



LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2014

“...To Experience God’s Love ...”

Compelled by God’s love, and with the continued support of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, our 560 staff members intentionally and vigorously pursued our mission during 2014

From our family preservation work in Lake Charles to opening the doors of Family Lodge at the OWL Center so families can spend weekends with their children who are residents of Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home; from a Development worker inspiring a couple’s generosity to the elementary school children who benefit from treatment we offer in their school; from the mental health specialist in our Home in Mandeville whose care allows young boys to sleep without fear to our nurses who provide medical care to all our residents – wherever we are, wherever the Home is – we are actively pursuing our mission to **guide children and families home to experience God’s love by following the teaching of Christ.**

The three United Methodist children’s homes are strategically located in the bootstrap, heel and toe of Louisiana’s boot-shaped state. In addition to the residential care we provide, from these three children’s homes, we reach into communities across Louisiana with services for families and children.

Residential Services

Our children’s homes are licensed by Louisiana’s Department of Health and Hospitals as Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities. This allows us to provide the most intensive, comprehensive and holistic care available to Louisiana’s children. We receive referrals from the Department of Children and Family Services, the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Health and Hospitals, from clergy, healthcare professionals and parents. All referrals are forwarded to Magellan of Louisiana (statewide management organization) for approval. If Magellan approves the client for PRTF services and they meet our criteria the client will either be admitted as soon as possible or placed on our waiting list until a bed becomes available. We are currently not taking private insurance cases.

During 2014, we served a total of 267 individuals in our three children’s homes. 199 youth resided on our Ruston campus, 40 were residents of our Mandeville program, and 38 resided on our Sulphur campus. The average length of stay by campus varied: Ruston – 148 days, Mandeville – 128 days, and Sulphur – 214 days. (The total number of individual youth is 10 less than the sum of all three campuses because we served 10 individual youth on at least two of our campuses.)

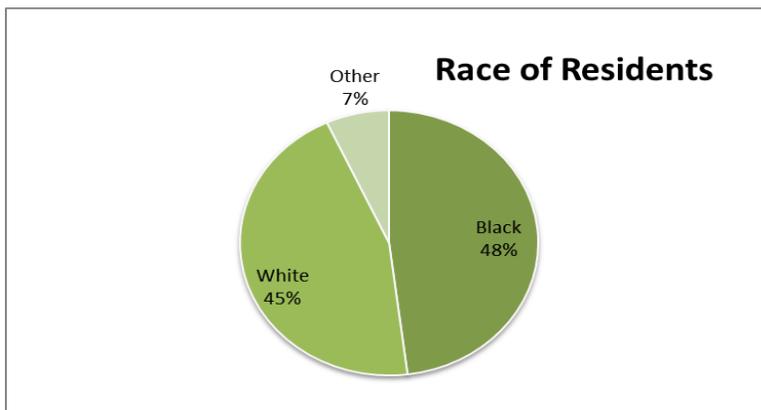
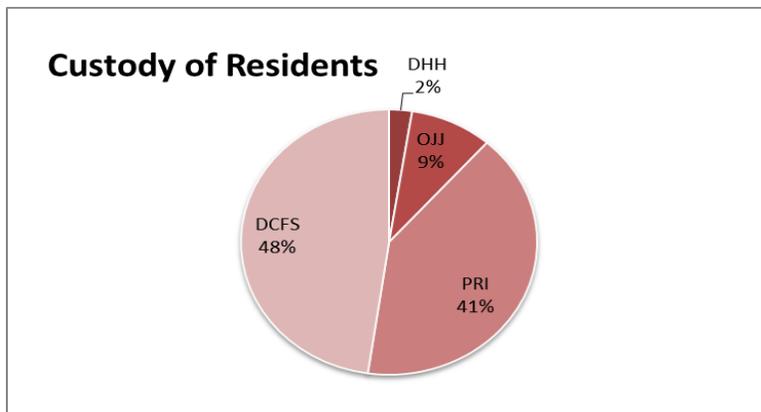
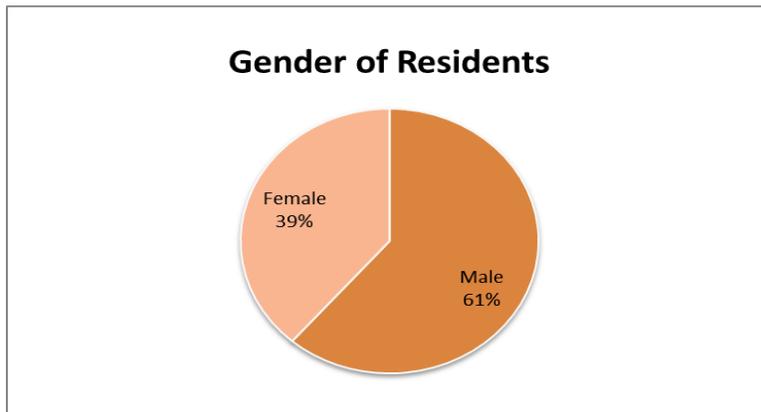
Among our three children’s homes, the possible days of care during the year totaled 46,720 days. Of these possible 46,720 days of residential care, we provided 42,692 actual days of care, operating at 91% of potential capacity. Possible Days of care were reduced in Ruston due to remodeling of the Reception Center. Similarly, in Mandeville the Potential Days of Care were reduced as a unit was closed to reopen for younger boys.



