



GATEWAY

Serving Children & Families In Need Since 1891

Annual Report

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

Mission: Gateway is preserving, strengthening, and enriching family life through quality services provided to families and individuals in need.

Chairman's Report



Times are tough these days. I don't have to tell you that higher unemployment, falling real estate values and decreasing net worths are putting greater stress on Alabama families. Gateway has a number of programs that assist those impacted by this economic downturn. For example:

For those families experiencing difficulty making timely payments on their credit card and other debt, our Consumer Credit Counseling Services are invaluable. We assist families and individuals establish priorities and structure payments they can afford.

Economic stress puts additional challenges on families and individuals. These can emerge as behavioral or emotional changes, depression, anxiety or other mental disorders. Our Family Counseling Services are designed to help people cope with these problems that interfere with normal family life.

Our Community Connections program helps distressed families by focusing on parenting skills, relationships and children at risk for school failure and substance abuse. The scope of services highlights prevention, education, support and identification of resources. "Breaking the Cycle of Violence" and "Reach Out to Children" are examples of these programs.

Our counseling and Community Connections programs are funded in great part through United Way support. Many of our other programs are funded by the Alabama Department of Human Resources. The economic downturn may affect the funding of our programs at a time the services are most needed. We will make every effort to see that our services are available to those most affected during this difficult economic time.

Dick Dandurand
President of the Board
2007-2009

President's Report



For whatever reason, writing the forward for this annual report has been harder for me than any other I can recall. By any measurement standards, the year has been a tough one. Whether one considers the market-driven losses or occupancy concerns in our largest programs, 2008 tested our mettle. There have been some hard lessons learned that we will use as we move forward in our strategic planning.

As the economy continues to languish and pressures on our community mount, there is great need for quality social service programs that have demonstrated their value and sustainability in good and bad times. This need also presents opportunities for the agencies that are willing to take risks and be responsive to them. So, how do you separate those opportunities that can be successful over time from those that only leave you battered and bruised?

I'd like to say that everything we have tried has been successful, but I am afraid that, like Pinocchio, my nose would grow. One course that I would not advocate is circling the wagons or hunkering down until the storm passes. Our community needs what we do and provide now more than ever. We, like everyone else, need to find better ways of doing more with what we currently have. Given the resources we have, how can we focus on being more responsive to the needs that we are capable of addressing? This is our task over the next year and the Board and staff are committed to make it happen.

*Jim Loop
Executive Director*

Measuring our Success

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is an association of nearly 800 public and private nonprofit agencies and organizations that are devoted to improving life for abused, neglected, and otherwise vulnerable children and young people and their families.

CWLA suggests the national goals of Safety, Permanency, and Well-being as a framework for development of a child welfare outcome measurement system.

Gateway uses the following domains to address those goals:

I. **Child and Family Outcomes**

- A. Child Safety
- B. Child & Family Well-Being
- C. Permanency for the Child

II. **System Performance Indicators**

- A. Access
- B. Appropriateness
- C. Quality of Services
- D. Fiscal Accountability

III. **Client Satisfaction/Involvement**

Success means different things to different organizations. For Gateway, success means helping children and families by providing them the services they want and need...at the highest levels of quality...when and where they are needed. In order to do that, we must be good stewards of our funds.



This Annual Report will address these areas.

I Child and Family Outcomes

A. Child Safety - Keeping a child safe in his/her own home, in a foster home, or in a residential treatment facility.

With safety plans developed in all cases, 100% of Residential Clients did not have “founded” reports of abuse/neglect during program participation.

During agency re-licensing visits, 100% of Therapeutic Foster Homes met safety related standards with no additional follow-up required.

100% of families in the Alliance Star/TFC, Continuum, Circles of Care, and Wraparound programs had no “founded” reports of abuse/neglect during program participation.

94% of counseling clients with identified risk/safety issues (suicide, homicide, self harm) had documented progress on risk safety related goals at time of case closure. (goal 80%)

87% of Residential Treatment Clients had no runaway episodes. (goal 90%)

90% of GATE participants remained violence free at six months post discharge. (goal 80%)

B. Child & Family Well-Being - Families having the capacity to provide for their children’s needs, children having educational opportunities and achievements appropriate to their abilities, and children receiving physical and mental health services adequate to meet their needs.



91% of Community Connections’ participants were able to demonstrate an increase in knowledge of refusal skills and the risks of substance abuse. (goal 90%)

80% of Counseling clients receiving a minimum of three sessions had documented improvement in GAF scores at the time of discharge/closure. (goal 70%)

100% of participants who successfully completed the domestic violence intervention program did not re-offend within one year of completion.

