



CHOSEN[®]
2021 Impact Report

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CEO Corner

In 2021, you created true impact.

Despite the incredible challenges of 2021, you created impact. From the child welfare woes, to mental health crises, and the deplorable virus that has affected every human and business, **you made a significant difference in the lives of children.**

In my annual reflection time, I took time to purposefully write a celebration list. Next, I listed some struggles and heartaches. The first list was much longer.

As I reflected, I have been overwhelmed with gratitude. I hate that our growth comes from people who are hurting. But I can tell you how grateful I am that your help made it possible to care for every client who came to Chosen. We didn't turn anyone away.

In this Impact Report, you will see information about our explosive growth over the past 12 months. **From a 50% increase in number of families** served to multiple new partnerships, Chosen is growing and thriving in the same way our families are.

Relationship is a theme that runs through every facet of our organization—not just with the families we serve; but with people like you, friends to our organization.

Without our wider community, Chosen wouldn't exist. Your trust in our team and your personal investment in our mission fuels our ability to heal children and strengthen families impacted by trauma. Strong families make strong communities.

Though I'm glad to see 2021 go, I'm not discouraged. Rather, my flame is burning with a renewed commitment to help transform child welfare in 2022.

2022 commemorates our 13th anniversary. We can't wait to share the major initiatives on the horizon that will bring wider and deeper impact than ever before.

Thank you for being a part of changing lives and fulfilling the vision one child at a time — every child thriving in a family. Your partnership has never mattered more.

Pressing onward,

Jenni Lord



“There has never been a greater time for reformation.”

2021 At A Glance

Highlights and achievements.



We were invited to be a part of the Governor's initiative to reverse the foster care crisis by engaging the faith based community. With 7 staff members, this is now 20% of our national footprint.



We gained accreditation through Council on Accreditation (COA). The 18 month process involved a detailed review and analysis of our administration, management, and service delivery against international standards of best practice.



As Community Based Care (CBC) continues to spread across Texas, Chosen partnered with the newest CBC, Belong, to provide services in 27 counties surrounding San Antonio. Services include permanency support and building treatment capacity for high acuity youth in this region.



Casey contracted with James Bell Associates on Chosen's behalf to provide a program and cost evaluation. Not only will this help us understand true ROI, it will also inform our expansion and policy work.



Reunification of Birth Families

Through a specialty court contract, we began working with families who can safely be reunified. We saw significant restoration of families and helped to break cycles of intergenerational trauma.



Contract Expansion

Through numerous partnerships, we expanded services across several metropolitan areas, including Houston, Dallas, Miami and Central FL. Most of this expansion is focused on higher acuity youth and post-adopt populations.





Our Mission

Chosen's mission is to help children heal from trauma by strengthening their families.



“

I was struggling to deal with my child's mental health and severe behavioral problems. Chosen helped me by providing additional resources and most important, they listened to me without judgment.

—Client Mom

Our Vision

Chosen's vision is every child thriving in a family.



Our History

Since its inception, Chosen has evolved to meet the needs of vulnerable children and their families.

Chosen was conceived in the heart of our founder, Jenni Lord, at the start line of a half-marathon. She had the thought that she needed to be running for something bigger than herself. **Passionate about vulnerable children**, Chosen originally began as a race event to supplement adoption funds under a national nonprofit.

Soon, the team recognized much deeper familial needs to help children heal and have permanency. Chosen restructured as an independent nonprofit in 2016 and updated its mission to focus on **children healing from trauma by strengthening their families.**



The Need

Chosen helps parents and caregivers with their triumphs and challenges.

Children who have suffered maltreatment live in the aftermath of loss and grief. Whether abuse, neglect or abandonment, this trauma actually impacts brain development and how a child relates to the world around him. **Often, these children are separated from their first family and placed in an unfamiliar family.** Sometimes, they are placed with relatives who have to transition to a parental role.

Frequently children end up living in their fear brain and acting out. Their behaviors can be very difficult and confusing to the adults trying to love them.

Our care team not only addresses how to help the children heal, but we equip caregivers with everything the whole family needs to be on a path of healing together.

National statistics show us...

25%

» up to 25% of all adoptive families fail.

