

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Serving Youth & Families

M·H·Y

FAMILY SERVICES

Since 1878



Lisa Schiller Bids Farewell

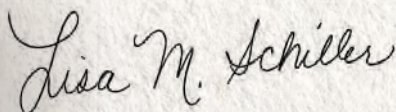
I'm honored and humbled to have served MHY Family Services and Mars Home for Youth Foundation for nearly 12 years. It's hard to believe this will be my final annual report and communication with you. The accomplishments of our MHY team have been nothing short of remarkable, especially in supporting the mental-health recovery of thousands of children, teens, and families, both in schools and throughout the community.

In the midst of our day-to-day work, it's easy to overlook the impact we're making. But, reflecting on these past 12 years, it's clear that we – our MHY team, boards, donors, and volunteers – have been part of a transformative chapter in MHY's history. Once best known as an orphanage – and then its residential treatment programs – MHY Family Services has since evolved significantly. Building on a 20-year foundation of in-home behavioral-health treatment, including Multisystemic Therapy, we've expanded our services to include Psychiatric and Problem/Risky Sexual Behavior Adaptions to better serve our community.

Over the past decade, MHY Family Services has experienced remarkable growth, more than doubling in size. Community Services has expanded over three times, while Longmore Academy has grown more than four times. We are excited to continue to build on this momentum, with plans to expand our Community Services in Western Pennsylvania, including Cameron and Elk Counties, and to broaden our reach in Eastern Pennsylvania to cover Carbon, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne Counties.

I am deeply honored and humbled to have been part of MHY's incredible journey and the profound success we've had on improving the lives of the individuals and families we serve. I encourage you – our dedicated and generous donors and volunteers – to continue your invaluable support for MHY and its new CEO, who will begin their tenure early in 2025.

With sincere gratitude
and admiration,



Lisa M. Schiller
Executive Director



TUESDAYS WITH LISA

Nearly every Tuesday at 9 a.m. for the last four years, I have held a Zoom meeting with Lisa Schiller.

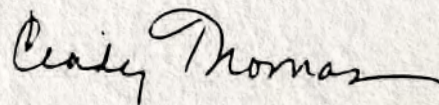
Our discussions typically begin with the question, "What's on your list?" as we address a range of important matters concerning MHY, the board, or the community. While we generally remain focused on these topics, there are times when the conversation naturally shifts to personal matters such as family, retirement and vacations.

My Tuesdays with Lisa will be ending soon. At the end of December, Lisa is retiring from MHY to begin the exciting next chapter of life – one that we hope is filled with family, friends and all things that bring her happiness.

Throughout our time together at MHY, Lisa and I have witnessed the organization grow and expand, all while navigating significant challenges, including closures and COVID-19 protocols. Most importantly, we have always asked ourselves whether we are effectively meeting the needs of children and their families.

While the MHY of 2024 is dramatically different than 2020, it's also true that the MHY of 2020 was dramatically different than in 2013 – the year Lisa began her tenure as executive director, and I started my first term on the board. They say change is the only constant in life, and a look back at the nearly 150 years of MHY proves that statement true. The organization has kept itself relevant by staying responsive and adapting its programs to meet the evolving needs of the community.

As we send Lisa off to what we all hope is a long and joyful retirement, I invite you, the MHY community, to join the board, the trustees and me in thanking Lisa for her vision, courage, compassion and commitment to MHY for nearly 12 years. She has undoubtedly left the organization better than she found it.



