



Penfield
Children's Center

EARLY PATHWAYS



MARQUETTE
UNIVERSITY

BE THE DIFFERENCE.



The Behavior Clinic

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Important Dates

1986

Dr. Robert Fox establishes The Parenting Center at Marquette University & STAR Parenting program

2003

Penfield Children's Center and Marquette University create the Behavior Clinic

2010

The Behavior Clinic receives state certification as "Outpatient Mental Health Clinic"

2015

The Behavior Clinic receives national accreditation from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Important Dates

2016

Receives 5-year
federal grant from
SAMHSA

2017

Create school-based
mental health clinic
at Penfield
Montessori Academy

Today

Penfield Children's Center

- Clinical director
- Family counselors
- Bilingual family counselors
- School counselor
- Counseling interns

Penfield Montessori Academy

- In-school counselor
- Counseling interns

Marquette University

- Clinical psychologist-clinic consultant
- Doctoral students
- Research assistants

Our Strategic Priorities

1. Provide behavioral health services
2. Train graduate and doctoral students
3. Publish and present research findings



Priority #1: Clinical Services

We serve more than 400 children each year and provide:

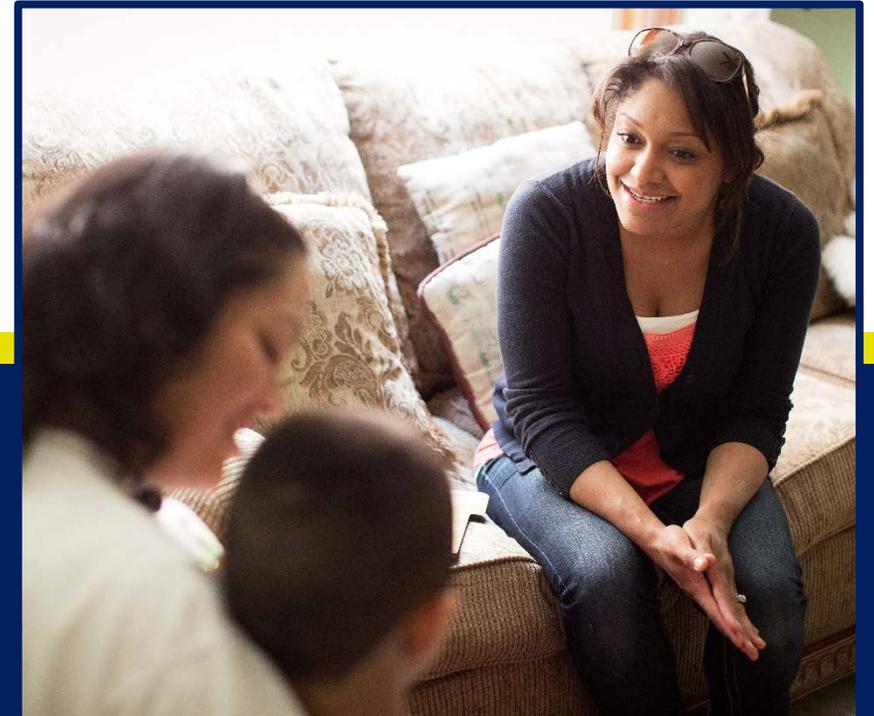
- Home-based behavioral therapy
- Focus on the parent-child relationship
- Hands-on teaching model
- Advocacy services to help meet basic needs
- Safety supplies and toys to support child's development



Priority #2: Training

Graduate and doctoral students:

- Fulfill supervised clinical hour requirements
- Train in the Early Pathways program
- Gain pediatric mental health field work experience



Early Pathways Program

This is an evidence-based program for resolving behavior problems in children five years of age and younger, particularly for families living in poverty.

Five components to the program include:

1

**Parent-child
relationship**

2

**Appropriate
expectations**

3

**Cognitive
Strategies**

4

**Differential
attention and
positive
reinforcement**

5

**Limit-setting
strategies**

Early Pathways Success Story

Donny, a 1-year-old foster child with multiple developmental delays, was referred to the Early Pathways program by his pediatrician due to concerns regarding attachment, separation anxiety and past trauma.

