Report to the Community:
YouthLink Highlights 2016
VISION
A community in which all youth, without regard to their living situation, have an equal opportunity to pursue their goals and dreams, and an equal likelihood of achieving them.

MISSION
To support and empower young people on their journey to self-reliance.

A young person helps lead a group of community leaders on a bus tour during YouthLink’s 2016 Night of Hope, the agency’s annual sleep-out fundraiser.
You’ve helped us build a vibrant community.

At YouthLink, we work to help youth make connections that will open up new doors to their futures. We get no greater joy than through meaningful collaborations with our community, our volunteers, and with each other as we work together to create a community of unity, access, and inclusivity where every young person, regardless of their living situation, has the right and opportunity to achieve their goals and dreams in life.

As we reflect on the past year, we are overwhelmed by your support. If 2016 has taught us anything, we have learned that when we come together we are stronger and more powerful than if we stand alone.

We are constantly impressed by you — your gifts of time, of effort, and of financial support — to help us provide all young people with the opportunities to pursue their goals and achieve their dreams.
We learned the dollar cost of homelessness — and the value of long-term investment.

Consider what it’s like to have a couple of teenagers drop by your house after school. Think of what it costs for snacks, what you need to do to get them to do their homework, and how hard it is to get them to open up about their day.

So why do you do it every time your kids bring friends home? Because you know that, in the long run, the time and energy you put into their lives will make a difference.

Now consider that, in 2016, 2,013 young people between the ages of 16 and 24 visited YouthLink. Imagine the potential return of investment if each of these young people reconnects with safety, stability, and independence.

According to Foldes Consulting LLC, if just 89 clients — or 6.1% of the entire group of YouthLink clients from a recent study of 2011 clients — were to become financially independent adults, the cost of the full years’ intervention and basic needs, education, employment, and housing for the entire group would be recouped.

In other words: If just one kid out of every 16 who stop by your house after school makes it in the world, you could see all of the money, time, and effort you put into those after-school sessions come back to you. Just imagine what the community could get back if we could help increase those odds.
The average household would pay 16 years of federal, state & local tax to cover the lifetime cost of 1 youth who remains homeless.

If just 89 out of the more than 1,400 young people that were included as part of the Foldes Consulting study were to become financially independent adults, the full years’ intervention and support costs for the entire group would be recouped.

If 290 young people from the study — one in five — were to become financially self-sufficient adults, over time we would cover the full years’ intervention and support costs for the entire group as well as save taxpayers $42 million in expected expenditures.
We deepen our partnership with organizations in the community, including the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District and Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

We all know young people don’t always want to ask for help. So, in 2016, we made a push for meeting them where they are — out on the streets.

Our Peer Outreach Program (initiated in 2015), sponsored and supported by the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District, made huge strides in reaching out to youth in need of our services on the streets of downtown Minneapolis — these were youth who had not yet come through the doors of YouthLink.

The members of the Peer Outreach team have spent countless hours on the streets handing out advice, as well as much-needed supplies, to other young people in need of a hand-up. And, in return, peer street outreach members are each given a step forward through access to enrollment in a tuition-free class related to their aspirations at Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC).
We celebrated five years of the Youth Opportunity Center.

In 2016, we reached a milestone when the Youth Opportunity Center (YOC) celebrated its fifth “birthday.”

Over the past five years, this one-of-a-kind collaboration of agencies has supported young people in their journeys to reconnect with their community through education, employment, and basic needs.

Through coming together with community organizations who truly know their fields, the YOC serves local youth efficiently, effectively, and without duplication. From housing to education, and from wellness to basic needs, our partnerships with organizations like Goodwill-Easter Seals allow us to bring our clients what they need, when they need it — without them having to trek back and forth across town.

- 2,013 youth served
- 87% ages 18-24
- 46% male, 53% female
- 1% trans
- 93% people of color
- 37,679 meals served
The Youth Opportunity Center is a place to get resources and it’s nice to see all the support for young people in the drop-in. Not only can young people get the material help they need, but staff and partners are always available with an ear to listen and motivation to help young people get through the day.