Cindy Thomas
President, MHY Board of Directors, 2020-24

MHY Family Services

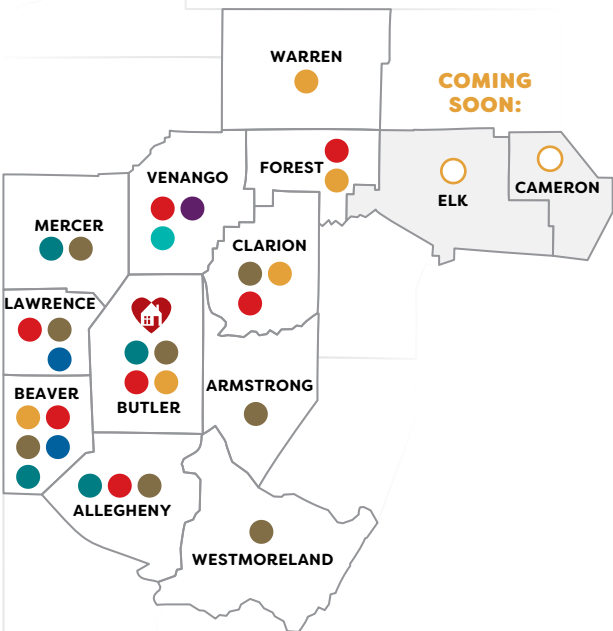


With a history spanning 146 years, MHY Family Services is a cornerstone provider of mental and behavioral health and individualized education in Western Pennsylvania. At MHY, we offer a range of impactful services from a trauma-informed perspective, including evidence-based in-home and community mental health treatment, therapeutic education, and in-school counseling and support, all to keep adolescents and their families united.

Through innovative in-home treatment programs like Multisystemic Therapy – Psychiatric Care (MST-Psych) and a licensed private academic school catering to students in 1st-12th grade, **MHY is creating a world where all children have access to mental health services and individualized education, leveraging strengths to help children reach their full potential.** We believe that every family deserves the opportunity to have their child grow up healthy, happy, and able to become a productive community member.

MHY’s in-school counseling and support offers students in select school districts access to licensed therapists who work collaboratively with school staff and families to provide individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and emotional support. These services are designed to help students overcome obstacles and improve their coping skills, which allows for great academic success and overall well-being.

WHERE MHY SERVES



- MST-Standard
- MST-Psych
- MST-Problem Sexual Behavior
- School-Based Therapy
- High Fidelity Wraparound
- Intensive Aftercare and Monitoring
- Longmore Academy Students’ Home Counties



OUR IMPACT	
<p>In the 2023-2024 period, MHY positively impacted the lives of</p> <p>813</p> <p>children and families by delivering vital support through community services, in-home and school-based treatment programs, and Longmore Academy.</p>	
<p>Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Standard</p> <p>164</p> <p>children and families</p>	<p>MST Psychiatric Care (MST-Psych)</p> <p>101</p> <p>children and families</p>
<p>MST Problem & Risky Sexual Behavior (MST-PSB)</p> <p>13</p> <p>children and families</p>	<p>Longmore Academy</p> <p>180</p> <p>students</p>
<p>Intensive Aftercare and Monitoring</p> <p>15</p>	<p>High Fidelity Wraparound</p> <p>63</p>
<p>School-Based Behavioral Health Program in Lakeview, Slippery Rock, and Sto-Rox School Districts and Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School</p> <p>277</p> <p>students in 2023-24</p> <p><i>*not including students served through crisis service</i></p>	

Leading with Courage

As we continue to face stigma around mental health, it often takes immense courage and bravery for adolescents and families to seek help and embrace change while facing mental health challenges head-on.

