endowment Fund  
 Charles E. Shontz Endowment Fund  
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 Doris E. Slater Endowment Fund  
 Christopher L. & Cathy L. Smith Endowment Fund



Educational Achievement ~~The~~ Starr Scholarship Fund supported 46 students at 39 colleges/universities for a total of \$218,000, its highest amount ever.

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 Virginia Z. Spieth Endowment Fund  
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\* Restricted to the Hannah Neil Center Foundation

**Scholarship Funds:**

Charles and Evelyn Munford Scholarship  
 Christian and Emma L. Breisch Scholarship  
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 Thomas T. Lloyd Scholarship  
 Tim Ness Memorial Scholarship  
 Mary Towler Scholarship  
 Ubuntu Scholarship Fund  
 Wayne L. Yanz Scholarship Fund



“in their own words”

*I never thought I'd be the one reaching out for help. I never realized how real peer pressure was until an incident happened in my family last July. After church, my son jumped in my face and said his friends make fun of him because I'm too strict and have him on lockdown. I reacted violently and my son ran away. Two weeks later, my son and a friend found themselves in a drug house. When I found out where he was, I called the police myself and they told me I needed to put my son into the system to get him the help he needed. It was hard. I was so angry. But Starr was there. The staff was kind and worked with me as a parent to improve the areas that I needed to improve while helping my son feel good about himself. They rehabilitated him and, in areas where I was weak as a parent, they helped me too. My son stayed for 9 months and he came home and got back into school. Starr was there. They were just there to help me. There were times at home, even when he came home that he would be challenging. One of the things I really liked is the diversity that Starr has. It doesn't matter what color, race, background or gender. They treat everyone the same. Going to counseling sessions and coming together as a family helped my family regroup.*

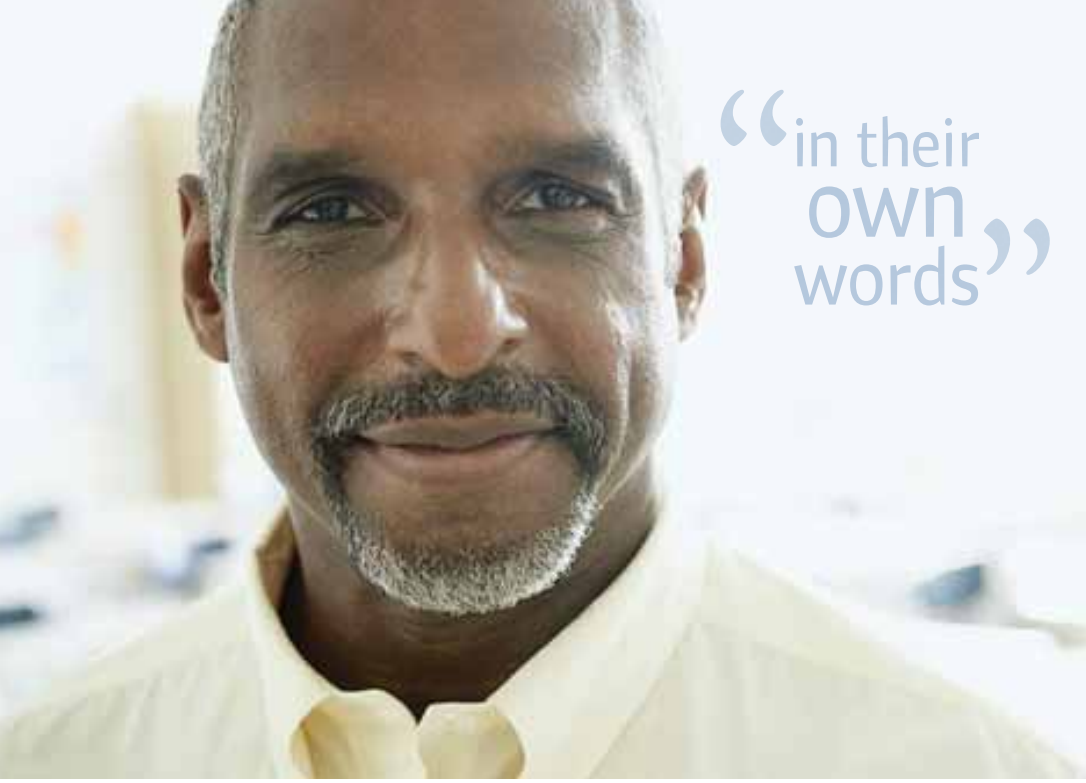
**– Parent of former Starr residential program youth in Albion and community-based services in Detroit**