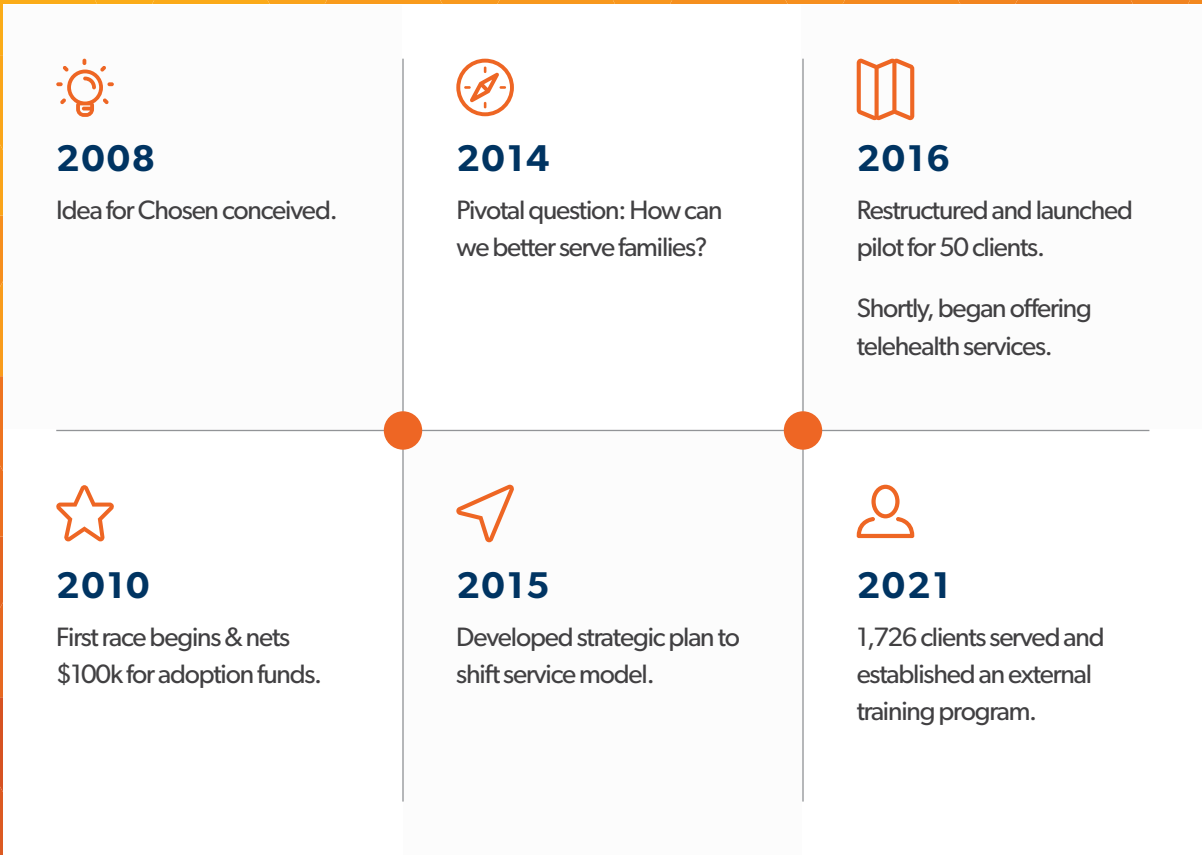
50%

» up to 50% of all foster placements disrupt.

19%

» up to 19% of all kinship reunifications fail.

* SOURCED FROM CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION GATEWAY & P. CHAMBERLAIN & CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA





Chosen's Role

Chosen works to keep children in their homes with safe, loving trauma-responsive families.

Chosen helps children heal from trauma by strengthening foster, kinship, adoptive, and reunified families. Chosen's clinical offerings, model of care, and trainings are proven methods for preventing foster and kinship disruptions, as well as adoption dissolution.

Core values

Faith is the foundation of all core values and expected behaviors.



Service



Excellence



Compassion



Integrity



Stewardship

“

“All I know is that without Chosen's help we would be in serious trouble. We had no understanding of the trauma our daughter has gone through or how to handle it.”

—Client Mom



Our Philosophy

We were all created for deep connection.

Attachment theory is the basis of our model of care.

Children's brains heal from trauma by attaching to a safe, loving caregiver.

When families heal and thrive together, peace is restored in homes. The risk of families moving a child out of the home is significantly reduced.



We are relational.

Our work is not transactional but truly transformational, which requires trust. By strengthening the relationship between the child and caregiver, healing begins.

We are relentless.

Our team does *whatever it takes* to ensure children are on a path of healing. We equip families with the tools they need and walk beside them on their journeys.



We are restorative.

