BOYS TOWN

2025 Annual Report

STEP BY STEP











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On the Cover

MJ was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) as a newborn and received life-changing gene therapy at Boys Town National Research Hospital.

We will forever be grateful to Boys Town for their investment in our family and for the bright future they have afforded MJ as a result. It's great to see the continued investment in this amazing facility, knowing the countless families Boys Town will continue to support and lives they'll be able to improve for generations to come.
— John, MJ's dad



Message to Stakeholders

2025 marked a year of transformational progress for Boys Town as we advanced our vision for compassionate whole-child care and commitment to meeting the needs of children and families wherever they live, learn and grow. While the challenges facing today's youth are increasingly complex, our approach remains rooted in a simple belief: Every child deserves to be seen, valued and supported. By integrating mental and behavioral health, family support, education, research and community-based services, Boys Town is building a connected system that helps children heal, thrive and reach their full potential.

One of the year's most significant milestones was breaking ground on the expansion of Boys Town National Research Hospital, which will bring researchers and clinicians together under one roof, strengthening our ability to translate discoveries into meaningful outcomes for children and families. As we expand our capabilities in neuroscience, speech and hearing, and mental and behavioral health research, we deepen our commitment to innovative, evidence-based solutions that improve lives.

Yet our vision extends far beyond a hospital campus.

Across the nation, communities continue to grapple with an unprecedented youth mental health crisis. At Boys Town, we believe the answer cannot be found within clinic walls alone. Lasting impact occurs when children and families receive support in the places where they live, learn and grow. That belief is shaping a model of compassionate whole-child care that connects our mental and behavioral health services, historic Family Home Program, school partnerships, family resources, community-based programs, and research expertise into a continuum of care designed to support children and families at every stage of their journey.

Throughout the year, Boys Town served children and families across all 50 states through behavioral health services, the National Hotline, family resources, community-based programs and school partnerships. We also expanded evidence-based supports in schools, helping educators address challenges earlier, strengthen resilience, and create environments where students can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

What unites these efforts is our unwavering commitment to compassionate whole-child care. We are advancing a national vision for how children and families should be supported, one built on compassionate relationships, evidence-based practices, strong families and thriving communities.

Guided by Father Edward J. Flanagan's belief in the inherent worth of every child, we are helping lead the future of child and family well-being through an integrated continuum of care that reaches children wherever they need us most. All of this is made possible only with your generosity. Every child reached, every family strengthened, every discovery advanced and every life changed reflects your commitment to this mission. Thank you for standing with Boys Town as we work to build a future where every child is seen, valued and supported. Because of you, Father Flanagan's vision continues to change lives and create hope for generations to come.



Rod Kempkes
President and Chief Executive Officer

Family by Family. Child by Child.

Boys Town is helping lead the future of child and family well-being through compassionate whole-child care. By connecting mental and behavioral health services, family support, education, research and community-based programs, we are building a continuum of care that meets children and families where they are and helps them move forward with confidence and hope.

Behind every outcome is a life touched by our mission—a child overcoming adversity, a family finding support, a teacher creating opportunity, a researcher advancing discovery or a young person taking the first step toward a brighter future.

While these numbers tell an important story of impact, they represent something even greater: We are committed to ensuring that every child is valued, supported and given the opportunity to thrive.



BOYS TOWN

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

197,000+
Children and Families receiving resources and services nationwide

171,000+
Students seeing improved school experience

50 States
receiving services

2.28 Million+
Active Users across Boys Town websites

106,600+
People in distress accessing Hotline for immediate crisis response

459 Suicides
in progress **Prevented**

68,500+
Patients Receiving specialized medical and behavioral healthcare



The Boys Town National Research Hospital was originally founded in 1977 to ensure children and families have access to specialized healthcare services close to home. A transformative expansion of Boys Town Hospital is expected to be completed in 2027—in time to celebrate its 50 years of service and leadership in pediatric specialty care.

STEP BY STEP

Toward Healing Children

The towering, multi-story cranes transform the Boys Town skyline into an active building site as construction of the expanded Boys Town National Research Hospital, medical clinics and research facilities take shape. Each day's progress brings us another step closer to transforming lives as we deliver care and healing to children and families.