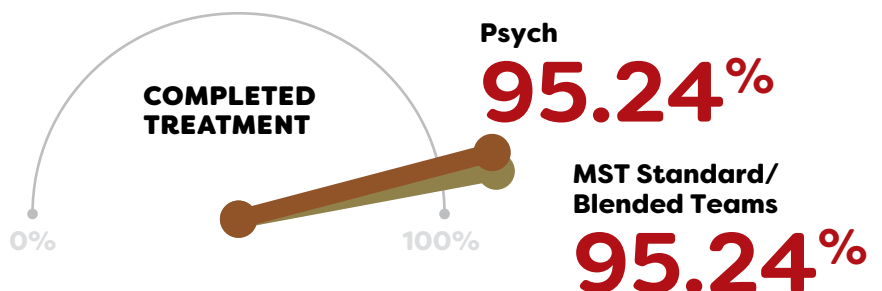
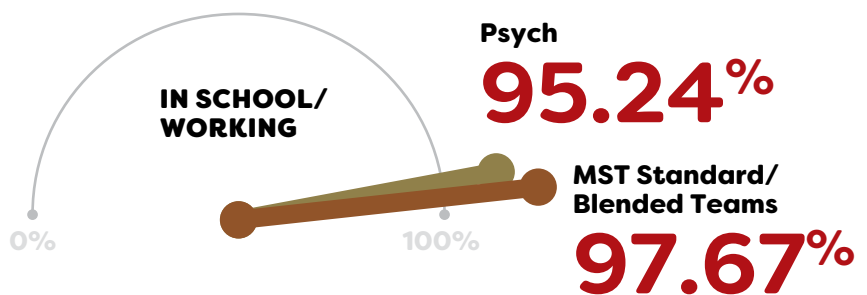
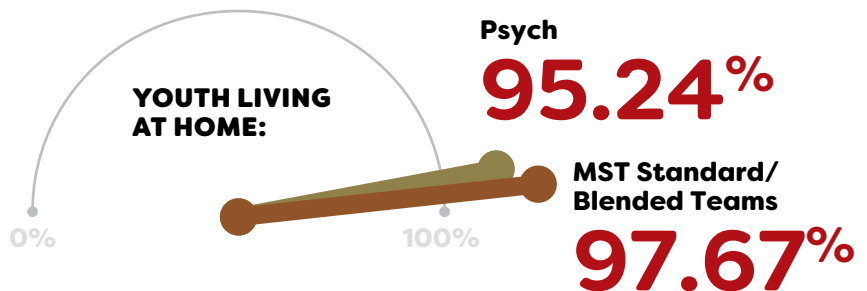
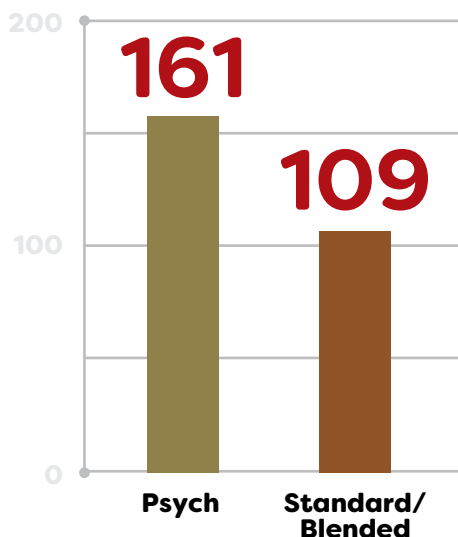
At MHY, we are committed to walking alongside children, teens, and their families with compassion and strength, empowering them to overcome obstacles and build a brighter future – and there’s no program where that journey is more important than our **Multisystemic Therapy-Psychiatric Care (MST-Psych)** program.

A scientifically proven program for children at risk of out-of-home placement due to serious

psychiatric and behavioral problems, MST-Psych transforms lives and restores family stability within the comfort of home. MHY provides MST-Psych for children ages 9-17 in five counties: Beaver, Butler, Clarion, Forest, and Warren, with plans to soon expand into Cameron and Elk counties. In addition, we are expanding our Community Services programs to Eastern Pennsylvania, where we will introduce our evidence-based, transformative treatment to youth and families in Wayne, Pike, Monroe, and Carbon counties.



AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS IN MST PROGRAM:





This summer, our Community Services teams enjoyed a Wellness Retreat on campus, focused on self-care and team bonding. Special thanks to the Passavant Hospital Foundation for making this day possible!



When asked about the positive changes he observed in his son as a result of the MST program, a dad responded, “Everything! He’s doing better in school, communicating more, smiling, and happy. He feels safe, and he is being a kid again.

— MST parent



One word to describe MHY is family – not only is our team like a family, but we help so many families who need it most.

— Jerica Wineberg, Therapist, MST-Psych North team



I am thinking differently now. I am thinking long term and not just short term. I am having a relationship with my pops, and he is making me see my own worth.

— Adolescent in MST Program



Serving Our Northern Neighbors

Our MST therapists approach each family with genuine care, empathy, and understanding.

Families in rural counties have long struggled with limited access to essential resources due to their remote locations. Our MST-Psych North team is closing that gap by traveling directly to underserved communities in Clarion, Forest, and Warren counties. Through MST-Psych, our therapists, case workers, and supervisors provide critical psychiatric care to families who may have been overlooked for generations, creating safe, nurturing environments where families can truly thrive. In early 2025, we will begin serving communities in Cameron and Elk counties, as well.

COMPASSION IN THE CLASSROOM: Longmore Academy

Longmore Academy strives to create a learning environment centered around compassion, where every student feels valued, understood, and supported. By building genuine connections and offering individualized instruction, we foster a culture where students feel safe to express themselves, take risks, and grow both academically and personally.

The effectiveness of Longmore has increased the demand for our services. To meet the increased need, we are planning to expand Longmore Academy by adding a **kindergarten program**. This new program will enable us to provide younger students with a supportive and fulfilling learning environment right from the start of their educational journey.

We're eager to extend our commitment to quality education and look forward to welcoming our youngest learners. Stay tuned for more details in 2025!

