

Strengthening the Lives of Youth and Families



Briarpatch Youth Services

Agency Impact

1,632

support sessions
and help-line calls
for youth, parents
and families.

90%

of those who
participated in
Restorative Justice
completed their
agreements.

1,973

items distributed to
hundreds of 18-24
year olds experiencing
homelessness.

1,377

nights of shelter
provided.

74

placements
into shelter.

45

unduplicated
youth stayed
in shelter.

Service Areas

**Youth
Development**

**Justice Involved
Youth**

**Youth & Families
Experiencing
Challenges**



Briarpatch was chosen by
Steve Brown Apartments to
be the recipient of their 2024
SBA Gives Campaign.

This gift allowed for the makeover
of the Training Room, which transformed the room
into an inviting, multi-functional space, that's
designed to meet the needs of both the members
of our team and the youth that we serve.

A Message from Our Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I want to start this letter by acknowledging that the work of Briarpatch would not be possible without my incredible colleagues that show up every day for the youth and young adults who need our services. This work continues to be incredibly hard, yet I still find joy every day when I arrive at Briarpatch's doors.

Some of the joys in this work are small, like when we added planters and flowers to beautify our outdoor space. (I can't wait for those orange tulips to emerge!) Some of the joys are big, such as when our agency became a part of the City of Madison's YHDP (Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project) which helps to provide rental assistance to young adults ages 18-24 who are experiencing homelessness. Through this partnership, Briarpatch was able to provide short and long-term rental assistance to 37 young adults in 6 months. This is what the work is all about.

In 2024, we beautified spaces to make them more youth friendly and we built our infrastructure by hiring the agency's first HR Manager and Reporting & Compliance Manager. Both positions help us ensure compliance with the many regulations and licenses necessary for us to provide quality services.

Also, in 2024, Briarpatch received a \$400,000 Congressional Earmark from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This grant is providing start-up funds for Briarpatch to begin a Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program. CCS is a voluntary medical assistance program to provide individual, community-based, psychosocial rehabilitation services to youth and young adults with mental health and/or substance use issues. This will support our efforts to provide deeper mental health supports for young people in the future.

Some accomplishments caused mixed emotions because we know serving more young people means more hardship exists. For example, in 2024 we provided more nights of shelter than any other previous year, with almost 1,400 nights of shelter.

Despite the joys and challenges, I still feel tremendous gratitude for the way our community showed up for Briarpatch Youth Services in 2024. Through board service, internships, partnerships, and financial donations, we were truly able to move towards fulfilling even more community need. I want to thank each of you, our community, for your role in making that possible.

Let's keep going, together.

Jill W. Pfeiffer
Executive Director, Briarpatch Youth Services



2024 Briarpatch Leadership Team

Jill W. Pfeiffer Executive Director	Jay Kiefer Program Director
Shannon Algrem Director of Finance	Jen Ripp Program Director
Joseph Bednarowski Grants & IT Director	Ian Carter Communications & Development Director

2024 Briarpatch Board of Directors

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Youth Advocacy Services and Youth Shelter Programs

The **Youth Advocacy Services** and the **Youth Shelter** programs offer a comprehensive range of services for youth ages 12-17, including individual and family counseling, crisis intervention, temporary shelter, case management, and a 24-hour help-line. Our primary focus is to help reunite youth with their families and resolve challenges through advocacy. Additionally, our dedicated staff work one-on-one with each youth to foster strong decision-making skills and guide them away from self-destructive behaviors.

1,158
Supportive Service Hours
(Individual and Family)

850
Help-Line Calls

1,377
Nights of Shelter Provided



Street Outreach Program

The **Street Outreach Program** provides direct community-based and street outreach services to Dane County unsheltered and at-risk youth and young adults ages 14-24. Our Street Outreach Specialists provide advocacy and client-driven, holistic case management services.

In addition, we assist clients in obtaining state IDs, social security cards, and/or birth certificates; provide basic need items such as survival gear, hygiene items, safe sex kits, clothing items, and direct referrals to community food sources, as well for specialized services.

906
Client Contacts

36
Youth Obtained Some Form of Identification

47
Youth Gained Housing

14
Youth Obtained Further Education/ Training

446
Hygiene Kits Distributed

320
Sexual Protection Kits Distributed

1,021
Food/Drink Items Distributed

186
Clothing Items Distributed



Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

The **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program** seeks to support homeless youth in our community through the leadership of youth and young adults with lived experience, community connections and partnerships, individual agency, and transparency.

48
Individuals Housed
(including children, within 7 months.)

34 (48 individuals)
Households received quick move-in funds and/or short-term rental assistance

9 (14 individuals)
Households continued to receive rental assistance and intensive case management services past 2024

Briarpatch provides housing relocation and stabilization financial assistance (security deposits, rental application fees, last month's rent, utility deposits, utility payments, moving costs) and short-term or medium-term rental assistance, including up to 6 months of rent in arrears through the **EHH Program**.