*When I first came to Starr Columbus, I was a young, shy, depressed, soft spoken, keep to myself kind of kid. I didn't talk that much and stayed to myself. I kept my feelings and emotions a secret. I didn't trust anyone, and I didn't think anyone would understand what I was going through. After awhile I didn't think anyone cared about me. I never really had that much contact with my father, and at the time I didn't know my mother. I felt like I had no one to go to. My foster dad was a workaholic. Although he gave me anything I needed for school, or in life, he was never really around to talk to. I ended up dropping out of school my junior year and started working two jobs. When I got a little older I started listening to my counselors instead of ignoring them. I started to look at the Starr staff like they were mother and father figures in my life. They paid the way for me to attend college tours, and they also paid the way for me to take my G.E.D test. I started to open up to them about all my stresses and issues in my life. My relationship with my father has gotten much better, and we are very close now. I've learned that there are people out there who do care for others, and that it is never too late to turn your life around. I am very proud about how far I've come and hope to make others proud by getting a degree and accomplishing my career goals later on in life.*

*– Javon, a former youth in the Starr Columbus' residential and treatment foster care programs*

“in their own words”





“in their own words”

**Professional Testimonial:**  
*I just want to say how wonderful the San Antonio training was. My co-worker and I left feeling really energized about bringing many of the things we learned back to the district. We can't wait for the TLC Childhood Trauma Practitioner's Assembly in July. Thanks for everything!*

– **Michael R. Markowitz**  
*MSEd, School Psychologist,  
Dublin, Ohio*

## Starr Institute for Training



With the formal launch of the Starr Institute for Training in 2009, parents, clinicians, educators and childcare professionals now have access to Starr's highly successful and innovative techniques aimed at bringing out the best in every child. The impact of our work and philosophies spreads nationwide reaching 50 states and 23 countries, and with an estimated 1 million people benefiting from our programs and interventions.

In 2009, work began to formally partner with the National Resource Center for the Healing of Racism and Circle of Courage, to further enhance our early intervention and preventative services. As of the printing of this report, we now have formal relationships with these organizations and will report data for each in 2010.

**Professional Testimonial:**  
*I recently attended the 4-day TLC training in San Antonio. This was the best training I have ever experienced! I felt very energized when I left and had such practical information to take back with me. And I need to take only one online course to qualify for the Level 1 certification! Thank you!*

– **Jessica A. Oates,**  
*Executive Director,  
The Sharon Lynn Residence  
for Girls, Salem, Ohio*

## The National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children (TLC™)

Highlights from 2008-2009



THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
FOR TRAUMA AND LOSS  
IN CHILDREN

- The National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children served 2,500 plus professionals via contractual trainings and conferences.
- All 50 states have TLC Certified Trauma Specialists.
- There was a 37% increase in online course participation.
- 200 plus participated at TLC Childhood Trauma Practitioner's Assembly from 21 states and Canada.
- 322 people completed the TLC Certification last year.
- It's estimated that in a one-year period, a minimum of 16,000 traumatized children and youth will benefit from TLC interventions.

