



**Enterprise for Progress  
in the Community (EPIC)**



*2004 Annual Report*

# *guided by our principles*

At EPIC, we do a lot of “parenting”-- guiding children, youth and even families utilizing our skills, experience, and knowledge. Just like parenting, sometimes in our work it's difficult to see progress in the short term. That's why we were so gratified to meet Daniel Garza, whose story appears here. He is an example of the difference that can be made in the life of a child. And he's going on to make a difference for others. That's why EPIC is here.



## **Balancing service and good stewardship**

Today's fiscal economy has brought more stringent accountability standards for grantees such as EPIC. The challenge for non-profits: how to provide quality services and meet increasing client needs while responding appropriately to shifting compliance requirements at the state and federal levels.

We are a viable agency. Our strategies to help the most vulnerable children, at-risk youth, or their parents in Central Washington led us to develop new programs and expand existing offerings in 2004. At the same time, demographic, funding, population and local trends meant relocating some services and discontinuing others. In order to stay vital in the service delivery field, EPIC has made changes internally and programmatically:

- Seventy-two **Head Start slots were moved from our Parker Heights center to the new Toppenish School District site** to meet changing demographic needs. EPIC responded to agricultural trends in our service area by moving 18 Migrant slots from our Sunnyside center to our Parker Heights program. In addition, we've strategically placed program slots in other critical areas by contracting with child care centers and licensed homes in order to make sure services are available to our most vulnerable populations.

- EPIC's **Early Childhood Development Division was restructured and program oversight centralized** to the new Third Avenue Program Office in Yakima. The relocation of staff and closure of the Chestnut office is more cost effective for EPIC.

- EPIC's therapeutic child care and respite child care programs in Toppenish were folded into the Crisis Nursery in Yakima, **allowing services to existing clients to continue, but saving the Agency in overhead costs**. As a result, the Toppenish clients attend in the afternoon, and Yakima clients receive treatment and/or day care in the morning at a single EPIC Place location in Yakima.

- **Six additional EPIC therapeutic foster homes were licensed** in 2004, for kids ages 12 - 17 who are too behaviorally challenged for regular foster care. EPIC offers a treatment-oriented approach for youth who cannot safely return to their family. This brought the total number of EPIC therapeutic foster homes to 10.

- EPIC **added four 30-day assessment beds to its Regional Crisis Residential Centers in Yakima and Kennewick**, thereby lengthening the amount of evaluation and planning time available to effectively assist homeless, runaway, state-dependent and at-risk youth in the most critical circumstances.

- EPIC was awarded a **\$500,000 federal grant to launch Ways to Work (WTW) in Yakima County**. WTW helps parents who need financial support but cannot get a conventional loan due to lack of established credit, or having had bad credit in the past. Families who qualify have an opportunity to learn about budgeting, establish a relationship with a lender, get a loan to keep their transportation running smoothly, build a positive credit history and be a reliable employee.

- Our Playhouses on Parade raffle and Parti Gras **fundraising events grossed \$94,000**, while EPIC's first Annual Campaign Luncheon brought in \$27,000 to help children, youth and families at risk.

- **EPIC's Executive Director of more than 19 years, Ed Ferguson, announced his retirement** in December 2004. This change in leadership marks a new chapter in the EPIC story.

**EPIC will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2005.** As we chart our course for tomorrow, we can be excited because we have four decades of perspective. People like Daniel Garza help us to realize that the seeds we plant today will one day reap a harvest of empowerment, growth and success for those we serve.

## **Dixie Blanchard,**

Interim Executive Director

Enterprise for Progress in the Community

## From the fields to the White House -

# Head Start helped him envision a leadership role

Like so many before him, Adan Garza wanted a better life. The Garza family had a proud 400-year history in their homeland of Mexico, but social and economic conditions were making dreams of a positive future seem impossible. Adan first came to the U.S. as a young boy and it made a huge impression on him.

His son Daniel, explains, “They had heard about the promise of America, and they weren’t disappointed. It was easy for him to make the decision that it was in America that he would fulfill his dreams.”

