

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



**FAMILY
CONNECTION**
Youth Shelter, Safety, and Counseling



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2025 was another year of growth, change, and expansion for Family Connection.

We continue to work towards the goals set in our Three-Year Strategic Plan by increasing services to help more youth in crisis and enhancing our programs to ensure that we are giving each youth and family the support they need to succeed. We have had some incredible success stories this year and I am so proud of our leadership, staff, and of the youth who are on their way to bright futures.

In 2025 we welcomed Jamberry, our facility dog, to our Residential Youth Shelter. She provides comfort, support, and companionship to youth in the program and she has become everyone's favorite member of our team.

Through a generous grant from The Sandlin Foundation for Kids and Kindness, in 2025 we were also able to expand our counseling and crisis intervention services into Hoover. We are so grateful to be a part of this wonderful movement to help Hoover children, youth and families.

We will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2026 and I am excited to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of our organization. I am even more excited to look to the future and the many plans we have to serve more youth and continue to change lives.

JENNIFER ELLISON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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SHELTER

RESIDENTIAL YOUTH SHELTER

Family Connection’s youth shelter provides emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth in central Alabama. The shelter also provides support for youth in crisis through our program in partnership with Shelby County Juvenile Court Services.

Family Connection’s programs are therapeutic and utilize a positive youth development approach, along with trauma-informed interventions to address emotional well-being and ensure youth are safe, stable, and supported.

In 2025, 75 youth ages 12-17 were provided with 15,089 units of service including shelter, food, hygiene products, clothing, case management, life skills training, individual counseling, group counseling, transportation, educational support, recreation, and youth development activities.

PROJECT HOPE

Project HOPE in downtown Birmingham addresses the needs of runaway, homeless, and street youth ages 16-21.

Street Outreach services are conducted by the Street Outreach and Response (SOAR) Team, distributing survival aid packets to youth and providing transportation to the facility.

The Project HOPE Day Shelter provides access to emergency shelter and a variety of services to help youth stay safe and find safe, appropriate housing.

In 2025, 34 youth were provided with 7,464 units of service including day shelter, food, hygiene products, clothing, case management, transportation, skills training, assistance with finding and obtaining employment, and housing assistance.

SAFETY

Family Connection is the local administrator of the Safe Place program, a national crisis prevention program for youth. Safe Place connects any youth in crisis to immediate help and safety. Any young person under 18 that needs help can text SAFE and their current location to 4HELP and will receive a text back to connect to Family Connection and be provided with immediate access to safety, shelter, and counseling. Family Connection currently partners with 46 Safe Place sites throughout the area, including libraries, fire stations, and local businesses.



COUNSELING

Family Connection provides individual and family counseling to youth and families in our shelters, in schools, and in the community.

All youth in our shelters receive intensive individual and family counseling while in the program and through aftercare counseling services.

Through a partnership with the Shelby County School System, our Therapeutic Outreach and Prevention in Schools (TOPS) Program provides counseling to middle and high school students that is specialized in addressing crises and dealing with issues including anxiety, depression, grief, family conflict,

bullying and cyberbullying, and social/emotional challenges.

Family Connection also provides individual and family counseling to youth and families in the community. Services are provided on an outpatient basis at locations in Alabaster, Helena, and Hoover.

In 2025, 288 youth and families were provided with over 1,500 individual and family counseling sessions,



2025 FINANCIALS

2025 REVENUE

FEDERAL GRANTS	\$307,129
STATE AND LOCAL GRANTS	\$538,980
UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL ALABAMA CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING	\$210,700
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$176,718
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$36,311
	\$6,959
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,276,797

2025 EXPENDITURES

PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$1,207,945
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	\$83,050
FUNDRAISING	\$33,961
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,324,956

FAMILY CONNECTION RECEIVES FUNDING TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. CONTENTS OF THIS REPORT DO NOT REPRESENT THE OPINION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

A COMPLETE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

OUR PARTNERS



United Way of
Central Alabama, Inc.



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
YOUTH SERVICES