ELEMENTARY STUDENT GROWTH:

5 students served during 2018-19 school year



47 students served during 2023-24 school year

8.4x increase in enrollment over six years

AUTISTIC SUPPORT PROGRAM:

2 students served at program launch in 2021-22 school year

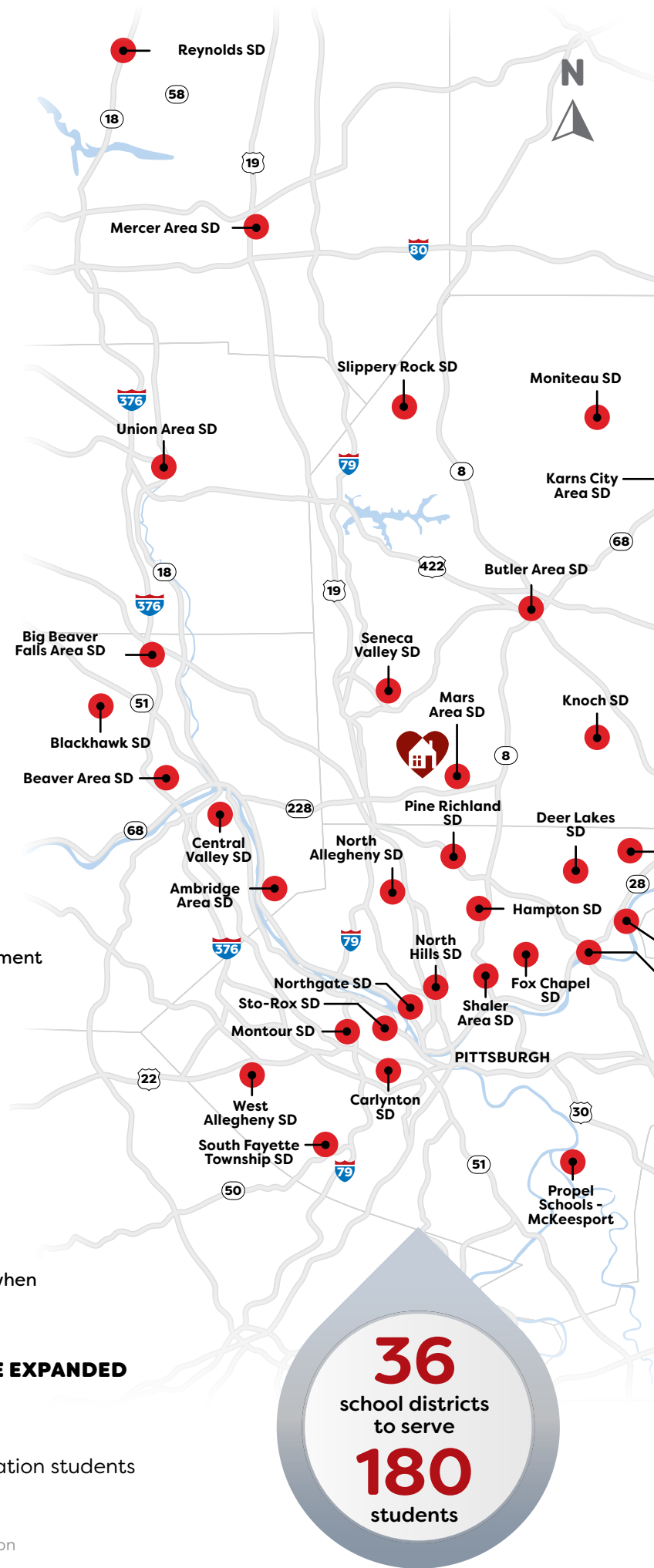


35 students served during 2023-24 school year

16x more students than when launched

BY THE END OF THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR, WE EXPANDED TO FOUR ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS:

- 1 for autistic support
- 1 for full-time emotional support
- 2 with a mix of general education and special education students



After Longmore Academy's graduation ceremony, a parent shared with our staff that there was a time when she genuinely doubted her daughter Alice* would graduate before discovering Longmore.

She believes this school saved her daughter's life.

**Name has been changed or withheld to protect our student's identity.*

THE MAGIC OF MUSIC

Our music program is thriving thanks to the continued generosity of a special, anonymous donor. In December, students from our elementary and autistic support classes delighted the audience with a heartwarming performance of Cookies! After months of hard work, they took the stage to present a 20-minute show filled with songs, choreography, and a custom slideshow, all showcasing their dedication and creativity.

