



THOMPSON

Strengthening Children, Families & Communities

2016-17 Impact Report

#DoDIFFERENT

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Dear Thompson Family Member,

With a rich 131-year history of strengthening children, families, and communities, Thompson has a responsibility to honor the legacy of those that came before us. But what does that mean for Thompson today? Internally, as a team of over 200 strong and growing, we must consider the meaning of family. How can our Thompson family grow and change to meet the ever-changing needs of the families we serve?

This past year has seen a new energy coursing into all areas of programming:

- Thompson was chosen to launch a paid mentoring program, Friends of the Children, which will support a child for 12.5 years no matter what,
- We recently opened a new program to aid teen girls who are in the custody of the state,
- And thanks to a grant from The Duke Endowment we'll be expanding our evidence-based family education programming and foster care services across the Carolinas.

Changes like that are born from the belief that Thompson must **Do More, Do Better & Do Different** to expect different outcomes.

We are embracing this Do Different mentality in an effort to adapt to the needs around us and improve outcomes for those we serve.

Parts of Charlotte are in crisis, and we've pledged to present ourselves as one unit under one mission, fueled by visionary programs as we heal communities from one family to another. As a member of our Thompson family, you adopt the mentality that true community empowers us to serve everyone to the best of our ability. This transcends charity and becomes responsibility.

This past year, we set a new vision that includes impacting 20,000 children & families by the year 2020. We've decided never to allow the zip code a child is born in to determine their future. We look forward to you joining us as we continue to build change.

Warmest regards,



Will Jones, President/CEO





#DODIFFERENT

With your help, children like Mikey learn the tools to Do More with their lives.

Mikey's parents left him at birth. In seven years, he's called eight different places "home".

He's spent most of his life feeling lost and unloved.

Stuck in cycles of abuse and disappointment, lashing out became Mikey's go-to. He lashed out at anyone and everyone. He knew no other way to act. It wasn't until Mikey came to Thompson's residential treatment program that his healing journey began.

Mikey's therapist Nadia taught him unique ways to deal with his challenges. His ADHD made school really hard, so Nadia drew chalk circles around his desk to help him focus and stay in his space. She kept therapy active and built trust with Mikey on the basketball court. It was there she learned Mikey felt most comfortable talking about his feelings. So, basketball became an everyday thing.

During his last few months in treatment, Mikey was like a new kid. He'd learned the tools to describe his feelings and focus in class. Most importantly, he felt safe and happy for the first time in his life.

Mikey has recently gone to live with a Thompson foster family. While he still struggles with daily life, he hasn't forgotten what he's learned. Every day, he continues his work to **do more**...more learning, more growing, more healing...to become the person he knows he can be. And his new family loves basketball too!

Mikey's healing journey is possible because of you.

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When Gabby came to Thompson Child Development Center as a toddler, she couldn't talk. She only knew how to cry.

Gabby and her mom Jayla are able to Do Better, thanks to your commitment to helping them heal.

Her mom, Jayla, was a single parent, down on her luck, jobless, and didn't know where to turn for help. She struggled daily with Gabby's constant screaming and crying.

At the center, Gabby liked to spend time in the "cozy corner" instead of playing with other kids. Her teachers tried everything they could to engage her and get her to join in. Staff stopped at nothing to pull this little girl out of her shell. Her speech therapist was her biggest cheerleader!

In just a few months, Gabby became energetic, talkative, and fully engaged. Her vocabulary improved and she made lots of friends. Everyone was so proud of her!

As her mom Jayla watched her transformation, she realized she too could **do better**.

Jayla became an active member of Thompson's Breathe Circle, a support group for parents to help them overcome their struggles. This incredible support made Jayla a whole new person. She worked through her own challenges, just like her daughter.

Jayla developed a new, positive outlook on life. She was able to get a good job and finally provide for her little girl. Together, their efforts to **do better** are truly an inspiration!

Thank you for helping Jayla and Gabby make their way onto a better path.



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#DODIFFERENT

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Garrett was drowning in his trauma when he came to Thompson. At just 13 years old, he watched his father commit suicide.

Your generosity allows children like Garrett to Do Different in life.

Garrett quickly lost his will to live. His own suicidal thoughts were controlling his life.

He'd been in the hospital three times in 45 days. Then, he began his healing journey with Thompson's Intensive In-Home team.

The trauma of watching his father's life slip away had left Garrett frozen. He'd done everything he knew to escape his dark thoughts, but he was so lost.

For six months, his Thompson team slowly helped him find the safety, stability, and sense of home that he'd lost when his father died.