As an adult, Adan made his living as a migrant farm worker. He and his wife Modesta would come to Washington state for the harvest – cherries, apples, peaches, pears, beets.

The family would spend 6 months of the year at home in Mexico and 6 months working in America. Daniel, the second son, was born in California during the grape harvest. Eventually, his father fell in love with the city of Toppenish and it was there that he decided to raise his family. When Daniel was 3, he and his older brother were enrolled in Head Start. “It was either, they took us to Head Start, where they gave us a structured program and meals, or they took us to the fields,” Daniel notes.

Daniel’s early experiences with Head Start made a mark, especially having Hispanic teachers. “Back then in other public institutions—the banks, the schools, city government, you didn’t see Hispanics. That actually has an impact on someone who is Hispanic—you don’t feel you can achieve those positions, because what you see is people who are not like you,” he notes. “I think it was important to me when I was going to Head Start that I actually had that foundation— that they could do it and do it right.”

Today, Daniel serves as a role model for others. He is the Associate Director for the Office of Public Liaison for the White House, and as such, his office handles about 80% of the events, ceremonies, functions, briefings and meetings within the White House compound.

His journey from the fields to the White House has been challenging—he dropped out of high school after the tenth grade, and at an early age he realized he wasn’t looking forward to a lifelong career as a farm worker, although he felt it was noble work that taught discipline and developed a hard-work ethic. He went back to school, finished his GED and then went on to college. He worked as a police officer in Toppenish before running successfully for a Toppenish City Council seat in 1998.

By then he’d gotten the political bug. He got involved with politics at the state level, and then at the federal level as a Congressional Staff Assistant for Doc Hastings (1995-1996), and was involved with the 2000 presidential campaign as Washington State Director of “Hispanics for Bush.” Shortly thereafter, the White House called and invited him to come to work on behalf of the President and his Administration.

“It was a tough decision. You would think that my goodness gracious, they’re asking you to work for the President of the United States, how could you not do it? But because I was raised in such a tight knit family, because the Yakima Valley is what I know, where I grew up and where I am comfortable, it was tough to let go. But for the longest time I had heard Hispanic civic leaders complain that Hispanics never get a chance, never got the breaks, and here I was being given an opportunity and how could I say no? I guess I determined in my heart, let’s do this and let’s do it right, and let’s work hard at it.”

Daniel realizes that in his position, there may be many people looking up to him. “I take the job acknowledging the awesome responsibility it holds. I want to do right by the people, and by my family, and by the Hispanic community. It’s not just Daniel Garza that I represent, but everything else I identify with—as a Christian, as the son of Adan and Modesta Garza, that I’m from Toppenish in Washington state. I do it with pride.”



## main epic program areas

### *crisis nursery*

Respite childcare • mental health day treatment

### *early childhood development*

- Head Start • Early Head Start • Migrant/Seasonal Head Start
- child care partnerships • State Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP) •

### *youth services*

- Emergency shelter for teen runaways and homeless youth • therapeutic foster care • behavior rehabilitation treatment
- group homes • youth mentoring • afterschool activity center • academic support • independent living skills training

### *ways to work*

helps low-income parents fix or buy cars to get to work

# thank you for your support of epic programs in 2004:

## **In Memory of Mickey Mercy**

Kathy Mercy

## **In Memory of 58 years of Marriage**

Margaret Alderson

## **In Honor of Larry Marvin**

Pete & Glenda Bansmer  
Mike & Melanie Gilmore  
Yakima Federal Savings & Loan  
Employees