Our service restores hope and connections in families.

Healthy families shape healthy communities.



I have been in therapy
my entire life.
No one had ever explained
to me how my past
impacted the way I am.

—Melanie, Age 17

Who We Serve

*Chosen serves Birth Parents, Kinship,
Foster and Adoptive Families.*

Chosen's telehealth model provides mental and behavioral health services to families impacted by the child welfare system.

Families statistics before services...

83%

» of caregivers came to
Chosen in a state of crisis.

62%

» of children in a psychiatric
hospital upon services did not return.

52%

» of children and teens were
experiencing depression upon services.

*SOURCED FROM INTERNAL CLINICAL ASSESSMENTS TAKEN BEFORE STARTING CHOSEN SERVICES

Clinical Expansion

*Chosen uses a trauma-responsive model to
effectively help caregivers apply learning.*

Our team uses a number of evidence-based practices and a variety of practitioners who tailor services to help families heal and thrive together.



Trauma-Focused Cognitive
Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)



Trust-Based Relational
Intervention (TBRI™)



Dyadic Developmental
Psychotherapy (DDP)



HALO Project's Making
Sense of Your Worth



Dialectical Behavioral
Therapy (DBT)



Cognitive Behavioral
Therapy (CBT)



Family Systems
Approach



Motivational
Interviewing

Trauma-informed care recognizes connection between trauma, behaviors, and family interactions. Trauma-responsive care is the application of being trauma-informed. Implementation is the difference between trauma-informed care and trauma-responsive care. **Our team provides both.**





“

I was struggling with unmet expectations. Chosen listened. They helped me develop a fantastic plan and employ the strategies needed to begin my daughter’s healing.

—Client Mom



Model of Care

Chosen services are designed to bring healing and prevent family breakdown.

Using a telehealth model, we provide mental and behavioral health services to families impacted by maltreatment.



Parent Coaching



Therapeutic Resources



Case Management



Crisis Intervention



Trauma Education



Clinical Assessments

*FOR A MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF OUR MODEL OF CARE VISIT WWW.CHOSEN.CARE/SERVICES

The Chosen Effect

The Chosen Effect stops the cycle of abuse and ultimately strengthens our community.

Chosen clinically measures nine trauma symptoms in children and teens, as well as parental/caregiver stress. With our model of care, we see dramatic improvement in the family system — leading to wellness and permanency.

Simply put, our desire is that no child is ever rehomed, causing more hurt and loss. In 2021, after receiving our services for at least six months, ZERO families reported dissolving their adoption or disrupting their **foster care** placement.

THE CHOSEN EFFECT



83%

of caregivers came to Chosen in crisis



69%

of parents of teens indicated a decrease in their own stress



59%

of children & teens showed a decrease in depression and PTSD



70%

of children & teens showed a decrease of trauma behaviors after Chosen’s services

ZERO

FOSTER DISRUPTIONS

ZERO

ADOPTION DISSOLUTIONS

ZERO

KINSHIP DISRUPTIONS





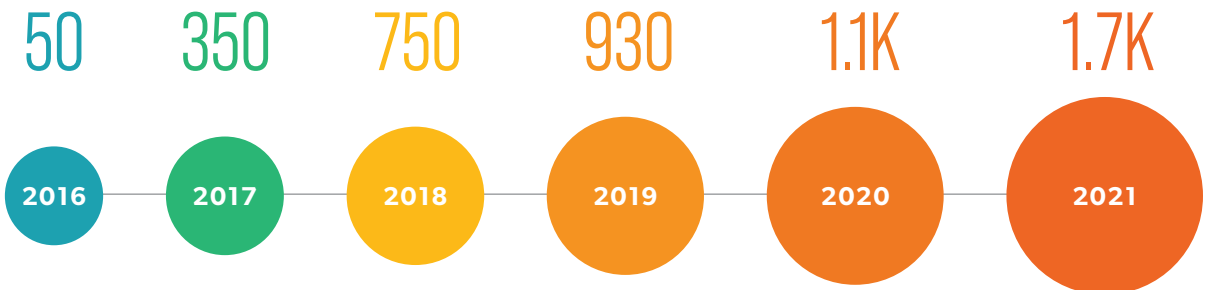
Chosen By The Numbers

Chosen works with children, youth and families who have experienced trauma.

Through McKenna Foundation’s generosity, we launched our pilot in 2016 for 50 clients. Our reach quickly exploded, which has led to broad impact and tremendous team growth, as well.