The transformational expansion broke ground on November 13, 2025. It includes two four-story wings extending from the corners of the existing one-story Boys Town National Research Hospital, adding 131,000 square feet of clinic and hospital space for acute care, imaging and inpatient services. The project also includes the 123,000-square-foot Dr. Wayne L. Ryan Clinic and Research Center, dedicated to advancing scientific discovery.



The Boys Town National Research Hospital expansion unites research and clinical care in a single environment, strengthening a collaborative model that moves discoveries quickly from the laboratory to the bedside and into everyday life. The result is a deeper understanding of childhood health and development, more effective interventions and new opportunities to improve outcomes for children and families nationwide.

Stepping Forward to Support Research—Dr. Wayne L. Ryan Clinic and Research Center

The addition of the Dr. Wayne L. Ryan Clinic and Research Center brings added resources and state-of-the-art facilities to anchor Boys Town's leading reputation in hearing and balance, speech and language, neuroscience and behavioral health research—along with its work in rare diseases.

Made possible by a transformational grant from The Ryan Foundation, the new clinic and research center is a fitting tribute to Dr. Wayne Ryan, a man whose entrepreneurial spirit and desire to help people live healthier, happier lives were traits he shared with our own Boys Town founder, Father Edward J. Flanagan.

Dr. Ryan founded Streck Laboratories, Inc., a company known for its groundbreaking advancements in molecular diagnostics, which revolutionized the diagnosis and treatment of disease. It's fitting that the new Boys Town research facility bears Dr. Ryan's name as researchers work to pioneer new knowledge, diagnostics and treatments that improve the lives of children through actionable research.

Boys Town Named Center of Excellence for Batten Disease

Rare diseases affect a small percentage of children, but their impact on the lives of patients and their families is monumental. The Pediatric Neurogenetics and Rare Disease Clinic at Boys Town National Research Hospital focuses on diseases of the brain and nervous system caused by inherited and genetic traits.

In 2025, Boys Town was designated as a Batten Disease Clinical Center of Excellence Program "Affiliate Center" by the Batten Disease Support, Research, and Advocacy (BDSRA) Foundation—one of only 11 in the nation to receive this designation.

Some neurogenetic diseases, such as Batten disease, are inherited neurodegenerative disorders with symptoms that can appear shortly after birth or much later in a child's life. Boys Town provides multidisciplinary specialty care for children with rare conditions which often require complicated evaluations and coordinated expertise.

"This accomplishment makes me proud to be part of Boys Town National Research Hospital as we continue to advance patient care, not only in the diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases, but many other specialized conditions," said Isabella Herman, M.D., Ph.D., pediatric neurologist and neurogeneticist with the Boys Town Pediatric Neurogenetics and Rare Disease Clinic.







BOYS TOWN HEALTHCARE CHANGES LIVES

From routine childhood care to internationally recognized specialties, Boys Town addresses the healthcare needs of children and families, including:

- **237,986 Clinic Visits** in 2025
- **63,584 Patients Served** at Boys Town National Research Hospital
- **7,641 Surgeries** performed
- **30,895 Care Days** provided
- **4,981 Patients Served** at Boys Town Behavioral Health Clinic
- **131,000 sq. ft. Hospital Space** for acute care, imaging and patient rooms being added
- **123,000 sq. ft. Dedicated Research** labs and clinics being added

Specialized Help for Angelman Syndrome and KCNT1-Related Epilepsy

Boys Town's specialization in rare neurogenetic conditions provides a vital resource for patients and parents seeking answers and support, and fosters collaboration with other providers to advance our understanding of these disorders, including Angelman syndrome (AS) and KCNT1-related epilepsy, a rare genetic epilepsy. Boys Town is part of the Angelman Syndrome Foundation Clinical Network, a collaboration of specialty providers, practices and clinics with experience caring for the AS community.

With Purpose and





It's an ambitious mission,

but every day, Boys Town moves forward with purpose and a sense of connection that spans generations and distance. Nothing reflects that commitment more clearly than this year's milestone—the 50th anniversary of the Boys Town Family Home Program.

When Boys Town adopted its Family Home Program in the 1970s, it was a dramatic shift away from the typical dormitory-style setting and into a model of care that more closely resembled a family home. It was also a reflection of Father Edward J. Flanagan's belief that children thrive in stable, nurturing relationships, the kind created by a family.

