



2014 Annual Report

Letter from the President

OUR MISSION
is to provide comprehensive, integrated services to support women working to break the cycle of homelessness and incarceration and achieve healthy, stable and self-sufficient lives in the community for themselves and their children.



Dear Friends,

When I sit down to reflect upon the last year, I think of the women at Crossroads for Women and how their lives change, markedly, each year. They are women who are often overlooked, but who consistently make miracles for themselves and their children through their work here at Crossroads for Women.

What is also consistent, and growing, is support from individual donors, large and small. Crossroads for Women remains the only provider of housing and comprehensive, wrap-around services for formerly incarcerated women who are experiencing homelessness, addiction and mental health challenges. Without community support—advocacy, volunteer labor, donations of needed items and cash, our services would have been even more seriously diminished during these financially stressful times.

What Crossroads for Women continues to provide, even under serious cutbacks, are housing and comprehensive, supportive services that empower women to become healthy and self-sufficient members of our community, to be reunited with their children, and to achieve a stability that has been missing for them for many years.

In 2014, many of the women at CRFW participated in community engagement and advocacy work aimed at building support networks within their communities. The support and training the women received from Young Women United was instrumental in facilitating 2014's legislative advocacy efforts. In addition to creating connections with policymakers and other leaders in New Mexico, Crossroads for Women actively collaborated with other community organizations. Barrett House and SAFE House played a vital role in identifying potential clients, making referrals, and providing emergency shelter for clients just entering our program. Students from the University of New Mexico's Occupational Therapy program assisted in facilitating groups and created a trauma-informed curriculum to help our clients develop essential vocational and life skills, while the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), Gap Inc. and the Center for Spiritual Living-Albuquerque (among many others,) supported and brought a bit of joy to the women and children during the holidays with much needed food boxes and a special holiday celebration for the families.

Our gratitude goes out to individuals from the community whose support, whether in the form of money, goods and services, or volunteer time have been fundamentally important in helping us fill in the funding gaps and provide support for the women and children at Crossroads for Women. Working together as a community, we will break the cycle of homelessness and incarceration for women and children in New Mexico!

In the spirit of community,

Kathleen M. Winslow

Board President, Crossroads for Women

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CRFW Client Finds Her Voice, Transforms Her Life



Linda joins Denicia Cadena, Policy and Cultural Strategy Director for Young Women United, in organizing CRFW clients for a day of advocacy at the State Legislature.

about the monthly checks, money they were supposed to use to take care of her -- while her feet hurt from shoes she'd outgrown.

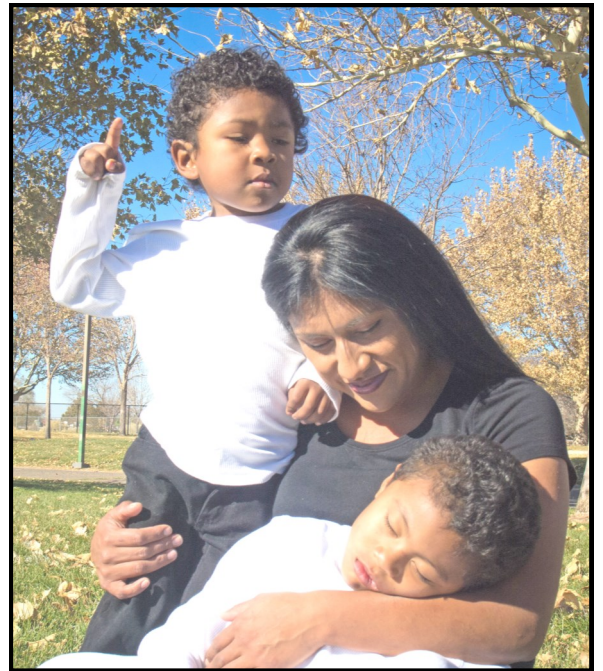
Linda was furious about all the lies; she started acting out, became uncontrollable. She also became a mother. And, when her life became one big self-destructive party, her children ended up with relatives; they told her: Let us take the kids; you go, get help, find yourself; when you're ready, come back and we'll give you the kids. Linda got clean from time to time and visited her children, but there were endless excuses why she couldn't yet have them back. Eventually, she gave up. She landed up on the streets, in a life of drugs and prostitution, in and out of jail.

Finally, Linda decided to seek support. She found Maya's Place, a transitional living program of Crossroads for Women. She made a decision to really work at it, stay focused, get involved and put an end to the cycle of addiction in her life. Maya's Place helped her to come to terms with the life long effects of childhood trauma. "Today I can say that I know I am special and have a purpose in life."

Linda has also been inspired by Young Women United, a community organizing project by and for young women of color, where she was hired as both a Legislative and now a Policy Intern. They've taught her about advocating for social justice, and helped her find her voice. And now, Linda's on a mission. She wants to learn everything she can, so that some day she can go home and help her people.