In spring, Longmore Academy students brought the stage to life with Big Dreams. The show was a testament to the transformative power of inclusion and the performing arts.

Following the performances, many parents shared that this was the first time they had ever seen their child participate in a group production. In their previous school districts, their children had often been overlooked due to physical limitations or behavioral challenges.

Witnessing the joy and pride in our students' eyes, and the happiness of their families, was a powerful reminder of the transformative impact of inclusion and the magic of the performing arts.



MAKING MEMORIES AT SUMMER CAMP

Thanks to our incredible partners, **Lincoln Learning Solutions** and the **McKinney Charitable Foundation**, Longmore Academy successfully hosted its first Inclusive Summer Camp for children ages 6-17. Our MHY staff fostered a warm, safe, and family-like atmosphere throughout the two-week program, ensuring a fun and enriching experience for all campers.

Highlights included creative crafts, pool time, and making snow cones. Each day featured mindful conversations and social skill-building exercises, helping campers form meaningful connections with one another. Parents expressed their deep gratitude for the opportunity to see their children engage with peers, make new friends, and embrace new experiences.

**LONGHORN
SUMMER CAMP
2024**

ADVENTURER

A VISION BECOMES REALITY:

MHY's Playground Project

A playground has the power to make a lasting impact on a child's life. It's a place where friendships are formed, a sense of community is built, and joy is experienced. This vision guided our fundraising efforts, kept us focused on our objectives, and enabled us to build strong partnerships as we worked together to create a safe, accessible playground for all MHY students.

Today, we're proud to say that our new sensory-friendly, inclusive playground is now open for Longmore Academy students to enjoy! Thanks to the generosity and support from people like you, we were able to fundraise and complete this project in just 12 months.

YOU are a vital part of our story and success, and we hope you'll continue this journey with us, helping children rediscover hope and happiness not just at school, but everywhere they go.

Special thanks

goes to the **A.J. and Sigismunda Palumbo Charitable Trust, Ronald and Cindy Thomas, NexTier Bank, Patrick and Rachael Kerrish, an anonymous donor**, and many other generous contributors.

The collective support of over

150 donors

has transformed our vision into a vibrant, welcoming play area for children to enjoy every day.





Referred to affectionately by our students as “The Park,” the playground has transformed recess into a daily highlight, fostering friendships and filling the air with laughter and smiles that are often not seen during class.

- Stephanie Addlespurger,
Behavior Specialist, Longmore Academy



Success Rooted in Trust

Our ability to create a safe and nurturing educational environment relies on establishing trust, which allows children and families to feel secure, valued, and understood. This mutual trust empowers youth to open up, engage in the healing process, and work toward positive change.



STO-ROX STUDENTS MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD

Alexandria Garipey, one of our dedicated school-based therapists, had the honor of taking students from Sto-Rox School District to the Pennsylvania State Capitol last November as part of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation's Student Mental Health Advocacy Day.

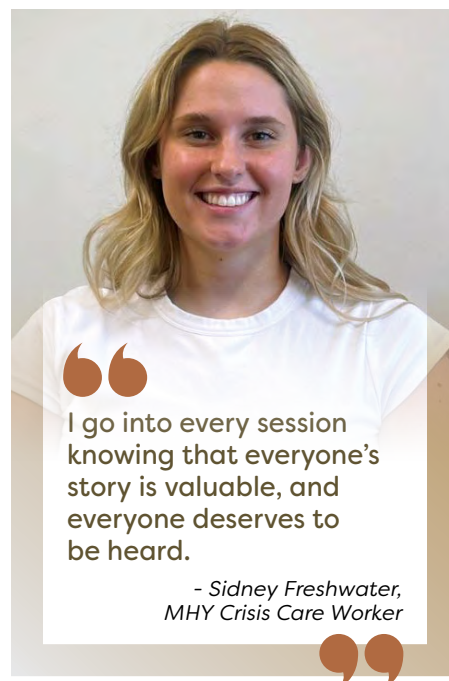
The students met with Rep. Anita Kulik (D-PA-45) to share their perspectives on mental health reform, advocating for policies that address the needs of youth across the commonwealth.



GOING BEYOND THERAPY

At MHY, our **School-Based Therapy** program goes beyond basic educational services. The program – currently active in the **Lakeview, Slippery Rock Area, and Sto-Rox School Districts**, as well as **Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School** – provides children and their families with individualized support that addresses academic, emotional, and social needs, helping students develop the skills and confidence needed to excel in all areas of their lives.