The Right Move at the Right Time

Based on the Family-Teaching Model developed at the University of Kansas' Achievement Place, this model emphasized skill-building, positive reinforcement and structured family-style living. Boys Town has been accredited by the Teaching-Family Association (TFA®) every year, a rigorous process that ensures the fidelity of the model.

Each Family Home is led by a married couple, some with their own children, along with 8 to 10 youth from diverse backgrounds. Acting as Family-Teachers, they provide supervision and teach social skills, self-regulation and personal responsibility. In this family-centered environment, children gain all the benefits of family—feeling safe, cared for and supported as individuals. They become part of lasting relationships that evolve, change and grow with them. And they take what they learn forward for the rest of their lives.

Creating Positive Impact

The results are undeniable. Children in family-style homes develop stronger social skills, achieve greater academic success and experience emotional healing. The Boys Town Family Home Model has led to the Boys Town Model, which serves all Boys Town locations. It has also influenced child welfare practices across the country.

Now, 50 years after its inception, the Family Home Program continues to have a profound effect on the youth who have found refuge here—bringing them back as Family-Teachers to continue to shape the lives of youth.

Connectedness







Leading a Global Effort

A tireless champion of youth, Father Flanagan's legacy continues to resonate, magnifying his impact on the Village of Boys Town, across the country and even around the world. In 2025, Boys Town hosted a video conference connecting the Omaha campus with Boys Town-like programs in Colombia, Japan, South Africa and Spain, with students speaking through interpreters.

"I thought it was amazing how I could speak with someone on the other side of the world and have similar backgrounds and experiences—and we're in the same kind of program to help us grow," said Evan, Boys Town mayor and participant.

Japanese Delegation Visits Boys Town

When Japan moved its child welfare program from an institutional model to a group home model, officials worked with Boys Town for a solution. They found the Boys Town Common Sense Parenting model was the perfect fit. Now, 20 years later, a Japanese delegation again visited Boys Town to meet about Common Sense Parenting. "If kids know how to work with the social skills parents work with, that's going to change the whole game," said Dr. Yasuhiko Richard Kuyama, a child advocate from the Japanese delegation.



Sold Out New York Screenings

The Sheen Center for Thought and Culture in New York hosted sold out screenings of the documentary, "Blue Baby: A Fight for America's Youth." Produced by Matters Media, the film follows eight formerly incarcerated boys living in a Boys Town Family Home, sharing their experiences over the course of a school year as they learn social skills, the value of family and their own worth. Raw and poignant, at the heart of the film is Father Edward J. Flanagan's legacy as a social reformer and true visionary for change—as recounted by a panel of former Boys Town youth, youth advocates and Boys Town representatives.

Toward Research That Changes Lives

At Boys Town, research is more than the pursuit of knowledge. It is a commitment to improving the lives of children and families by turning discovery into action. Our work is guided by the belief that research has its greatest impact when it informs care, strengthens understanding and delivers practical solutions that help children thrive.

Many of Boys Town's clinical and educational programs are recognized leaders in their fields. Supporting those efforts is a team of research scientists, postdoctoral fellows and clinical partners whose work advances knowledge in neuroscience, behavioral health, hearing and balance, and speech and language. By fostering collaboration among researchers, physicians, clinicians, educators, children and families, Boys Town creates an environment where new insights can move more quickly from discovery to meaningful outcomes.

Our integrated approach helps bridge the gap between research and care, accelerating the development of more precise diagnoses, innovative treatments and evidence-based interventions. This connection ensures that scientific advances are not confined to the laboratory but translated into tools, therapies and approaches that improve everyday life for children and families.

Beyond Boys Town, our researchers are recognized experts who share their discoveries through national and international conferences, peer-reviewed publications and collaborative partnerships. We also work alongside leaders in technology, healthcare and other disciplines to explore new possibilities and expand access to solutions that can improve child and family well-being for generations to come.

Amazon Imagine Grant Supports AI-Powered Platform to Revolutionize Non-Invasive Hearing Aid Earmolds

For years, uncomfortable ear impressions and frequent fittings were part of the process for infants and children requiring hearing aids. Now, Boys Town is revolutionizing this process using generative AI and 3D printing to predict ear canal growth and create accurate earmolds to maintain the fit of the hearing aid as these young patients grow—without invasive earmolds and frequent visits.