—Laura Torres, Summit Academy OIC, YOC Partner
We opened a new GED Center with the help of GED Testing Services.

Imagine trying to get through high school — with all its hormones and pitfalls — while also making ends meet and living on the street. Now imagine trying to study for the biggest test of your life, only to find that you’re going to have to go to some location you’ve never even heard of to take your test.

Thankfully, in 2016, through our partnership with GED Testing Services, we were able to bring GED tutoring on site. Now youth can put in hours of studying and one-on-one tutoring in our GED Center — and their scores can truly reflect how far they’ve come. In 2018 — with our remodel and partnership with GED Testing Services — we will be able to bring GED testing on site, as well.

It’s amazing how a huge hurdle can become just another sidewalk crack when you’ve got the community behind you.

“Don’t give up. There was a point in time when I felt I couldn’t do it. But I made myself get up every day to make sure to go to class. Regardless of the situations that you go through, just try your best to make time to get your GED. It’s the greatest feeling ever when you complete it.”

— Bianca, 23, YouthLink Client
We worked with local businesses to open pathways to employment for youth.

When you’re not even sure what to put down as “home address” on your application, all of the classes and certificates in the world won’t get you a job unless someone is willing to take a chance on you.

In 2016, we opened more doors to young people with the help of our community so that youth can earn, learn, and grow through internships — and jobs. We are truly grateful for the number of local professionals and entrepreneurs who have donated their time as mentors, coaches, and guides.

From exploring the tech industry at ArcStone Technologies to learning the inner workings of a small business at Glam Doll Donuts, every partner who has provided support and mentorship has impacted our youth — and our community — in positive ways.

44 connections made in 2016 with local businesses to explore future employment opportunities

33 new local businesses hired youth for jobs and internships in 2016
We are coming together to bring homes to those experiencing homelessness.

After more than 40 years of serving our community, in 2016 we were able to announce plans to build 46 units of supportive housing, which will be directly connected to YouthLink — and the YOC — in downtown Minneapolis.

Thanks to the innovative work and collaboration of local organizations Project for Pride in Living (PPL), UrbanWorks Architecture, and Greiner Construction, as well as the city and county, we will soon be able to offer truly full-service housing to youth ages 18-24 experiencing homelessness in our community.

98% of youth in housing were employed at some point in 2016

75% of youth in housing exited with an increased income level
You helped us serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

At YouthLink, we understand that every minute you spend with us is just as important as every dollar. That’s why we are thankful for the organizations from around the Twin Cities who came together in 2016 to make over 2,000 meals, celebrate birthdays every month, and collect hundreds of items like gloves, toiletries, and underwear.

From large groups, like the UnitedHealth Group and 3M, to individuals and community teams who have given their time and talent week after week, we are truly grateful for all you do.

1,902 hours worked by volunteers

$75,656 is the value of time volunteered in 2016
You helped dissolve barriers for young people.

More than keeping the lights on, you gave young people brighter futures. From the breakfast you served in the morning to the bus tokens you funded, and from after-school tutoring sessions to the evening mentoring sessions, you are part of the life of every young person who turns to YouthLink.

Thanks to you — and friends like Ron and Joan Cornwell, the founders of the Springboard Fund — the young people who come to YouthLink are able to open doors and break down the barriers that they previously thought were insurmountable.

“All kids need a safety net. We all know that from our own children — kids simply can’t do it alone. We think that people should know that when they give to YouthLink, they are helping kids who really need it to get the emotional support and guidance they need to be successful in life. It is the best way to give to other children what we give our own children.”

