



SAFE HARBOR CENTER, INC.
2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends and Community Partners,

This past year, Safe Harbor Center celebrated a tremendous year of organizational growth and development. Collectively, all seven of our unique programs provided more than 950 individuals with vital services to promote security and stability for at-risk families, children and individuals. This was the largest one-year growth since Safe Harbor was founded in 1991. Yet, we continue to strive to for excellence and produce outcomes that are impactful for our community.

Being a nationally recognized leader among nonprofit organizations requires vision, outstanding professional talent, volunteer leadership, and loyal community support, and we are very fortunate to have all these resources in place. We are a remarkable organization in so many ways.

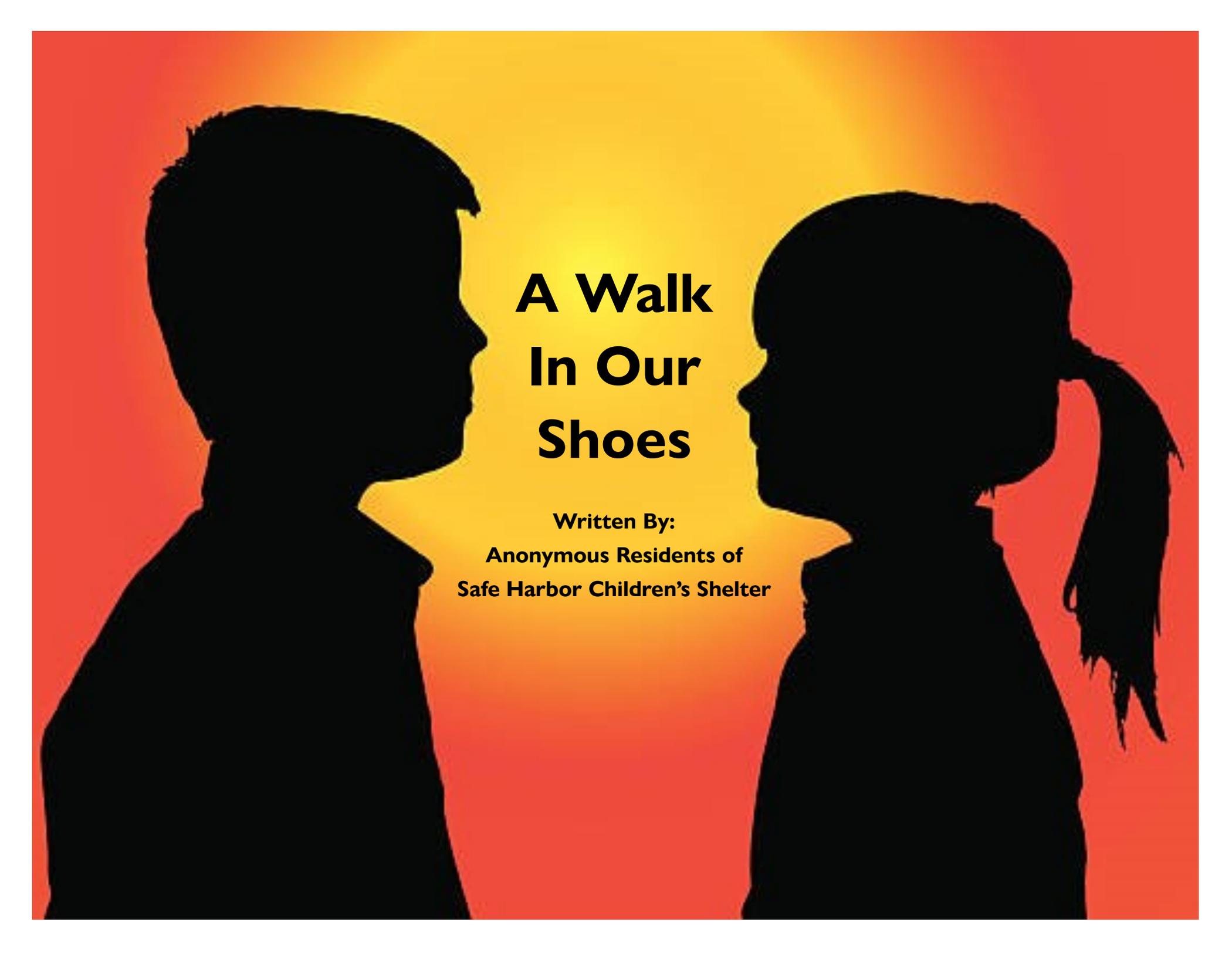
The word “Reach” expresses the aspiration of everyone associated with Safe Harbor Center. Our clients reach for a future defined by quality, value, self-worth, and achievement. Our professional staff reaches to attain every milestone involved in being an organization of excellence in serving abused, neglected, and homeless children and families. Our board of directors and generous donors reach to provide the resources that continue to elevate Safe Harbor to higher levels of performance.

