Almost daily during the fiscal year, we heard unsettling reports about violence — in our streets, in our schools and in our homes. While politicians and pundits debated over gun control in the wake of the Colorado and Connecticut shootings, gun and gang violence in Chicago continued unabated, prompting city leaders to convene an emergency summit on urban violence in July 2013.

As I reflected on the violence at our doorstep and across the nation, my thoughts turned to Hephzibah and our efforts to keep young people safe in a dangerous world.

In FY13 — with the help of friends like you who care deeply about the welfare of Illinois children and families — we protected young people in many ways.

We provided a safe haven for 49 neglected and abused children at our internationally recognized Diagnostic Treatment Center and therapeutic Residence. Because Hephzibah operates one of the only diagnostic centers in the state equipped to rehabilitate severely traumatized children, nearly half of the children we served were admitted directly from pediatric psychiatric hospitals. Almost all were suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and other disorders.

As we put the therapeutic supports in place to help these children heal, we surrounded them with love, optimism, laughter, high expectations and abundant opportunities for growth and enrichment — from art, music and pet therapy programs to our Second Annual Healthy Living Program in collaboration with West Suburban Hospital.

Running a house for 49 active kids takes a lot of elbow grease. Thanks to Adidas and Tellabs, Inc. — two new corporate partners that sent crews of employees to help us out with chores big and small — Hephzibah Home was spic and span throughout the year.

Another new community partner, the Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club, brightened the children’s lives with a major gift of $150,000 and a host of activities and special events — from a day at the circus to a family-style Thanksgiving feast cooked and served at Hephzibah.

While we met the children’s day-to-day needs, we were also thinking about their futures. To address the academic gaps caused by the many disruptions in their lives, we continued our After-School Academy powered by an all-volunteer force of Homework Helpers and partnered with Dominican University for our 14th annual Summer Reading Academy. In early June 2013, we piloted One Book, One Hephzibah — a 12-week summer program designed to take the solitary struggle out of reading and make it fun by engaging the children in group activities and field trips related to each week’s featured book.

We also ushered our young charges into the digital age. When it became evident that the children in our group homes were lagging behind their tech-savvy peers, a group of generous donors and technology professionals stepped forward to create a new Technology Room at Hephzibah — complete with its own server, computers and iPads.

Because keeping children safe also means keeping them off the streets, we offered safe, enriching and affordable after-school day care and a full-day summer camp for the school-age children of working parents in the Oak Park community. We also partnered with the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA) for the second year to provide Head Start programming, which was offered free of charge to promote the social and cognitive development of preschoolers from low-income families. In FY13, we added an afternoon session to

Dear FRIEND of Hephzibah,

ALMOST DAILY DURING THE FISCAL YEAR, WE HEARD UNSETTLING REPORTS about violence — in our streets, in our schools and in our homes. While politicians and pundits debated over gun control in the wake of the Colorado and Connecticut shootings, gun and gang violence in Chicago continued unabated, prompting city leaders to convene an emergency summit on urban violence in July 2013.

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whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

— THEODOR SEUSS GEISEL, better known to the world as the beloved Dr. Seuss (1904-1991)

the program — and received glowing reviews from CEDA and our Head Start parents.

Behind the scenes, our staff was preparing for a rigorous review by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services. We passed the review with flying colors, earning a commendation from the Council for our innovative programming, our consistently successful outcomes and our knowledgeable staff.

As we helped children thrive and families flourish, our three auxiliary boards continued to raise awareness of our mission while raising more than $330,000 to support our programming through events such as the Oak Park Auxiliary’s 2013 Heart of Gold Gala, the Western Auxiliary’s Hoof it for Hephzibah Memorial Day 2013 5K Fun Run/Walk and the Chicago Auxiliary’s 5th annual Dodgeball Tournament.