—Ron and Joan Cornwell, Springboard Fund Founders and Donors
# Financial Highlights

## Statement of Financial Position

**Balance Sheet for year ending September 30, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$850,581</td>
<td>$114,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current portion of pledges receivable</td>
<td>323,959</td>
<td>183,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants receivable</td>
<td>240,218</td>
<td>215,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous receivables</td>
<td>58,317</td>
<td>69,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
<td>63,697</td>
<td>56,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,536,772</td>
<td>$638,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property and equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>203,000</td>
<td>203,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings and improvements</td>
<td>3,350,022</td>
<td>3,350,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
<td>409,222</td>
<td>540,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction in Process</td>
<td>128,492</td>
<td>8,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less accumulated depreciation</strong></td>
<td>(1,742,095)</td>
<td>(1,658,210)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total property and equipment</strong></td>
<td>2,348,641</td>
<td>2,443,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pledges receivable, net of current portion</strong></td>
<td>75,365</td>
<td>21,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$3,960,778</td>
<td>$3,103,522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Liabilities and net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$90,432</td>
<td>$75,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal agent payable</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current portion of capital leases payable</td>
<td>31,791</td>
<td>55,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line of credit</td>
<td></td>
<td>131,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll and payroll taxes</td>
<td>145,482</td>
<td>81,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>84,118</td>
<td>76,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>13,129</td>
<td>22,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>$364,952</td>
<td>$443,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital leases payable, net of current portion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>31,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>$364,952</td>
<td>$474,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>2,763,202</td>
<td>1,813,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>832,624</td>
<td>815,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td>$3,595,826</td>
<td>$2,628,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td>$3,960,778</td>
<td>$3,103,522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Statement of Revenues
October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal grants</td>
<td>$ 403,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Minnesota</td>
<td>487,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hennepin County</td>
<td>1,220,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>267,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract revenue</td>
<td>254,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual contributions</td>
<td>488,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate/non-profit contributions</td>
<td>259,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation contributions</td>
<td>2,140,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>185,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>2,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue</td>
<td>$ 5,710,334*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes $1,385,862 of campaign contributions

# 2016 Revenue
For year ending September 30, 2016

- Federal grants: 7%
- In-kind/Interest/Other: 3%
- United Way: 5%
- Individual contributions: 4%
- Corporate/non-profit contributions: 5%
- Foundation contributions: 37%
- Hennepin County: 21%
- State of Minnesota: 9%
- Contract revenue: 4%

* Indicates campaign contributions.
### Statement of Expenses
October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing stability</td>
<td>$ 1,367,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic needs/healthcare/education and employment supports</td>
<td>1,920,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Opportunity Center</td>
<td>142,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total program services</td>
<td>$ 3,431,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>557,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>590,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign</td>
<td>164,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total supporting activities</td>
<td>$ 1,311,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>$ 4,743,347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Pie chart showing expenses distribution for 2016]

*For year ending September 30, 2016*

- Housing stability: 29%
- Basic needs/healthcare/education and employment supports: 40%
- Fundraising: 12%
- Management and general: 12%
- Campaign: 4%
- Youth Opportunity Center: 3%
2016 Donors

Your support, in all its forms, is deeply appreciated at YouthLink. From the financial contributions that help us plan for tomorrow, to the practical socks, hats, and hygiene supplies that meet today’s needs, your generosity builds a foundation of independence for young people experiencing homelessness. Thank you!

Foundation Builders and Planned Givers

Foundation Builders donate a minimum of $1,000 per year for three years or more. Planned Givers have included YouthLink in their estate plans.

To learn more about becoming a Foundation Builder or to make a planned gift, please contact Frances Roen, Director of Development and Communications, at 612.252.1283.

*Denotes 2016 Board Member

Fran Abbott
David Adams*
Arthur & Judy Anderson
Tim* & Catherine Bicknell
Ron & Joan Cornwell
Phil Davis*
Stefanie Galey*
Dan & Kim Glienke
Lili Hall Scarpa
Barbara Hansen
Dr. Rebecca Harmon & family
Randal & Kitty Heise
Marc & Jackie Hertz
Nancy Hite
Leonard Hoffman
Dr. Heather Huseby
Mel & Joanna Koenig
Ann Longfellow
Bob & Mary Mersky
Bruce* & Ann Nerland
Donald Nicholson & Lesly Hardey Nicholson
Ben* & Kate Reinhardt
Dr. Steven Foldes* & Riv-Ellen Prell
David & Colleen Reitan
Erick & Frances Roen
Garrett & Judy Sampson
Corey Sauer
Larry La Bonte & Kathryn Shaw
Laurie Rose Simon
Joseph Smagacz
Melvin* & Julie Tennant
Mark Severson* & Amy Trew
Carol & Lynn Truesdell
Isaac & Anna Vogel
Mike & Marie Wilkins
Thomas & Susan Wimler
Campaign Donors