77% of families who sought assistance from Consumer Credit Counseling Service to avoid foreclosure remained in their homes. (goal 70%)

80% of students attending Rushton School for a minimum of 8 months increased their standard score by 1 on at least 3 of 5 subscales on the Behavioral Evaluation Scale. (goal 75%)

At six months post-discharge, 88% of children in Alliance STAR/TFC and WRAP programs maintained or improved their level of functioning. (goal 70%)

C. Permanency for the Child - We have all heard the stories of children lost in “the system” for their entire childhoods. Gateway’s goal is to place/maintain each child in the least restrictive setting that will appropriately meet his/her needs while planning for that child’s permanent, “forever” home.

83% of Wraparound families were preserved at time of case closure. (goal 80%)

63% of children admitted into the Alliance’s Continuum of Care program were placed with their permanent resource family within 12 months. (goal 60%)

86% of Alliance STAR/TFC clients and 98% of Alliance Wraparound clients who were successfully discharged remained stable in their placed environments at six months post-discharge. (goal 80%)



95% of Representative Payee clients who entered the program as homeless improved their living situation within 90 days. (goal 85%)

100% of Rushton School students who returned to public school upon their positive discharge continued in that environment for one year. (goal 80%)

II. System Performance Indicators



A. Access to Services - The key to a successful intervention is to provide the services needed, *when and where they are needed.*

Therapeutic Foster Care homes were found for 90% of external referrals within 48 hours of receiving referral information. (goal 90%)

100% of Rushton School students attended school on the school day following admission.

90% of Independent Living Program clients reported access to at least one community resource from referrals made by agency staff. (goal 85%)

100% of referrals were processed within 72 hours of receiving all referral information.

100% of crisis calls for Alliance Wraparound and Continuum of Care programs, 99% of crisis calls for Alliance STAR/TFC programs, and 98% of crisis calls for Family Counseling programs made after hours received a response from the on-call worker within one hour of the initial call. (goal 85%)

100% of Community Connections' clients reported program sites as easy to access and available at convenient times.

B. Appropriateness of Services Provided - In order to be effective, services must address the relevant issues with the intensity necessary to create change.



99% of youth served in Gateway's Residential Treatment Program experienced no more than one disruption while in agency care. (goal 90%)

100% of Independent Living Program clients did not experience movement to a more restrictive level of care or an unplanned discharge within six months of placement. (goal 80%)



100% of Community Connections' clients received services which were aligned with the referral reason.

100% of clients had assigned treatment goals that corresponded with initial diagnosis and presenting problems.

C. Quality of Services Provided - Gateway strives to provide the highest quality services to every client and documents outcomes to measure the success of these efforts.

Participants who successfully completed GVIP anger management groups averaged 17% improvement between pre and post tests. (goal 14%)

97% of clients enrolled in a CCCS debt management plan avoided filing bankruptcy. (goal 90%)

70% of Rushton students who attended for a minimum of 6 months increased their reading, math, or writing skills by at least one grade level as evidenced by the Kaufman Test of Education Achievement. (goal 70%)

81% of counseling clients with an initial treatment plan and a minimum of 3 sessions had documented progress toward identified goals at time of case closure. (goal 70%)

D. Fiscal Accountability - In order to provide services to individuals and families, regardless of their ability to fully pay for them, Gateway must make optimal use of every resource.

Rushton School; GVIP; Community Connections; Shelby Wraparound; and Alliance Continuum, STAR, and TFC programs recorded bottom lines of 97% of breakeven or better.

Administration met expense projections at 105% or less of budget.

The Development Department exceeded budgeted revenues by 44%.



Gift Acknowledgments

With permission from our donors, gifts to this agency are acknowledged in the biannual newsletters.

Community Support

For 118 years, Gateway has been relying on the support of the community in its efforts to provide the highest quality services to families and individuals in need, and 2007/2008 was no different. Here are just a few ways that the community showed that support:

- * 352 children sponsored for Christmas 2007
- * The most successful Gateway Classic Golf Tournament ever
 - Golfers
 - Corporate/In Kind sponsors
- * Memorial/honor gifts
- * Casual Day t-shirt sales
- * Donations of:
 - School supplies/School uniforms
 - Gently used clothing
 - Furniture
 - Easter baskets
 - Office equipment
 - Professional service
- * Cash donations in support of specific programs or general agency operations

II. Client Satisfaction/Involvement

The agency sends out satisfaction surveys quarterly to clients, referral sources, and families of clients (where appropriate) and uses a benchmark of 90% to gauge if it has met its goals of providing services that meet their needs. The following programs met/exceeded those goals.