## **Friends**

Gloria Anderson  
Anonymous  
Sally Bailey  
Pat Ball  
Black Angus  
Elizabeth Carroll  
Rob Carroll  
Misty Clements  
Betty Ann Cohen  
Brian & Mary Conway  
Lee Daniels  
Dave & Patty Dion  
Jim & Sonja Dodge  
Allen Dosch & Jennifer Oliver  
Stefanie Durand  
Larry Duren  
Don & Doris Emmons  
Louise Farias  
Patty Ferguson  
The Field Group  
Jane Fleshman  
Roberta Gabbard  
Greystone Restaurant  
Kim Hansen  
Marilyn Hunter  
Daniel McLaughlin  
Nancy Mantey  
Mike Maples  
Neil & Leslie McClure  
Emily Medeiros  
Johnny & Mary Medrano  
Bill & Dana Moore  
Dr. John Moran & Dr. Dagmar  
Schnader  
Tim Morris  
Andy & Mary Anne Murray  
Outback Steak House  
Kit Park  
Christine Parsons  
Powerhouse Grill  
Red Lobster  
Red Robin  
Gip & Carol Redman  
Kathryn Riemcke  
Right Hardware  
John & Jeanne Rothenbueler  
Sea Galley  
Lisa Sheridan

Sign Works  
Scott & Julie Smith  
Bob & Bernice Spain  
Kathy Thomas

## **Partners**

AmSan L.L.C.  
Anonymous  
Dennis & Vicki Baker  
Jim Bales  
Phil Barnes  
Mike & Cathy Biehl  
Lori Bockus  
William & Debbie Buxton  
Steve & Anne Caffery  
Oscar Cerda  
Clarion Hotel &  
Conference Center  
Ralph Conner  
Daniel & Diane Cornwell  
Carla Council  
Jim & Gail Davis  
Carter & Linda Fjeld  
Folklore Foods  
Don & Ellen Gibson  
Cragg & Virginia Gilbert  
Letty Ann Ginn  
Bob & Gayle Hall  
Terrence & Anne Harrison  
Herbert Hill  
R.L. Huff  
Paul Huffman & Norma Benson  
Jane Kirk  
Layman Lumber  
Michael & Debbie Libbee  
Mary Madison  
Stan & Pam Martinkus  
Meadowbrook Family Fun  
Center  
Craig & Jan Mendenhall  
Duane & Kirsten Monick  
Matt & Sarah Morgan  
Richard & Marilyn Morgan  
Morton & Sons, Inc.  
Robert & Carmela Newstead  
Eric Niemi  
Delmar & Ellen Pearson  
Sirena Phillips  
Doug & Darlene Picatti  
R. Torre & Company  
Rath Construction  
Kathy Rheaume  
Dan & Sandra Shelton  
Sharon Smith  
Dick & Carole Start  
Jerry & Susan Talbott  
L.D. Thomas  
Andrea True  
Nydia Urlacher  
Charlie Val  
Valley Title  
John & Paula Vornbrock

Loretta Watson  
Tammy White  
Dennis Worrell

## **Leaders**

Bemis Appliance & TV  
Jim & Vicki Black  
Brew Zinski's  
Bill Chichenoff  
Al & Debbie Chronister  
Coffee at Tiffany's  
Cottage Espresso  
D.J.'s Coffee Cafe  
Forest Creek Development, Inc.  
Wade Gano  
Ghirardelli Chocolate Company  
Joe Gutierrez  
Highway Espresso  
KDF Architecture  
Kiwanis Club of Yakima  
Lincoln Ave. Espresso  
Larry & Kimberly Loveless  
Manhattan Station  
Crystal Marey  
Mocha Tree Espresso  
Mojo's Espresso  
Mary Ann Perri  
Dan Pitts  
Tom & Mary Robbert  
40th Avenue Espresso  
Doug Smith  
Stop N Go Espresso  
Gretchen Swanson  
Tom Tom Espresso  
Yvonne Ullas  
Donna Walker

## **Guardians**

George Allan  
Joe Benedetti  
Doug & Karen Bernd  
Jack & Connie Bloxom  
Paul Brown  
Emmett & Bonnie Byrnes  
Larry & Jacki Cacchiotti  
Catholic Credit Union  
Central Valley Bank  
Mike Chandler  
Columbia Paint & Coatings  
Columbia Trust Bank  
Conover Insurance  
Costco  
Country Insurance & Financial  
Services  
Neil & Doris Dickinsen  
Eyler Elliott  
Enigma  
Espresso Express  
Dan Fisher  
Larry Fuchs  
G&F Investment  
General Supply

