Foster Families
Navigation & Resource Center

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

989-266-7020
Fosterfamiliesnrc.org
1501 W. Thomas St.,
Bay City, MI 48706

Table of Contents

Letter from Leadership	3
Mission and Vision	4
Highlights of the Year	5
Programs	6
Impact Statistics	7
Financial Summary	8
Volunteer and Donor Recognition	9
Looking Ahead and Closing	10

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on 2025, I do so with deep gratitude and confidence in what we are building together. This year represented both growth and stability for Foster Families Navigation & Resource Center—a season where our reach expanded while our foundation, systems, and community grew stronger than ever. None of this would be possible without the generosity, trust, and partnership of those who continue to believe in this mission.

2025 was a record-setting year in both the number of individuals served and the support received to sustain and strengthen this work. While those milestones matter, what stands out most are the moments that revealed the deeper impact behind the numbers. One such moment came when a child welfare worker shared that the NRC has changed the way they do child welfare. In that moment, I was reminded that our work does not exist in isolation. The support we provide to families, the encouragement we offer to professionals, and the community we continue to build are all deeply connected—and together, they are shaping how care is delivered across the system.

We know this work is a long journey, and the vision we hold will take years to fully realize—but what we are doing today is already shaping what's possible tomorrow. Each day, we have the opportunity to show up and be part of something bigger than ourselves, and it is a privilege to play even a small role in the good that is unfolding for children and families across our communities.

To every donor, volunteer, partner, advocate, and supporter who has stood alongside us, thank you for walking this journey with such generosity and belief. Your support made this year possible and helped position the NRC as a trusted, steady presence within both families' lives and the broader child welfare system. As we look ahead, I am hopeful, anchored, and deeply committed to continuing this work together—confident that what we are building will leave a lasting impact for years to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Sarah Humerickhouse

Sarah Humerickhouse
Founder | Executive Director

Mission

At Foster Families Navigation & Resource Center, we are committed to Equipping foster, adoptive, and kinship families with essential resources and guidance to navigate the system and thrive.

Vision

We envision a future where every child is matched with a home that meets their unique needs. By equipping families, connecting communities, and promoting consistent care, we're transforming foster care, so no child falls through the cracks.

Higher Purpose

Rooted in the belief that every person is created in the image of God, we serve with compassion and purpose, reflecting the love of Jesus through every connection.

Annual Report Purpose

In developing the Foster Families Navigation and Resource Center's annual report, we aim to ensure transparency and accountability, showing donors and the community how resources are utilized. This report will strengthen engagement, attract new donors, support grant opportunities, and highlight successful partnerships. By showcasing volunteer contributions, we aim to retain and recruit volunteers to further our mission.

Carrying Fear—Finding Hope

What if you had to leave everything behind tonight? That was the reality for brothers Marcus (12) and Eli (14). They arrived suddenly, with hollow eyes, threadbare clothes, and shoes falling apart—carrying almost nothing but fear and uncertainty. Like so many children entering foster care, their most basic needs were unmet, and the trauma of upheaval was written all over them.

Through the support of the Foster Families NRC, that story began to change. Because of generous donors and community partners, Marcus and Eli were immediately welcomed with clean clothes that fit, sturdy shoes, and comfort items they could call their own. These simple but powerful resources sent a clear message in a moment of crisis: you are seen, you matter, and you are safe.

Because of you, Marcus and Eli experienced dignity and comfort when they needed it most. With their immediate needs met, they were able to begin settling into their new environment with a sense of stability and hope. Your generosity didn't just provide clothing—it restored confidence, eased fear, and helped two brothers take their first steps toward healing and a brighter future.

When Love Outlives Expectations

When Lauren said yes to welcoming baby Amelia into her family, doctors believed Amelia had only days to live. The medical team could not fully explain her condition or predict what caring for such a medically fragile child would require. Lauren didn't have answers either—but she knew one thing for certain: Amelia deserved to be loved, held, and treated with the utmost care for however long she had.

And then something remarkable happened.

Amelia exceeded every expectation. Days turned into weeks, weeks into months—and she continued to grow. With that growth came increasing medical needs: specialized equipment, braces, therapies, frequent doctor appointments, and surgeries. While insurance helped cover some of the basics, many of the supports Amelia needed to not just survive, but thrive, fell outside its reach. That's when Lauren found Foster Families NRC.

