To Our Valued Community:

As we look back on 2018, we are in awe and filled with gratitude for what you - our donors, community partners, families, and volunteers - have come together to accomplish. Our capacity to engage and walk alongside children and families experiencing foster care, as well as adoptees and their birth and adoptive families, has increased significantly in 2018. Thanks to you:

- We’ve dramatically expanded our ability to help keep kids connected to their families of origin at all stages of their foster care or adoptee experience.
- We’ve made BIG investments in the sustainability of our work to ensure kids are cared for far into the future!
- We’ve served more children than ever before!

We are honored to have done all this - and much more - in partnership with you, our community. Please join us in celebrating 2018 and looking ahead with hope and energy to ensure children and families get the love, support, and lifelong commitment they deserve for years to come.

With Gratitude,

John Morse
CEO

Robin Rothe
Board President

Keeping Kids Connected

In 2018, we committed to maintaining and building family relationships while children are in care in our programs:

Emergency Sanctuary Program

In 2018, our Emergency Sanctuaries focused on keeping kids connected to their families during their first days in care. Through phone calls and in-person visits, as well as participating in Family Team Decision Meetings, we have seen first-hand how maintaining relationships relieves anxiety and eases difficult transitions when children first enter foster care.

Post-Adoption Program

For many adoptive parents, openness with their adopted child’s birth/first family is difficult. The Family Support Model, developed by Amara’s Director of Post-Adoption, Angela Tucker, in collaboration with Dr. JaeRan Kim (University of Washington Tacoma), provides a roadmap for relationship building between adoptive and birth families and helps them thrive in an open relationship. In 2018, we used this model to directly support 221 families!

Foster Care Services

Our foster families help kids stay connected to their families by providing transportation to family visits, sharing photo albums and care notes, and building relationships with the families of children they are caring for. In 2018, we also started Family Time Services which provides supervision for family visits. This program grew rapidly, with 2 new staff members and averaging 35 visits per month for children in foster care and their families.
BIG NEWS

An Opportunity to Dream Big with Kids & Families in Pierce County

In 2018, Amara purchased a 29-acre property in Pierce County. With this expansive, undeveloped property, there is immense potential to transform the way we deliver foster care – to dream bigger than we ever have before for kids and families in our Pierce County community.

We feel a deep responsibility to the children and families in this community – where 1500 children are currently in foster care - to use this property to find solutions to together. We're embarking on a community engagement process throughout 2019 - to convene, listen, learn, and develop a plan of action for our new plot of land.

Above: Community leaders come together to celebrate the launch of a community engagement process to develop a shared vision for our new property.

Harnish Building is Constructed Thanks to Our Generous Supporters!

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Harnish Foundation, Employees' Community Fund of Boeing, and the ongoing support of our community, we unveiled Harnish Building, a brand-new building on our Seattle campus that is home to Grandese's Place, our King County Emergency Sanctuary.

Designed with children at the center, our Emergency Sanctuary now has quick access to Amara's resources and staff, improved security, and a lovely playground right outside the front door. We broke ground in April 2018, watched with great excitement as the building was constructed over the year and welcomed children in April 2019.

BECOMING A FOSTER FAMILY WITH AMARA

Choosing to become a foster parent is the first step in a profound journey. At Amara, that journey begins well before a child becomes involved – it begins with the way we prepare our families during the foster care licensing process.

Our goal is to move families through this process in a way that reduces barriers and equips them to parent any child placed in their home. This involves taking training workshops such as de-escalation, transracial caregiving, and access to our parent support groups. Depending on the family and their circumstance, this could also mean seeking out counseling or additional learning opportunities to best prepare them for the challenges of foster parenting. And always, our focus is on building a close and supportive relationship between the family and their Foster Care Specialist, who will support and guide them through all aspects of their foster care journey.

Hear about one Amara foster family’s relationship with their Foster Care Specialist in this podcast!

Although families are eager to move quickly through the licensing process, we have seen time and again that careful preparation makes all the difference in how a family weathers the challenges of foster care. By building a strong foundation and offering ongoing, consistent support we help ensure that children's well-being remains at the center for Amara families!

Read about one family's experience with Amara here: https://thenib.com/fostercare
**DONORS MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE**

**Emergency Sanctuaries keep siblings together!** Of the 444 children who stayed at our Sanctuary in 2018, 68% came with a sibling from whom they might otherwise have been separated.

**Foster Families care for more children than ever!** Amara foster families provided 225 children with a warm and loving place to lay their heads for 47,899 nights in 2018 - our highest number in the last eight years.

**Adoptees and their families receive support!** Our Post-Adoption program offered mentorship, search & reunion help, and resources for 203 adoptees, 153 birth parents, and 445 adoptive families total in 2018!

**BY THE NUMBERS:**

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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Over $5k</td>
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION** as at 12/31/18

**ASSETS**

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**LIABILITIES**

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**NET ASSETS**

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**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**

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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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**OUR LEADERSHIP** as of 12/31/18

**Pierce County Advisory Council**

Dan Absher, Chair  
Frank Cuthbertson  
Bruce Dammeyer  
Fahren Johnson  
Michael Mirra  
Lyle Quasim  
Scott Selden  
Victoria Woodards  
Dee Wilson

**King County Advisory Council**

Alan Frazier, Chair  
Dean Allen  
Joel Benoliel  
Justice Bobbe J. Bridge (ret.)  
Brad Brown  
Phyllis Campbell  
Jean Enersen  
Steve Graham  
Fred Jarrett  
Robert Moser  
Deanna Oppenheimer  
Stewart Parker  
Representative Eric Pettigrew  
Paul L. Wyckoff

**African American Advisory Council**

LaShaun Bellamy  
CJ Dancer  
Nora Duffy  
NaKeesa Frazier-Jennings  
Johnathan Hemphill  
Zynovia Hetherington  
Mahealani Kahiliike  
Carla Sautler  
Moniquetra Slater

**Amara** works to ensure that every child in foster care has the love and support of a committed family – as quickly as possible and for as long as each child needs.

AmaraPutsKidsFirst.org

Seattle: (206) 260-1700 • Tacoma: (253) 444-0121