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Residential Occupancy

Residential Treatment Facility	Potential Days of Care	Actual Days of Care	Percentage of Capacity
Louisiana Methodist Children's Home	30,660	29,474	96%
Methodist Children's Home of Greater New Orleans	7,300	5,113	70%
Methodist Children's Home of Southwest Louisiana	8,760	8,105	93%
TOTAL	46,720	42,692	91%





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HOWARD SCHOOL

The Lorraine Howard Educational Center, a.k.a., “Howard School”, located on the Ruston campus of Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home, provided alternative educational services to 235 youth during the 2014 calendar year. Of these students, 199 were residents of Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home and 36 were off-campus referrals for alternative education from Lincoln Parish Schools. Female students made up 115 of that number and male students made up 120. The average daily student population of Howard School and the John Allen Vocational Center was 103.

Twelve Howard School high school students took Louisiana state assessments. End of course (EOC) testing at the high school level was successful with 80% of the students who took tests passing to earn course credit. Junior high performance on state assessments reflected the same level of performance from the previous school year. Approximately 65% of all tests taken received passing scores.

Approximately 84% of the students who began the school year at Howard School were not attending at the time of testing. This high turnover rate negatively impacts the state calculated school performance score for Howard School; particularly when many of the students who enroll at Howard School throughout the year *have been enrolled at 3 or more schools during the same school year.*

The John Allen Vocational Center served 52 students. Students from the community comprised 33 of that number. Eleven students in the adult education program earned a High School Equivalency Diploma. Eleven students tested; resulting in a 100% passage rate. The national average for high school equivalency attainment is 65% of all test takers pass the test. One student earned a State of Louisiana Barber’s License. No students earned welding helper certifications.

THE OUTDOOR WILDERNESS LEARNING CENTER (“The OWL”)

The OWL was visited by over 10,000 individuals in 2014. We provided a variety of activities for MCH youth, as well as served the community with our campus and programs.

The Henning Conference Center was visited by over 3,500 people last year. It was used for numerous LMCH functions, including staff Christmas luncheon, summer program activities, and various trainings. It was also utilized by the community for events such as weddings, family reunions, workshops, summer camps, and church/ business retreats.

The Thomas Henning Family Lodge continues to be utilized by LMCH youth’s family members and staff from satellite offices. Our youth enjoy being able to stay with their families and take part in family therapy. They also have the opportunity to strengthen family bonds by spending time together in our wilderness setting. Guests have noted they enjoyed the chance to “get away from it all.”

With over 2,000 participants in 2014, the ropes course continues to be popular with groups of all ages and background. This year’s outside groups included churches, athletic teams, school groups and business corporations. Many of these groups return every year, and incorporate the ropes course into their events as an important teambuilding tool. Ropes activities focus on problem solving, leadership skills, effective communication, and trust. The staff and youth from LMCH have the opportunity to take part in teambuilding events throughout the year. This is a great way to build relationships between the



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youth and staff. These elements provide the chance to get out of their comfort zones and stretch and grow together.

Volunteers continue to contribute to the OWL's success. We hosted groups from all over Louisiana and from as far away as Michigan. As always, they came with a wide range of talents, as well as the most important asset for an OWL volunteer: the willingness to work! These OWL volunteers cleared trails, worked in the greenhouse, painted and cleaned buildings, and worked on various construction projects. We continue to expand our group of volunteers who come to make salsa and jelly. We very much appreciate Blackwater UMC, St. Andrews UMC, FUMC West Monroe, FUMC Monroe, Antioch UMC, Pineville UMC, Salem UMC and FUMC Baton Rouge. These churches and several dedicated NOMAD groups logged nearly 1,500 volunteer hours helping us make salsa and jelly!