By coming alongside Lauren and her family, Foster Families NRC helped cover critical gaps—providing assistance with equipment insurance wouldn't cover, and ensuring Amelia had what she needed to be fully part of her family's life. But the support didn't stop there. Foster Families NRC also brought compassion: a listening ear, a steady presence, a shoulder to cry on, and a team of cheerleaders committed to loving Amelia every step of the way.

Because of you, Amelia isn't just surviving—she is growing, surrounded by care, dignity, and unconditional love. And Lauren isn't walking this journey alone. However many days Amelia has, they are filled with support, hope, and a community that shows up—again and again.

Our Services

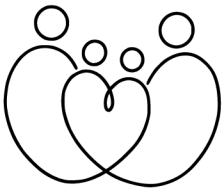
FFNRC supports foster, kinship, and adoptive families through practical resources, training, and community connection. We also provide trauma-informed spaces that support children and local child welfare professionals across our region—helping families experience stability, dignity, and hope.

The Foster Families Resource Boutique is a welcoming, no-cost space supporting foster, kinship, and adoptive families, as well as child welfare workers. Families can shop for new and gently used essentials such as clothing, shoes, school supplies, hygiene items, baby gear, bedding, and more—helping meet everyday needs with dignity.

In addition to our Bay City location, we operate three satellite outposts in surrounding counties to expand access and reach.

FFNRC hosts several **Trainings** to help equip foster, kinship, and adoptive families with practical tools and support. Sessions are led by experienced professionals and include topics such as trauma-informed care, healthy attachment, behavior management, adoption, and community resources. Trainings are offered in person and online.

Foster Family Fellowships are held throughout the year to build connection and encouragement among foster, kinship, and adoptive families. These gatherings provide food, fun activities, and meaningful relationships in a relaxed and welcoming environment



PALS is a card-writing program that brings encouragement and hope to children and teens in residential care. Volunteers send handwritten cards reminding youth they are seen, valued, and supported.

Haven 127 is a trauma-informed space designed to provide comfort and calm for children during emergency removals. With soothing furnishings and sensory tools, it helps children feel safe while awaiting placement.

Our Parenting Time Space is a warm, home-like setting for supervised visits between parents and children. The space includes comfortable seating, soft lighting, and amenities such as a refrigerator and microwave—supporting safe and meaningful family connection.

Families Supported

$399,000 in Resources Provided to Families in 2025

Requests Received: 798	Parenting Time: 16.5 hours
Training Hours provided: 207	Haven 127 Uses 5
Fellowships Hosted: 4	Counties Served: 9

