# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT







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### Letter From The Chair



In 2015 we took many positive steps forward. As you will see from our program outcomes we continued our tradition of excellence and superior outcomes. I am always excited to see that 91% of our adoptive placements become finalized adoptions. This tells me that we are among the best in minimizing the disruption in children's lives and placing their needs first. I am also happy to see siblings being kept together as evidenced by our largest placement of 3 children and older children finding their forever homes.

Throughout the year, Spaulding for Children was also able to move to a new office, improve our IT systems

and document management, and strengthen our financial position! This would not have been possible without you our donors and supporters. On behalf of the Board, Advisory Committee and staff, our sincere and humble thanks. I also would like to thank the staff for their diligence in maximizing every dollar. Thank you for your stewardship.

However, there is still much work to do! There are nearly 7,000 children in our great State of Texas waiting to be adopted into their forever home. This does not include the tens of thousands in foster care. Even more alarming is that approximately 1,000 children turn 18 every year and age out of the system. This puts a significant drain on our community when you consider that 25% will become homeless within 2 years, 25% will be incarcerated, and 60% will have children within 4 years and these children are twice as likely to be placed in the foster care system! Ensuring these children find their loving forever homes is not only the right thing to do, it's frankly an essential service for our community!

As I look ahead to 2016, my last year on the Board, I am excited about what we will accomplish this year and beyond! We are challenging ourselves to grow. To do so we are evaluating how we reach out to you for your support and to recruit prospective families. We will also improve our processes as a Board and also how we evaluate Spaulding for Children's success. I would also ask you to help us grow as well. You can help not only with your financial support, but also through telling others about Spaulding for Children. We are always looking for prospective families and opportunities to speak to groups to recruit prospective families. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are interested in being a prospective parent or can refer us to a speaking opportunity.

Once again my thanks for your continued support and dedication to Spaulding for Children and to the children in our community that need your help.

Sincerely,

John Seo

Board Chair, Spaulding for Children



### **Foster Care**

The Foster Care program provided through Spaulding for Children's Houston office supports the agency's mission by providing a safe haven home for abused or neglected children who have been removed from their birth homes and placed in the custody of the State of Texas. In 2015, Spaulding for Children's Foster Care program:

- Provided 13,273 days of care for 77 children in the Greater Houston area
- Facilitated the adoption of 28 children who were adopted by their foster parents
- Maintained placement for 96% of foster children with their foster parents until discharged through adoption or other type of planned move

Largest Placement was 3 children Oldest Child was 14 years old Youngest Child was 3 days old

### Special Needs Adoption

Adoption services are provided through Spaulding for Children's Houston and South Texas offices which serve 32 counties in Texas. The Special Needs Adoption Program consists of several components: recruitment, training, placement, and finalization. These services are offered free of charge to families, eliminating significant financial barriers for prospective adoptive parents, and helping more children in need achieve permanency through adoption. In 2015, the Special Needs Adoption Program:

- Placed 42 children in permanent families
- Finalized 40 adoptions where children officially became part of their forever families
- Maintained a superior success rate in which 91% of adoptive placements became finalized adoptions

Largest Placement was 3 children Oldest Child was 17 years old Youngest Child was 3 months old

### **Post Adoption**

Post Adoption services are also provided through Spaulding for Children's Houston and South Texas offices. Spaulding for Children's Post Adoption Program began in 1988 to provide on-going support to children who were adopted from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) custody and their adoptive parents. The program is designed to protect, strengthen and preserve the new adoptive families so that they may remain intact. In 2015, the Post Adoption Program:

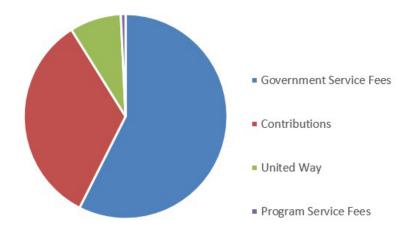
- Provided post adoption services to 428 children
- Provided 2,747 hours of case management services
- Provided therapy and respite services enabling 98% of the 428 children served by the Post Adoption program to remain with their adopted families

# 2015 Revenue & Expenses

### Revenue

Government Service Fees	\$1,483,460	57%
Contributions	\$867,426	34%
United Way	\$210,903	8%
Program Service Fees	\$19,418	1%

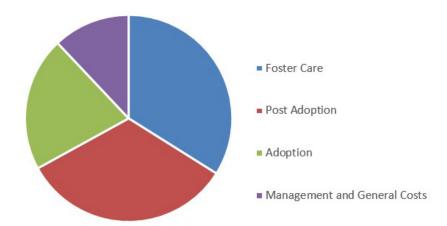
Total Support and Revenue \$2,581,447



### Expenses

Foster Care	\$833,633	34%
Post Adoption	\$812,501	33%
Adoption	\$515,763	21%
Management and General Costs	\$295,303	12%

Total Expenses \$2,457,200



# Celebrating 18 With Her Forever Family

At Spaulding for Children, we strive to find families for older children who are at the highest risk of aging out of the foster care system. Children who turn 18 without being adopted will "age out" of the foster care system without ever having a family to call their own. Selena was one of those children until she met the Casas family in 2014.

Yasmin and Roy came to Spaulding for Children after seeing an ad about the agency in their local church bulletin. The Casas family did not have any children of their own and wanted to give a child a home and a family to call their own.

The Casas family was originally looking to adopt a younger child, but as Mr. Casas says "God had a different plan for us." Selena was 16 years old at the time that she met the Casas family. "We bonded with her. It was almost like she picked us," Mrs. Casas describes of their first meeting with Selena.



For her 18th birthday, Mrs. Casas says, "Selena wanted to wear a big ball gown and have a party at a beautiful venue where she and her family and friends could dance." At the end of October, Selena's dream came true; her family hosted a beautiful party to celebrate her 18th birthday!

Selena is just one of the many children that were adopted by their forever families this year. While Selena was adopted just a few months before her 18th birthday, there are still more than 7,000 children in Texas' foster care system that will go to sleep tonight without a family to call their own. It is through the support of people like you that we are able to continue to help children like Selena find their forever families.

If you are interested in learning how you can become a foster or adoptive parent, please call 713-681-6991 for more information.

Spaulding for Children gratefully recognizes the foundations, corporations, religious organizations and individuals who believe in our mission and allow us to provide adoptive homes for children who have endured abuse, neglect or abandonment through their generous contributions. We know that our work would not be possible without your support!

Our heartfelt thanks to the following donors who made gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2015:

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Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

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