As the need for our services continued to grow, Hephzibah grew as well. We created a new marketing and communications position, hired a special events manager and welcomed Shaun Lane to Hephzibah to fill our newly created chief operating officer position. Lane, who most recently served as deputy director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, also teaches graduate courses in social welfare policy and management at the University of Chicago School of Social Services. The creation of this new COO position will enable me to spend more time developing a strategic vision for Hephzibah’s future, cultivating new donors and continuing my work as an Illinois State Child Welfare System consulting expert.

I hope you will take a few moments to browse through the following pages to find out more about the year’s highlights — and the many ways that our benefactors, boards, staff, corporate and community partners and volunteers kept children safe, engaged and enriched throughout the year.

Thank you for your steadfast support!

Mary Anne Brown, Executive Director

Hephzibah Children’s Association Executive Director Mary Anne Brown with some young friends from Hephzibah’s award-winning Day Care program. In FY13, Hephzibah’s Head Start program for preschoolers from low-income families and Day Care program for school-age children of all income levels provided safe, enriching and affordable day care for 584 children in the Oak Park community.
Bringing Brothers and Sisters TOGETHER

Sibling Bonds Are Among Life’s Most Enduring Connections — outlasting our relationships with our parents and sometimes even our marriages. Our relationships with our brothers and sisters are inextricably intertwined with our sense of identity and belonging.

Yet 75 percent of all foster children are separated from their siblings because most foster families don’t have the room or the resources to care for sibling groups. It is often the last, and most devastating, loss for children who have already been separated from their parents, their home, their school and their community.

To help mend these broken sibling bonds, Hephzibah founded Camp HepSiBaH in 2003. Every summer since then, brothers and sisters living in different foster homes have reunited at this rustic woodland camp in northern Illinois to create shared childhood memories that will last a lifetime.

In Summer 2012, 63 campers in 17 sibling groups enjoyed a week of camp experiences such as canoeing, archery, rock climbing, gathering around the campfire for songs and s’mores and cookouts manned by corporate volunteers from McDonald’s.

But often it was the unstructured time that had the most meaning. Each day, the children were able to experience shared moments that most siblings take for granted, such as waking up and having breakfast together, sharing their thoughts and feelings while walking in the woods and ending the day with whispered conversations and stifled laughter when the lights went out at bedtime.

We are grateful to the Lerner Family Foundation for making it possible for these separated siblings to reconnect and form deep emotional bonds that will support and sustain them throughout their lives.

One BOOK One Hephzibah

Good Education is the Foundation for a successful and fulfilling life. Yet many children in substitute care lag far behind their peers academically.

By the 10th or 11th grade, the average foster child is reading at a seventh-grade level. Because reading fluency is strongly correlated with scholastic achievement, deficits in this area can seriously compromise a child’s academic performance. Of all of the problems that plague foster children, poor academic performance may have the most crippling effect on their long-term success and well-being.

To help close this achievement gap and foster a love of reading in the children living in our group and foster homes, Hephzibah launched One Book, One Hephzibah at the end of the fiscal year. The summer-long reading program combined weekly book selections with themed weekly activities, recreational outings and special guest presentations. Even the children in our Day Care program joined in, reading along with the Day Care staff and participating in related activities and field trips.

Week One kicked off on June 3 with the children’s book, B is for Buckaroo: A Cowboy Alphabet, a visit from a real singing cowboy and a field trip to a horse farm. Judging from the enthusiastic participation of the children, reading was no longer a solitary struggle, but a lot of fun!
Making Sure THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT
Safe, enriching and affordable Day Care for the children of working parents

In his cover story for the April 29, 2013, issue of The New Republic, “The Hell of American Day Care,” journalist Jonathan Cohn touches on a topic that haunts many working parents.

“Trusting your child with someone else is one of the hardest things a parent has to do,” he writes, “and in the U.S., it’s harder still, because American day care is a mess.”

Cohn goes on to decry a day care system that is “barely regulated, sometimes unsafe and difficult for many working parents to afford.”

While he reports that there is a small percentage of day care that is “really, really bad, as in actually hazardous to children’s health,” he also acknowledges that there is a “small percentage of day care that is very good.”

