



**WORKING WITH CHILDREN  
YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

*Working Hand in Hand with Children, Youth,  
and Families, EPIC Provides Services to  
Strengthen Communities*

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2001**

**FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR, ED FERGUSON**

The past year has been a time of accomplishment and challenge.

After years of planning and hard work, our beautiful new buildings at EPIC Place, Phase II were dedicated. This has had a transforming effect on EPIC Place, making it truly a collaborative place with several partners now co-located on campus. The new Fireside Room in the Jeld-Wen Center is in use daily by a diverse group of community agencies. EPIC Place is becoming a focal point for many services for children and families.

Our challenge this past year was to consolidate our many new services to youth and make them work programmatically and fiscally. After several years of dramatic growth, we were faced with the need to consolidate and make financially stable our multi-faceted youth services division. Fortunately, a new leader, Bob Alexander, stepped forward and provided the direction and inspiration for a program that is now on solid ground.

Another new leader, Sharon Sumpter, joined us to head up the Early Childhood Division. Sandy Nelson, long-time Director of Early Childhood Services, departed EPIC after 23 years of solid accomplishments. With the help of other key managers, Sharon stepped into her new job with enthusiasm. Our Early Childhood Division, is, once again, in able hands.

I want to thank the many people who continue to make EPIC possible: our volunteers and supporters, our partners, our able staff, our funders and the many other people who have made EPIC what it is today.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Sylvia Severn, Chair	Rip Hollingbery, Chair Elect
Brett Freistadt, Treasurer	Judy Schmidt-Gano, Secretary
Judy Verbrugge, Director	J. Tappan Menard, Director
Bob Sinclair, Director	Tom Robbert, Director
Leone Cheatom, Director	Bernal Baca, Director

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

EPIC provides Early Childhood programs to children of low-income families throughout Central Washington from the Canadian border to the Lower Yakima Valley. Our service area covers five counties, Yakima, Benton, Douglas, Chelan and Okanogan.

The federal **Head Start** Bureau funds EPIC for preschool services, 0-3 aged children's services, and 0-5 preschool services for migrant and seasonal farmworker families. The preschool services for 734 children aged 3-5 are modeled on a half-day kindergarten format that operates September through June. Early Head Start is a home-based program for 32 children 0-3 and their families. The Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Head Start program serves 677 children from 0-5. It operates from April through October on a full day schedule.

EPIC's **Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP)**, a state-funded program for four year old children of low income families, is modeled after Head Start and serves 242 children in a half-day kindergarten program.

Our **Medicaid Therapeutic Child Care** program is a treatment program operating at EPIC Place in Yakima and Heritage College in Toppenish. This program is targeted to children who are at risk for child abuse and neglect. It serves 54 children birth to six years of age.

**EPIC's Crisis Nursery**, a child care/respice care program for children six weeks to six years of age, provides parents in critical circumstances with crisis intervention.

## YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

The **Secured Crisis Residential Centers (SCRC)** in Yakima and Kennewick provide temporary secured residential placements for runaway youth. Youth stay up to five days while receiving extensive assessments. EPIC operates eleven beds for this state-funded program. Five Hope Beds in the Kennewick facility provide 30-day transitional services for at-risk youth.

**Regional Crisis Residential Centers (RCRC)** facilities in Yakima and Kennewick provide temporary placement for youth in crisis. This state-funded program provides ten beds where youth can stay up to five days while permanent housing issues are addressed.

**Serendipity Treatment Center** is an eighteen-month home for abused and abusive boys ages twelve through seventeen.

## YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS CONTD.

Residents receive life skills training along with counseling and therapy through a certified Masters level therapist. Youth who graduate from the Serendipity Program will move to EPIC proctor homes as a transition to self-sufficiency.

**Mariposa**, an eight-bed, eighteen month residential treatment program for girls age twelve through seventeen is located in the Schmidt Cottage on the EPIC Place campus. This program provides behavior modification to equip residents to transition into a more stable environment in a family setting.

**Proctor Homes** (foster homes for Serendipity and Mariposa clients) EPIC has established a system of foster homes (proctor homes) which provide extended services to youth who have resided in and received treatment through our BRS group homes. EPIC foster parents provide a home environment which incorporates family-like experiences and support for those youth who have little or no prospects of returning to their own families following their terms at Mariposa and Serendipity. The youth who are placed in our proctor homes continue to receive treatment and counseling from a certified Masters level treatment provider.

## FUNDING

Where our funding comes from:

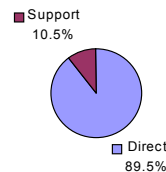
Region X Head Start	\$ 5,410,063	Early Childhood Programs	\$ 2,064,254
Migrant Head Start	\$ 4,466,588	Therapeutic Child Dev/Crisis Nursery	\$ 488,266
Youth Programs	\$ 2,852,367	EPIC Place Phase II Campaign	\$ 1,625,946
Other	\$ 87,685	<b>Total Revenue for 2001</b>	<b>\$ 16,995,169</b>

**Total Community Involvement for 2001  
(In-Kind) \$ 1,878,770**

Where our funds go:

Direct Services 89.5%

Support Services 10.5%



## EPIC LOCATIONS

Administration Offices	Jefferson Child Development Center
Castlevale Child Development Center	Parker Heights Child Development Center
Sunnyside Child Development Center	East Wenatchee Child Development Center
Bridgeport Child Development Center	Regional and Secured Crisis Residential Centers
EPIC Place	Mariposa and Serendipity Youth Centers