The OWL's Equine Program had nearly 1,000 visits in 2014. The horsemanship class continues to be the most popular program at the OWL for our residents of Louisiana Methodist Children's Home. Children are taught to safely handle, care for, and ride horses. Each week has a theme, such as responsibility, setting goals, following directions, and respect. These classes are a wonderful opportunity for our youth to practice communication, compassion and patience. Community groups, including the Lincoln Leadership class utilized the team building component of the Equine Program. OWL staff brought horses to Med Camps of Louisiana each week during the summer camp months. Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) is an important part of our Equine Program and was greatly utilized in 2014, proving therapy can be beneficial and fun for youth, therapists and staff alike! In EAP, participants learn about themselves and others by participating in activities with the horses, and then processing feelings, behaviors, and patterns. Non-verbal communication, assertiveness, problem-solving, responsibility, and confidence are several examples of the tools developed by EAP. Therapy groups last 8-10 weeks, and last year's topics included anger management, self-esteem, and peer interaction.

Two OWL staff completed their certification in PATH, which is the national certifying body for therapeutic riding. Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.), was formed in 1969 as the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association to promote equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. PATH members help children and adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges find strength and independence. We are excited about launching this program at the OWL Center during 2015! In addition to therapeutic riding, programs include services in human growth and development for educational purposes such as leadership training, team building and other enhancement skills for daily use.

The Summer Program for residents of Louisiana Methodist Children Home allowed youth to participate in the high and low ropes course, maze activities, canoeing, swimming, mountain biking, horseback riding, and much more! Boys and girls were able to utilize our facilities for summer camp activities over the summer months.

Again this summer the OWL hosted the North Louisiana Rotary Club's annual RYLA Leadership camp for young leaders. Seventy five teenagers and 20 RYLA camp counselors and staff filled up the bunkhouse and cabins for a week of fun, teambuilding, and personal growth. They participated in pond events, ropes course, maze and equine assisted learning activities. We are excited about hosting the RYLA Leadership camp next summer!

2014 was a successful year for the OWL Center and we look forward to touching even more lives in 2015!



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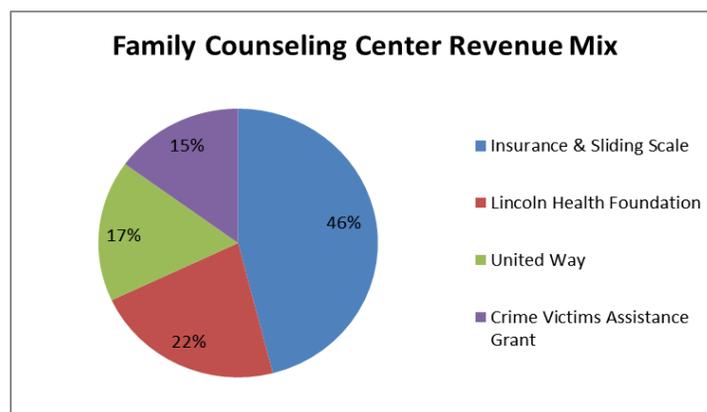
FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER

Programs	Families	Individuals	Sessions
Counseling at FCC	366	1,098	3,839
Health Hut	141	141	424
Boys and Girls Club	96	96	
Cypress Springs Elementary School	475	488	189
FCC Community Events at the OWL	41	45	
Community Education/Trainings	1,275	1,275	
Distribution of marketing and educational materials		3,500	
Prevention Services through Publications/Facebook/Radio		2,126	
Referrals to Community Services	155	155	
Total Served	2,549	8,924	4,452

The table above details the services provided to the community by the Family Counseling Center, the organization’s outpatient counseling program located on the grounds of Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home in Ruston, Louisiana. The Family Counseling Center served individuals and families in 7 parishes providing mental health counseling and educational services to over 8,900 individuals.

The Family Counseling Center meets the needs of families by strengthening our specialty areas in children’s services, trauma recovery and marriage and family issues. In addition to improving our counseling skills, we strive to be a vital part of the community. A large part of that requires working from a systemic view of community needs and resources. It is our belief that partnering with a purpose across a diverse spectrum of programs and organizations is most effective in addressing the complexity of the mental health issues affecting our community. During 2014 the FCC continued to build relationships within the community to help strengthen this collaborative bond.

Funding: The Family Counseling Center are supported with fee for service revenue, grants and the charitable support received from donors whose contributions allow the Family Counseling Center to continue operations. The non-charitable revenues are detailed in the chart below.





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Total number of sessions: The FCC provided 3,839 counseling sessions during 2014 which is a 46% increase over the 2,623 sessions provided in 2013. An additional 424 sessions were provided at The Health Hut, 96 at Boys and Girls Club and 189 at Cypress Springs Elementary School.

There was a 41% increase in the number of sessions provided at The Health Hut as compared to 2013. Beginning January 2015, our counselor at Cypress Springs Elementary School increased from one day a week to two days a week.

