



# **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

2009 Annual Report

## About Us

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Community Partnerships is a nonprofit organization serving children with mental health issues to be successful in their homes, schools, and communities.

Our mission is to support children with mental health needs to be successful in their community by providing family-focused services, building community partnerships, and providing mental health education.

We believe the best way to support our mission is through a "wraparound" philosophy, which is a way of providing services and support to children and families using a collaborative team-based approach.

Through our work we honor the following values:

Family Voice	Continuity of Care
Community Partnerships	Collaboration & Teamwork
Community Support	Success & Measurable Outcomes
Cultural Competence	Governance & Strategic Leadership
Individualized Care	Community Education & Outreach
Strengths-Based Approaches	

## Our Programs

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Community Partnerships currently provides the following programs and services:

Children Come First (pg. 3)	Engagement Project (pg. 9)
Family Advocacy & Support (pg. 5)	Case Management Services (pg. 11)
ArtSpeak (pg. 6)	Community Trainings (pg. 11)

## 2009 Accomplishments

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Agency:

- Completed an agency strategic planning process and formed agency committees to oversee and implement the Strategic Plan in partnership with Community Partnerships' Board of Directors.
- Community Partnerships became a licensed fundraising organization.
- Developed a Community Partnerships Facebook page.
- Continued commitment toward staff and agency cultural competency. Four staff members attended the White Privilege Conference and provided an agency-wide in-service on White Privilege.

Children Come First:

- Developed Lead Coordinator position to assist with staff orientation and ongoing support.
- Developed and implemented a measurable CCF Coordinator orientation process.
- Partnered with Dane County Department of Human Services to add two DCDHS staff to an internal institutional placement review committee.
- Full implementation of a new Management Information System.

#### Engagement Project:

- Received a grant from United Way to fund two years of programming.
- Became a United Way of Dane County partner and started the Engagement Project at Memorial High School.

#### ArtSpeak:

- ArtSpeak Exhibit at Hilldale Mall Community Art Gallery during Mental Health Awareness Month in May.
- The ArtSpeak program and its participants were featured in an article in the Capitol Times.

#### Case Management Services:

- Expanded Case Management services beyond Dane County.

## Children Come First

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The Children Come First (CCF) program is a specialty children's mental health managed care program of Dane County Department of Human Services and the State of Wisconsin Medicaid program. Serving children birth to 19 years old, CCF offers comprehensive case management, family advocacy and wraparound services, and operates a provider network of traditional and nontraditional mental health service providers supporting children in the community. The primary mission of CCF is to stabilize the child's mental health, emotional, and behavioral needs in order to prevent or reduce their length of placement in a psychiatric hospital, residential care center or juvenile corrections.

### Enrollment Data

Community Partnerships' Children Come First program served a total of 165 children in 2009 and maintained an average daily population of just over 100 enrollees.

### New Enrollee Demographics

There were 75 new enrollments in 2009.