Harold & Jackie Heliessen  
Java City  
Bill & Melissa Keeter  
Deb Krautwurm  
David & Janet Larsen  
LeMaster & Daniels  
Larry & Linda Marvin  
Menke Jackson Beyer  
Elofson Ehlis & Harper  
Ken Messer & Kathy Coffey  
Oregon Chai, Inc.  
Pacific Alliance Title  
Steve Pilger  
Bob & Lori Powers  
Price & Son  
Craig & Susan Putman  
Dave & Purna Rankin  
Ray Appraisal  
Shields Printing  
Craig & Caroline Sundquist  
Thorner, Kennedy & Gano  
Tim & Kristen Trottier  
Wells Fargo  
Thomas & Cornelia Wisely  
Yakima National Bank

## **Champions**

Avalanche Distributing  
Bank of America  
Banner Bank  
Big Train, Inc.  
Health West Alliance  
Rip & Kris Hollingbery  
Key Foundation  
Marsh Advantage America  
Mutual of America  
Herb & Marilyn Nelson  
New Northwest Broadcasters  
Dr. Stephen J. Pearson & Mary  
Lou Shefksy  
Prudential  
Jessica Putman  
Joseph & Kathy Rouleau  
Judy Schmidt Gano  
Bob Sinclair  
Marv & Pat Sundquist  
Windermere Real Estate  
Andy Wright  
Yakima Neighborhood Health  
Yakima Regional Cardiac &  
Medical Center  
Yakima Resources, LLC  
Yakima Valley Farmworkers  
Clinic  
Mark & Leanne Young  
Southwest Yakima Rotary  
Pat Temple  
United Builders  
Yakima Federal Savings & Loan

## **Heroes**

The Valley Mall

# the bottom line

*Number of clients served by program, 2004*

Regional Crisis Residential Centers in Yakima and Kennewick (emergency shelter for homeless youth)  
302

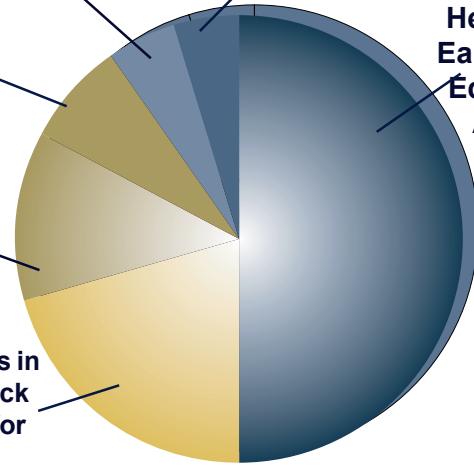
Secured Crisis Centers in Yakima and Kennewick (emergency shelter for teen runaways)  
736

Group treatment and foster care (ages 12 - 17) 63

Crisis Nursery 180

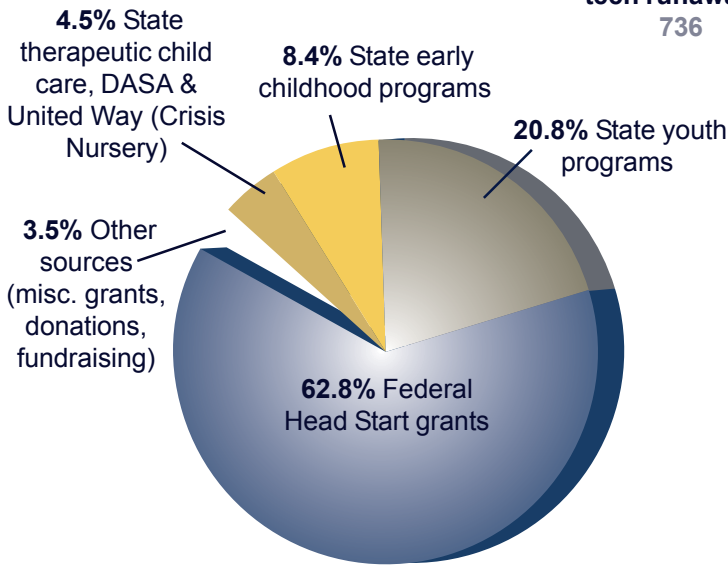
Youth mentoring & after school programs 46