**Parental Testimonial from the Parent Trauma Resource Center:**  
*This (PTRC) site was really helpful. Thank you very much. I feel more comfortable talking with my two boys 10 & 11 about their cousin's recent suicide. I want to be honest with them.*

– **Anonymous Mother of 2**



***A comment received from the Parent Trauma Resource Center:***  
*Not a suggestion, but a thank you. My toddler is suffering from culture shock, having moved from NZ to Brussels, in the first of many diplomatic postings. A chance conversation led me to look up grief rather than stress to search for clues as to what my son was going through – and a search under 'toddler grief' led me directly to your (Parents Trauma Resource Center) site. I honestly cried with relief when I read the article – he has just about all the 'symptoms' described and it was such a load off my mind to know that he is reacting to the situation normally. I know your site is aimed at those who have suffered the usual loss, but just wanted to say thanks for saving this mother's mind – all of the comments are very pertinent to our situation. Like most Mums I just want the best for my son and it was tearing me apart not knowing what was going on - I will be sending other parents in similar situations to this site! Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.*

***– Rebecca Woodmore,  
Mum of Aaron (2 years), Brussels, Belgium***

## Social Media Revolution

Starr Commonwealth has taken to the web and is utilizing new tools such as Facebook, YouTube and blogging in its efforts to disseminate information about the organization, share our successes and provide commentary on pressing issues impacting our work and the children we serve.

**Starr's YouTube:** There have been 6,800 views of the 22 videos currently uploaded to our YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/starrcommonwealth](http://www.youtube.com/starrcommonwealth).

**Starr's Facebook:** More than 100 followers on Starr's Facebook fan page. You can get there by going to [www.facebook.com/starr.commonwealth](http://www.facebook.com/starr.commonwealth)

**Starr's blog:** Monthly updates have been provided since July and are authored by experts in the field of childcare as well as professionals from Starr Commonwealth providing updates on trends in our industry. Visit [www.starrcommonwealth.wordpress.com](http://www.starrcommonwealth.wordpress.com).

**TLC on YouTube:** TLC uploaded its first video to YouTube in October of 2009. Currently there are 4 videos uploaded to the TLC YouTube Channel, with over 107 views. More TLC videos are being developed for 2010. TLC on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/tlcinstitute>

**TLC on Facebook:** A TLC Facebook fan page was developed in October of 2009. Since then TLC has gained more than 400 fan followers. You can find TLC on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-National-Institute-for-Trauma-and-Loss-in-Children/137750291707>

**TLC on Twitter:** TLC first established a Twitter account in October of 2009. Since then over 64 people became followers of TLC's tweets. You can find TLC on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/TLCchildtrauma>

**TLC's blog:** TLC's blog, Trauma & Children, is authored by Cathy Malchiodi, PhD, LPCC, CPAT. Cathy has published numerous books, chapters and articles in the field of art therapy and trauma. The first post was in early October, 2009, with subsequent posts made monthly. Visit the TLC blog at <http://tlcinstitute.wordpress.com>



## Starr Commonwealth Program Performance Data

FY 2008	All Starr Programs	Residential Services	Community-Based Services
Numbers Served	1848	642	1206
<b>Demographics</b>			
Male	78.5	92.5	71.0
Female	21.5	7.5	29.0
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
African-American	58.7	43.6	66.7
Caucasian	33.2	46.9	26.0
Bi-/Multi-Racial	5.6	6.1	5.3
Hispanic, Latino	1.2	1.6	1.0
Native American	0.2	N/A	0.2
Other	1.1	1.9	0.7
<b>Success Rates</b>			
"Success Rate"	87.4	86.7	87.8
<b>12-month Outcomes</b>			
Relationship w/positive adult	88.2	87.9	88.5
Reported "better off"	82.1	82.8	81.3
Passing in school	84.1	82.4	86.3
Drug/alcohol free	75.0**	82.6	65.8
<b>Legal Status</b>			
State/Court Custody	37.0	30.2*	44.1
<b>Top 3 Presenting Problems</b>			
1. Behavioral	71.6	83.8	65.1
2. Family	64.7	70.1	61.8
3. School	62.3	70.7	57.8
<b>Top 3 Committing Offenses</b>			
1. Status Offenses	17.5	19.0	16.7
2. Offenses against property	14.4	17.9	12.5
3. Offenses against people	8.9	10.9	7.8
<b>Family Arrangements (top 4 ranked)</b>			
Single-parent	43.9 (1)	36.6 (1)	47.8 (1)
Both biological parents	12.6 (2)	15.3 (2)	11.1 (3)
Adoptive family	8.2	14.5 (3)	4.9
Blended family	10.1 (4)	13.7 (4)	8.1
Extended family	9.6	7.9	10.4 (4)
Non-familial Custodial Arrangement	11.3 (3)	7.0	13.5 (2)
Self	3.0	2.8	3.1
<b>Family History</b>			
% with suicide in family	7.2	N/A	N/A
% illegal substance abuse in home	44.9	N/A	N/A
% neglectful environments	53.7	N/A	N/A
% abusive environments	27.9	N/A	N/A
% family involvement with Court System	61.7	N/A	N/A
<b>Out-of-home Placements</b>			
Average # of placements	3.9	3.5	4.0
As many as (max # of placements)	28	26	28