It's all thanks to our selection as a winner of the 2025 Amazon Web Services (AWS) Imagine Grant for nonprofits. Named in the *Go Further, Faster* category, Boys Town receives $150,000 in unrestricted funding, up to $100,000 in Amazon Web Services (AWS) Credits and support from AWS technical specialists.

"Boys Town has a long history of leading the world in pediatric hearing research," said Dr. Ryan McCreery, Vice President of Research at Boys Town National Research Hospital. "Now we're harnessing machine learning and generative AI to revolutionize custom hearing aid earmold creation. And we're not stopping there—we're constantly striving for more personalized, precise and accessible hearing care for children."







Mobile Research Measures Success In Miles Traveled and Progress Made

The Boys Town Research Vehicle (BTRV) expanded its reach into new communities and regions of the country as it logged more than 6,000 miles in 2025—moving from Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Texas and South Dakota, and now to Rhode Island and Massachusetts. At every stop, it removes the barriers that children and families face in accessing hearing healthcare services—especially those in higher risk communities, such as children with developmental delays.

Wheelchair accessible and climate controlled, the BTRV is fully equipped with hospital-grade equipment, and staffed by a team of licensed audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing scientists to provide free hearing screenings and speech and language assessments. Continued support will allow Boys Town to increase the number of children that benefit.















BOYS TOWN RESEARCH POWERS PROGRESS

From new discoveries to findings that are more quickly applied to patient care, Boys Town Research continues to make progress and healing possible—growing Boys Town's reputation for innovative care and professional recognition, with:

- **20 New Patent** filings
- **143 Papers Published** in peer-reviewed publications
- **42 Research Scientists | 8 Postdoctoral Research Fellows**
- **28 Presentations** at international conferences
- **6,000+ Miles Traveled** by the Boys Town Research Vehicle, bringing important care to communities in need

Researcher Recognition Highlights

Boys Town researchers are dedicated to the work they do and are often recognized by their peers and professional organizations, including these from 2025:

Ryan McCreery, Ph.D., was appointed to the Scientific Council for Childhood Hearing by the Oberkotter Foundation, a global initiative to deepen the understanding of childhood hearing loss.

Gabrielle Merchant, Au.D., Ph.D., received the 2025 Early Career Research Award from the American Auditory Society (AAS) for significant contributions to the field of auditory research.

Georgia Picci, Ph.D., was named the Susan and George Haddix Endowed Chair in Developmental Neuroscience. She is Director of the Cognitive Affective Neurodevelopment in Youth (CANDY) Laboratory at Boys Town.







Father Edward J. Flanagan viewed education as key to success for youth in his care and in 1919 built the first organized school to provide a more structured approach to learning. Acquiring knowledge, building social skills, getting along with others, and strengthening confidence and accountability were all important outcomes of attending school.

Lift with Boys Town applies this thinking to the modern-day classroom and its challenges. More than 171,000 students were impacted by our programs in 2025, with more than 5,000 professionals participating in training in schools across the country. It is a testament to our national leadership in youth mental health and well-being.

Targeted, research-based programs include Well-Managed Schools, Administrative Intervention, Safe and Healthy Secondary Schools, and Positive Alternatives to Suspension. Participating schools see an improved school experience for students, educators, parents and community members. Schools become effective learning environments where students are ready to learn.

The results are what everyone wants to see—fewer disruptions and problem behaviors, greater confidence and learning for students, increased professional satisfaction among educators, less absenteeism and higher graduation rates.

Boys Town Launches *Reality Coach*.ai—A Web-Based Coaching, Training and Practice Simulation Platform for Teachers

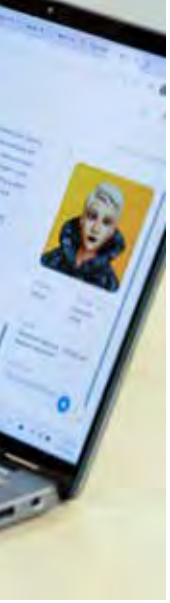
A student refuses to take a seat after repeated requests to do so.

Another replies to a question with a profanity-laced response.

A belch from the back of the classroom signals today's classroom interruption by an attention-seeking student.

Boys Town developed Reality Coach to ensure teachers feel confident facing real classroom challenges. The simulation platform brings together the proven Boys Town Education Model and web-based, AI-powered technology to create a platform that exposes them to challenging student and classroom scenarios. This solution enables educators to practice de-escalation techniques and social-emotional lessons in low-stakes, AI-simulated student scenarios to manage student behavior and build positive cultures.