Head Start and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Programs (ECEAP) 1,797



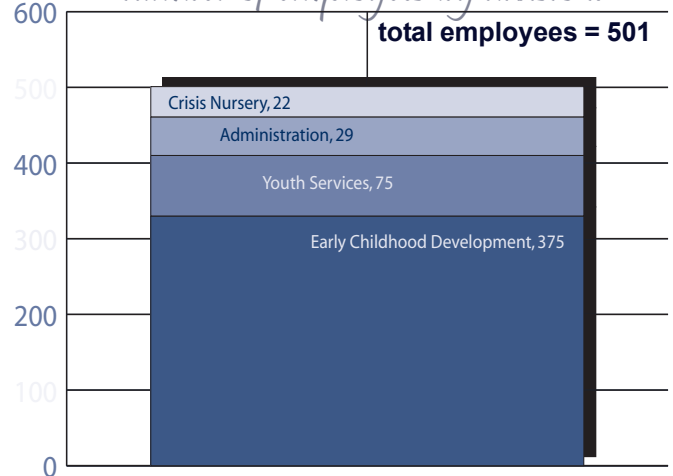
**total children & youth served: 3,124**

*funding by source:*



*actual revenue* = \$18,259,074  
*2004 in kind gifts* = \$1,555,976

*number of employees by division:*



## epic 2004 board of directors

### Officers

Ed Ferguson, President  
Executive Director  
Dr. Bernal C. Baca, Chair  
Bob Sinclair, Vice-Chair  
Judy Schmidt Gano, Secretary  
Tom Robbert, Treasurer

### Directors

Rosario Cuevas  
Joe Farina  
Rip Hollingbery  
Janet Larsen  
Paul Larson  
Larry Marvin  
Marallyn McGuinness  
-Schonian  
Matt Morgan  
Bob Powers

For more information, visit our website: [www.epicnet.org](http://www.epicnet.org)

## epic main offices and program centers

### EPIC Central Office

2902 Castlevale Rd, Suite A  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 248-3950  
FAX (509) 457-0580

### EPIC Third Avenue Program Office

505 S. Third Ave.  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 248-8136

### EPIC Bridgeport Early Child Development Center

14th & Columbia  
Bridgeport, WA 98813  
(509) 686-5555

### EPIC Castlevale Child Development Center

2902 Castlevale Road, Suite B  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 452-0212

### EPIC Crisis Nursery

701 Superior Lane, Suite 1  
Yakima, WA 98902  
248-3950 ext. 427

### EPIC East Wenatchee Child Development Center

1901 Rock Island Road  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
(509) 884-2435

### EPIC Jefferson Child Development Center

902 E. Viola  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 457-9193

### EPIC Jeld-Wen Discovery Center

701 Superior Lane, Suite 2  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 895-6465

### EPIC Kennewick Youth Center

1112 N. Grant Place  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
(509) 374-9356

### EPIC Parker Heights Child Development Center

5420 Konnowac Pass Road  
Wapato, WA 98951  
(509) 865-2193

### EPIC Prosser Child Development Center

1300 Meade  
Prosser, WA 99350  
(509) 786-3616

### EPIC Sunnyside Child Development Center

605 N. 16th St.  
Sunnyside, WA 98944  
(509) 837-5991

### EPIC Ways to Work

600 Superior Lane  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 895-6466

### EPIC Youth Services Administration

600 Superior Lane  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 452-7606



## epic fact

EPIC stands for **Enterprise for Progress in the Community**. EPIC was **founded in 1965** by a group of **Yakima community volunteers** who applied for and got one of the nation's first Head Start grants.



## epic fact

EPIC is a **private, not-for-profit** agency based in Yakima, Wash. that serves children, youth and families in **9 Central Washington counties**.

## our mission:

Working with children, youth  
and families, **EPIC provides  
services  
to strengthen  
communities**