Thank you for your investment in the lives of children and families in our community. Please know, you are an essential factor in our ability to serve our community’s most vulnerable individuals with the utmost care and compassionate support.

Yours truly,

Leslie Hartman
Executive Director



The image features two black silhouettes of children, a boy on the left and a girl on the right, facing each other. The background is a vibrant gradient of orange and yellow, resembling a sunset or sunrise. The title 'A Walk In Our Shoes' is centered between them in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

A Walk In Our Shoes

**Written By:
Anonymous Residents of
Safe Harbor Children's Shelter**



We were faced with the task of telling where we've come from. Before we do, we ask that no one here feels any sympathy. We want our story to move mountains, not bring any more tears.

A stranger is someone you have no emotional connection to and there is no emotional connection to you. On October 23rd, 2001, I was born to a stranger. A few days later, I went home to a grandmother who loved me unconditionally until God took her home. Because of her, I had an escape until I was 7 years old. Unfortunately, I can't say the same for my brother. You see, living with my mother was like waking up in a mine field. You never knew where you were sleeping that night or where your next meal was coming from. This is typically what happens when you're put second to something, whether it's drugs or even a man. Your significance is cut in half. That being so, between the two of us, we have faced every hardship you can imagine. There were days we were so hungry that we went to sleep so

that we felt nothing at all. There were days we sat in the guidance counselors' offices being questioned about marks and bruises. Standing here today, you only see 2/4 of something beautiful. We have two younger sisters, ages 9 and 5. My mother was good at tearing things apart and leaving greatness in her path. From age 7 to 11, I was neglected, abused and took every beating I possibly could for my three younger siblings. Each of my mothers' boyfriends brought a new nightmare within themselves.

The system failed us, day in and day out. While living in a hotel, our mother was arrested for the first time. We had never known our fathers so my brother and I were taken into the system and separated. After spending three months in jail, our mother was given the option of drug court, to which she agreed. This is what brought us to Brunswick and me to Safe Harbor for the first time.

By the time I was 13, I went home to a sober mother. She had three years of sobriety, working a great job with all four of us children living with her in a nice home, but that wasn't enough to keep her clean. In January of 2017, she met and married a man within a 9-day time period. By January 22nd, our mother was gone and addiction became our reality once again. Having a mother who never loved you is a tough pill to swallow but having a mother who loved you enough to get clean and once again put drugs first is a pill who chose to spit out entirely. From January 2017 until recently, we bounced from home to home taking care of each other and going unnoticed by the state once again.

We caught our breath in August of 2018 when Safe Harbor had two beds available – one for a girl and one for a boy. I no longer had to work to feed the two of us. My brother didn't have to steal to have school clothes. We were together and each of our needs were met and not because we were breaking our backs to meet them on our own. Being at Safe Harbor, I've learned a lot about myself and I've worked hard to improve because there is always someone behind me, pushing me, telling me the things I need to hear. Today, I leave our Children's Center to start a new chapter of my life at STRIVE (Safe Harbor's Transitional Living Center for young women) where I'll be focusing daily on how to better prepare myself for life after 18. I am confident in taking a step away from my brother because I knew he is in good hands. My brother and I are here to attest that God truly gives his toughest battles to his strongest soldiers.

The truth is, you'd have to walk a thousand miles in our shoes just to see what it's like to be us, or any of the kids here, because words don't do the years justice. My shoes are shoes that I wouldn't wish to see anyone else walking in. My shoes are shoes that I took off and put on the rack when I became a resident here at Safe Harbor.



Safe Harbor Children's Center serves children removed from dangerous situations and, as a state licensed term residential shelter, provides dental services, school support, and therapeutic counseling. The shelter is licensed for children from birth to age 18. After a successful capital campaign, that raised \$5.1 million, Safe Harbor completed construction of the Windolf Residence, a brand-new state of the art group home for 24 children. The home is spacious and houses 12 girls and 12 boys with a shared commercial kitchen, grand dining room, computer room and tutor room. The administrative office is across the parking lot and has a large art studio on the second floor.

A total of 50 children spent at least one night in the shelter this past year. The Shelter housed 50 children for the Division of Family and Children services. Safe Harbor earned an "A" in the performance-based contracting through the Division of Family and Children Services Office of Provider Management. We are meeting our goal of maintaining an "A" Program.