Partnerships: In 2014 the FCC continued healthy partnerships with The Health Hut, Boys and Girls Club, and Life Choices providing counseling services for their families. The partnership with Lincoln Parish Schools continued with FCC providing many of the mandatory trainings for school personnel. In January 2014 the FCC began providing a therapist on-site at Cypress Springs Elementary School one day a week to provide counseling for students and to support and provide consultation for the teachers.

The FCC continues to partner with the master's level counseling programs at Louisiana Tech University and University of Louisiana at Monroe by providing internship sites at FCC, Boys and Girls Club and The Health Hut. Through the Lincoln Health Foundation grant, the FCC offered three team building/training events at the OWL Center for a group of community partner agencies, Lincoln Parish Pupil Appraisal/Special Education teachers and staff from Life Choices. The FCC, in collaboration with the OWL Center, offered a Wilderness Family Weekend Camp for four FCC client families. The data collected showed the program to have a positive lasting effect upon the participating families.

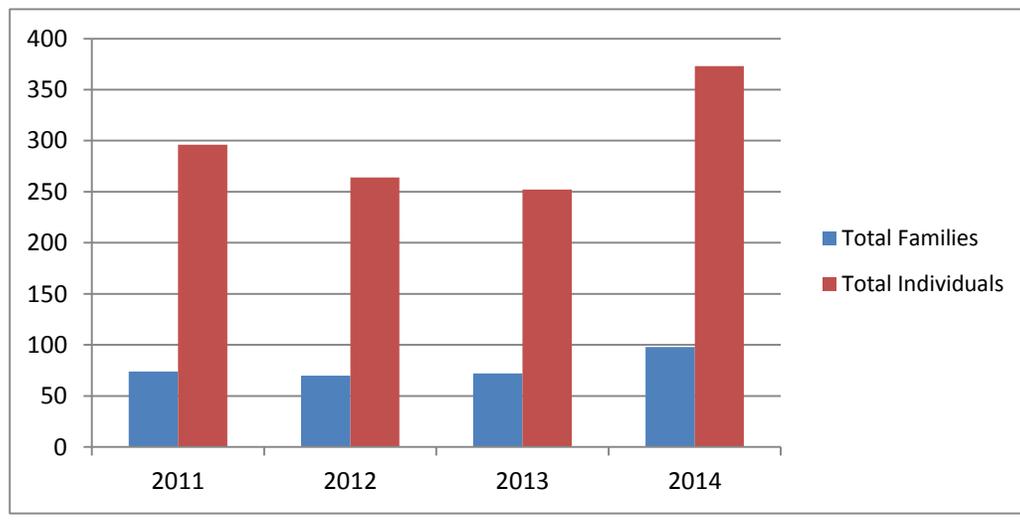
Educational Community Presentations and Events: Community trainings have included ADHD, Parent-Child Relationship Training, Suicide Prevention, Stress Management, Classroom Management, Cyber Bullying and the Effects of Technology on the Sexual Health of our Youth. These trainings have been offered in collaboration with local community agencies, churches and schools.

FAMILY PLUS & MST PROGRAMS

Family Plus provided services to a total of 18 families and 25 individuals. Services offered included such things as: intensive in-home counseling, out-patient counseling, assessments, and referrals. Among our three MST sites in Monroe, Shreveport and Lake Charles, we provided MST services to 98 families which included 373 individuals. This is an increase of 25 families from 2013 to 2014. During the year, the number of individuals who received services increased by 121 over the previous year. The chart at the top of the following page provides a visual summary of MST services provided during the last 4 years.



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LIFE SKILLS TRAINING CENTER

INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM/CASE MANAGEMENT-TRANSITIONAL LIVING SERVICES

During 2014, within the Independent Living Skills program, 339 structured classes were presented to 14-17 year olds. Of these youth, 108 were in DCFS custody and 163 in OJJ custody. Children in the care of our agency, other child care agencies and in foster care have attended classes in subjects such as apartment hunting, check writing, banking, nutrition and many other subjects related to living independently. Our staff provides serviced to a catchment area which covers all of northeast Louisiana, from Lincoln Parish to the Mississippi River. Each participant in the Independent Living Program receives a pre-test and post-test for independent living skills assessment. During 2014 the average score on pre-tests was 67% with the average on post-tests being 83% for a pre-test/post-test average percentage change was 23%.

Staff provided case management services to six youth aged 18-21. These youth were assisted in finding housing services; helped to move into a new place to live; guidance through the registration process for college and vocational training; connection with community resources and assisted while attending court.

In December of 2014 we entered an exciting partnership with Our House Inc. of Monroe, Louisiana, to provide transitional living services. The Life Skills Training Center provides supportive services to youth in this program. The services consist of independent living skills classes, transportation, vocational training, and connections to local community resources.