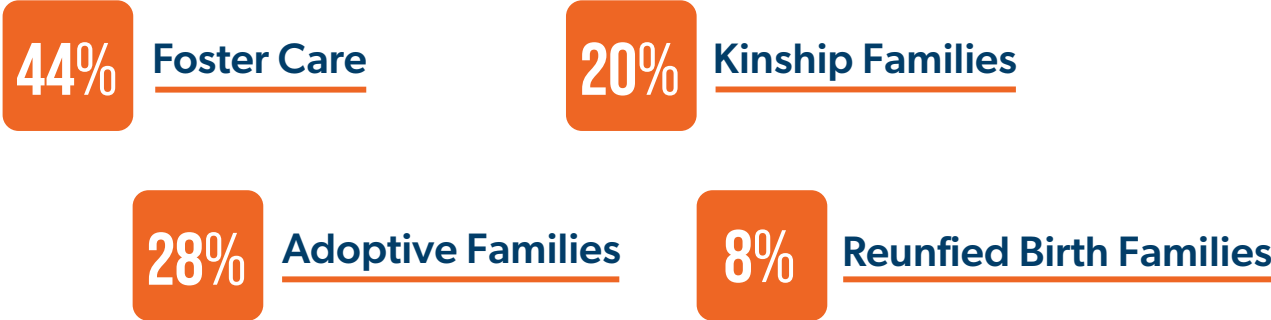
Individuals Served



IN 2021, WE SERVED CLIENTS IN 24 STATES



Clients Types



Training

Chosen provides best-in-class trauma education.

Our staff is passionate about sharing life-changing knowledge with caregivers and professionals.

-  Live Online Format
-  CEU Opportunities
-  Custom Trainings



“I’ve been a foster parent for 15 years and this is the best training I’ve ever received.”
—Foster Dad



A Chosen Story

William's Story*

As a middle school teacher, Dan has had a front row seat to the struggles of vulnerable children. But few stories compared to that of William, a 13-year student who was in a foster placement. With his biological mom in prison and a string of broken placements behind him, William was seeking guidance from a secure, caring adult. They quickly developed a strong connection.

When William's third "almost-adoption" fell through, Dan temporarily opened his home to William. But temporary became long-term. Dan had always thought he might adopt, and William entering his life felt like the perfect time. After a few months of living together, Dan began the adoption process to formally become a family.

For a short time, things went very well. Dan and William communicated, showed mutual respect, and enjoyed a camaraderie that felt almost like a friendship.

But as the months went on, and as Dan increasingly embraced the role of a parent/rule-enforcer instead of friend/mentor, the situation became more difficult.

When William entered high school, things began to spiral out of control. A new school brought new freedoms and difficult behaviors began to emerge.

When COVID-19 hit, Dan says the wheels fell off. Distance learning and limited socialization contributed to mental health struggles William had previously kept hidden. Reckless behaviors emerged, including drug use, self-harm, and sexual acting out.

Meanwhile, Dan was doing all he could to heal his family. He and William were enrolled in multiple therapy and case management programs, but nothing seemed to work.

Three years a mental health case worker recommended Chosen.

Dan and William were matched with their care manager, who took time to understand their story and explain the effects of trauma. Dan gained a deeper understanding: William was not "being a bad kid." His destructive behaviors stemmed from trauma and lack of attachment to a safe and loving caregiver.

Today, William is attending in-person school again. He and Dan set aside time every evening to talk openly, and the two of them are planning a summer trip in their camper.



**MAKE A GIFT AND
HELP FAMILIES HEAL**

Help Us Make Change Possible

Every day, we see families with heartbreaking stories that are hard and painful. Yet, hope is being restored. Make a gift today to transform lives.



“

“I was struggling with everything regarding our adoption. Chosen helped by giving me the tools to better understand my daughter and how to deal with the issues we were facing.”

—Client Dad





On the Horizon

So, what's ahead in 2022? We are so glad you asked.

Our staff is passionate about sharing this knowledge with anyone serving children and adults who have experienced trauma.



National Expansion

Chosen serves families across the U.S. In fact, we served families in 24 states in 2021. Our national relationships, along with strategic data analysis help inform continued growth decisions.



Internal Training Program

With our explosive growth, we are very intentionally working to preserve our strong culture that has been shaped by core values. Our team is creating different professional growth tracks to ensure strong vitality, along with staff development opportunities.