Clients

Day Treatment

Independent Living Programs - Birmingham and Huntsville

Alliance WRAP, Circles of Care, Continuum - Jefferson and Madison Counties

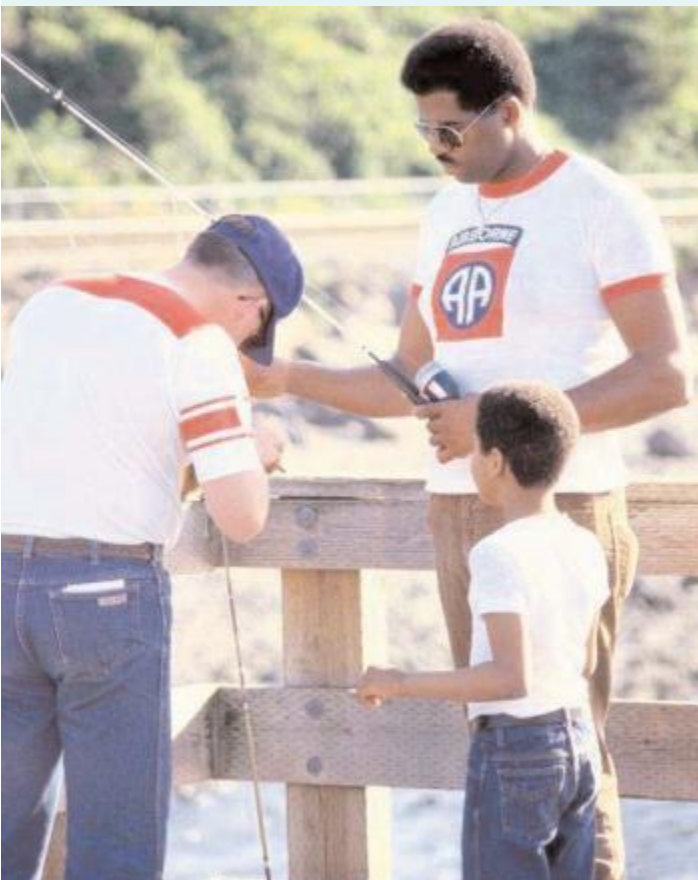
Family Counseling - Birmingham and Shelby Counties, GATE

Shelby Wraparound

GVIP Domestic Violence and Theft Intervention Programs

Community Connections

Family Options



Referral Sources

Intensive Residential Program

Day Treatment

Independent Living Program - Birmingham

Alliance WRAP, Circles of Care, TFC/Star

Family Counseling - Birmingham and Shelby Counties

Shelby Wraparound

Community Connections

Family Options

Families of Clients

Day Treatment

Therapeutic Foster Care (foster parents)

Alliance WRAP, Circles of Care, Continuum -

Jefferson County

GATE

Leadership

2008 Gateway Board of Directors

President - Dick Dandurand
1st Vice President - Steve Alby
2nd Vice President - Sandy Killion
Secretary - Kristi Gilmore
Treasurer - Tom Carruthers, III
Asst. Treasurer - Denise Moore

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Norma Grant Bell
Carmelita Bivens
Bob Blalock
Chris Brown
Derry Brice Bunting
Carole Cain
Heather Davies Cooper
Leon Evans, Jr.
W. Craig Fravert
Glenn Goedecke
Walker Jones
Richard McBee
Tony Porter
Teresa Tanner Pulliam
Katherine R. Ray
Dave Reese
Clyde Smith
Tom Thompson
Cameron Vowell
Angela Webb-Weinberg



2008 Gateway Associate Board

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Susan Colvin
Susan Comensky
June F. Davis
Gloria Dennard
Beverly Dunn
Tom Gamble
Gillian W. Goodrich
Terry Gunnell
Douglas Hawkins
Michael Jones
Carmine Jordan
Carrie Kurlander
Richard I. Lehr
Sherry Lyons
Andrea G. McCaskey
Mike McCraney
Gina Bailey McKell
Max Michael
Kathy Myatt
John Northrop
Denise Pomeroy
Edith Quarles
Diana Slaughter
Bunny Stokes
Dave Thompson
Larry Throneberry
Bitsy Williams