#### **Age**

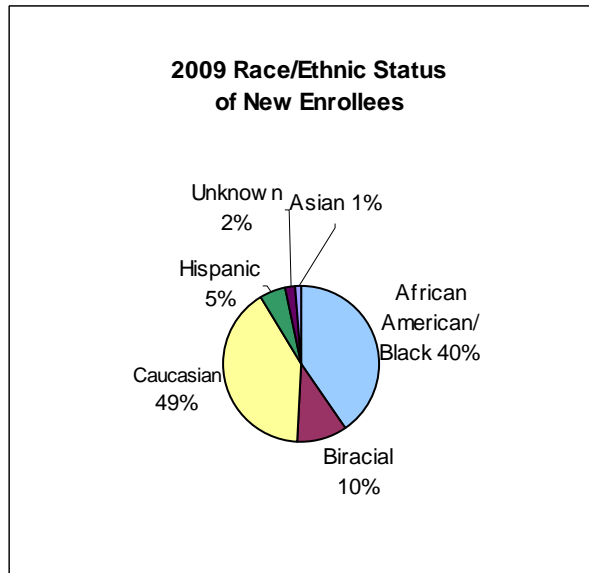
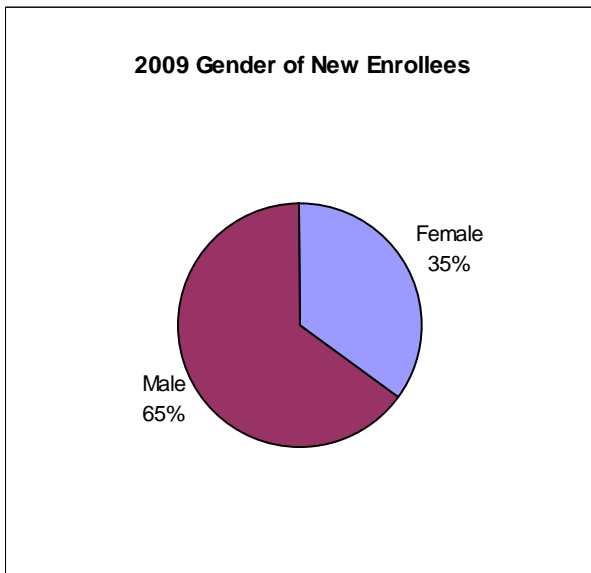
Youth enrolled in 2009 ranged in age from five to seventeen years old, with participants most frequently being age 15 at intake. The overall average of all new enrollees in 2009 was 13.2 years of age.

#### **Gender**

Gender demographics remained fairly consistent in 2009 compared to previous years, with approximately one-third of enrollees served being female (35%), and two-thirds being male (65%).

#### **Racial/Ethnic Status**

The racial and ethnic status of youth enrolled in 2009 was almost evenly split among White, non-Hispanic youth at 41% of the overall population, and African American/Blacks at 40% of the overall population. Slightly over 10% of the youth were bi-racial. Persons of Latino/Hispanic heritage were 5% of all youth served in 2009.



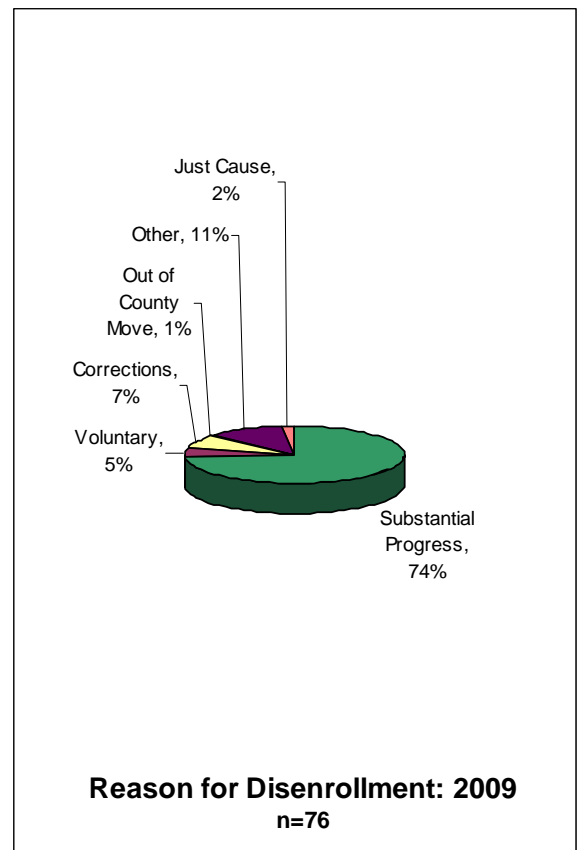
### Disenrollment Information

Community Partnerships' Children Come First program averages 80 disenrollments annually, with 76 youth being disenrolled in 2009.

The average length of enrollment for children who disenrolled in 2009 was 16.2 months.