Content Development

Our team is equipping families with life-changing tools every day. We are working on a multi-faceted strategy to share these tools on a broader scale. By doing so, we can reach families before crisis and create additional revenue to fuel the mission.



Advocacy

Speaking up for the vulnerable is both a privilege and a responsibility. We will continue advocating for the changes needed to shift from a child protective system to a thriving child and family well-being system.



Meet Our Board

Our Board comes with a long history of sacrifice and service.



Dennis Noll
Board President



Bob Buckley
Board Vice President



Heather Smith
Board Secretary



Johnny Campos
Board Treasurer



Troy Blackmon
Board Member



Bo Carrington
Board Member



Lorraine Martinez
Board Member



Zach Potts
Past Board President



Tiffany Walker
Board Member



Allison Billodeau
Board Member



Kristin Snyder
Board Member



Foundation Partners

Chosen’s work is only possible through the faithful support of our partners.

Corporate & Foundation Partners

- | | |
|--|---|
| AmazonSmile | Kronkosky Charitable Foundation |
| Ameritrade | Madalene Cane Foundation |
| BCFS | Mays Family Foundation |
| Benevity | McKenna Foundation |
| Birnam Oaks Foundation Fund | Melovee White Charitable Trust |
| Chanan Corporation | Myra Stafford Pryor Charitable Trust |
| Chick-fil-A, Inc. | Network For Good |
| Downtown Rotary Club - New Braunfels | Oak Hills Church Crownridge |
| Enterprise Holdings | Parker Foundation, Inc. |
| Donor-Advised Fund | Saint Susie Charitable Foundation |
| Fidelity Charitable | San Antonio Area Foundation |
| First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio | Sharrow Family Stewardship Fund |
| For Others | Split Second Productions |
| Greehey Family Foundation | Texas Alliance of Child & Family Services |
| Gruene Mansion Inn | The Najim Charitable Foundation |
| Hearts & Hands Golf Tournament | U.S. Charitable Gift Trust |
| HEB Tournament of Champions | |



“I hope you will consider the amazing impact Chosen is having on very big problems. I encourage you to support their results-oriented work!”

—Chosen Supporter



The system is built for survival. However, Chosen is truly focused on healing and thriving, which is a major differentiator..

—Chosen Partner

Giving Spotlight

Chosen is grateful for each of our national and local Partners.

Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio

For over 15 years, the Baptist Health Foundation has provided transformative support to organizations focused on improving the health of individuals throughout Bexar County and the surrounding areas.

Baptist Health Foundation partners with organizations undertaking groundbreaking clinical, educational, spiritual, and scientific initiatives. Their vision is to provide spiritual and healthcare services to God’s people and be a reflection of His presence in the community.

The Baptist Health Foundation made a significant investment in Chosen’s clinical expansion. With their gift, we were able to expand mental and behavioral health offerings and bring on additional licensed care staff to serve families in need.



Individual Donors

Thank you for your support.

Allen Household	Duke Household	Martin Household	Powell Household
Anderson Household	Feyereisen Household	Martinez Household	Quintero Household
Badger Household	Franklin Household	Matlick Household	Quiros-Hardie Household
Barnard Household	Galle Household	McAuley Household	Riddle Household
Billings Household	Gonzalez Household	McCurry Household	Robertson Household
Billodeau Household	Graves Household	McKelvy Household	Samuel Household
Blackmon Household	Green Household	Melber Household	Schneider Household
Bradbury Household	Guhl Household	Mercadante Household	Schuetze Household
Bradshaw Household	Harrison Household	Merrillat Household	Sellinger Household
Buckley Household	Hassmann Household	Miller Household	Smith Household
Burnam Household	Herring Household	Minor Household	Spencer Household
Campos Household	Jamail Household	Montenagro Household	Stout Household
Canard Household	Jester Household	Moore Household	Swords Household
Carrington Household	Johnston Household	Motes Household	Thebeau Household
Carter Household	Jonas Household	Mueller Household	Tucker Household
Chinn Household	Kirchoff Household	Noll Household	Velasquez Household
Clark Household	Kuehn Household	Norris Household	Voll Household
Clumpner Household	Leach Household	Oster Household	Watts Household
Cohen Household	Lord Household	Ottmer Household	Whitley Household
Cozart Household	Lytch Household	Paz Household	Wigington Household
Crews Household	Macias Household	Plinck Household	Worth Household
Davis Household	Maclin Household	Potts Household	Wright Household
Delashmit Household	Manford Household	Potts Household	



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