STEP BY STEP Toward Effective Learning







Real-Time Role-Playing—in Private

Participants log into RealityCoach.ai and engage in a dynamic, two-way dialogue with an AI person—such as a student in crisis or a parent that is frustrated. AI students respond dynamically to the teacher's words. After each scenario plays out, Reality Coach provides clear and actionable feedback and personalized coaching. It also allows teachers to track their performance over time as they continue to progress.

Many educators like the ability to rehearse in private, at their own pace and in a way that is personalized to them. They're also able to work on proven strategies in areas such as de-escalation, corrective teaching, effective praise, guided self-correction for students, planned teaching and teacher-parent conversations.

Reality Coach is scalable and available to teachers—without the cost and time of in-person training. As for educator response, 72% report higher confidence than with traditional workshops and 86% report seeing improved daily classroom outcomes.

reality coach FROM BOYS TOWN

SCAN NOW

See Reality Coach in action at **realitycoach.ai**.

BOYS TOWN TEACHING TEACHERS

The single greatest success factor in the classroom is the teacher. Boys Town is making an impact with programs that make a difference for teachers, students, schools and families.

- **5,000+ Educators** trained
- **171,000+ Students** impacted
- **25 States** receiving services
- **413 Schools** participating
- **84 School Districts**

Schools across the country are experiencing proven results that positively impact students, staff and school culture, with cumulative averages that reflect multiple years.

- **32% Drop** in disciplinary referrals
- **52% Fewer** unexcused absences
- **Greater Confidence** in managing classroom behavior
- **15% Decrease** in absenteeism across all grades

> *"For years, behavior training has relied on live, person-to-person role-play, but the logistical reality of matching expert facilitators with thousands of educators created a ceiling for our impact. We knew that to truly support every classroom, we had to find a way to make high-fidelity, evidence-based practice available whenever and wherever a teacher needed it."*
>
> Rod Kempkes, CEO at Boys Town

STEP Environments



I know you have given
me things I could
never fully repay,
but when the time comes,
I want to make a difference
in a youth s life—someone
who, like me, just needs
a chance to break
the cycles they
were born into.

Thank you, sincerely,
for changing my life.
There is truly no version
of my story that ends
like this without Boys Town.
I will carry your generosity
and belief in me forever.

With all my heart,
Hannah, Certified Nurse

Learn about Hannah's story.

SCAN NOW



BY STEP

Toward Graduation and Beyond

Graduation is a joyous celebration at Boys Town. As graduates step across the stage to receive their diplomas, they feel the significance of moving from high school and into adult life. It's not always a transition that's easy to make—especially without family support. Successful Futures is there to bridge the move into the next stage of life, whether that's continuing their education or entering the workforce full time.

It begins senior year with career and educational planning. Students participate in programming that's designed to help them reach that next step in their independence, along with guidance on practical topics that impact their success in daily living, including:

- School and financial aid applications
- How to buy a car, rent an apartment, cook meals, clean and save money
- Financial support and coaching to assist with school, transportation and housing

Support at Every Step

Successful Futures ensures graduates have access to a supportive adult in their lives who can help with safe housing and reliable transportation, as well as assistance in times of emotional and financial crisis. It's a continuation of Boys Town's belief that surrounding individuals with real care leads to lifelong resilience. As a result, graduates are able to build on the success they've achieved at Boys Town into the next phase of their lives—and for the rest of their lives.



Loel Masters the Mechanics of Success

For Loel, Successful Futures provided the right transition from graduation to adulthood. While in school, Loel participated in the automotive trade program at the Boys Town Career Center, then received ongoing training and employment as a mechanic. As part of Successful Futures, he was able to live at a special Boys Town residence, and with the support and spiritual guidance of his Boys Town auto instructor, Jeremy Kreikemeier, has moved successfully to independence—even purchasing his first home.

SCAN NOW

Learn about Loel's story.

BOYS TOWN STEPS AHEAD

- **100% Seniors** have solid post-graduation plans
- **24/7 Access** to a mentor for unexpected issues
- **Supports Planning** and proactive contact by mentor
- **50%+ Graduates** apply for Successful Futures

Success is Built Into Boys Town Education

Boys Town schools reflect the importance of education in a child's life—just as they have since Father Edward J. Flanagan took the first children into his care more than a century ago. Today, students living on campus as part of our Family Home Program attend year-round academic classes in the Boys Town Education Center.