Individuals Served

almost

1800

Families identified in FFNRC Database

194

Volunteer Hours

600+

Community Impact Partners

11

In-Kind Donations

$162,615

Worth of Essential Items

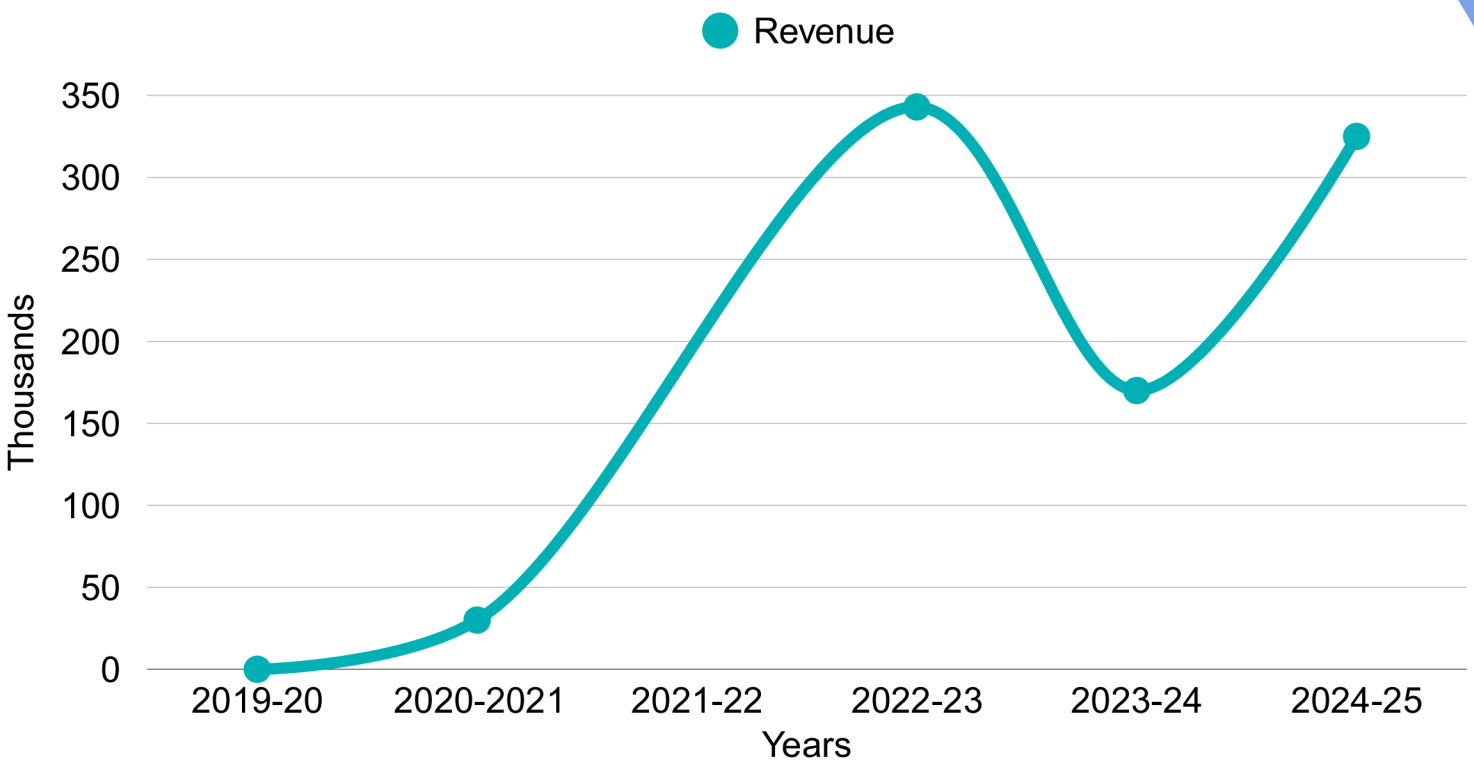
Monthly Impact Circle

9

Revenue (In Thousands)

We experienced significant growth this year with the our in-kind donations for the FFNRC Resource Boutique remaining our largest operation.

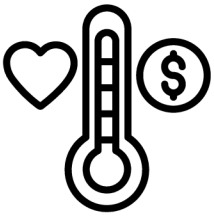
The FFNRC's total revenue and the revenue of each line of business are represented below.



$112,320.88
Monetary Donations

$131,606.90
Grants

$1,646.97
Interest & Investments



$80,747.63
Fundraisers

Cost of Operations

Coming Soon....