These high-quality day care programs can be a real boon for children’s growth and development. Data analyzed by the Children’s Defense Fund shows that school-age children attending quality day care programs “are significantly more likely to succeed in school, have better work habits and relationships with peers and are better adjusted and less antisocial than children who spend their out-of-school hours alone, with their mothers or informally supervised by other adults.”

The Defense Fund’s conclusion that “good school-age care can have a major positive impact on children’s development, safety and school achievement” comes as no surprise to Hephzibah’s Day Care parents, who have experienced the many benefits of our internationally recognized Day Care program firsthand.

In FY13, Hephzibah’s Day Care program provided after-school day care for 545 children at eight Oak Park elementary schools during the academic year and a nine-week day camp during the summer months. Fees for the program were assessed on a sliding scale and offset by financial aid when necessary to ensure that children from low-income families had the same opportunities for growth and enrichment as their peers.

What made the program truly distinctive, however, was the comprehensive array of wraparound social services offered to Day Care families, from parent education classes and support groups facilitated by a full-time social worker to referrals for assistance with housing, food and clothing to direct assistance with respite services, bus passes, gas money, transportation, grocery store gift certificates, furniture, clothing, sports equipment, school supplies and other family needs.

Given the current day care crisis in America, Hephzibah Day Care parents know they’ve got a good thing going.

“I sent my daughter to Hephzibah Day Care many years ago, when I was a working mom,” says a Hephzibah grandmother, who recently attended a Day Care graduation ceremony for her sixth-grade grandchild. “It was such a nurturing and enriching environment. I never had a moment’s worry about my daughter’s wellbeing. I felt like I’d transferred her from my womb to Hephzibah’s womb.”

Number of Oak Park children served by Hephzibah’s award-winning Day Care program in FY13

545
AST YEAR, MORE THAN 26,000 CHILDREN were abused or neglected in the State of Illinois. Half of these children were age five or under. Without expert intervention, the physical, psychological and social-emotional damage from this abuse and neglect can last a lifetime.

This is where Hephzibah steps in. Each year, many of the worst cases of child abuse and neglect in the State of Illinois are referred to Hephzibah Children’s Association.

Why Hephzibah? Because our therapeutic programs to rehabilitate severely traumatized children are internationally recognized for their successful outcomes.

But helping these children heal requires a tremendous investment of financial and therapeutic resources. It would not be possible without the involvement of compassionate community partners like the Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club.

Every two years, this philanthropic community organization selects a new cause to support through fundraising efforts and hands-on service projects. In Spring 2012, we were notified that this committed group of nearly 200 women had selected Hephzibah as its next philanthropic beneficiary.

In FY13, the Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club enriched the lives of the children in our group homes beyond measure with a major gift of $150,000 to support educational enrichment programs and a wide variety of hands-on service projects, including group outings to Lifetime Fitness and the circus, a back-to-school pizza party, health-related activities, holiday crafts and a build-your-own teddy bear party on Valentine’s Day. They even set up a mock restaurant to give the children an opportunity to practice their “restaurant manners,” cooked and served a Thanksgiving Dinner at Hephzibah Home and organized a festive New Year’s Eve celebration to help the children ring in the new year with laughter and joy.

“The Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club has brightened the lives of our children and given them family life experiences that will follow them everywhere,” reports Executive Director Mary Anne Brown. “We are so grateful for their generous support, their unwavering commitment to our mission and all of their wonderfully organized activities.”

In May 2013, the Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club presented $150,000 to Hephzibah Development Director Molly Philosophos (center). Their generous gift, which will be used to support educational enrichment programs, was presented by club members (left to right): Anna Fiascone, President Amity Comiskey, Christine Cuthbert and Ali Rago.
Opening Doors to the DIGITAL World

We live in a wired world. The way we learn, work, create, communicate, shop, socialize and even bank has been transformed by computer technologies.

Yet prior to Summer 2012, the children in Hephzibah’s group homes had limited access to the technological tools of our digital age. Education Coordinator Paula Andries noticed that the children were not developing technological skills at the same rate as their peers. They were showing signs of what social scientists call “digital exclusion,” a term coined to describe populations with limited access to the digital technologies that have become an integral part of 21st century life.

