

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



Letter from Our Executive Directors

Dear Friends:

The 2014-15 fiscal year was AHM's 31st providing services to the communities of Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlborough. It was also a year filled with many changes for the organization.

As with everything in life, there is a time for "change." The same can be said for the life of a non-profit organization such as AHM Youth and Family Services. Through an executive transition planning process that involved the AHM Board of Directors and the recently retired Executive Director, AHM now has a new leadership team in place. The Organization is well positioned to help meet the social and emotional needs of local children and families for the foreseeable future.

In the next year, AHM will continue to work in all of the four towns' local schools, providing students with social and emotional support through social work, youth development programs and counseling services. Programs such as Lanterns Mentoring, Family Resource Center, Parent Forums, Juvenile Review Board, Summer Youth Theatre and other community based initiatives will continue to grow and serve children, teens and adults in the four towns.

We are proud of what AHM's Board of Directors, staff and community volunteers have accomplished in the past three decades and look forward to an exciting future.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hamilton

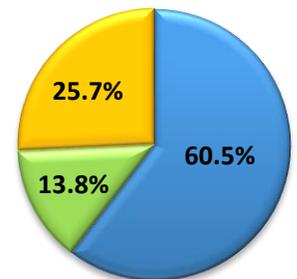
Michelle Hamilton
Executive Director
Former Program Director

Joel Rosenberg

Joel Rosenberg
Director of Fund Development
Retired Executive Director

Our Services

- Prevention
- Intervention
- Positive Youth Development



6,677 visits in 2015

Prevention

Family Resource Center (FRC)	<u>211</u>
Field Trips/Family Events	<u>1186</u>
Social Skills Classes	<u>586</u>
Day Care Provider Trainings	<u>69</u>
Internet Safety Presentations	<u>1923</u>
Parent Presentations	<u>62</u>

Intervention

Individual Therapy	<u>34</u>
Family Therapy	<u>96</u>
Psychiatric Evaluations	<u>6</u>
Juvenile Review Board (JRB)	<u>26</u>
In School Individual and Group Counseling	<u>353</u>
In School Support Groups	<u>66</u>
Stress Management Workshop	<u>48</u>
Resource Crisis and Referral	<u>293</u>

Positive Youth Development

Vocational Training	<u>173</u>
Youth Leadership Training	<u>175</u>
Power of Words	<u>496</u>
Project Graduation	<u>174</u>
7th Grade Team Building Day	<u>281</u>
Summer Youth Theatre	<u>56</u>
Columbia Leadership Development, Employment Training	<u>71</u>
Teen Center	<u>10</u>
Freshmen Orientation	<u>282</u>

Individual Town Data Summaries are available upon request.

AHM Mission Statement

The mission of AHM is to: "provide mental health and positive youth development services that assist children, young people, and their families in creating a supportive and caring environment, for them to reach their maximum potential as members of society."

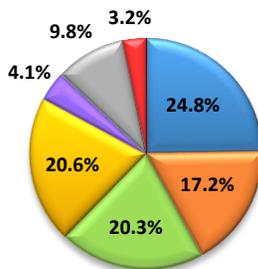


Financial Overview

2014-2015 Financial Income and Expense Budget \$1,148,006

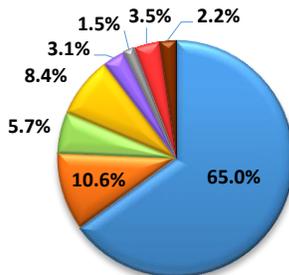
Budget Income

- Towns
- Schools
- Grants
- Earned Revenue
- Charitable Contributions
- Fundraisers
- Other



Budget Expenses

- Staff Salaries
- Benefit Contributions
- Payroll
- Direct Program
- Administrative & General
- Fundraiser
- Occupancy
- Technology



Thanks to Our Supporters

At the present time, 60% of AHM's budget comes from private donations, grants, and fundraisers. The importance of local contributing support from individuals, businesses, civic and faith groups cannot be overstated. **Thank you to all of our volunteers and donors who have supported the work and mission of AHM this past year. We couldn't have done it without you!**

2015

Accomplishments

A Number of New Programs and Initiatives Took Shape

At the top of the list was a National Drug Free Communities grant awarded to AHM which will benefit the towns we serve. The grant focuses on the prevention of the use of marijuana, underage drinking, and the illegal use of prescription medications. This highly competitive grant is awarded nationwide to fewer than 200 communities annually. When you consider the number of towns and cities across America, that puts our rural, community based, non-profit family organization in some very good company. Several strategies were accomplished in the first year of this grant, from the creation of a marketing campaign aimed at youth and adults, to the creation of a TIP Line. Part of this initiative also led to the creation of a youth committee called RALLY, a student led group whose focus is to educate peers about the dangers of drug and alcohol use. Additionally, a party patrol program was established through this grant via a partnership with the Connecticut State Police. A number of parent and student prevention forums were offered during the school year, as well.