Following the tragic suicides of two students, our organization quickly mobilized to deliver six days of crisis support, with a team of nine MHY therapists offering comprehensive care. Additionally, our administration partnered with school leaders to develop a thorough crisis response plan, ensuring long-term support and healing for the entire school.



Our High-Fidelity Wraparound (HiFi) team alongside Judge Fleger and Ginny Sharp, guardian ad litem and attorney in Venango County. The collaboration between our HiFi team, Pennsylvania CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children), and the legal teams underscores the strong partnership between MHY and these organizations dedicated to supporting the families we serve.



MHY's mission is in direct alignment with our Better Mental and Physical Health campaigns, and we, along with support from Deep Well Services, were honored to support their Autistic Support Program and playground construction project in 2024.

- Taylor O'Brien, President, Better Together Foundation

MHY was honored to be chosen as the inaugural recipient of a monetary gift from Better Together Foundation.

A UNITED COMMUNITY

Our strong network of supporters, partners, donors, and collaborators are united in their efforts to enhance our ability to serve children, teens, and families.

Our friends at **Dutilh United Methodist Church's** Summer Vacation Bible School chose MHY's sensory-friendly, inclusive playground as their annual mission project. Students participated in fundraising activities to earn money for MHY's playground.

We are honored to have been chosen as the recipient of the **Passavant Hospital Foundation** Community

Initiatives Grant for the second year in a row. This grant is instrumental in enhancing support for our MST-Psych program's families, enabling us to carry on with our crucial mission of offering essential support and care to those in need. We are extremely grateful for the foundation's continued support!

Thank you to **Huntington Bank** for partnering with our Longmore Academy students in our Career Readiness Program. Field trips to vocational schools, job interview preparation, and job search assistance are just some of the ways Huntington Bank is helping our students gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to succeed in the workforce.



A foundational pillar of #1 Cochran is to spread love within the communities we serve. Inspired by the joy our mini car show brought to students last fall, we dedicated our 2024 Chevyfest funds to help MHY build its new playground.

- Rachel H. Tumminello, Advertising & Marketing Manager, #1 Cochran



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the team at **Limbach Inc.** for their generous donation of time and resources in fabricating and installing new gutters on the Longmore Academy building. These new gutters effectively replaced the old, leaking, and rotted panels that posed a risk to our school building. Their commitment to our community and dedication to maintaining a safe environment for our students and staff is invaluable.



Donor Report

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Every day, your support transforms the lives of adolescents and their families. Your contributions are helping us keep families together in their homes and communities as they heal and recover.

You have the power to make a real impact in the lives of those who need it most. Please consider supporting our cause through a donor advised fund, participating in workplace giving, taking advantage of employer matching gifts, setting up a monthly donation through our website, or contributing through a legacy gift.

In addition, MHY is EITC approved, allowing businesses to direct up to 90% of their Pennsylvania state tax credit to support MHY Family Services. Thank you for helping us drive meaningful change!

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The Takeda Pharmaceutical team has been a dedicated MHY partner for years, spreading holiday cheer by decorating our Administration Building, donating treats, assembling goodie bags, and hosting a festive pizza party to brighten the season for our students.

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Sanctuary Donors.....	\$5,000 to \$9,999
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Healing Donors.....	\$1,000 to \$2,499
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We at EY are honored to partner with MHY. We continue to be inspired by its mission of supporting local youth and their families.

- James Rankin, MHY Board Member and Assurance Senior Manager, EY



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When I retired from North Allegheny School District in 2023, I knew I wanted to continue working in some capacity to support children. I had heard about the incredible work being done at MHY Family Services, not just in academics but in nurturing the whole child. I strongly believe in the mission and vision of MHY, and I am both grateful and humbled to play a small part in helping MHY achieve its goals.

- Carol Dino, volunteer



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MHY Family Services is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained by calling 800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



MAIN CAMPUS AND LONGMORE ACADEMY

521 Route 228
Mars, PA 16046
T: 724-625-3141
F: 724-625-2226
mhyfamilyservices.org
info@mhyfamilyservices.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTERS

Allegheny County
820 Evergreen Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15209
T: 412-408-3693
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Guided by our values, MHY Family Services strengthens families by responding to the individual mental health and learning needs of children.

To protect the confidentiality of our youth and families, MHY does not use client names or identifying photos. Some of the children depicted in this report are representative of those we serve.



EXPLORE OUR WEBSITE
to learn more about our
programs, impact, and
ways to get involved!