2008 Gateway Junior Board

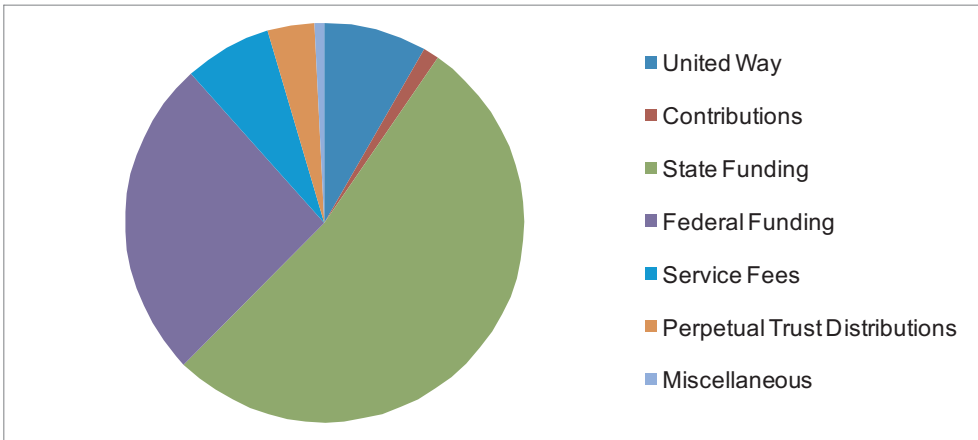
President - Jeremy Long;
Vice President - Barvette Patterson;
Secretary - Erin Melaney;
Treasurer - Melissa Wagoner

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Donnie Dobbins
RoShelle Gaines
Kristi Gilmore
Erik Hendon
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Whitney Ligon
Karen McCoy
Lee Murray
Angela Sanders
James Sutton
Libba Vaughan
Mary Beth Wetzell
Ocie White
Lene Wormley

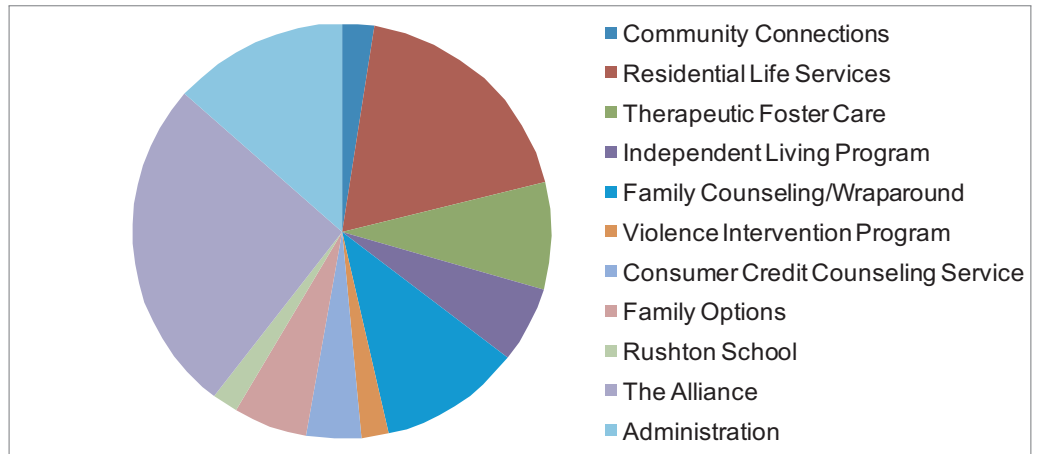
Financials

Fiscal Year October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008	
Income Statement	
Revenue	\$ 13,663,073
Program Services	\$ 12,731,813
Support Services/Fundraising	\$ 1,985,480
Net Assets	\$ (1,054,220)
Balance Sheet	
Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 7,253,982
Property and Equipment	\$ 7,616,652
Other Assets	\$ 10,069,923
Total Assets	\$ 24,940,557
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 1,858,311
Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 2,697,102
Total Liabilities	\$ 4,555,413
Net Assets	\$ 20,385,144
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 24,940,557



Revenue

Expenses





**1401 20th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35205**

Administration - 205-510-2600
Alliance - 205-939-0288
Centralized Intake - 205-510-2755
Community Connections - 510-2777
Consumer Credit Counseling Service -
(CCCS) - 251-1572
Family Counseling - Birmingham -
510-2761
Gateway Violence Intervention
Program (GVIP) - 328-6010
Therapeutic Foster Care - 510-2720

**5201 Airport Highway
Birmingham, AL 35212**

Independent Living Program -
205-510-2713
Intensive Residential Treatment
Program - 510-2640
Rushton School - 510-2700

**1400 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. S.
Birmingham, AL 35205**

Jefferson/Shelby FOCUS -
205-705-1010
**333 Business Circle
Pelham, AL 35124**
Family Counseling - Shelby Co. -
205-510-2780
Shelby Wraparound Program --
510-2780

**2707 Artie Street,
Building 100, Suite 13
Huntsville, AL 35805**

Independent Living Program -
256-551-1610
Alliance - 256-551-1768

**3103 Airport Blvd., Suite 453
Mobile, AL 36606**

Alliance - 251-545-4680

www.gway.org - Donations may be made on Gateway's secure website.
All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

If you would like to continue to support Gateway's mission indefinitely,
please remember us in your estate planning.