$100,000+
3M Foundation
Buuck Family Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation
Ron & Joan Cornwell
John and Denise Graves Foundation
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation

$1,000–$19,999
David Adams
Tim & Catherine Bicknell
Phillip Davis
Stefanie Galey
Jeff LaFavre
Morgan Stanley Foundation
North Loop Neighborhood Association
Dr. Steven Foldes & Riv-Ellen Prell
Ben & Kate Reinhardt
Will Roach & Lisa Schwartz
Mark Severson & Amy Trew
The Shavlik Family Foundation

$20,000–$99,999
B & H Way Foundation
The Curtis L. Carlson Family Foundation
Family Housing Fund
Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation
Opus Foundation

Life Changer

$20,000+
3M Foundation
B & H Way Foundation

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
Buuck Family Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation
CLA Foundation
Ron and Joan Cornwell
John and Denise Graves Foundation
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
Medica Foundation
Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District
Opus Foundation
Otto Bremer Trust
Patrick & Aimee Butler Family Foundation
Corey Sauer
Target Foundation
The Curtis L. Carlson Family Foundation

The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Thrivent Financial Foundation
United Way Arise Project
World Childhood Foundation, Inc.

Dream Maker

$5,000–$19,999
Ameriprise Financial
Ameriprise Financial Employee Giving Campaign
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
James & Kathryn Burns
CenturyLink Family & Work Development Fund
Charles H. Clay Family CLAT Trust
Christian Brothers Youth Home
Clientek
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Dream Maker (cont.)
$5,000–$19,999
Embassy Suites Minneapolis
David & Dawn Fagerlee
General Mills Foundation
Dan & Kim Glienke
Jack & Lisa* Hauser
HELP USA and Affiliates
Hemisphere Restaurant Partners
IHeart Media Management Services
IHeartMedia
International Dairy Queen, Inc.
Kelber Catering
Jeff LaFavre
Bruce* & Ann Nerland
Pax Christi Catholic Community
Peace-Shalom Foundation
PwC Charitable Foundation
RBC Foundation
Ben* & Kate Reinhardt
Rob & Donna Sheeley
Site Minnesota
Jana Stern
Success Computer Consulting
Sunrise Banks
The Saloon
The Shavluk Family Foundation
The Wunderkind Foundation
TJX Foundation, Inc.
Carol & Lynn Truesdell
UnitedHealth Group Inc.
Voya Foundation
Wells Fargo Community Funding Council
Wells Fargo Foundation
Wells Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation

