



WEDGWOOD<sup>®</sup>  
CHRISTIAN SERVICES

**FISCAL YEAR 2023**  
*Highlights*



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Thomas J. Stritzinger <i>Chairperson</i>	Daniel Baisch
Matthew McGowan <i>Vice Chair</i>	Mark DeHaan
Erin Magley <i>Secretary</i>	Dr. Lisa M. Lowery
Jeff Vander Weele <i>Treasurer</i>	Vicky Ludema
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Cathy Atsma	Jeff Tuori
	Jeff Vander Weele
	Lynwood Vanden Bosch
	Ashley Ward
	Jane Zwiers

**WEDGWOOD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Michael Zahrt <i>Chairperson</i>	Dale Bryant
Deb Ondersma <i>Vice Chair</i>	Tim Callahan
Bill Bruinsma <i>Secretary</i>	Liz Cook
John Dyskra <i>Treasurer</i>	Adrienne Jamail
	Cathy Muir
	Andrew Norden
	Rachael Roseman
	Jeff Vander Weele, <i>Advisor</i>

**WEDGWOOD OPERATIONS & STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS TEAMS**

Dan Gowdy <i>President/CEO</i>	Kali Jackson <i>Residential Clinician</i>
Melissa Austin <i>Vice President of Counseling Services</i>	Brooke Jevicks <i>Vice President of Advancement</i>
Sandy Boyer <i>Vice President of Human Resources</i>	LeRae Kuperus <i>Director of Spiritual Formation</i>
Jarrold Hale <i>Director of Information Technology</i>	Diane Rabe <i>Chief Financial Officer</i>
Dawn Harvey <i>Director of Residential Support Services</i>	Cathy Racalla <i>Prevention Services Team Lead</i>
Dave Gorman <i>VP of Youth Development</i>	Jeanna Raterink <i>Director of Quality Improvement</i>
	Kori Thompson <i>Advancement &amp; Community Development Officer</i>

*Friends of Wedgwood.*

We are proud and grateful to share an outcomes report that is reflective of the effort and energy that the Wedgwood Christian Services team and the faithful generosity you have invested into this organization. A report that shows intentional work beyond operating in a constantly changing environment, like we did in previous years during the pandemic.

In 2023 we invested in staffing to help us improve our care, increased our census and, in turn, strengthened and stabilized our organization. Our Boards approved a pay and compensation package that allowed us to bring our wages to market standard, making us a more competitive employer to the pool of candidates. We grew our team from a low of 292 during the height of the pandemic to 374 – and growing. This increase in staff, allows us to accept additional clients, 84 youth in 2023, up from 52 in 2019 – a 61% increase.

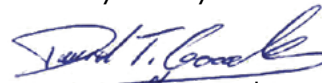
We invested in our Autism Center for Child Development by increasing our care teams allowing us to grow our census from 16 children at the beginning of 2023, to over 30 in December. We intend to continue to grow this program, with a bold goal to hire six new behavioral technicians in each of the coming months to provide 1:1 intervention and support.

For 2024 we are working on developing a transitional living home. Wedgwood recently received a verbal approval for a grant request to expand our continuum. With this grant, we intend to also expand our Occupational Therapy services and Career and Life-skills training.

Investment in improvements to our care model and enhancements to our staff culture were an important theme for us in 2023, and that focus will continue into 2024. Our goal is to have an excellent and nimble team and a care model in place that will allow us to pivot and serve our community based on where the needs are greatest.

As you review the outcomes, join us in celebrating the immense effort the Wedgwood team has put forth this past year. We are excited about the work we've done, grateful for God's continued faithfulness and provision, and your generous support, and eager for the continued potential that lies ahead to serve our community in even greater ways.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dr. Daniel T. Gowdy  
President/CEO



Tom Stritzinger  
Board Chair



# THIS IS WEDGWOOD

Transforming Lives since 1960

## OUR MISSION

Extending God's love to youth, adults, and families through professional counseling and educational services.

