



“Strengthening Families and Building a Strong Community”

***Pine River-Backus Family Center
2017 Annual Report***

The Pine River-Backus Family Center has been providing needed services and quality programs directly to local families for 21 years. We desire to strengthen our community by bringing new life and a hope that thrives into the homes right next door. We work to ensure all families have what they need to reach their full potential and be able to contribute to their community.

Staff:

Executive Director: Leslie Bouchonville
Family Services Staff/Office Manager: Karen Bresnahan
Food Shelf Coordinator: Jodi Perry
Working Together Coordinator: John Grimley
Working Together Support Staff: Carlie Hamed
Home Visiting Family Support Specialist: Alexandra Raiden Ritter
Regional Prevention Coordinator: Kelly Felton



Family Center Home Visiting Program “Hand in hand for early success”

Working together to build a secure foundation for newborn babies and their parents

The Family Center Home Visiting program is a strength based Home Visiting program targeted to overburdened prenatal moms/families. The goals of the program are to: build and sustain community partnerships to systematically engage overburdened families in home visiting services prenatally or at birth, cultivate and strengthen nurturing parent-child relationships, promote healthy childhood development and growth, and enhance family functioning by reducing risk and building protective factors. Pine River-Backus, Northland and Pillager Family Centers provide visits in their respective communities. In September of 2017, the Family Center Home Visiting Program was accredited with Healthy Families America.

The Pine River Backus Site visited 14 different families and completed 210 visits. The Home Visiting Program is jointly funded by; The Otto Bremer Foundation, United Way of Crow Wing and Southern Cass Counties, Cass County, Crow Wing Power Operation Roundup, Cass County Leech Lake Children’s Initiative and private donations. An Advisory Board helps guide the work of the Home Visiting Program.

Cost: \$54,637



Pine River Area Food Shelf

We are an emergency food shelf with a mission that no one in our community goes hungry

Serving 18 townships and two cities in the Pine River area, since 1982, the Pine River Area Food Shelf is a service of the Family Center and exists to serve those who experience food insecurity. The Food Shelf is open Tuesdays and Fridays 10am – 1pm, and the second Tuesday of each month from 3:00 – 6:30pm. During 2017 the Food Shelf provided 84,389 pounds of food and had 4,608 visits (duplicated). Three hundred and twenty new clients were served. Volunteers provided 2789 hours of time assisting with food shelf shifts, unloading the truck, fundraising and serving on the Food Shelf Advisory Board. The Food Shelf is funded with public contributions, local service organizations donations, fundraising, and grants.
Program Cost: \$59,082

Parent Education Classes

Love and Logic is a parent education class that offers parents a variety of ways to provide guidance, nurturing and discipline techniques for pre-school and elementary age children. Each class is 1.5 hours and is held for 6 weeks. Love and Logic is funded jointly by Pine River-Backus School District and proceeds from the Radiothon to End Child Abuse fundraiser. In 2017 the Family Center offered a class in the Fall 4 families signed up however participation was not consistent and the class ended early.

Family Services

Family Support

- The overall goal of this program/service is to meet the changing needs of families and children as they arise, as well as to build upon the existing strengths in the community. We served a total of 52 families (duplicated) that were comprised of 45 children and 77 adults. The Family Center provided 41 Salvation Army vouchers for gas, emergency lodging and fuel assistance.
- **MNsure Navigators**
85 MNsure appointments completed. Applications submitted for 88 consumers and renewals submitted for 23 consumers.
- **Nutrition Assistance Program for Senior Citizens**
661 NAPS boxes were distributed to low –income seniors. That is over 19,800 pounds of food or the equivalent of 16,525 meals distributed to seniors in our community.

Youth Programs

Camp Opportunities for 1st time campers

In collaboration with YMCA Camp Olson, Pine River-Backus Youth and Family Service worker and the Pohlad Foundation the Family Center was able to send 10 elementary students to day camp. All funds were spent on camper tuition. Program Cost: \$3,000

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesdays is a summer program for children 3 – 5 years old, who have not yet entered Kindergarten. Children receive 2 hours of pre-school classroom activities once per week June – August. The program is offered at a nominal fee and our staff work to coordinate transportation. 9 children participated in Wonderful Wednesdays. They received over 146 hours of programming.
Program Cost: \$3,500

Child and Teen Check-up Outreach

Cass County Public Health contracts with the PR-B Family Center to provide Child and Teen Check-up outreach and scheduling of well child check-ups and immunizations. Fourteen Clinics were held with 75 appointments scheduled. Holding clinics locally are an opportunity for parents to receive a well-child check- up without traveling out of the community. The nurse is able to spend time answering any growth and development questions the parent may have.