In FY12 and FY13, some generous donors and visionary volunteers stepped forward to change that. The Sweet Water Foundation and the Terri Race Educational Technology Fund provided funding for iPads. Volunteers Brian Druley and Sue Stark formed a Children’s Technology Committee and pooled their IT expertise to convert Hephzibah’s former library into a Technology Room.

Druley, the director of administration and information technology for the Health Service at Northwestern University, coordinated a donation of computers and a server from his own department and Northwestern’s Student Affairs Information Technology department. Stark, an institutional technology coordinator at Robert Morris University, arranged for another donation of computers from her employer.

By June 2013, the technology room was up and running. Druley and Stark and their growing team of Technology Mentors continue to volunteer every Saturday to teach technology to the kids, whose tech skills have really taken off.

Thanks to these committed benefactors and volunteers, the children at Hephzibah Home are now tech-savvy citizens of the digital age.

High School HEROES

Anyone who dismisses American teens as hopelessly self-absorbed hasn’t met the Hephzibah Huskies. These altruistic Oak Park River Forest High School students have spent countless hours serving as mentors, role models and friends for the traumatized children living in Hephzibah’s group homes.

The group, which was spearheaded by students Jake Johnson and Luke Trinka in 2010, became an officially sanctioned high school service club in August 2012. Although Jake and Luke have since graduated, Luke’s younger sister, Tess Trinka, is carrying on the cofounders’ mission as club president.

Despite heavy homework loads, college searches and other high school commitments during the 2012-2013 academic year, these big-hearted teens met every other Monday to organize fundraising events and activities for the children.

The Huskies also volunteered at Hephzibah’s group homes and day care sites, took the children to high school events, participated in game and movie nights and held their signature event, the Hephzibah Rodeo. This joyous June celebration, complete with pony rides and a petting zoo, is held annually to reward the children in our group homes for completing the school year, despite the tremendous upheavals in their lives.

The teens’ commitment to the children at Hephzibah didn’t go unnoticed by the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation, which selected the Hephzibah Huskies as the 2012 recipient of the Foundation’s Outstanding Youth Group Award for Excellence in Philanthropy. At the Heart of Gold Gala in March, Hephzibah also honored the group with its 2013 Hephzibah Heart of the Home Award, which is presented annually to individuals or groups that have made outstanding contributions in support of Hephzibah’s mission.

“We are tremendously grateful to the Huskies for their commitment and support,” notes Executive Director Mary Anne Brown. “They have brought fresh ideas and energy to our organization — and the children in our group homes just light up with happiness whenever the Huskies are around. I tell everyone that these exceptional young humanitarians are the future of Hephzibah.”
Thank you for your gifts of help and hope!
Thank you for your gifts of help and hope! We are deeply grateful for their passionate commitment and support!
Hephzibah owes a debt of gratitude to the following 29 community and 32 corporate partners for enhancing the lives of children and families in FY13. We appreciate all that you do!

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Mr. and Mrs. Michael Condon
Mr. Samuel Condon
Mr. and Mrs. Sean Condon
Ms. Meredith E. Conn
Ms. Ryan Conn
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Connelly
Ms. Madeline Connelly
Mr. Bunt Constable and
Ms. Cheryl Iar Horst
Ms. Laura Cook
Costos Marketing
Covenant
Miss Lily Coozens
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Coozens
Craig Stevens Development
Mr. Bradley Crandall
Mr. Steve Crane
Cruza USA Inc.
Mr. Tim Cullom
Ms. Cheryl Curry
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dahr
Ms. Amy Day
Ms. Lauren Dann
Dancing Lights
Ms. Jane Davies
Ms. Georgetta Davis
Ms. Andrea Davis-Baptiste
Ms. Kathleen Davenport
Ms. Amy Du Witte
Mr. Benjamin Demerry and
Ms. Alicia Peitz
Miss Amelia DeBlaize
Ms. Sarah Child
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Mr. and Mrs. Peter DeGroot
Ms. Melinda Deguzus
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Deutsch
Democratic Party of Oak Park
Mr. Mercita Demuyck
Ms. Denise Deman
Mr. Raye-O. dellengies
Ms. Jennifer Dettloff
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ditch
Ms. Nadine P. Dillon
Dillo's Restaurant
Dixy's Restaurant
Mr. Bob Dickendorf
Mr. Jim Dockendorf
Ms. Karen Dockendorf
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Dockendorf
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cole
Cole Taylor Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Coleman

