



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Community Partner:

What a year this has been. An unprecedented pandemic. Racial and social injustice. Political divide. A recession. And through it all, those who have been most adversely affected have been children and families who were already the most in need. With so many uncertainties this past year, and as we head into the new year, two things we know for sure:

1. Throughout the pandemic, Boys Town Nevada has been able to continue to provide imperative emergency assistance and mental and behavioral health support in Southern Nevada.
2. During this time of need, this amazing community has come together to continue to support the agencies delivering services, including Boys Town, and your gifts have impacted real lives of kids and families right here in Las Vegas.

Thank you for your partnership in what has been the most challenging year in recent history.

As we look towards the new year upon us, much remains uncertain. However, Boys Town Nevada looks forward to celebrating our 30th Anniversary! We are honored to have

served nearly 30,000 children and families over the course of those years, and know that much of the hard work still lies ahead in the years and decades to come.

We remain committed to continuing to change the lives of children in Nevada, and we hope you will join us in that commitment by continuing to partner with and support Boys Town Nevada. It is your support that has gotten us to this milestone anniversary, and your support that continued to support and uplift families during this pandemic.

If there is one thing we've learned from this past year, it's that if we continue to work together, there's nothing we can't do.

We wish you good health, Happy Holidays, and a wonderful New Year.

Sincerely,

John Etzell
Executive Director Boys Town Nevada



A Family United

This past year has been a challenging one.

For families already facing challenges, 2020 proved to be a tipping point. It pushed some households to the brink. This was the case for Melissa and her husband and three children, who were feeling the crushing weight of the stress and challenges brought on by the current pandemic.

Melissa was struggling with alcoholism, and with it, some violent tendencies. She felt the security of the future of her family was in jeopardy. It was then that Melissa reached out to Boys Town Nevada to get herself and her family the support that they needed.

Through Boys Town's In-Home Family Service® program and its Common Sense Parenting® classes, Melissa and her family received intensive support to help them identify weaknesses to improve upon, and strengths to build on. The moment Melissa and her family started working with Raeanna, one of Boys Town Nevada's In-Home Family Services Consultants, Melissa said there was an immediate connection. Her family felt at ease and were reassured that a brighter future lay ahead. Melissa received treatment for her addiction, and at the same time, the family worked together to address additional struggles within their household.

For several months, Melissa and her husband focused on improving parenting techniques. Along with their children, the family focused on communication and addressed behavioral issues. Melissa could not believe the improvements her family saw in just a few short months. For the first time in a long time, they felt unified.

Melissa credited Boys Town's programs with changing her life and saving her family.



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"We're happy to have Boys Town in our (lives) because it benefitted us very well," Melissa said. "All the programs that (have) been offered to us and that we participated in really helped my family be united together."

Melissa encourages other families to seek any help they may need and to reach out to Boys Town Nevada to take advantage of its many programs.

"It's going to change your life," she said.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, we continue to make an impact.

By the end of 2020, we anticipate directly serving nearly 2,000 kids and families and impacting over 10,000 more with our school-based programs.

Through September 30th of 2020, and in partnership with supporters like you, Boys Town Nevada has made the following impact this year:

240
youth (age 2 to 18)
received treatment at our
Behavioral Health Clinic

655
children and their families
received intensive In-Home
supportive services

333
kids and their families
have received direct
services through our
LIFT Together program

An additional
6,000
students have been
impacted by our
school programming

145
parents and other
caregivers completed
Common Sense
Parenting courses

Thank you for your support and partnership as we continue to provide essential services, and impact lives in Southern Nevada.



Boys Town Nevada's Behavioral Health Clinic Growth Fund

Poised for Growth in 2021

In 2017, Boys Town Nevada opened the doors of its new Behavioral Health Clinic (BHC). The Clinic provides therapeutic services for children ages 2 to 18, and is one of the very few that provides services in our region to children ages 2 to 5. Services offered include Individual Therapy, Family Therapy, and Psychological Evaluations. In 2019, the Clinic served 244 youth, and is projected to serve over 300 by the end of this year.

In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, and with Las Vegas students engaged in full-time distance learning and many families

experiencing unprecedented stress, the demand for mental health resources continues to climb. The Clinic has long had a consistent 100-person waitlist of three to six months, and a growing demand for specialized services. This year has brought on additional demand. As a result, the Behavioral Health Clinic looks to expand services in 2021 to better meet the demand of our local community. Boys Town Nevada has launched the Behavioral Health Clinic Growth Fund to help us do just that. The Fund will help the Clinic grow in the four key areas you see here, allowing us to provide a greater variety of services to even more children and families in Las Vegas.

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT): This evidence-based treatment for young patients with behavioral problems works with children and their parents to provide tools to address behavioral concerns and offers strategies and training to prevent larger issues down the road. Currently, there is only one other provider in the entire state of Nevada that staffs PCIT-licensed clinicians.

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) Program: This program enables clinicians to accurately diagnose and treat kids on the autism spectrum across age, developmental level, and language skills. Due to a shortage of certified professionals in the Las Vegas area, the current waitlist for kids in Las Vegas to receive this type of assessment is over one year, and costs more than \$1,000.

Post-Doctorate Training Program: As the Valley struggles to attract and maintain talented mental health professionals, Boys Town Nevada's BHC is adding a Post-Doctorate Training Program which will enable post-docs to receive valuable training from our licensed clinicians. The program will also help attract and retain licensed professionals to work in Southern Nevada for years to come.

Addition of Remote Offices: The majority of patients referred to the BHC are by local pediatricians, who report that the leading concerns parents share at appointments are behavior-based. In an effort to serve even more youth, the BHC looks to open additional offices, co-locating our practitioners right in pediatrician offices.

If you would like to become a partner in growing our mental health services in Las Vegas, an area already deemed a Mental Health Service desert, please contact Stephanie Lahat at stephanie.lahat@boystown.org to learn more about ways to support.

If you are in search of services for your child or a child you know, please contact Krystyna Kettner, at krystyna.kettner@boystown.org.

For more great stories, visit

BOYSTOWN.ORG/NEVADA



Development Office

Stephanie Lahat
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

702-724-8406
stephanie.lahat@boystown.org

Christine Frederick
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

702-724-8409
christine.frederick@boystown.org

For 30 years, Boys Town Nevada has positively impacted and changed the lives of thousands of children and families through its transformative care and services. Boys Town believes today, as our founder Father Edward Flanagan did over 100 years ago, that every child deserves a future, every family deserves to stay together, and every community deserves to thrive. Boys Town offers hope. But we offer hope as more than just an abstract concept; we substantiate it with programs and solutions grounded in our deep experience and supported by our decades of research.

Boys Town Nevada has brought life-changing care to tens of thousands of children and families in Nevada since opening its doors in 1991. Every year, the site's services impact the lives of more than 4,000 people in Nevada.

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