Reasons for disenrollment vary, and include the following:

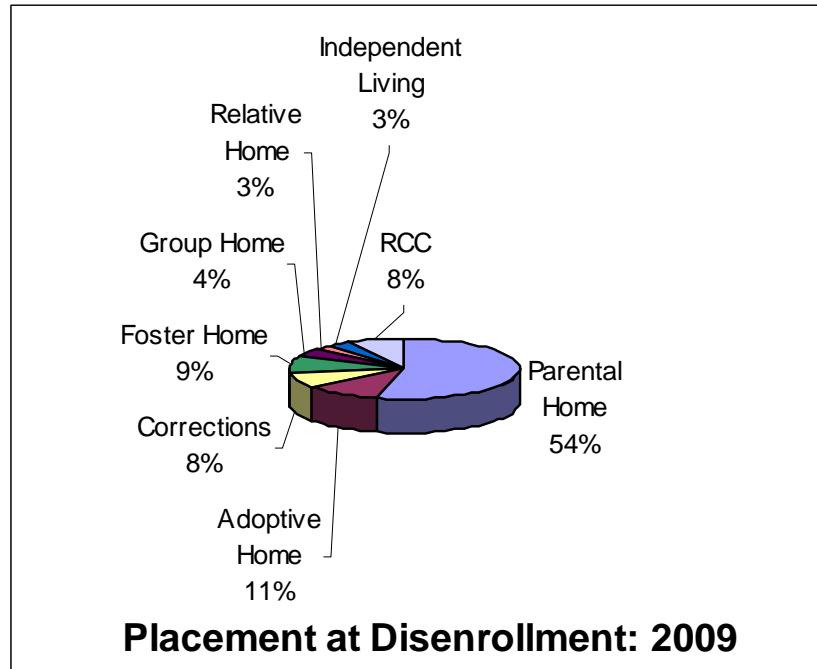
- Enrollee has made **substantial progress** toward his/her treatment goals and is no longer in need of CCF services.
- Enrollee chooses to leave the program prior to treatment goals being met. This is considered a **voluntary disenrollment**.
- **Other reasons** for disenrollment include a corrections placement, residency change, and enrollee becoming over the age of 19 years.
- **Just cause** is a situation where continued enrollment would be harmful to the interests of the enrollee, or when the CCF program can no longer provide the enrollee with services for reasons beyond our control. Examples include: enrollee missing from the community for at least 30 days; parent/guardian, or enrollee repeatedly do not carry out the agreed upon treatment plan; enrollee is unlikely to be available for case management due to extended institutional placement.



As illustrated by the chart above, the primary reason for disenrollment from the Children Come First program in 2009 was due to substantial progress toward treatment goals, which is considered successful completion. Community Partnerships currently averages a 71% successful completion rate over the past 6 years.

The overall goal of the Children Come First program is to support youth so they can successfully remain in their community and out of institutional care. To do this, we strive to support children in their family home or, when necessary, in an appropriate community placement alternative.

We are proud to report that of the 76 youth disenrolled from Community Partnerships' Children Come First program in 2009, 84% were living successfully in their community (68% in a family home) at the time of their disenrollment.



## Family Advocacy & Support

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Community Partnerships provides family advocacy services and support for all CCF enrollees and their families during and after enrollment. Community Partnerships' Family Advocate provides a variety of advocacy functions including family outreach, support with W-2 programming, applying for medical assistance and social security benefits, housing assistance, employment services, house cleaning, budgeting, behavior modification training and transportation.

In addition to one-on-one support, the Family Advocate also facilitates a monthly Parent Meeting, where childcare and transportation are provided for families. At these meetings families share a community meal and parents have an opportunity to share support and wisdom with one another, as well as listen to speakers from a variety of interest areas such as the mental health system, school system, Consumer Credit Counseling, Project Home, Yahara House, etc.

The following were Parent Meeting topics in 2009:

- January: Yearly planning
- February: "How to talk with your kids about sex and reproductive health" with guest speaker Meghan Benson from Planned Parenthood

- March: Juvenile Justice Matters, with guest speakers Jason Allen, CCF Case Manager and Devon Lee, Juvenile Public Defender
- April: Children's Mental Health, with guest speaker Dr. Lauren Bern
- May: Drug and Alcohol Use, with guest speaker Tami Bahr from Connections Counseling
- June: CCF Family Picnic
- July: 59 free or low cost community resources for the family
- August: School Transitions, with guest speaker Robin Gray from The Engagement Project
- September: Self care and stress relief
- October: Parent Appreciation Night
- November: Conservation Tips, with guest speaker Charles Warner from MG&E

There were a total of 127 parent participants and 113 youth participants for the CCF Parent Meetings in 2009.

