

# ANNUAL REPORT 2014



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
ILLINOIS

Every child deserves a home





# SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS

Dear Friends:

For over 20 years, SOS Children's Villages Illinois has provided help, hope, and safety for brothers and sisters in foster care. We are inspired everyday by the life-changing outcomes of our advocacy, services, and the impact our programs offer to the children in our care. Thank you for your generous support, which is critical to our work and serves as an endorsement of our efforts.



SOS Children's Villages Illinois is first and foremost about each child we serve, their families, and the surrounding communities. Our successful model of care offers an alternative to traditional foster care. We believe in powerful principles – keeping siblings together, having full-time, professionally trained foster parents to care for the children, offering a safe and stable home environment, and surrounding each with a community of support. Our commitment to these principles and our passionate belief that every child deserves to feel a sense of belonging drive us to accept nothing less than continued growth, innovation, and success.

From the beginning, SOS Children's Villages Illinois has focused on reuniting siblings who are often separated when they enter the foster care system. Today, we are the first call made by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services when placing large sibling groups. When brothers and sisters, who have experienced abuse, abandonment, or neglect, are given the chance to be children, experience the support of their brothers and sisters, and are given one-on-one attention that gives each child the chance to succeed, our children thrive.

We thank you, our volunteers, donors, corporate partners and friends for your time, talent, resources and philanthropy. Your contributions make a significant difference in the lives of our children and families. These investments assure that the future of SOS Children's Villages Illinois holds still unimagined possibilities for every child.

*Sincerely,*

**Don Biernacki**  
Board President  
SOS Children's Villages Illinois

**Tim McCormick**  
Chief Executive Officer  
SOS Children's Villages Illinois

“My time at SOS Illinois allowed me to stay in contact with my family, giving us that sense of togetherness, and that enabled me to be more hopeful for my future. Because of that, I am in college and on track to graduate this coming December in 2015.”

—Terik, SOS Alumnus



## 2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2014, SOS Children’s Villages Illinois achieved great programmatic success. Take a look at our outcomes by the numbers. At SOS Illinois:

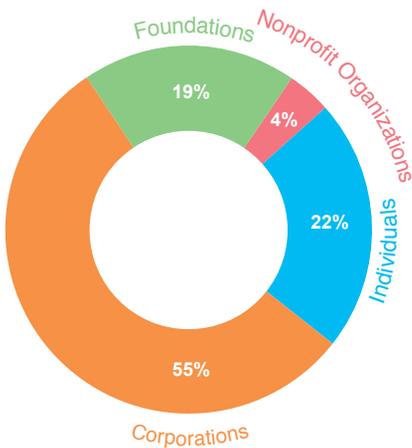
- **60,400** days of service and **2,154,960** hours of care were provided
- **698** total children were served (the highest number in our history!)
- The average age of children at our Villages is **10.61** years old
- **127** new children found a safe and loving home
- The average size of sibling groups entering SOS Illinois is **5.46** children, with our largest group being **11** children
- We celebrated a **100%** high school graduation rate, compared to the national average of 50% of children in foster care
- **95%** of youth attended **90%** or more of school days
- Our foster parents serve an average of **4.58** years, nationally foster parents serve an average of one (1) year
- SOS University offered more than **30** classes and staff completed over **500** hours of training



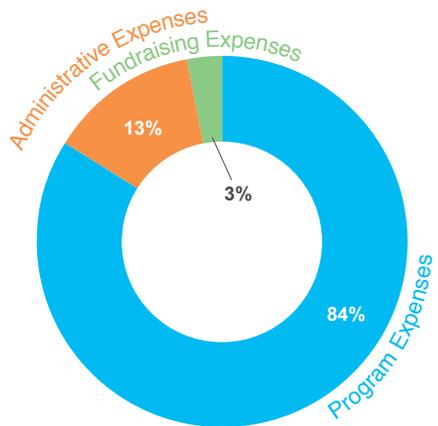
We have maintained a **4-Star Charity Navigator award** for seven consecutive years – only 2% of charities in U.S. have this distinction.