Linda graduates from Maya's Place in June. She hopes to begin The Crossroads after that, and she hopes to continue to work for Young Women United. She's full of hope, as she reflects on her life today:

"Our stories, our testimonies, our experiences, can help save another person. And a group of women who come together and figure all this out — it's powerful...God has a hand on Crossroads for Women. It works. They love you until you can love yourself. And we're the ones that do it, we're the ones doing the work. There's a system of support, but it's what we make of it. I'm very honored, I'm very privileged, to be a part of this."



At 34, Linda has finally found her voice. As a child, no one spoke for her, no one listened to her.

Linda grew up on the Zuni Reservation, and later in Espanola, NM amid a complex web of relationships. Adopted by her paternal great aunt, she was raised by her great grandmother. Her father died before she was two.

And she experienced sexual abuse— at so young an age that she thought it was just part of life. "When you're a child growing up and those things are happening to you, you think...when the lights go out, this is what happens."

When she did finally open up about the abuse, she was accused of lying. Later, she discovered that "mom" (her great aunt) was not her real mother. And she found out

—Written by Mary Bokuniewicz

2014 Program Updates

Client News

- ◆ During the holiday season, Crossroads for Women staff and Maya's Place transitional housing clients created a project-based assignment entitled "The TLC Group." This entrepreneurial program was designed to explore the practice of micro-lending and the basics of small business operation. The women created a holiday-themed product and used newly learned marketing skills to create a brand and sell a product. The women voted to donate the \$600 profit to the local non-profit, CLN Kids. The project was such a success that a new group was created. As of May 2015, two additional TLC projects were completed. Profits from these two projects were dispersed to the women involved.
- ◆ In 2014, 50 women engaged in vocational activity at CRFW; 22 women obtained or maintained employment; 14 were enrolled in higher education at institutions such as CNM, UNM and SIPI.
- ◆ Client leaders at Crossroads continued their advocacy work of bringing a gendered-lens analysis to criminal justice reform in New Mexico by bringing their voices to the Homelessness Lobby Day and regular meetings of the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee. Young Women United, a community organizing and policy project by and for women of color in New Mexico, engaged the women at CRFW in group discussions, campaigns and policy work and hired two women to participate more deeply in the 2014 legislative session.



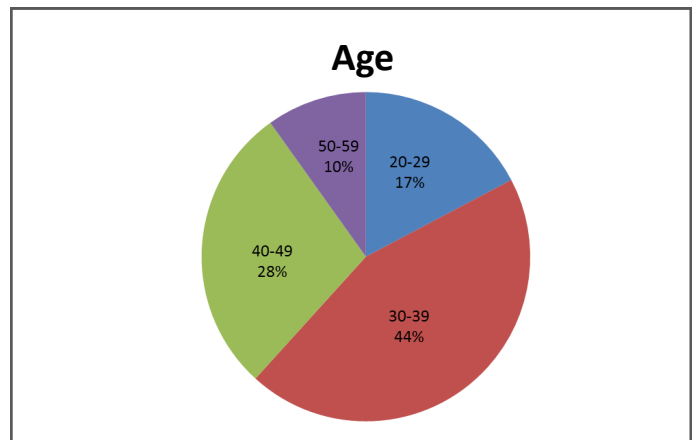
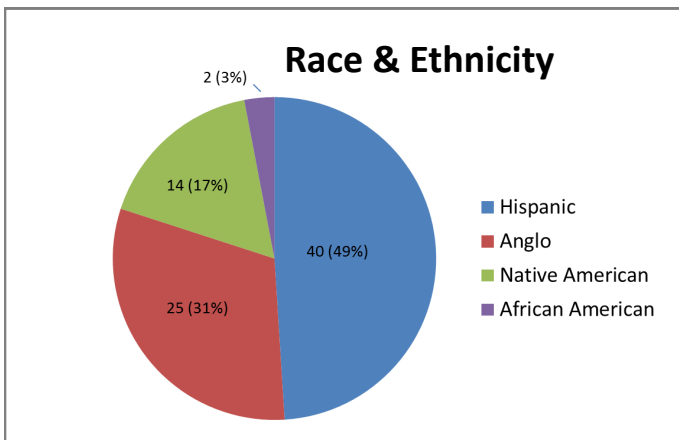
Program Improvements

- ◆ Crossroads for Women vocational interns developed and implemented a vocational mentorship and cross-training program to provide more support among peers in areas of job search, job and school readiness, budgeting and Aftercare.
- ◆ CRFW staff, volunteers, and clients partnered with a local business to design, produce, market and sell CRFW's first signature Butterfly Bracelet. The bracelet raised \$2500 and sold out ahead of schedule. A well-attended bracelet kick-off party recognized clients who participated in making the bracelets.
- ◆ Developed structure for CRFW Fundraising Committee by increasing membership, and developing skills through presentations by expert speakers. The FRC raised over 10K in 2014.
- ◆ Clinical staff updated the CRFW service agreement and level system to reflect the principles of client-centered, trauma-informed care.