## ArtSpeak

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ArtSpeak is a one-of-a-kind expressive art program developed and offered at Community Partnerships. ArtSpeak was designed for youth who struggle with mental illness and behavioral challenges, and who oftentimes don't benefit from traditional mental health interventions. This program provides an alternative option of expression through art and art-making.

ArtSpeak programming focuses on expressive arts, using fine arts techniques to facilitate self-expression. The working philosophy of the program is that everyone is an artist. Youth are encouraged to be creative and give voice to their artistic self without judgment or criticism from others. They are instructed to turn off their inner critic and freely use art materials in their own unique styles.

### Youth Projects & Activities

Community Partnerships' expressive arts facilitator, along with student interns, plan and implement all group topics offered through ArtSpeak. Toward the end of each session, each participant is given the opportunity to share with the group, showing his/her art and speaking about the piece. The following were youth ArtSpeak projects in 2009:

- January: New Year collage poster; mirror collage; beginnings journey map making; ink animal drawings; President Obama collage; "How I can help this country" collage or drawing
- February: Illustrated love poems; valentines for family and group members; watercolor paintings; sand dough figures
- March: Book print self portrait; clay pinch pots; homemade bread rolls and rock tumbling; inner fish project
- April: Animal puppets; fairy houses; mosaic mandala
- May: Handmade paper; good mental health collage; sculpy figures; artist reception and goodbye to interns; herbal pillows; shadow boxes
- June: Paper mache figures; gardening and cooking; photography; wishing wands; drawing
- July: Photography; gardening and cooking; junk sculpture assemblage; intention figure assemblage; bas relief plaster casting; herbal pillows; shadow boxes

- August: Photography; gardening and cooking; animal ink drawings; mosaic mandalas; African Adinkra symbols on cloth; ceramic tile trivets; path to peace labyrinth drawings
- September: Social school supply box; farewell to summer ink drawing; peace intention figures
- October: Leaf rubbings; sculpy and wood figure assemblage; face mask painting; paper mache masks; peace intention figures
- November: Room of my own assemblage; homemade story book; clay figures; thankful poster; peace intention figures
- December: Peace intention figures; beaded jewelry; decorated scepters; photography

The ArtSpeak program hosted many field trips in 2009 including numerous photography field trips throughout the spring and summer to Olbrich Gardens, Warner Park and around the Willy Street neighborhood. In November, participants took a field trip to attend an Edgewood College Art Therapy Adapted Art Media Class.

In May of 2009, ArtSpeak artwork was exhibited at the Hilldale Mall Community Art Gallery in honor of Children’s Mental Health Awareness Month.

### Parent Projects & Activities

In addition to youth groups, ArtSpeak also offers expanded programming for parents of children struggling with mental illness. These groups provide parents with the opportunity to express their unique feelings about the challenges and joys they experience while raising their child, the opportunity for creative expression to enhance self esteem, and the chance to connect with other parents in similar situations. The following were parent ArtSpeak projects in 2009:

- February: Journaling; self portrait; collage; healing figures
- March: Inner Fish project; clay pinch pots; cardboard box puppets; self portrait paper dolls
- April: Intention figures assemblage; fairy houses assemblage; mandalas
- May: Collage poster of strengths and hopes; trophy to my inner mother; sculpy beads
- June: Sun celebration collage; inner peace watercolor mandala; wild side intention dolls
- July: Paper mache inner grouch masks; inner beauty plaster masks; inner peace plastic masks
- August: Book print self portraits; sculpy bead making; glass and bead hope catchers
- September: Altered book of my gifts; hang your shingle dream job
- October: Basic watercolor techniques; watercolor landscapes; watercolor animals