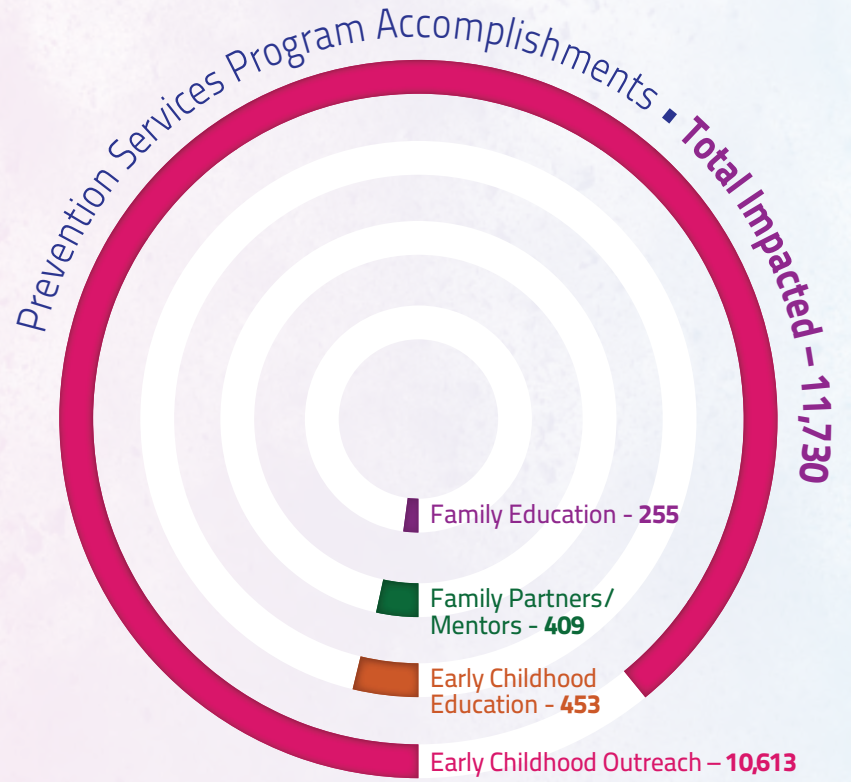
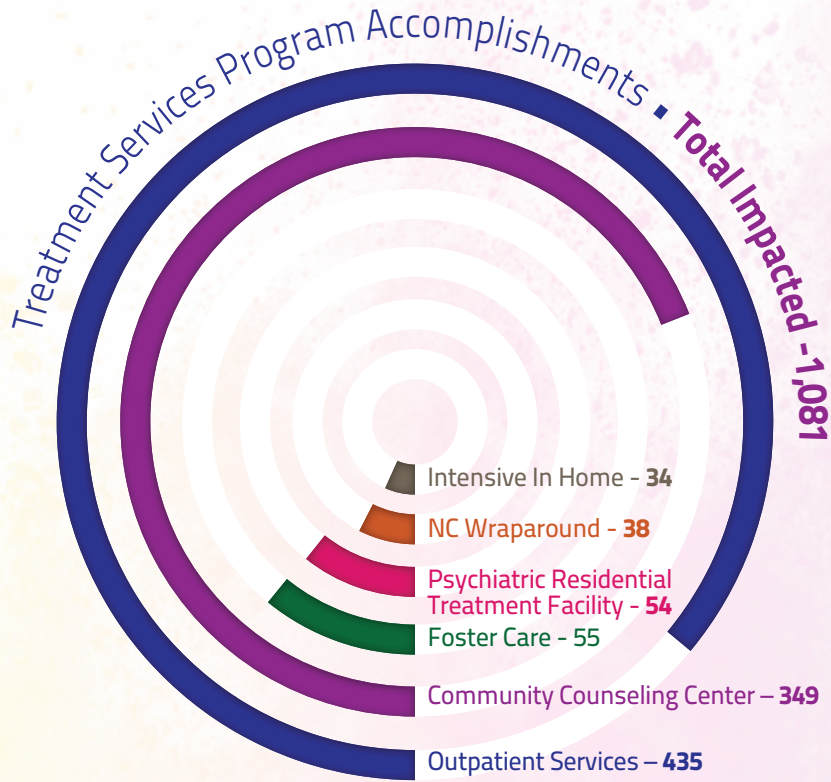
After this difficult work was complete, Garrett stepped down from his in-home services and began to see a Thompson therapist. It's with this therapist that he's able to continue the work he started and stay on the road to recovery. Slowly but surely, his trauma is fading away.

Garrett established trust with his Thompson team and has carried that throughout his journey with them. This continuum of services is such an incredible way for children and families to **do different** and transform their lives.

Your support saved Garrett's life.

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Total Operating
Budget for
FY 2016 – 2017:
\$14,565,303

For a copy of our audited financials, please call 704-644-4393.

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2017 - 2018 Services

Child Development Center

Early Childhood Outreach

Family Education

Family Partners/Mentors

Foster Care

Foster Parent Licensing

Friends of the Children

Intensive In-Home

Medical Services

NC Wraparound

Outpatient Therapy/
Counseling Services

Psychiatric Residential Treatment

Thompson Connect



Headquarters:
6800 Saint Peter's Lane
Matthews, NC 28105

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Permit No. 67
Charlotte, NC

Thompson provides comprehensive education, treatment and care designed to transform lives. Our goal is to create a stable foundation on which children and families can learn to thrive for a lifetime.

At Thompson, we are dedicated to
*Strengthening Children, Families
and Communities.*

All Thompson programs are nationally accredited.



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