11 treatment sessions took place that helped Donny:

- Strengthen his attachment to his foster mother (eye contact, seeking her out for comfort, smiling)
- Re-regulate within 1-2 hours following visitation with his biological mother, rather than 2-3 days
- Make consistent gains with his Birth-to-Three team
- Heal from past trauma through nurturing activities and self-directed play therapy



Early Pathways Achievements

Early Pathways is effective in:

- Reducing disruptive behavior disorders
- Improving the family-child relationship
- Improving child functioning and well-being
- Treating mental health disorders
- Teaching positive parenting behaviors
- Reaching a diverse population of children in their homes
- Increasing community capacity



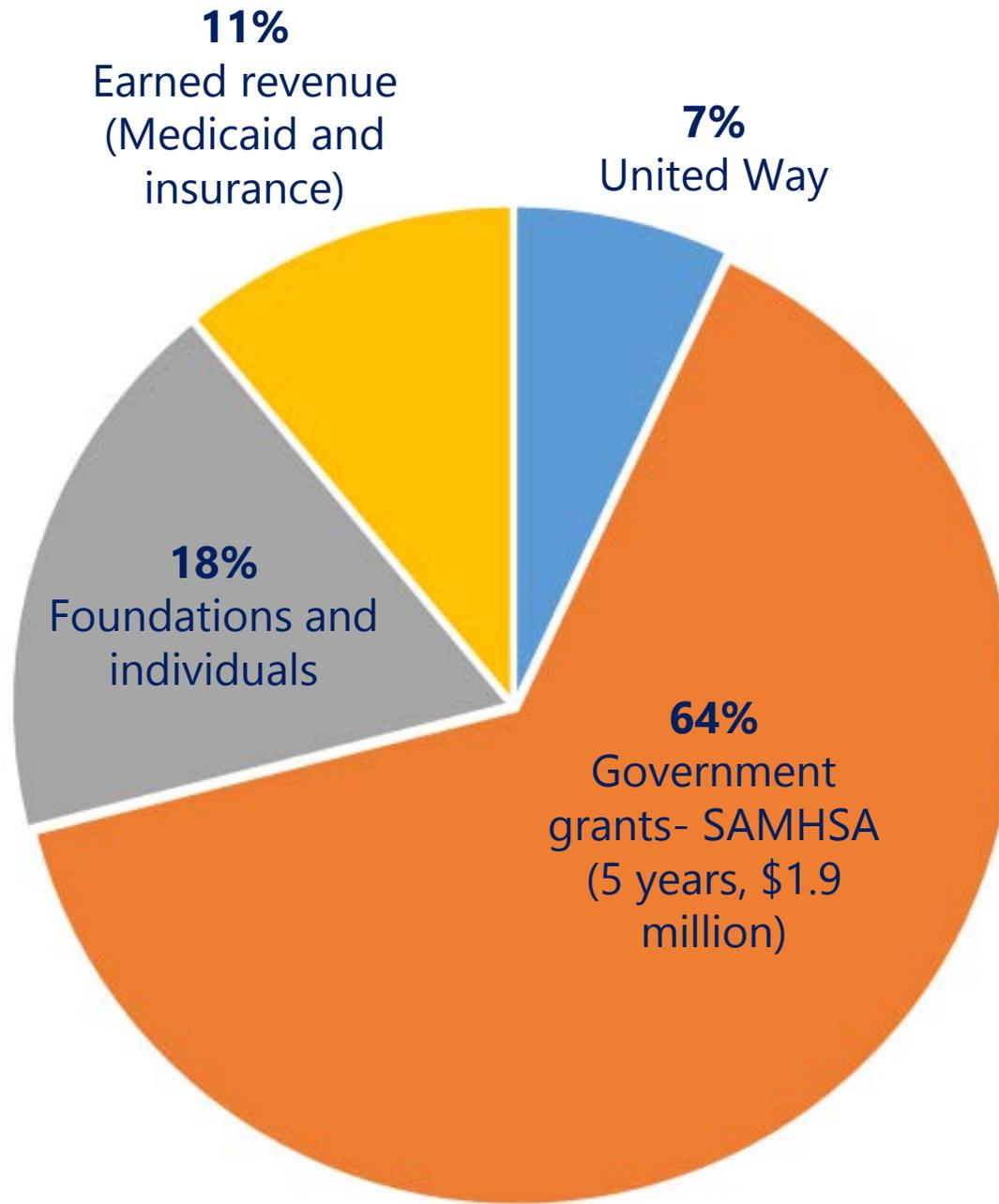
Priority #3: Research and Publications

29 publications

45 presentations

10 dissertations

FUNDING



Your Support

With your continued support, the Behavior Clinic can continue to:

Provide treatment to infants, toddlers and young children where they are most comfortable – in their own homes

Provide advocacy to meet the immediate needs of our families

Treat children who have experienced trauma at a young age in order to set them on a path for success later in life

We Need Your Help

Young children, especially those who have experienced trauma, should not be denied healing services because their parents cannot afford treatment.

Medicaid only covers 10-15% of behavioral therapy services for children.

We need to strengthen policies that support prevention services for young children and fund programs, like the Behavior Clinic that allow our next generation of mental health professionals to receive high-quality, trauma-informed education and training.