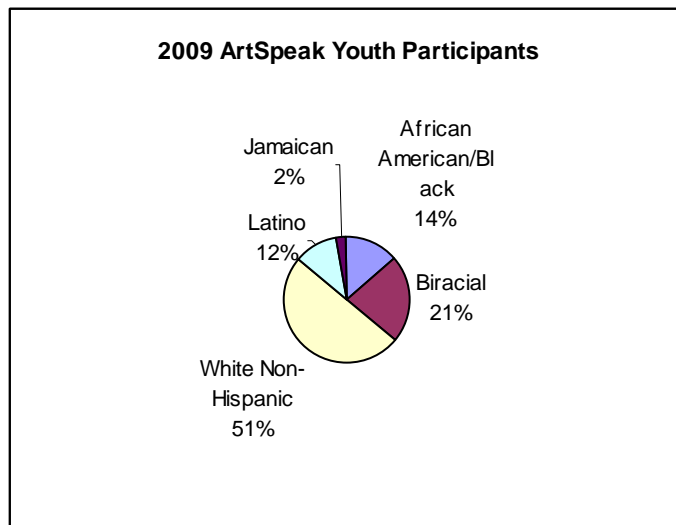
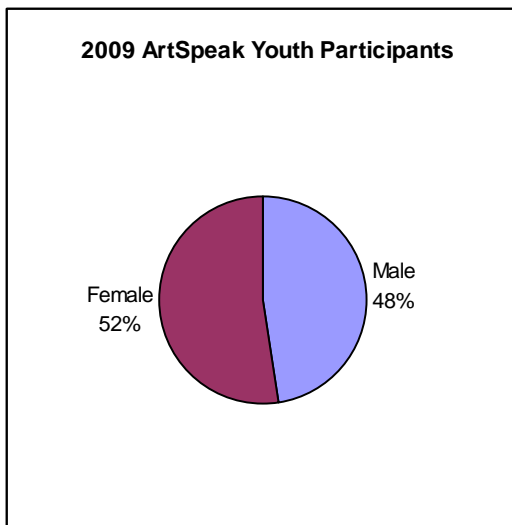
### Program Data & Participant Demographics

There were 78 ArtSpeak groups offered in 2009, with a total of 42 unduplicated youth participants, and 23 unduplicated parent participants.

A total of 345 youth contacts and 156 adult contacts were made in the ArtSpeak program in 2009.

ArtSpeak program groups were planned and implemented with the assistance of mentors, volunteers, and interns. Twenty-one mentors were involved with the program in 2009, and a total of 174 intern hours and 50 volunteer hours were invested.

Demographics of youth participants:



The following is an overview of youth participation by month:

Month	Total # of Youth	# of Groups	Average Attendance
January	34	6	5.7
February	46	6	7.7
March	27	6	4.5
April	40	6	6.7
May	35	6	5.8
June	33	8	4.1
July	30	11	2.7
August	26	10	2.6
September	13	5	2.6
October	25	6	4.2
November	19	5	3.8
December	15	4	3.8

### Participant Feedback

The following are quotes from ArtSpeak youth and parents from the article *Art Imitating Life: Emotionally fragile children find voice in art class*, by Shawn Doherty at Madison.com (operated by Capital Newspapers):

“We make a lot of good stuff here.” -Kyle, youth participant

“At first I didn’t want to come here because I didn’t know anybody, now I think it’s a lot of fun.”  
-Curtis, youth participant

“He is interacting really well with the other kids. It is amazing. Finally he is proud of something he has done.” - Shasta, mom of a participant

“Marie responded to the art class better than any of the other countless therapies they have tried. ‘It’s fascinating to watch,’ her mother says. ‘If she’s had a bad day, Kay doesn’t make her talk. She accepts her for who she is. All the other therapies have talked, talked, talked her to death. Art lets her vent her feelings. It is more powerful than words.’” -excerpt from article



# The Engagement Project

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The Engagement project is a collaborative program between Community Partnerships and the Madison Metropolitan School District, and currently operates at James Madison Memorial High School.