Believer
$1,000–$4,999
Fran Abbott
David Adams*
Arthur & Judy Anderson
Sanaya Bharucha
Tim* & Catherine Bicknell
Camille Burke
Bob & Cindy Cagle
Coldwell Banker Commercial Griffin Companies
CoreNet Global Midwest Chapter
Crowley, White, Helmer & Sevig
Phillip Davis*
Earl C. Hill, Bloomington Post 550 Game Fund
Edina Realty Foundation, City Lake Office
Edina Realty Foundation, Grand Ave. Office
Thomas Ehrsam
Jan Elsasser
Farm Kid Studios Inc.
Fidelity Charitable
Fresh Starts Farm
Mary Frey
Rob & Debra Frimerman
Stefanie Galey*
Grace University Lutheran Church
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Ryan Grefsheim
Lili Hall Scarpa
Dr. Rebecca Harmon & family
Randal & Kitty Heise
Joel Hempel
Hennepin County Medical Center
Marc & Jackie Hertz
David & Ann Marie Hintz
Nancy Hite
Tom Hochstatter
Leonard Hoffman
Dr. Heather Huseby
Indeed Brewing Company
Jane and Jim Kaufman Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
John Deere Foundation
Jay Johnson
KNOCK, Inc.
Emery & Karen Koenig
Believer (cont.)
$1,000–$4,999
Mel & Joanna Koenig
KPMG
Labels & Packaging, Advanced Web Technologies, Inc.
Randy & Lisa Leali
Katherine Leonidas
Ann Longfellow
Lunds & Byerlys
Kristine Martin
Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research
Medtronic Foundation
Bob & Mary Mersky
Minneapolis Commodores Barbershop Harmony Society-MPLS Chapter
Minnesota Vikings
Morgan Stanley
Morgan Stanley Foundation
David & Kate Mortenson
Morton & Merle Kane Family Philanthropic Fund – Jewish Community Foundation
National Football League Alumni Inc.
Rodney Nelson
Donald Nicholson & Lesly Hardey Nicholson
North Loop Neighborhood Association
Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless
Brian & Lisa Perkett
Dr. Steven Foldes* & Riv-Ellen Prell
Rt. Rev. Brian Prior
PwC
Karen Reierson
Reiling Family Foundation
David & Colleen Reitan
Erick & Frances Roen
Thomas & Gwynn Rosen
Pamela Ross
Dudley & Marti Ryan
Friends S. Bartley Osborn Family Charitable Trust
Garrett & Judy Sampson
Jill Sando
George & Diane Schember
Douglas Schmid
Will Roach* & Lisa Schwartz
Mark Severson* & Amy Trew
Larry La Bonte & Kathryn Shaw
Joseph Smagacz
Melvin* & Julie Tennant
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
The Elizabeth C. Quinlan Foundation, Inc.
The Thomas Holtz Family Fund
Randy & Sarah Trask
UrbanWorks
Isaac & Anna Vogel
Paul & DJ Weber
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Western National Mutual Insurance Co.
Dan & Jane White
Thomas & Susan Wimler
Woodhouse Family Foundation
Work and Worship Institute
Xcel Energy
Bill & Elaine Yost

Nurturer
$500–$999
21st Century Bank
John & Jean Abbott
Mark & Deb Abersoll
Paul Ablack
Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America
James Anderson
Anonymous
Bill Baker
Timothy Balfanz
Bell State Bank & Trust
Donald & Marilyn Blore
Emily Boarman
Jamie Nabozny & Bo Bradley
Richard Briggs
Larry Bussey
Sarah Caruso
Nurturer (cont.)
$500–$999
Phil & Marie Cattanach
Ryan Coit
Kyle Crowe
John Cumming
John & Norma Davidson
Tushar Desai
Amol* & Pallavi Dixit
Deborah Dock
Doherty Family Foundation
John Dorman
Richard & Erika Dorn
Jeff & Elizabeth Eberle
Josh & Jenny Elliott
Pacy Erck
Kim Eslinger
Mark & Linda Garbacz
GED Testing Services
Mark & Alison Halley
Hunger Solutions Minnesota
Brett Henke & Annie Gorman Henke
Jarrod Feld & Amy Higgins
Mark Jensen
David & Elizabeth Johnson
George & Vicki Kemp
Eric Kirchner
Mark Kleinschmidt
Todd & Debb Klingel
Justin Kokes
Kathryn Kolesar
Shelly Kopesky
Mark & Sandy Kuzma
Bruce & Mary Lach
Ronald LaMere
William Luedke
James & Kjirsten Mickesh
Midwest Blinds
Mill City Running
Max Miller
Eugene Milne
Robert Moen
Kirk Moore
Stephanie Moores
MRA–The Management Association, Inc.
Naas Chiropractic Clinic
National Philanthropic Trust
Bob & Angie Nelson
Dan O’Connell
Gary & Laurie Pearcy
Pamela Pilsner
Bill & JoAnne Reiling
Mike Renstrom
John & Linda Revier
Lacey Rotem
Randi Roth
Ryan Family Donor Advised Fund
Michael & Kelly Schall
Amy Shaw
Charles Hicks Jr & Vicky Sherman
Signature Mechanical
Sonus Interiors, Inc.
Tim & Emily Stevens
Don Taylor
The Ackerberg Group
The Saint Paul Foundation
J. Thomas and Janet Rajala
Nelson Fund
Jeff Thompson
Thrivent Financial
John & Amy Tillotson
Krista Tippett
John & Peggy Torrini
United Health Foundation
Amy Walls-Manning
Mike & Katie Wendorff
Scott Wilensky
Fabian Zeller
Dwight Zscheile & Blair Pogue