While the focus is on academics, they also learn about leadership, participate in sports, service and other after-school activities, and acquire the knowledge and skills that might not otherwise have been possible. Combined with the support and consistency of the Boys Town Family Home, they become what Father Flanagan referred to as *responsible citizens*, ready to navigate life's challenges and build strong communities.



The ability to absorb the impact of life's circumstances is often a matter of degrees. When does it become a crisis? What happens then? How can people get help? How do they help themselves? Boys Town continues to be an important resource to thousands of kids, teens and parents in all 50 states—by phone, by text, by e-mail and through online resources.

Our most visible source of support is the Boys Town National Hotline. Accredited by the American Association of Suicidology (AAS), the Hotline is staffed 24 hours a day by special counselors trained in suicidology, crisis de-escalation, safety planning and Nebraska resources.

The Hotline reflects the communities we serve with Spanish-speaking counselors and translation services for more than 100 languages, as well as e-mail for the speech and hearing impaired.

STEP BY STEP

Toward Meeting You Where You Are

Resources that Reflect People's Needs

While the Hotline is vital to preventing suicide and self-harm, Boys Town continues to tap into our expertise in mental and behavioral health to provide parents with access to important information through parenting.org. The topics presented can help parents better understand and support children, and in many cases prevent potential crises.

Some situations may require a call to the Hotline to speak to a counselor about their child or to find support for themselves. It's okay to call at any point, whether you just sense something out of the ordinary or you've reached a crisis point.

"Behind every statistic is a family looking for answers and a young person who needs to feel seen," said Nick Zadina, Manager of Training and Quality Assurance at the Boys Town National Hotline. "Parents and caregivers don't need perfect words, just a plan: Ask directly, listen without judgment and connect to help immediately."