Three Important New Community Partnerships Established

- The creation of a coalition of faith and civic community leaders, who forged a working relationship to develop resources for residents coping with poverty and hunger in our communities. An AHM intern created a valuable resource guide for residents and service providers looking for community and regional human services.
- The partnership with the Salvation Army, AHM and the Town of Andover.
- The expansion of a partnership that already existed but just grew that much stronger. The St. Peter's Episcopal Church granted AHM access to land directly behind the AHM Community Center in order to create a nature trail that will be used for passive recreation and environmental education.

What We Do Best

- Our focus continues to be the whole child from birth through high school, beginning with the Family Resource Center acting as a "service bridge" for families.
- Our wraparound services help families connect with resources during a myriad of transitions in their lives.

Upgrades to Our Facility

- Our University of Hartford research project was completed in September which has greatly improved the sound in the Performance Arts Center (PAC) room.
- Flower beds were built outside and added great beauty to the grounds of the AHM Community Building.

Highly Skilled Staff

Our direct service staff are professionally trained with degrees in mental health, social work, public health and education. Staff continues their professional development by attending DMHAS trainings, SERC (State Education Resource Center), University classes, EastCONN, and CADCA.



On the Horizon...

On the horizon are plans to bring in a first ever drug counselor to help meet a growing demand for young people and families who are coping with addictions from marijuana and heroin to prescription drugs. The Drug Free Communities grant brings together parents, police officers, educators, clergy, students, community members, and local and state leaders who are working with AHM Staff to build a stronger and more sustainable drug and alcohol prevention effort to help shield young people from substance abuse.

Through the past generosity of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, AHM is once again applying for a grant to incorporate new technology into daily work practices.

In Loving Memory



This Annual report is being dedicated in loving memory of

Nichole Madden Sun,
AHM Board Member



"AHM is my 'go-to' for my children. From ages 4-17 it has something for everyone. My daughter looks forward to her Play and Learn group every week and loves going to school at KinderRHAMA. For my older kids we are lucky to have a teen center in town. The CHORES program is such a great way for teens to become positively active and help in our community. We are aware of the mentoring and counseling services if and when we need them. Our whole family looks forward to the summer theatre program and other community events. AHM is always the first place I look for my family."

- Hebron Mom -

"A few words that come to mind....

I feel like you put the program on for me! While sophomores are the target audience, I get so much value out of the Power of Words program as a teacher, friend, and mother.

Thanks for all you do."

- Kim Hills, teacher at RHAM, regarding Power of Words program -



"Thank you AHM and the Juvenile Review Board for everything you have done for us! That's a very good program and I hope lots of kids take it serious if they find themselves going through the same things as we did. Lots of kids struggle with teenage issues and it doesn't mean they're bad kids they just need some guidance or structure in life."

- JRB Parent -

"By partnering young people with a mentor, you give them a new home to come back to each week. For during that hour, they can truly be themselves, learn new things they didn't know they had in them or were capable of, share their dreams, play and laugh. Mostly though, they find security and comfort in knowing that their mentor will always be there to listen and share their struggles, their accomplishments, and their dreams, and also their smiles and laughter. Thank you for giving so many people, both children and adults, a new home to return to each week."

- Mentor from Lantern's Mentoring Program -

"Thank you so much for all your help, I honestly don't think I could be here in college right now if it weren't for you! It's been hard getting used to living on my own but I have made great friends and I'm feeling really good about this school....I really wanted you to know I appreciate all your help!"

- Letter from Client who received Clinical Therapy Services -

What People Say About AHM

Connect with Us

---- Connect with us and stay on top of all that we have to offer!

Like us on Facebook!

Search for:

AHM Youth and Family Services
and
AHM Family Resource Center

Visit our website and subscribe

to receive information on

our programs and
upcoming events!

www.ahmyouth.org

Give us a call!

(860) 228 – 9488

We are located at:
25 Pendleton Drive
Hebron, CT 06248



AHM's Current Board of Directors

Executive Board of Directors

President..... William Sudol
Vice-President..... Peter Yorio
Treasurer Brendan Shea
Recording Secretary..... Erin Pace
Corresponding Secretary Joleen Yorio
Immediate Past President..... Kristen Kania
Member at Large Kay Corl
Member at Large Robert McBrair

Directors

Paulette Adams..... Brenda Bula
Denise Esslinger Steven Fish
Robin Lane Denise Morell
Carla Pomproicz Nichole Sun
Jeanne Worthen

Youth Directors

Katelyn Donahue Aidan Kalisher
Olivia Kurtz

AHM's Staff

Administration

Executive Director..... Michelle Hamilton
Director of Finance & Operations Nella Stelzner
Fund Development Director Joel Rosenberg