The Engagement Project supports students with emotional and behavioral difficulties to successfully transition from middle school to high school. We work to build bridges between schools, address family needs and concerns, and support students in forming relationships—all to promote empowerment, skill building, positive school engagement, and student attainment of a high school diploma.

## Program Activities

The main components of the Engagement Project include:

- Support Transitioning to High School
- Family Support & Involvement
- Early Intervention
- Preventive Monitoring
- In-School Relationships
- Staff Education

### **Support Transitioning to High School**

Engagement Project students, and their parents, are provided an increased level of support for transitioning from middle school to high school. Community Partnerships' Engagement Project Coordinator acts as a summer contact person for parents and students, and meets with them prior to high school beginning to discuss concerns, class schedules, and to offer private tours of the school building.

### **Family Support & Involvement**

The Engagement Project Coordinator serves as a liaison for parents/caregivers of Engagement Project students, providing monthly parent outreach, support, advocacy, crisis management, transportation, and wraparound services through connection to community resources and supports. The Engagement Project Coordinator provides year-round support to students and families in the program, including during summer, winter, and spring breaks when school is not in session.

### **Early Intervention & Preventative Monitoring**

Student Services Staff at Memorial High School commit to an increased level of support for Engagement Project students, meeting early and often to build positive and personal relationships. Student Services Staff conduct preventative monitoring of Engagement Project students' attendance, grades, and behavior, and provide early support and intervention when the need arises.

### **In-School Relationships**

A mentor match between students and school staff is offered to all Engagement Project student participants, and is a service that approximately 50% choose to participate in. The expectation of an Engagement Project mentor is to have 1-3 purposeful "check-in" contacts with their identified student per week. The Engagement Project recruits school staff to become mentor volunteers,

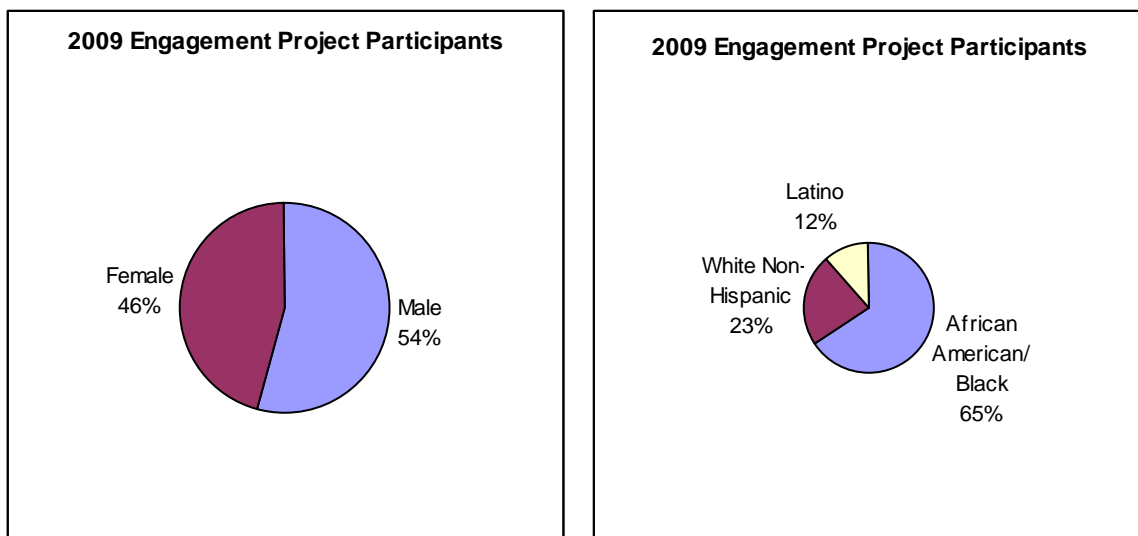
coordinates the student/mentor match, and provides ongoing support through mentor coaching and hosting student/mentor engagement activities.