In 2008 Starr served a much more racially diverse population of youth.

\*Decrease from 61% in 2007 to 30.2% in 2008 like due to demographic of Montcalm service. Non-Montcalm residential services are 91.6% state/court custody

Starr has shown a slight increase in the number of youth who entered with reported Mental Health issues

~Residential increased from 50.0% to 57.8%

~Community-based increased from 21.1% to 24.2%

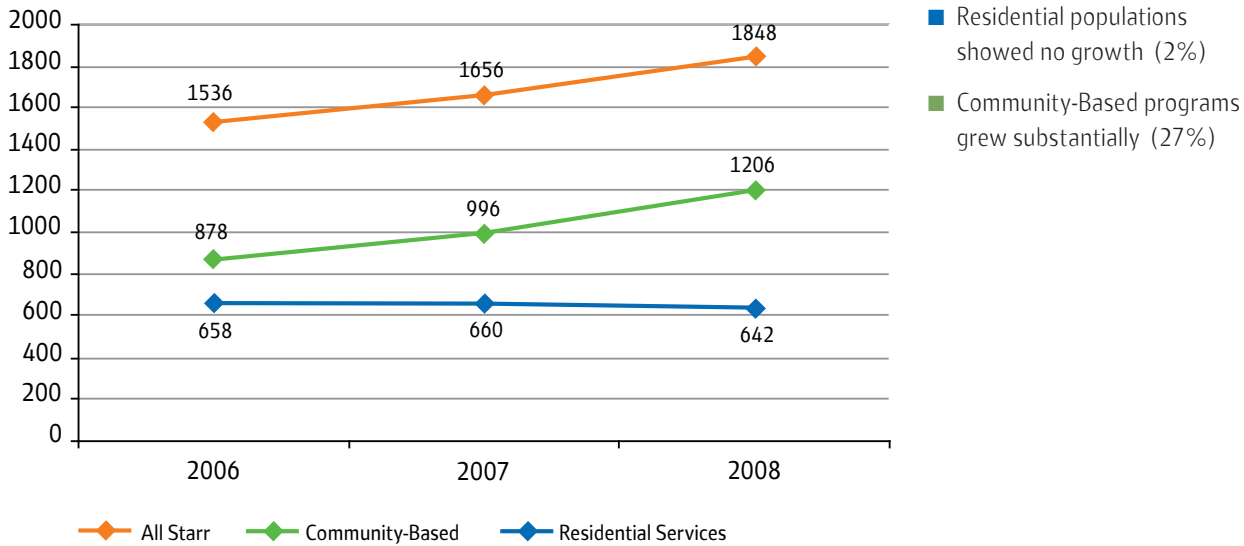
~All Starr increased from 32.6% to 36.0%

\*\*There has been a decrease (81% FY 2007 to 75% FY 2008) in the percentage of youth who have been successful based on the abstinence measure.

This decrease is likely due to the increase in the number of youth who enter Starr's substance abuse services.

2008 we increased the number of youth who entered Starr with substance abuse as primary issue.