## 2014 FUNDING SOURCES & USES



**NON-GOVERNMENTAL FUNDING SOURCES\***



**FUNDING USES\***

\*As of the printing of this document, the 2014 Audited Statements were not available. The above graphs are based on unaudited 2014 Financials. 2014 Audited Financials will be available in August 2015.



## 2014 CORPORATE & FOUNDATION SUPPORT

*Corporate and Foundation support of \$5,000 and above*

### **CORPORATE SUPPORT**

AMLI Residential  
Civiltech Engineering, Inc.  
Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc.  
Dandamudi's Inc.  
David Mason & Associates, Inc.  
Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP  
Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
Forensic Data Services  
Grec Architects, LLC  
HBK Engineering, LLC  
HMS Host  
HSBC  
Imperial Crane  
Jacobs Engineering Foundation  
Knight Engineering & Architects  
Lend Lease, Inc.  
Patrick Engineering  
Related Midwest  
Skender Construction  
T.Y. Lin International  
TransSystems  
Walgreens  
Wintrust Financial Corporation

### **FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

Caterpillar Foundation  
Chicago Blackhawks Community Fund,  
a McCormick Foundation Fund  
Chicago Community Trust  
Chicago Foundlings Home  
Cohn Reznick Foundation, Inc.  
First Midwest Charitable Foundation  
George and June Block Family Foundation  
George M. Eisenberg Foundation  
Helen V. Brach Foundation  
Huen Foundation, Inc.  
Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
PB Foundation, Inc.  
Sky Ranch Foundation  
U.S. Bank National Association

"The SOS Children's Villages model is like a light under a bushel basket that more people need to know about and support. It takes an unfortunate situation and transforms it into a supportive, loving experience for foster children by prioritizing what's most important: keeping siblings together, providing stability through homes and trained foster parents, and creating compassionate and caring communities. It's a unique approach that sets a standard for how to assist children in the foster care system and I am proud to help lift the basket for such an impactful organization."

—Ed Wehmer, President & CEO,  
Wintrust Financial Corporation

# ABOUT SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS

At SOS Children's Villages Illinois, we build families. We provide a stable home in a supportive, community environment designed to help children in need grow into caring, productive, and self-reliant adults. SOS Children's Villages International, the umbrella organization under which SOS Children's Villages Illinois operates, began in Europe in 1945 after World War II; today, it is the largest non-denominational child welfare agency in the world.

**The SOS Children's Villages model differs from traditional foster care in emphasizing the following four components:**

1. Children live together with their siblings,
2. Children receive care and support from a full-time, professionally trained foster parent,
3. Children grow up in a private, single-family home,
4. Children are supported by the Village, designed as an intentional community of care.

"Being a professional foster parent is about ensuring that the children are feeling loved. It's about finding ways to engage the children in daily activities, having fun with the children in your home, and loving them through this process."

—Miss Brown,  
SOS Illinois Professional Foster Parent

**SOS Children's Villages Illinois is serving more children than ever before:**

- Lockport Village, 18 private, single family foster homes
- Chicago Village, 17 private, single family foster homes
- Casa Tepeyac, short-term residential facility
- Roosevelt Square Village, 14 private, single family foster homes

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Senior Vice President,  
Related Midwest

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Vice President  
Executive Vice President,  
Morse Diesel International,  
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Secretary  
Executive Vice President,  
Lend Lease

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Knight Engineers & Architects

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Manchester Airport Group,  
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Harold Washington College

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Principal, Lohan Anderson

#### **Joe Skender**

President, Skender Construction

#### **Laura Sudler**

Civic Leader

#### **Davie Williams**

AT&T, Retired

### **SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS**

#### **Tim McCormick**

Chief Executive Officer



### **SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS**

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