**Staff Education**

The Engagement Project hosts an annual course for school staff titled "Student Mental Health: Its Impact on School Performance and How Staff Can Help." Memorial High School staff and staff from the middle schools in the Memorial attendance area are targeted to attend, however all Madison School District staff are invited. This course includes factual information about the effects of student mental illness on school functioning, as well as personal stories shared by parent and student panels. Staff who participate in the course are better prepared to engage students with mental health challenges and their parents. Staff who complete this course receive continuing education credit and are invited to volunteer as an Engagement Project mentor in exchange for their course/continuing education credit fee being waived.

**Participant Demographics & Data**

Twenty-six Memorial High School freshman students participated in the Engagement Project in 2009. Of these 26 students, 14 were male and 12 were female. The majority of students served identified themselves as African American (17 students), followed by White/Non-Hispanic students (6), and Latino students (3).



Service unit data was collected in 2009 to reflect the amount of increased support Engagement Project participants received. A “service unit” is defined as a contact between Community Partnerships or Memorial High School staff and a student participant or parent/caregiver. It is also defined as participation by Memorial High School staff or parent in an Engagement Project class, group, or individual training session. The following chart shows the breakdown of services units from 2009:

Type of Contact	# of Service Units Provided
Engagement Project Coordinator	268
Mentoring Program	1,996
Student Support Services	468
Mental Health Course Participation	320

## Case Management Services

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In 2009, Community Partnerships began offering case management services similar to what is offered with the Children Come First program; however, unlike with the Children Come First program youth do not need to be a Dane County resident to be eligible. Community Partnerships is able to provide tailored wraparound case management services for any youth in need of support to be successful in their home, school, and community.

In 2009, this new service began with two children—one referred from Waupaca County and one referred by Milwaukee County.

Community Partnerships provided both purchasers with intensive wraparound case management services to support the transition of these children from an institutional setting to a family placement. We connected the child and family with community mental health providers, assisted with their transition to the public school system, and facilitated regular meetings with those connected with the child to ensure a smooth and successful transition across all areas. As a result, the child from Waupaca County was successfully transitioned to the home of an adult sibling, and the child from Milwaukee County was successfully transitioned to his mother's home.

## Staff Development & Community Trainings

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Community Partnerships provides an in-house training curriculum to all direct care staff to adequately prepare them to carry out the functions of their job. Staff receive monthly trainings on a variety of topics including all aspects of care coordination, child welfare reporting, juvenile justice, mental health, substance use and abuse, special education, effective teaming, cultural competency, trauma, crisis management, alternative intervention strategies, etc. Community Partnerships often invites other system partners such as Provider Network agencies, Dane County Department of Human Services, juvenile court, and school personnel to attend relevant monthly trainings.

The following were staff development and training topics in 2009:

January:	Juvenile Delinquency
March:	Stress Relief; Briarpatch Services; Transition Services
April:	Crisis Prevention and Intervention
May:	Youth Subcultures in Dane County
June:	Staff Development
August:	Effective Use of Alternative Care
September:	Experiential/Expressive Therapies in Substance Abuse Treatment; Effective Use of Alternate Care
October:	White Privilege

In addition to in-house trainings, Community Partnerships staff have also provided community trainings for other groups and organizations. Community Partnerships staff presented a training on “Facilitating Child & Family Teams” at the state-level Children Come First Conference, and did a presentation on “Juvenile Justice Matters” for parents attending a monthly CCF Parent Meeting.