Motivator
$100–$999
Carlos Abler
Sandra Ackerman
Jim & Anne Afdahl
William Akason
Joel Akason
Jennifer Albright
Timm Anderson & Nina Alesci
Rick & Peggy Allan
Motivator (cont.)
$100–$999

Nadia Alleman
Bob & Jeanne Alm
James Altman
Brian & Bonnie Alton
Michael & Charlene Anda
Kevin Anderson
Jeff & Heidi Anderson
Elizabeth Anderson
Lynn Anderson
Scott & Kristi Anderson
Kristen Anderson
Anderson Agency
Anonymous
Milo & Jentine Arkema
Kevin Armstrong
Medaria Arradondo
Melanie Arvila
Carol Aschbacher
Atonement Lutheran Church
Automotive Inventory Resources
AWT Labels and Packaging
Ani Backa
Kristine Baker
Gwenn Baker
Paul Chrenka & Martha Ballard
Allison Barmann
Tony & Monica Barranco
Jay Bartolain
Ruth Bash
James Bauer
Brian & Kelly Bauernfeind
Garret & Michelle Beaupre
Jennifer Belk White
Sanderson Bell
James Bender
Heidi Benedict
Mick Benson
Best Buy Corporation
Brian & Diana Beutner
Elizabeth Bieging
Jacqueline Binger
Barry & JoAnn Birkholz
Christopher &
Connie Bjornstad
Michael & Mary Black
Patrick O’Connor &
Carol Blackburn
Alix Blick
Noah Bly
Karen Bolin
Lois Bollman
Matt Boos
Kathleen Born
William Bourne
Nancy Bratulich
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Dear Friends:

Our work to open pathways of opportunity to young people would be impossible to do without the collaboration of our community. Connection is at the heart of our efforts to move young people forward in their aspirations. We are indebted to our numerous and significant community partners who continue to work with us as we move to the next phase of our future as an organization.

We are grateful to our community partners Greiner Construction, CenturyLink, and Northland Concrete & Masonry, who made it possible for us to open a playground with brand new equipment at our Archdale housing site for the children of young families. It is our hope that those children will truly enjoy their childhoods — and not have to grow up as fast as their parents have.

We also had cause to celebrate our successes in 2016:

- **We launched a comprehensive campaign — *Ignite Change in the Lives of Youth* — to develop 46 housing units for young people experiencing homelessness.**

- **We celebrated the fifth birthday of the Youth Opportunity Center, as we kept looking for new ways to provide the services our youth need.**

- **YouthLink’s Peer Street Outreach was honored for the work they do toward ending homelessness by the Minneapolis Downtown Council at their 2025 Plan Leadership Awards.**

- **And who can forget that the “Up Top” Street Soccer team (a joint effort of YouthLink and Street Soccer USA) won their fifth national championship title in Philadelphia this year?**
Of course, while it’s easy to celebrate the big successes and shiny, new playground equipment, we realize that it is the small, everyday kindnesses that make a community great. From the volunteers who have helped with child care to the food truck owners who have so generously donated a portion of their proceeds to us, we know that, without you, what we do would not be possible.

Thank you to each and every one of you who have worked tirelessly to create bigger and more supportive communities for young people in 2016. We look forward to breaking new ground with you in 2017!

Dr. Heather Huseby, Executive Director, YouthLink

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