Administrative Support

Office Manager Lisa Reeve
Clinical Administrative Assistant Katherine Graham
Human Resource Associate..... Laureen Davids
Finance Assistant Timothy Curry
Fundraising Tonja Russo
Evening Receptionists Diane Kane, Kelly Kulow

Clinical Program

Clinical Coordinator Sandra Plummer
Psychiatrist Dr. Ann Price
Clinical Social Worker Lauren Morris
Clinical Social Worker Holly Wells

Family Resource Center

FRC Program Coordinator Rebecca Murray
Mentoring Facilitator Laurie Larsen
Parent Educator Laurie Larsen
Play & Learn Assistant..... Leslie Capozza
Preschool Teacher Cari Duigou
Preschool Teacher Heather Holbrook

Student Support Services

Andover Elementary School..... Cheri Rivard-Lentz
Elmer Thienes Elementary School..... Sabena Escott
Elmer Thienes Elementary School..... Michele Thorn
Gilead Hill Elementary School Sabena Escott
Hebron Elementary School Sabena Escott
Horace W. Porter School..... Cheri Rivard-Lentz
RHAM Middle School Aquila Beach
RHAM High School..... Bevin Perry

Other Programs

Prevention Services

Prevention Coordinator Haley Shoop

Summer Youth Theatre

Theatre Director Mary Rose Meade
Associate Producer Michele Francoeur
Assistant Director Jeffrey Jacques
Musical Director Anthony Pandolfe
Lighting & Sound Designer..... Matthew Troy
Costume Design Gayla Simmons
Stage Manager..... Tom O'Connell

Fundraising Committees

Auction & Concert Committee

Joel Rosenberg - Chairman

Paulette Adams	Katherine Graham	Gail Hughes
Laurie Larsen	Patricia Morency	Lauren Morris
Rebecca Murray	Carla Pomproicz	Lisa Reeve
Cheri Rivard-Lentz	Tonja Russo	Nella Stelzner

Golf Tournament Committee

Joel Rosenberg - Chairman

Paulette Adams	David Armata	Jennifer Armata
Todge Armata	Jim Celio	Gary Cyranowicz
Harvey Desruisseaux	William Garrison	Kenneth Houston
Spike Houston	Scot Kauffman	Tracy Kauffman
Joseph Krist	Lisa Reeve	Tonja Russo
Nella Stelzner	William Sudol	Nichole Sun
Clyde Washburne		

Telethon Committee

Joel Rosenberg – Co-Chair

Nella Stelzner – Co-Chair

Brenda Bula	Kay Corl	Erin Pace
Lisa Reeve	Tonja Russo	Nichole Sun
Joleen Yorio	Peter Yorio	

Building Committee

John Corl – Chairman

Mal Leichter	Lisa Reeve	Joel Rosenberg
Nella Stelzner	William Sudol	Peter Yorio

Planned Giving & Retirement Committee

Kay Corl – Chairwoman

Advisor – Wooster Corthell Wealth Management

Aquila Beach	Steve Beauchene	Joseph Canino
Atty. William Dakin	Christopher Hall	Kristen Kania
Robert McBrair	Joel Rosenberg	John Soderberg
Nella Stelzner	William Sudol	

Prevention Services

Juvenile Review Board

Francis Carino – Chairman

Aquila Beach	Carri-Ann Bell	Penny Bryzgel
Kevan Dantzer	Dawn Davis	Tpr Gregory DeCarli
Tpr Benjamin Dodge	Tpr Jeffrey Dunshee	Sabena Escott
Tpr Kyle Fitzgibbons	Tpr Daniel Greenwood	Michelle Hamilton
Cate Jellie	Stephanie Juber	Denise Morell
Thomas Mueller	Tpr Robert O'Connor	Bevin Perry
Cheri Rivard-Lentz	Lynn Rookey	Richard Szegda
Karley Watkins		

Coalition for a Healthy Empowered Community (CHEC)

Suzanne Donahue – Chairwoman

Aquila Beach	Sheila Boushee	Penny Bryzgel
Dawn Davis	Tpr Gregory DeCarli	Tpr Benjamin Dodge
Katelyn Donahue	Tpr Jeffrey Dunshee	Sabena Escott
Laurence Fearon	Tpr Kyle Fitzgibbons	John Gasper
Marisa Giarnella-Porco	Tpr Daniel Greenwood	Alyssa Gwinnell
Michelle Hamilton	Kim Hills	Kim Kelley
Michael Kenyon	Kelley Lafleur	Scott Leslie
Melisa Luginbuhl	Annette Morrison	Gayle Mulligan
Tpr Robert O'Connor	Father Everett Perine	Bevin Perry
Cheri Rivard-Lentz	Joel Rosenberg	Lisa Seethaler
Haley Shoop	Robert Siminski	Bonnie Smith
Nella Stelzner	Michele Thorn	Daniel White

Data compiled by:
Becky Murray, FRC Program Coordinator

Annual Report created by:
Erin Pace, AHM Board Member