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Dummie
Ms. Carol J. Darming
Ms. Sue Dutson
Ms. Cherie Dune
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dowskey
Dee Sports
Mr. Patrick Dyles
Mr. Peter Dyles
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Dee Sports
Mr. Pete Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dee
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Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Coleman

Ms. Allison Collers and
Ms. Lindsay Collins
Mr. and Mrs. James Colombo
Community Bank of Oak Park &
River Forest
Competitive Fost
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Condon
Mr. Samuel Condon
Mr. and Mrs. Sean Condon
Ms. Meredith E. Conn
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Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dyles
Mr.
There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give to our children. One of these is roots — the other, wings.
The PEOPLE Behind Hephzibah

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mark Trinka
Chair and President
Maureen Stratton
Immediate Past President
Leslie Ann Jones
Vice President
Sarah Arnett
Treasurer
Terry Brown
Secretary
Mary Anne Brown
Executive Director
Sherry Carbery
Joe Dahir
Francesca DeBiase
Carol Dunning
Audrey Williams-Lee
Kenna McKenion
John McNamara
Beth Pasenka
Eric Scerritta
Byron Taylor
Cheryl Ter Horst
Tom Yates

HEPHZIBAH FOUNDATION
Maureen Stratton
President
Nancy Quinn
Vice President
Geil Hagee
Secretary
Sarah Arnett
Treasurer
Sue Beeman
Margaret Horstman
Leslie Ann Jones
Nancy McCracken
Anneke Taglia
Mark Trinka

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Melissa Kowalski
President
Christine Linder
Immediate Past President and Co-Chair
Elizabeth Seltzer
Immediate Past President and Co-Chair
Kathy Hager
Vice President
Katherine Nix
Treasurer and Membership Chair
Christine Stamm
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Greta Landis
Board Liaison
Sarah Aldrich
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Meredith Davis
Pamela Dombrowski
Jodi Fyle
Colleen Heath
Sarah Joyce
Jaye Landers
Sheila London
Christa Payton
Richard Payton
Karuna Raval
Marcia Scott
Rachel Talleen
Amy Ullom
Lynn Walker
Dave Wick
Jennifer Bartenhagen
Ashley Bedn
Debbie Brambora
Mary Campagna
Stephanie Clark
Lisa Cleaver
Eren Dilsler
Lisa Druke
Dorothy Domack
Malia Engesser
Megan Feinberg
Misty Gettle
Jessica Gottschalk
Lanya Hulse
Sandy Hobbs
Tina Hutchinson
Lynn Kasilovich
Laura King
Dottie Lipnik
Kim Lust
Rebecca Majeed
Jennifer Makel
Kathy Maloney
Sherry Martinez
Laura McLaughlin
Janelle Metz
Suzanne Miller
Courtney Odenholm
Tara Persano
Elisa Powell
Wendy Reitz
Jennifer Schieffer
Kelly Swartz
Anna Todor
Melissa Wilson

WESTERN AUXILIARY
Heather Froslid
President
Cindy Clavin
Immediate Past President
Jacqueline Marker
Vice President
Karen Hovan
Treasurer
Julie Cole
Secretary
Megan Scheck
Membership Co-Chair
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Membership Co-Chair
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Immediate Past President
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Sarah Withrow
Co-Treasurer
Lindsey Marshman
Secretary
Liz Schwartz
Membership
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Laura Brinkman
Coryl Brown
Shari Christoferson
Graham Gibbs
Allysa Gorsby