2014 Program Demographics

- In 2014, 81 women and 25 children were housed by Crossroads for Women and received supportive services, including intensive case management, vocational support, parenting assistance and psycho-social education via the Crossroads for Women Day Program.
- Over 50 previous housing clients received services through the Aftercare Program. Services included vocational support services, parenting assistance, emergency utility assistance, and more.
- Over 605 women participated in the Crossroads for Women Education groups held at the Metropolitan Detention Center.*

* CRFW staff is unable to collect names of session participants and therefore some duplication exists.



2014 Financials

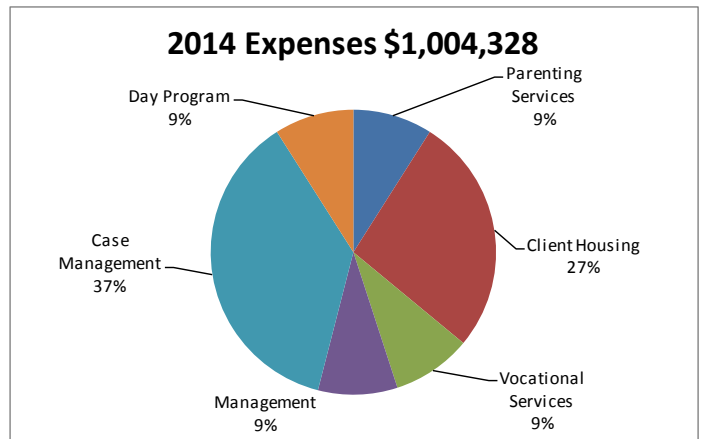
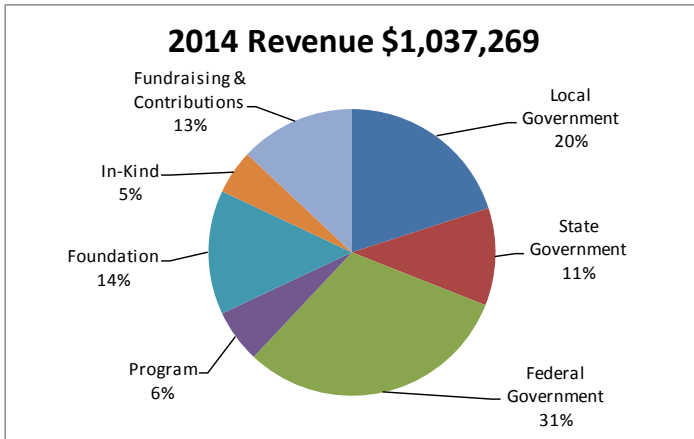


Revenue

Expenses

Local Government:	\$204,293
State Government:	\$115,259
Federal Government :	\$334,765
Foundation:	\$144,000
Program Income:	\$56,709
Fundraising & Contributions:	\$133,056
In-Kind:	\$49,187

Parenting Services:	\$91,999
Vocational:	\$92,115
Day Program:	\$93,182
Case Management:	\$367,802
Client Housing:	\$266,472
Management:	\$92,757



Foundation and Government Funders

Bernalillo County
 NM Behavioral Health Services Division
 City of Albuquerque
 U.S. Federal Probation/Pre-Trial Services
 U.S. Housing and Urban Development
 Medicaid
 NM Mortgage Finance Authority
 New Mexico Corrections Department
 The Albuquerque Community Foundation

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 United Way Women's Self Sufficiency Fund
 Center for Nonprofit Excellence
 Encore Fellows Program (Intel Supported)
 Rotary Del Norte
 United Way of Central New Mexico



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Everything we accomplish at Crossroads for Women is a result of our generous and talented volunteers, donors and partner agencies. We are incredibly grateful for the contributions of time, talent and resources that our supporters lend us!

Thank You!

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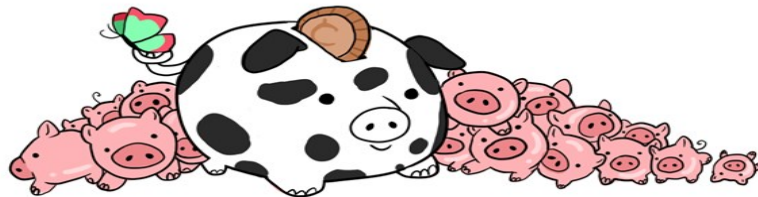


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