## OUR VISION

Our community transformed and equipped to reach its full potential by the distinctively Christian, professionally excellent, and financially sustainable behavioral health services we provide.

## OUR VALUES

Integrity • Compassion • Excellence • Diversity



# WHAT WE ARE FACING



UP TO  
**1 IN 5**  
children ages 3 - 17  
have a mental, emotional,  
developmental, or behavior disorder

THERE ARE ABOUT  
**10,000**  
children in Michigan's  
child welfare system  
**4,000**  
children are expected  
to enter the system each year

**36.7%**  
of adolescents ages 12-17  
had persistent feelings of  
sadness or hopelessness,

OVER  
**40,000**  
children in Michigan  
have an autism spectrum  
disorder diagnosis

**1 IN 3**  
young adults 18-25  
have a mental illness

**53%** of caregivers  
are fairly or very worried about  
their kids' mental wellness





**10,100+**

individuals impacted through Wedgwood's 33 services

WHAT WE ARE DOING



## EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

**10,219**

hours of youth participation

**130**

teens participated

**100%**

progressed to higher levels in program  
made progress in school, behavior goals & social skills

## RECREATION & WELLNESS

**100%** of residents participated in therapeutic activities

## Transforming Services

DONOR-FUNDED SERVICES THAT GO ABOVE AND BEYOND WHAT THE STATE REQUIRES AND ENHANCE OUTCOMES OF OUR CORE SERVICES

## PREVENTION SERVICES (Teen CHARGE & Manasseh Project)

Teen  
**CHARGE**



Students from 5 area high schools used social media to empower peers about mental health

**WEDGWOOD'S  
Manasseh Project**

**31**

awareness & prevention presentations

**3,634**

individuals educated on trafficking

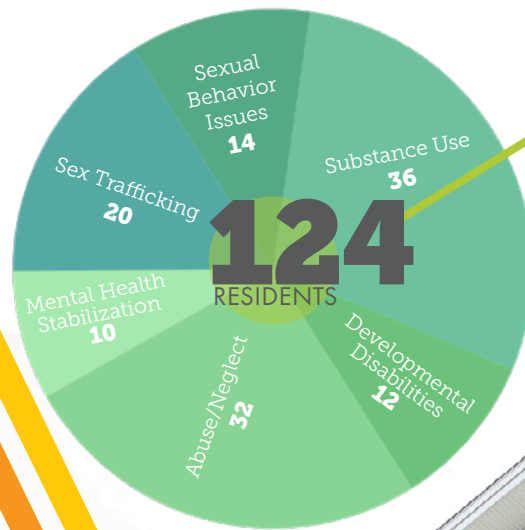
## CHAPLAINCY & YOUTH MINISTRY

**90%** of residents participated in chaplaincy activities

These programs are optional for youth

"I didn't have a great relationship with God, but now I realize He is here to do good and not bad. I realize that God brings people here at Wedgwood to support me and keep me safe" - Resident, age 14





**100%**  
have experienced abuse and/or neglect

On a given day, Wedgwood may be treating  
**10-13%**  
of Michigan's youth identified as needing Residential Placement

# Residential Program

24/7 SPECIALIZED CARE AND TREATMENT FOR KIDS TO HEAL FROM THE TRAUMA OF SEVERE ABUSE & NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION, AND SUBSTANCE USE

**16** average age of residents. Kids range from 12-18 years old

**12** average number of unsuccessful placements prior to arriving in Wedgwood's care

**76% SUCCESS RATE**  
Planned discharge to less restrictive placement which is 5-15% higher than national averages

**24** advanced to the next grade level while in Wedgwood's care

This graduate completed their remaining 14 credits in 6 months and even spoke at the graduation ceremony!





“Wedgwood has been a highlight of my life. They have helped me find me. I am very thankful. They are truly caring and one place that has never turned their back on me.”