# Community Partnerships' Provider Network

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Advanced Learning Concepts, LLC  
Alternatives in Psychological Consultation  
Anu Family Services  
Associates in Psychotherapy  
Avalon Mentoring  
Badger Cab Company, Inc.  
Baraboo Psychological Services, Inc.  
Benson, Glenis  
Cambridge Counseling Clinic  
Capitol Associates, LLC  
Children's Service Society of WI  
Clinicare Corporation  
Common Threads  
Community Care Resources  
Competitive Edge  
Connections Counseling  
Counseling and Psychology Assoc. of Poynette & Monona  
Counseling and Psychotherapy Services  
Counseling Resources  
Counseling Solutions  
Crossroads Counseling Center  
Crossroads Youth Mentoring & Support Services  
Dane County Juvenile Court Program  
Dean Medical Center  
Disability Rights Wisconsin  
Doria LLC  
Eclipse Counseling  
El Elyon Properties LLC  
Emergency Medicine Assoc. of Madison  
Family & Children's Center  
Family Resource Network  
Family Service Madison, Inc.  
Family Therapy Center of Madison  
Forensic Psychology Services  
Foundations Counseling Center, LLC  
Genesis Counseling Service Ltd.  
Gretchen Rose Brown  
Group Health Cooperative  
Hancock Center for Movement Arts  
Imagine a Child's Capacity  
Innervisions Counseling & Consulting Center  
Integral Psychology Center  
Integrated Development Services  
Interim Health Center Madison  
Israelstam, Dr. David  
Janelle Allen  
Juvenile Assessment Treatment Center  
Journey Counseling, LLC  
Kelling, Nance  
Lad Lake, Inc  
Lake City Counseling, LLC  
Lake Monona Psychotherapy and Recovery Center  
Leazer, Lynn  
Linden, Karen  
Living Well Counseling  
Madison Psychiatric and Psychological Services  
Madison Psychiatric Associates, Ltd  
Madison Psychotherapy Center  
Madison Taxi  
Marriage & Family Solutions, LLC  
Mendez, Sebastian  
Mendota Mental Health Institute  
Mental Health Center of Dane County  
Mental Health Resources  
Mental Health Solutions  
Mentoring Positives  
Mentoring Works!  
Mercy Health Systems  
Meriter Hospital  
Meriter Medical Group  
Midwest Center for Human Services, LLP  
Midwest Center for Psychotherapy & Sex Therapy  
Milwaukee Academy-Clinicare  
Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division  
Moontree Psychotherapy Center  
New Vision Wilderness  
Norris, Inc  
Northern Wisconsin Center  
Northstar Counseling Center  
Oceanhawk Counseling Alternatives, LLC  
Oconomowoc Community Services  
Oconomowoc Development Training Center  
Operation Fresh Start, Inc.  
Oregon Mental Health Services  
Orion Family Services  
Partners for Successful Living  
Partners in Foster Care  
Personal Re"sorcerer"  
Phoenix Counseling  
Phredum Productions  
Prairie Counseling Services  
Psychiatric Services  
Psychology Center  
Psychology Clinic, Inc.  
R&R Mentoring  
Rainbow Project, Inc.  
Regent Mental Health Group  
REM Wisconsin, Inc.

Renew Counseling  
 Respite Care Center  
 Robinson, Toya  
 Rock River Counseling, LLC  
 Rosecrance, Inc.  
 Shiraishi, Naomi  
 St. Charles, Inc.  
 Stoughton Family Counseling Services  
 Sun Prairie Psychological Services  
 Tellurian UCAN, Inc.  
 Therapeutic Associates  
 Thomas & Associates

Turn Around Teen  
 University Health Care, Inc.  
 Uplands Counseling Associates  
 UW-AADAIP  
 UW Hospital & Clinics  
 Van Go Taxi, LLC  
 Wellness Unlimited  
 WI Early Autism Project  
 Winnebago Mental Health Center  
 Woodview Counseling Center, LLC  
 Yoga for Children & Families, Inc.  
 Youth Services of Southern WI

## Statement of Financial Position

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Assets	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Cash	\$ 836,286
Accounts Receivable	4,923
Prepaid Expenses	29,050
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 870,259</b>
<b>EQUIPMENT, NET</b>	<b>5,807</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 876,066</b>
Liabilities & Net Assets	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 405,097
Accrued Payroll & Related Expenses	39,481
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 444,578</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>431,488</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 876,066</b>

## 2009 Donors & Supporters

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Community Partnerships thanks our 2009 supporters:

### Donors

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 Tex Tubb's Taco Palace  
 Ultimate Spa and Salon  
 Woodman's Food Market  
 Willy Street Co-op

**Grants**

In 2009, the ArtSpeak program received a \$2,300 grant from the Madison Rotary Foundation which was used to purchase program materials and provide transportation for participants.

**2009 Staff Organizational Chart**