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President
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Immediate Past President
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Co-Treasurer
Sarah Withrow
Co-Treasurer
Lindsey Marshman
Secretary
Liz Schwartz
Membership
Katie Braun
Laura Brinkman
Coryl Brown
Shari Christoferson
Graham Gibbs
Allysa Gorsby

8 Consecutive years that Hephzibah has been recognized as one of Chicago’s Best and Brightest Companies to work for — a distinction we earned again in FY13 for our best practices in human resource management.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP
Mary Anne Brown
Executive Director
Shaun Lane
Chief Operating Officer
Julie Deardorff
Director of Family Based Services
Jan Masson
Director of Day Care Services
Molly Philosoph
Director of Development
Mary Tornison
Director of Finance
Russ Vanderburg
Director of Operations
James Watson
Director of Group Homes

* Sustaining Member

Writing and Photography: Susan Reich
Design: Anne Boyle

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FINANCIAL Statement
For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2013

REVENUES

Individual, Corporate and Foundation Contributions and Grants* $1,717,467

Fees and Grants:
State Government Agencies $5,460,992
Local Government Agencies $55,783

Other Revenue:
Program Service Fees and Grants $1,295,799
Investment and Other Income $121,551

TOTAL REVENUES $8,660,591

EXPENSES

Programs $6,562,948
Administration $1,241,757
Fundraising, Development, Volunteers* $567,816

TOTAL EXPENSES $8,372,540

Increase in Net Assets $288,051
Net Assets, End of Year $4,710,693

Unaudited totals — includes unrealized gain on investments of $65,115

* Line items exclude a $1M estate gift transferred to the Hephzibah Foundation

GRANTS AWARDED

2012-2013

Cashel Foundation
Chase Community Giving Program
CME Foundation
Community Bank of Oak Park & River Forest
First Midwest Bank
George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities
Harry F. Chaddick & Elaine Chaddick Foundation
Helen Brach Foundation
HSBC – North America
Jocarno Fund
Lerner Family Foundation
Million Dollar Round Table Foundation
Northern Trust Company
Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation
Rotary Club of Oak Park & River Forest
Terri Race Educational Technology Fund
The John Buck Company Foundation
The REAM Foundation
The Sweet Water Foundation
Union Pacific Railroad Foundation
UPS Foundation, Inc.
Ward Foundation

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Hephzibah helps children thrive and families flourish through a continuum of internationally recognized programs that include short-term and long-term group homes for neglected and abused children, foster care and adoption services, comprehensive services for children and families in crisis and award-winning day care services on a sliding scale for families of all income levels.

Hephzibah is accredited by the National Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services, Inc. in New York.

LICENSING

Hephzibah is licensed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services as a Child Welfare Agency, Group Home, Child Care Institution and Day Care Center.

FUNDING

Hephzibah receives funding from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and Department of Human Services, parent fees from our Day Care program, the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, the Illinois State Board of Education, Oak Park’s School District 97 and our own fundraising activities.

Unaudited totals — includes unrealized gain on investments of $65,115

FY13 FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

❤️ A $150,000 grant from the Hinsdale Junior Woman’s Club supported educational enrichment programming for the children living in our Diagnostic Treatment Center and Residence.
❤️ Members of the Hephzibah Children’s Association Board of Directors contributed individual gifts totaling $8,288 to support Hephzibah’s award-winning programming.
❤️ A 25,000 grant from the John Buck Company partially funded a full-time Education Coordinator position.
❤️ Hephzibah Children’s Association employees contributed $8,400 to demonstrate their strong support for Hephzibah’s mission.
❤️ The Peninsula Chicago hotel donated $6,597 to support Hephzibah’s mission.
❤️ A new $5,000 grant from the Million Dollar Round Table Foundation supported Hephzibah’s Summer 2013 Sibling Camp.

DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES

78.39% Programs
14.83% Administration
6.78% Fundraising and Development
1% Other

DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES ALLOCATED TO PROGRAMS

32% Family Based Services (includes Foster Care)
23% Day Care (includes Head Start)
44% Group Homes
1% All Other

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