–%	–%	–%	–%
WAGES	OPERATIONS	PROGRAMS	FUNDRAISING

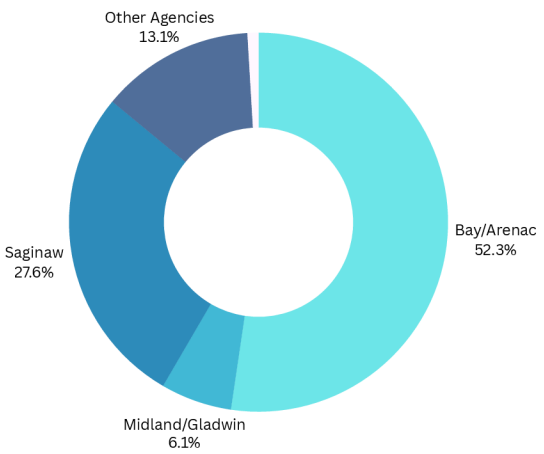
2024-2025 Comparison

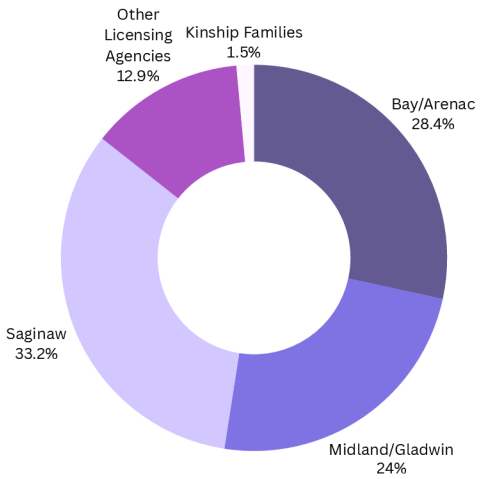
2024 Families per licensing agency

Bay/Arenac - 112
Midland/Gladwin - 13
Saginaw - 59
Other Agencies - 28
Kinship - 2

Other Important Stats

Resource Requests Completed - 615
# of individuals served 1,276
Averaging 2.07 people per request



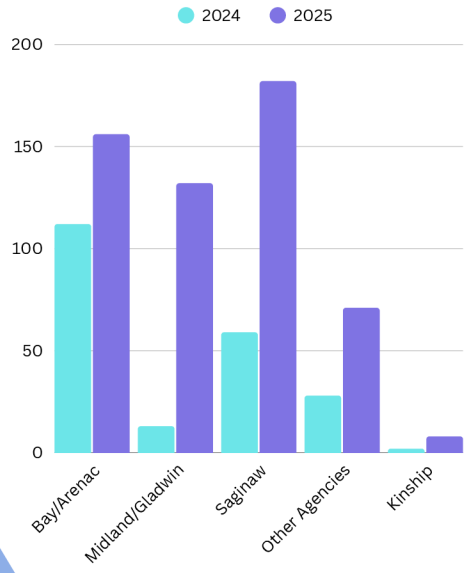


2025 Families per licensing agency

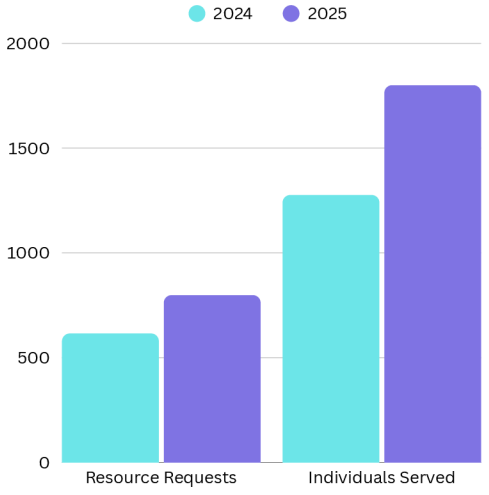
Bay/Arenac - 156
Midland/Gladwin - 132
Saginaw - 182
Other Agencies - 71
Kinship - 8

Other Important Stats

Resource Requests Completed - 798
# of individuals served - 1,800
Averaging 2.25 people per request