Parent Support Program

Our **Parent Support Program** is tailored to help parents and caregivers with a child or teen dealing with issues such as substance use, mental health concerns, truancy, educational difficulties, chronic running away, struggles with self-harm, interpersonal conflicts, parent-child relationship, or other challenges. We offer case management and brief counseling services to guide families through these difficulties.

As part of Parent Support Program Briarpatch offers bi-monthly, staff-led **Parent Support Groups (PSG)** that provide a safe space for parents to share experiences and receive support in community with other parents/guardians.

51
Clients

936
Supportive
Service Hours

21
Parent Groups
Offered

17
Family Sessions

108
Individual
Sessions

26
School Meetings/
Individual
Sessions

Intensive Supervision Program

Youth in our **Intensive Supervision Program** can avoid out-of-home placement while receiving support from Briarpatch staff to complete their court-ordered obligations. Services include mentoring, group activities, curfew monitoring, and support for both school attendance and family engagement.

23
2024 New
Intakes

48
Total Clients
Served

31
Client Cases
Closed

3,353
Supportive
Service Hours



Youth Restitution Program

The **Youth Restitution Program** offers support and mentoring to young offenders as they fulfill restitution obligations or complete court-ordered community service. Throughout this process, staff work closely with the youth to help them identify and build upon their individual strengths while fostering the development of strong decision-making skills.

199
2024 New
Referrals

149
First Time Clients

50
Repeat Referrals

2,588
Community
Service Hours
Completed

189
Clients
Successfully
Completed
Obligations

94%
Success Rate

28
Deferred
Prosecution
Agreement (of
new referrals)

Restorative Justice Program

The **Restorative Justice Program** provides an alternative to the traditional municipal court system by offering eligible youth the chance to fulfill a personalized restorative justice agreement instead of paying fines or entering the formal youth justice system. This approach helps youth develop a sense of accountability and learn how to repair the harm caused by their actions. Through the process, they gain a deeper understanding of the impact their behavior has on others and the community.

49
Youth Participated

16
Youth Participated
in Life Skills Training

9
Trained to be
Youth Circle Keepers

260
Service Hours Completed
for the Community



Youth Job Center

The **Youth Job Center** aims to support youth ages 14-18 who face barriers to employment by helping them develop the skills necessary for workplace success. Through an evidence-based curriculum, participants gain valuable experience in key pre-employment skills such as completing job applications, mastering interview techniques, understanding financial literacy, effective communication, resume writing, and job search strategies. In addition, we provide post-job placement mentoring to ensure continued support and growth as needed.

114
Unduplicated Youth
Served

1,830
Program
Hours Offered

251
Hours of Social
Emotional Learning



Briarpatch Youth Groups

Briarpatch provides a variety of group programs throughout the year, focusing on healing, accountability, workforce development, and creating a safe space for youth to thrive. Our mission is to support the well-being of our community's youth and families. Below are some of the support groups available to young people in our programs. While most groups are referral-based, a few are open to individuals not currently enrolled in our services.

Restorative Justice Circles are a facilitated sit-down between the youth, victim, family and advocate/circle keeper to discuss the details surrounding a youth justice case. Here, youth are able to take accountability in a healing centered environment and work towards healing solutions for their actions.

Peer Support Group provides social support while discussing how to set boundaries, self-advocacy, self-expression, and the building of relationships from a youth point of view. This group is especially recommended for youth with Autism, ADHD, and other forms of neurodiversity.

Mindfulness Group provides youth with the necessary tools to navigate life's circumstances, helping them to understand their choices and outcomes.

Through the **I Am A Man** group, we work with our youth to navigate difficult challenges in their lives and give them additional tools to help them make better choices. Family engagement occurs through this process with weekly check-ins.

Financial Literacy and Employment Etiquette Knowledge (F.L.E.E.K.) is a group set up to provide insight into financial security, economic knowledge, and employment etiquette.

The mission of **Girl F.L.Y.** is to provide resources and guidance to help female youth navigate through life. This is an 8-week group with two hour sessions each week. Youth identified with challenges in their lives who are looking for support.

Work Teams provide bi-weekly, adult-supervised opportunities that assist youth in completing court-ordered community service and/or restitution obligations through a variety of supportive tasks in the community.

Teens Like Us is a group for queer and questioning youth, and their allies, ages 13 through the end of high school. The group is a "chill" space for youth to support one another, make new friends, and engage in casually structured activities and meet guest speakers from the community.