**CHILDREN'S
CENTER**



Safe Harbor's STRIVE Transitional Living Program provides for a gap in services for a very large portion of southeast Georgia. The program targets young homeless girls, ages 16 to under 22 and assists them to establish sustainable living and well-being for themselves. The program provides a 7-bed group home for younger youth ages 16 and 17, a 2-bedroom apartment, a 1 bedroom apartment for older youth and supportive services for 25 girls in a five year period. The goals of the program are to get these young women off the streets, to increase their safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency and to help them build permanent connections with caring adults.

To achieve these goals the Transitional Living Program performs the following activities: addresses the immediate needs of street youth with food, clothing, shelter and hygiene; provides youth with crisis intervention needs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; encourages youth to improve their behavioral and physical health; provides case management services to address health care needs as well as individual treatment and counseling, life skills training, education and assistance completing GED requirements, connection to secondary education or vocational training, job skills training, employment, community volunteer opportunities, recreational activities, and connections to community resources. Since 2018, 13 young women have received services. Of the 13; all of the ladies successfully saved money, 6 are enrolled in college classes, 3 obtained their driver's license, 2 graduated high school, 1 received community employment training, 1 enrolled in the military and another successfully transitioned into her own apartment.



STRIVE
TRANSITIONAL LIVING

Safe Harbor's Family Preservation program helps families alleviate crisis and maintain the safety of children in their own homes. Services include case management, service coordination, advocacy, transportation, individual and family counseling, home and center-based parent education, behavior management, life skills training and information referrals. Our family advocates serve families by implementing holistic and therapeutic approaches to prepare them for self-sufficiency after the completion of services.

Last year, family advocates worked with 104 families residing within Glynn, McIntosh, and Camden counties. Of the 104 families, 211 children received services. The program reported that 90% of those children were either returned to their families and/or remained safely within their homes. Of the families served only 8% received a second referral to the division of family and children services.

Over the last three years, the Safe Harbor Family Preservation program has had a 96% success rate of children not being removed from their homes and 90% of the families did not receive a further referral to the division of family and children services after the families' participation with services of the program. The success of the program has been contributed to offering research driven interventions that identify and overcome barriers to healthy family functioning. Program director, Alician Black, family advocate, Sierra Alford, and Licensed Professional Counselors, TJ Kidder and Carol Gaunther all look forward to continuing the success of this much needed program.



**FAMILY
PRESERVATION**



In 2013, Safe Harbor merged non-profits with the Golden Isles Children's Center thus adding the Connie Smith Rape Crisis Center to Safe Harbor's umbrella of programs and services. Safe Harbor applied for and received funding from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for victim services. Services provided include forensic interviews, forensic medical examinations, follow up medical services, 24-hour crisis line, crisis intervention, legal advocacy, crisis and therapeutic counseling by Licensed Professional Counselors and a multi-disciplinary approach to sexual assault.

In 2018 the rape crisis center received 42 crisis calls. Last fiscal year, the number of crisis calls doubled to 82. During this past year, 56 alleged sexual assault victims received a forensic medical exam. The Connie Smith Rape Crisis center is working with law enforcement, prosecution and local stake holders to develop the first Sexual Assault Response Team Protocol for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit which includes Glynn, Camden, Wayne, Appling and Jeff Davis counties. The SART protocol would bring together all agencies in a coordinated effort to respond to allegations of sexual assault.

We look forward to 2020 to continue the important work of educating the community, raising awareness of services available and developing a coordinated response for the five counties.



CONNIE SMITH
RAPE CRISIS CENTER



The Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center serves victims of child abuse throughout the Brunswick Judicial Circuit. Safe Harbor provides rehabilitative care to more than 450 child victims of sexual and/or severe physical abuse every year. Through the Advocacy Center we offer forensic interviews, forensic medical exams, counseling and multidisciplinary review.

Safe Harbor assumed operations of the Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center on August 1, 2013. This year, Hannah Evors was hired as the program director. Hannah oversees the operations of all three centers from Jesup, Georgia. The demand for services in the upper counties of Wayne, Appling and Jeff Davis, increased the need to relocate the Jesup Center to a larger location. The renovated space is close to the courthouse in downtown Jesup. Hannah promoted the Glynn volunteer coordinator, Andrea Belton to program manager of the Glynn center. The Camden Center recently hired their own Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner from Fairbanks, Alaska. Kaitlin Wood is a certified pediatric and adult SANE nurse. Kizzi Knight is the program manager for the Camden location. Currently all three centers are staffed to capacity and able to provide services in all three locations.