## Community-Based Programming Growth



## Length of Stay Declining

Average Length of Stay	
Residential	9.8 months
Community- Based	6.5 months
Montcalm Schools	7.9 months
Substance Abuse	2.6 months

Referrals and placements were high in 2009, but a recessed economy has led to shorter lengths of stay for youth in our programs, resulting in a need by our staff to provide more intensive therapeutic interventions in a shorter time span. Shorter lengths of stay also mean more turnover and the need to quickly fill those openings with new youth.

## Expanding Impact with Training Portfolio\*

### PROGRAMS

#### NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL



Through community-based programming and residential care, Starr has provided care to youth from 26 states and 7 countries.

### TRAININGS

#### GLOBAL



Through the Starr Institute for Training, our impact has expanded to all 50 states and internationally. Professionals and youth from the following 23 countries have benefitted from Starr's highly successful training programs and interventions: **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Denmark, England, Republic of Fiji Islands, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Monaco, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Republic of South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United States**

Data includes impact figures as a result of emerging relationship with Circle of Courage and partnership with TLC.

## Financial Summary

### Starr Commonwealth Statement of Activities for the year ended September 30, 2009

000 omitted

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>Revenue</b>				
Agency Fees	\$ 26,210		\$	26,210
Contributions	9,414	217	1,246	10,877
Investment Income Appropriated	3,668			3,668
Non-operating and other income*	(4,516)	(607)	(1,896)	(7,019)
Total Revenue	34,776	(390)	(650)	33,736
<b>Expenses</b>				
Residential Treatment Services	18,947			18,947
Community-Based Services	5,444			5,444
Home-Based Services	733			733
Clinical Support	206			206
Leadership and Training	1,264			1,264
Total Program Services	26,594	-	-	26,594
General & Administration	5,591			5,591
Fundraising	760			760
Total Operating Expenses	32,945	-	-	32,945
<b>Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities</b>	1,831	(390)	(650)	791
<b>Change in Accounting Principle**</b>	(444)	-	(444)	-
<b>Pension related changes other than net periodic pension cost</b>	(5,329)	-	-	(5,329)
<b>Decrease in Net Assets***</b>	\$ (3,942)	\$ (390)	\$ (206)	\$ (4,538)

#### Notes:

\*Non-operating and other income consists principally of interest, dividends, and capital losses net of investment income appropriated for operations, changes in the value of perpetual and remainder trusts and transfers from Temporarily Restricted to Unrestricted Net Assets.

\*\*Change in Accounting Principle relates to the adoption of a regulation requiring the reclassification of certain investment losses from Restricted to Unrestricted Net Assets.

\*\*\*Decrease in Net Assets is principally due to investment market value losses in Starr's endowment and a required increase to liabilities related to pension plan.

This is an unaudited summary financial report. A complete audited report, including the opinion of independent certified public accountants is available upon request.

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Chief Development Officer

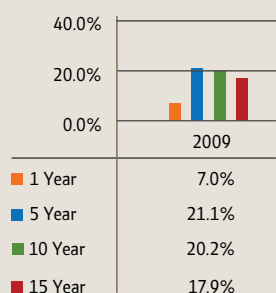
## Governance and Oversight

4 Board of  
Trustee Meetings –  
70% average attendance

4 Executive Committee  
Trustee Meetings –  
78% average attendance

*Starr Commonwealth Board of Trustees meets regularly to review performance measures of our organization including budgets, fundraising practices, financial policies and program quality.*

## Average Percentage of Contributions Spent on Fundraising



*Starr Commonwealth is a Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity. With a focus on efficiency, Starr is pleased to report that in 2008-2009, 7 cents of each dollar raised was used for fundraising expenses.*

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Arlin E. Ness  
President Emeritus  
Anthem, AZ

*\*All Officers and Trustees can be reached at the following address and phone number:*

Starr Commonwealth  
13725 Starr Commonwealth Rd.  
Albion, MI 49224  
(517) 629-5591



Starr Albion  
Starr Battle Creek  
Starr Detroit  
Starr Grosse Pointe Woods  
Starr Columbus  
Starr Van Wert



13725 Starr Commonwealth Rd. Albion,  
Michigan 49224 800.837.5591 [www.starr.org](http://www.starr.org)