Partners & Funders

100+ Women Who Care Madison
AmeriCorps
Amtelco
Ascendium
Attic Angel Association
BetterLife
Betty Jane Perego Fund for
Multicultural Youth Programs
– MCF
Capital Times KIDS Fund
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City of Madison
City of Sun Prairie
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Dane County Human Services
Dane County YAB/ YHDP /HUD
Davidson Family Fund
DCF State of WI
DeAtley Family Foundation – MCF
Delta Beer LLC
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– MCF
Edward Jones Charitable Gift Fund
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Family and Youth Services Bureau
(FYSB)

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of Messiah Lutheran Church
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Madison Gas & Electric Company
Madison Metropolitan
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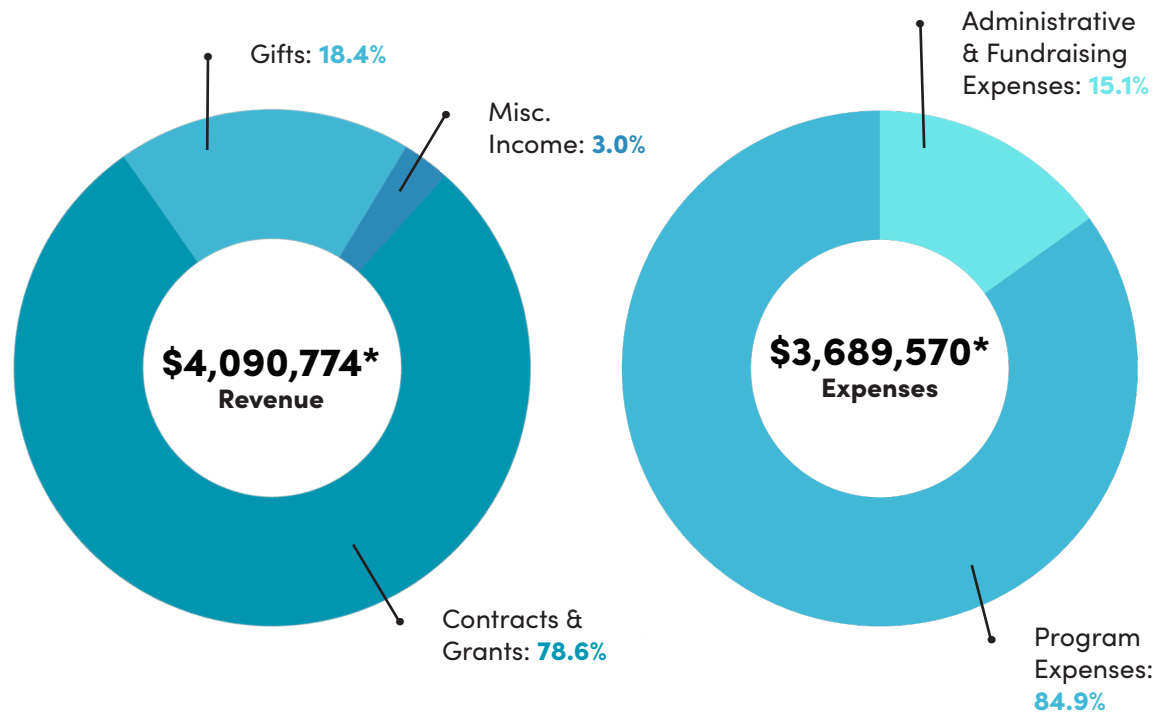
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YWCA Madison

Key Partners & Funders



We are extremely grateful to all of our individual donors, who for the sake of confidentiality, are not listed in this report. The funders and partners listed represent those who donated \$500 or greater in 2024 as of December 31. If you feel there is an error in this list or if you feel we should list donors, please let us know at contact@briarpatch.org.

2024 Financial Summary



* These numbers are unaudited until completion of the 2024 audit.

Contribution Sources

Briarpatch's funding comes from both public and private sources. All gifts received, monetary, in-kind, and volunteer hours, are allocated in a manner that is intentional, efficient, impactful and in direct alignment with the mission of, "Strengthening the Lives of Youth and Families."

Types of Solicitations

- Direct Mail Appeals
- Grant Proposals
- Verbal Requests for Support
- Special Events

Use of Contributions

All contributions are used to support the agency's work with youth and families.

Donors may designate their contribution(s) for a specific use. These donations are classified as restricted until expended consistent with donor's wishes.

Thank You for Your Partnership & Support!



Briarpatch
Youth Services

Briarpatch Youth Services is a
501(c)3 Nonprofit Corporation.

We are deeply grateful for the
generous donors who support our
mission of Strengthening the Lives
of Youth and Families.

NEED US?

Call our 24/7 helpline:
(608) 251-1126 | (800) 798-1126

briarpatch.org

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at: @briarpatchyouthservices