The program has accomplished the following this year:

- 428 Forensic Interviews completed
- 77 Forensic Medical Exams
- 466 Counseling Sessions Provided
- 110 Community Events were attended
- Full memberships in the Children's Advocacy Centers of Georgia and the National Children's Alliance

Safe Harbor Center's street outreach team has been busy serving the street youth population. The Program known as "Street Beat" in the community provides runaway and homeless youth in Glynn County and the surrounding areas with emergency shelter and services to assist finding them safe housing solutions. This year, Jeff Clark and his team have expanded homeless services to Camden County. Assisting Camden with starting coordinated entry for all person's experiencing homelessness. He also organized key partnerships with homeless providers in Glynn, Camden and McIntosh counties.

This past year, 111 youth received services. Nonresidential services have increased as staff continue to build trusting relationships with youth by engagement and partnering with outside agencies. In 2015 the Street Beat program received additional funding from Promoting Safe and Stable Families to expand services to Street Youth who were formerly in the foster care system. The additional funding has expanded mentoring, counseling, healthcare and tutoring services at the drop-in center. In June 2014, Southeast Georgia Health System donated space and the Street Beat program relocated to Jekyll Avenue in a small home. The new location has allowed the Street Beat program to offer a twice a week drop-in center. Transportation is provided 3-5 days a week to the Social Security office, the Labor Dept. or Labor office, to job interviews, to DFCS for food stamps, and Health Department for birth certificates. Street Outreach has also added transportation twice a week to the drop-in center. This provides the programs Youth and their families an opportunity to utilize the areas of the new office, to work on life skills, such as doing laundry, receiving or helping to prepare a hot meal and access the internet. Clients are also provided the opportunity to speak to a counselor if needed.



STREET BEAT



Safe Harbor's Basic Center Program, Zach's Place, provides for the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth. The goals of the Basic Center Program are to improve and enhance the safety, wellbeing and self-sufficiency of the youth served, to assist runaway and homeless youth with building permanent connections with caring adults, reunite youth with their families and help these youth avoid engagement with agencies such as child welfare, law enforcement and juvenile justice. In May 2018, the original home for Safe Harbor was renovated to house 8 children who have runaway or are homeless. The program housed 42 children and provided 92 with services and case management to prevent coming into the shelter.

The following are program outcomes achieved in 2019:

- 100% of the youth exited the program with safe and stable housing
- 99% of the youth served are attending school
- 95% of eligible youth are seeking work or are employed
- 100% of youth report having positive adult support
- 100% of youth received therapeutic counseling, case management, and healthcare services
- 100% of youth received emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for healthcare
- 100% of youth received family reunification efforts

Safe Harbor's Thrift Shop & Donation Center allows us to provide free clothing and shoes to our clients as well as clients of our nonprofit partners in the region. From our group homes to our outreach programs to our rape crisis center, our Thrift Shop and Donation Center is vital to meeting their needs. Our clients receive vouchers which allows him or her to shop for free. In addition, Safe Harbor has partnered with Communities in Schools and Glynn Community Crisis (Amity House) to allow their clients in need to shop for free with vouchers. During the summer, our Thrift Shop is also utilized to train and teach our youth over 16 the soft and vocational skills they need to enter the workforce.

In March 2019, the Safe Harbor Board of Director's decided to open the thrift store to the public. All proceeds from the thrift store help to support the Safe Harbor programs. During the first four months, the thrift store made \$19,860 in revenue.



SAFE HARBOR CENTER, INC.

Financial Position as of June 30, 2019



SOURCES OF REVENUE

Contributions - \$513,696 (15.4 %)
Program Service Fees - \$1,169,981 (35.3%)
Government Grants - \$1,634,082 (49.3%)

USES OF FUNDING

Direct Program Support - \$3,260,101 (88.7%)
General & Administration - \$237,532 (6.4%)
Development & Marketing - \$179,422 (4.9%)

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>2019</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	115,477
Pledges receivable	127,600
Grants and contracts receivable	213,842
Inventory	3,995
Due from employees	279
Prepaid expenses	<u>12,152</u>
Total Current Assets	473,345
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	
Land	339,540
Building	4,569,510
Equipment and software	413,638
Furniture and fixtures	243,496
Building improvements	389,863
Vehicles	200,620
	6,156,667
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,021,396)
Total Fixed Assets	5,135,271
<u>OTHER ASSETS</u>	
Closing costs, net of \$6,938 of amortization	4,674
Refundable deposits	5,110
Total Other Assets	9,784
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,618,400
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</u>	<u>2019</u>
Accounts payable	67,991
Accrued expenses	37,281
Current maturities of long-term debt	1,688
Total current liabilities	106,960
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	<u>42,770</u>
Total liabilities	149,730
<u>NET ASSETS:</u>	
Net assets without donor restrictions	42,443
Net assets with donor restrictions	<u>5,426,227</u>
Total net assets	5,468,670
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$5,618,400