Program Cost: \$15,974



Working Together Coalition

The PR-B Family Center serves as the Grantee/Organizational Host for the Working Together Coalition. The Working Together Coalition coordinates a community wide effort to reduce youth substance use through community and school-based programs, special events, marketing and extensive collaboration among community members and organizations. The Coalition serves the school districts of Pine River-Backus, Northland Community and Walker-Hackensack-Akeley and is funded by the Drug Free Community grant, Cass County contract with Sheriff's Department, community donations, fundraisers and foundations.

Program Cost: \$99,299



Regional Prevention Coordinator

The PR-B Family Center holds a contract with the State of Minnesota to serve as an employer and home base for the Region 3 Prevention Coordinator. The Regional Prevention Coordinator provides resources and technical assistance to a 13 county area which includes the counties of; Cass, Crow Wing, Todd, Wadena, Pope, Douglas, Stearns, Grant, Ottertail, Clay, Wilkin and Traverse.

Program Cost: \$107,227

Collaborative Events/Programs

- **Week of the Young Child (WOYC)** this is an annual event to celebrate early childhood programs, children and families, 72 children and 84 adults participated.
- **Christmas for Kids** ~ staff coordinate the distribution of Christmas toys for children in need. \$2,750 in donations was received to purchase children's gifts and clothing. Volunteers assisted with the shopping and distribution of gifts to children. A total of 62 families and 159 children benefited from this service.
- The 2017 **Radiothon to End Child Abuse** raised over \$1500 in auction items. A local restaurant, the Salty Dog, raised \$1000 in addition which are used to support families and children in our community who have unique need.

Building Use

The PR-B Family Center allows community groups and individual the use of meeting room and office space on a daily basis. The PR-B Family Center does not coordinate the services listed below; however it does provide a hub for service delivery which benefits all persons in our community. Some of the programs that utilize the family center for this purpose are:

- Cass County Public Health Women Infant and Children program (WIC, 2 days monthly), Child & Teen Check-up Clinics (1 day monthly) site for the Family Planning Clinics offered (1 day monthly).
- County Social Services - a place to meet locally with clients
- Family Safety Network - a place to meet locally with clients
- Minnesota Workforce Center (CEP) - office space (2 days per week), for orientations and 827interviews.
- Cass County Probations- monthly meetings with clients
- Senior Linkage – a place for volunteers to meet with clients for MedicareD enrollment.


Volunteers

Volunteers provided 2953 hours of service to PR-B Family Center programs. Some of the areas in which volunteers assisted included: Board of Directors, Food Shelf, special events programs and in the office. The national value of volunteers hourly rate is \$22.55/per hour. The monetary value of their time = \$66,590

Pine River-Backus Family Center 2017 Board of Directors

Ardis Anderberg
Bruce Winder
Doris Knot
Carol Lovro
Jake Mongan
Kathleen Stephan
Gina Williams

As we move into 2018, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for investing in the important work we do in Cass County Communities. Your donations are used to improve and often change lives of children and adults in our community. If you or someone you know wishes to continue to support our work, please have them call the PR-B Family Center at 218-587-4292 you may also find links to donate on our website.

Our website is www.prbfamilycenter.org You may also find us at  **giveMN.org**
click. contribute. change your world.

Organizational Recognitions:

2007 - "Outstanding Nonprofit Organization" Initiative Foundation

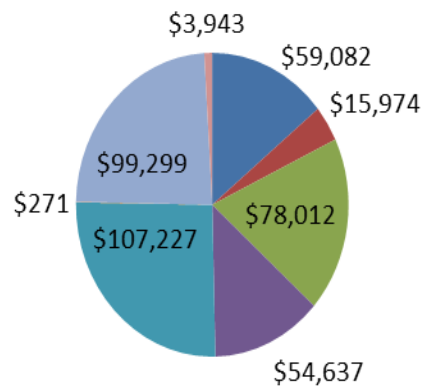
2008 - Touchstone Energy Community Commitment Award

2009 - Governor's Council on Faith and Community Service Initiatives "Best Practices"

2013 - Awarded the Charities Review Council Seal of Standards



2017 Program Cost



- Food Shelf
- Family Center Services
- Regional RPC
- Working Together Coalition
- C&TC
- Home Visiting
- WOYC
- Tiger Den