— Counseling Client



**1,876** individuals received services

## Counseling Services

OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE COUNSELING SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, & ADULTS

**10** SPECIALIZED SERVICES OFFERED

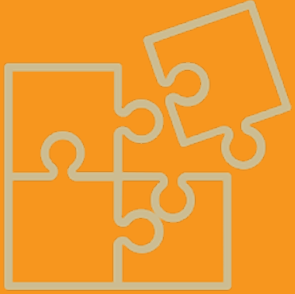
- Community Care Management
- Medication Assisted Treatment
- Mental Health Outpatient Counseling
- Psychiatry
- Substance Use Outpatient Counseling
- Community-Based Substance Use Support
- Recovery Coaching & Case Management
- Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Trauma-Informed Parenting
- Wraparound





# Autism Center for Child Development

(ACCD) EARLY INTENSIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND FOCUSED SKILL BUILDING  
FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS



"I would strongly recommend Wedgwood to any parent considering therapy for their child. My son's progress in the short time he's been enrolled speaks for itself!!"  
— Parent



**36** children enrolled in services

average enrollment **3** YEARS

gained or substantially improved functional communication method

**100%**

transitioned into less intensive services

of caregivers participated in trainings & support programs



# Positive Youth Development

(PYD) PROVIDES PREVENTION & EMPOWERMENT TO STUDENTS THROUGH IN-SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY-BASED CURRICULUM AND EVENTS

"Our students have another resource to go to for help with things such as bullying, good decision making, friend choices, peer pressure, and frustrations at home. Wedgwood also runs substance abuse and prevention workshops with our higher risk students. We're able to refer students for things that we don't have a resource for in our schools and our students look forward to meeting with the Wedgwood team member." - School Administrator

**3,462**

youth & families served

**862**

students in area schools

**100**

parents in trainings

**2,500**

individuals at community events

**7**

schools

TOPICS COVERED

**Vaping**

**Substance Use**

**Bullying**

**Healthy Relationships**

**Mental Health**





# Advancement & Agency

WEDGWOOD'S DETAILED FINANCIAL STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST -  
ADVANCEMENT@WEDGWOOD.ORG OR 616.831.5624



re-accreditation  
approved  
through 2027



**301,650+**  
reached through  
website & social media

**\$1,976,964** RAISED

**\$930,583**  
donors

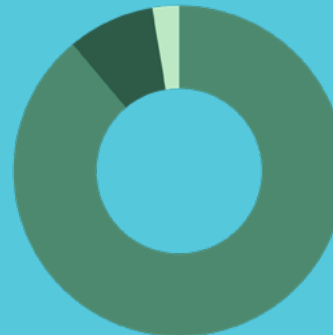
**\$548,898**  
events

**\$18,811**  
churches

**\$259,672**  
Wedgwood Foundation

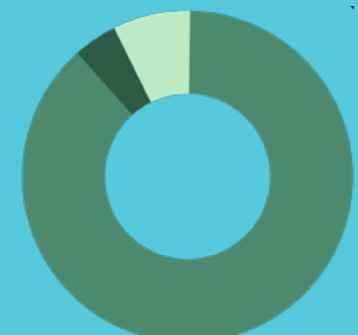
**\$219,000**  
grants

REVENUE: \$24,320,647



- Programming — 88.9%
- Fundraising — 8.5%
- Miscellaneous — 2.6%

EXPENDITURES: \$21,138,170



- Programming — 88.1%
- Fundraising — 4.3%
- Management/General — 7.6%

# PRAY

for Wedgwood Christian Services, the kids and families that rely on our care, and our team.

# VOLUNTEER

There are a variety of ways that you can get involved at Wedgwood! Sharing your unique gifts and talents has a meaningful impact in the lives of kids and families.

# FOLLOW

Wedgwood Christian Services on social media! Like, comment, and share with your friends.



# CONNECT

your friends and family to Wedgwood Christian Services! We'd love to talk to your churches, civic groups, and employers, too!

# GIVE

Your support directly impacts the kids, adults, and families that rely on Wedgwood. Become a Wedgwood Way Maker by setting up monthly recurring donations!

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

[www.wedgwood.org](http://www.wedgwood.org)