Side By Side Comparison of Licensing Agencies



Other Important Stats

Volunteer Impact

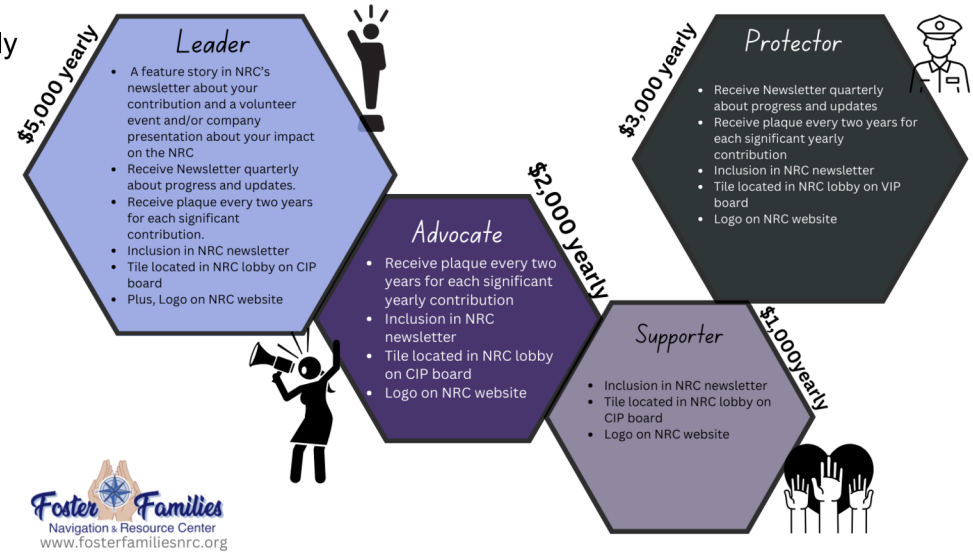
Volunteers are the heart of the Foster Families Navigation and Resource Center. Their generosity, compassion, and time make our mission possible. Whether distributing essentials, offering mentorship, or bringing joy to community events, our volunteers create nurturing spaces where foster children and families feel seen, supported, and safe. They are often found raising awareness, rallying resources, and standing up for the needs of our foster care community. From administrative work to sharing professional expertise, their impact is immeasurable. Most importantly, their unwavering dedication brings consistency, care, and hope to the lives we touch. We are profoundly grateful for every volunteer! Their presence fuels our purpose and sustains our vision for a stronger, more compassionate future.

Volunteer Recognition

This year, a dedicated group of volunteer women went above and beyond to support our work—inviting friends, joining forces, and building a strong weekly volunteer team. They consistently arrive in groups of 2 to 6 (and sometimes more), tackling essential behind-the-scenes projects that staff simply don't have the capacity to complete. From sorting donations and managing laundry to preparing countless envelopes, their productivity is unmatched—we can hardly keep up with the pace they set. Just as meaningful as the work they accomplish is the spirit they bring: their workspace is filled with laughter, energy, and a warmth that draws others in. They work incredibly hard, welcome new volunteers with ease, and have helped foster a sense of community that extends even beyond their shift—often heading to lunch together afterward. Their commitment, joy, and teamwork have made a lasting impact on our organization this year.

Community Impact Sponsors for 2025

- Leader
  - Saginaw UA Local 85
  - New Life Church Saginaw
  - Thrivent- Paul Gaiser Family
  - Englehardt Family
- Protector
  - Dobis Landscaping
  - Dean Family
  - Back Orchard Barn
- Advocate
  - Humerickhouse Family
  - St. Jude Thaddeaus
- Supporter
  - Ramseyer Family
  - Team One CU



Looking Ahead:

As I look ahead to 2026, I am filled with joy and genuine excitement for what lies ahead. We are stepping into this next year with strong momentum from 2025 and a deep commitment to continuing the community we have built together—one rooted in faith, compassion, and the belief that families should never have to walk this journey alone. This coming year will be a time of intentional building as we strengthen our programs, deepen our relationships, and remain focused on the heart behind why we do this work.

I am especially encouraged by the progress happening behind the scenes to make support easier and more accessible for the families we serve. We have been thoughtfully refining our technology and systems to simplify how families ask for and receive support, removing unnecessary barriers and creating a more seamless experience during moments when help is needed most. Alongside these improvements, we will continue developing adoption preservation trainings and wraparound support for families after adoption, ensuring they remain connected, supported, and equipped for the long term. I am deeply hopeful for what's ahead and grateful to continue this work alongside such a dedicated and generous community.

Closing:
As I reflect on 2025, my heart is full of gratitude for what we have accomplished together. This year marked our biggest year yet—serving more children and families than ever before, welcoming new families into our community, and experiencing incredible generosity from those who believe in this mission. None of this would be possible without the supporters, partners, volunteers, and foster and adoptive families who continue to place their trust in this work.

In 2025, we also saw meaningful confirmation that this model of care is making a difference beyond individual families. Being recognized as a key partner in decreasing workforce turnover within the Bay Arenac DHHS office and having the opportunity to host regional and state leadership, including Director Starling, affirmed the impact of leading with compassion, collaboration, and faith. These moments reminded us that when families and professionals are supported well, the entire child welfare system becomes stronger.

Thank you for walking alongside us, believing in what we are building, and choosing to invest in hope, dignity, and lasting change. As we move forward, I remain deeply encouraged by what we can continue to do together and honored to lead this work into the next year.

Sarah