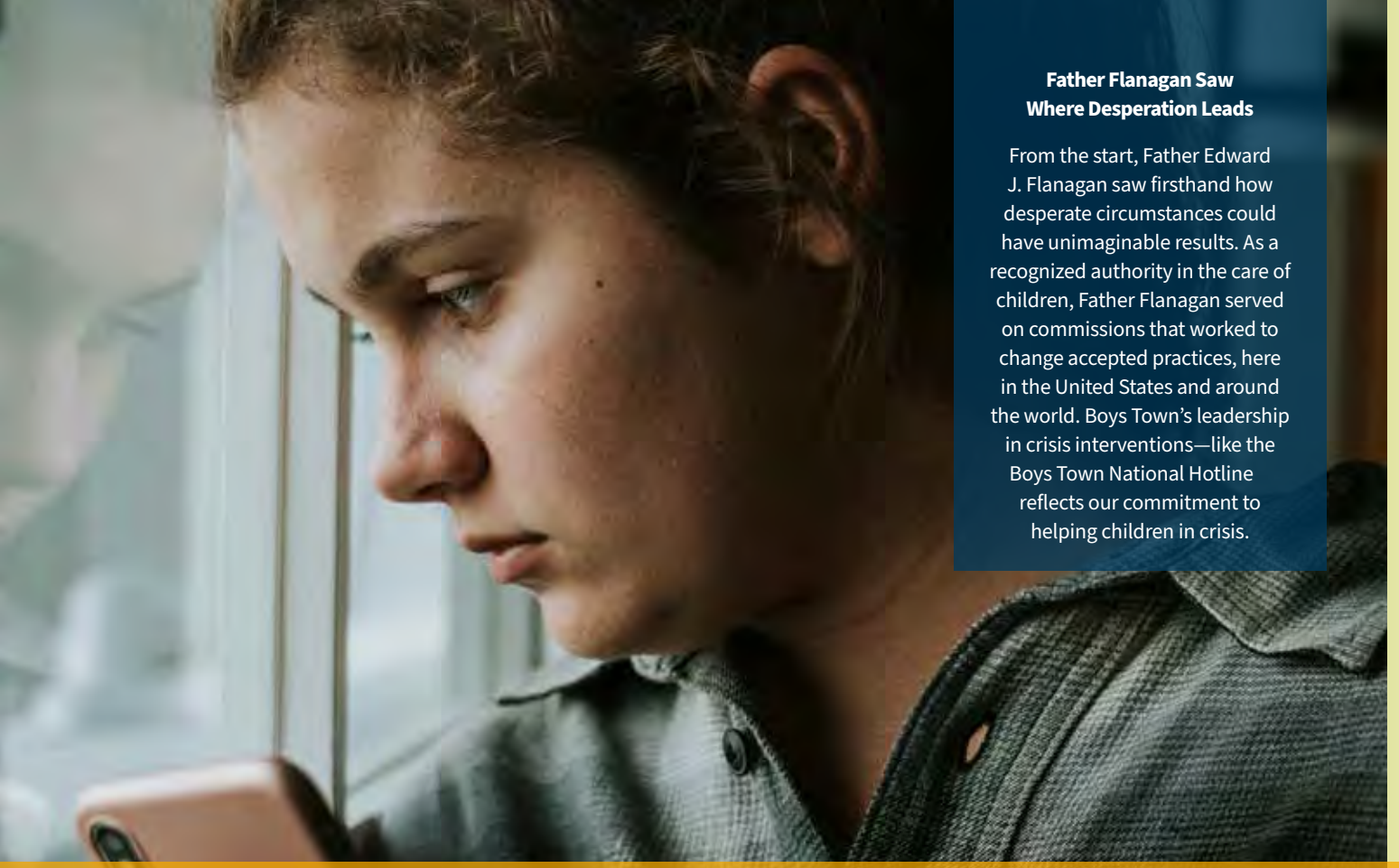
Your Life Your Voice Empowers Teens

The Your Life Your Voice mobile app gives youth a simple solution for keeping an eye on their moods and valuable resources and tools they might need in times of crisis. The primary feature is the ability to create a journal for tracking thoughts, feelings and experiences.

It builds a self-created portrait of the user that can be reviewed and added to. Users can view a report of their tracked moods and memories. Tips and tools on the yourlifeyourvoice.org site provide a great source of information for dealing with emotions and situations.

The app was developed by the team at the Boys Town National Hotline and also offers access to free counseling via phone, text or e-mail. Best of all, it helps teens to create a Safety Plan for times when they feel overwhelmed with problems and emotions.





Father Flanagan Saw Where Desperation Leads

From the start, Father Edward J. Flanagan saw firsthand how desperate circumstances could have unimaginable results. As a recognized authority in the care of children, Father Flanagan served on commissions that worked to change accepted practices, here in the United States and around the world. Boys Town's leadership in crisis interventions—like the Boys Town National Hotline reflects our commitment to helping children in crisis.

NEARLY 11,000 SUICIDES PREVENTED OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

When crisis comes, Boys Town is here with 24/7 support and access to counselors via e-mail, text and phone. In 2025, we provided assistance and support in many ways.

- **459 Suicides in Progress Prevented**
- **106,600+ Calls and Contacts** to the Boys Town National Hotline
- **78,400+ Downloads** of Your Life Your Voice app

Hear the stories of people who have been helped by Your Life Your Voice.

SCAN NOW









STEP BY STEP

Into the Future



From the Father Flanagan Home for Boys of 1917 to the post-WWII Boys Town

of the late 1940s, past the start of the 21st century and into today—it all began with a first step by Father Edward J. Flanagan. While some may see that step as a leap of faith, for Father Flanagan, it was the start of a life's work that he was called by God to do.

In March 2026, Pope Leo XIV declared Father Flanagan *Venerable* in recognition of his life of heroic virtue. It's an important step on his way to sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church, and one more demonstration of his lasting impact in changing the way America cares for children.

Another Step Forward On the Path to Sainthood

This declaration by Pope Leo XIV completes the **Roman** phase of the canonization process required by the Catholic Church. It included an in-depth review of Father Flanagan's life and miracles attributed to him. The Pope's declaration of *Venerable* confirms Father Flanagan lived a life of heroic virtue.

Now, Father Flanagan's path reaches the next step—**Beatification**. Here, a verified miracle must be attributed to him and approved by the Pope. Once granted, Father Flanagan will be declared *Blessed*, allowing limited public veneration.

The final step will be **Canonization**, requiring a second verified miracle attributed to Father Flanagan. Following confirmation, the Pope will declare Father Flanagan *Saint*—allowing universal veneration across the global Church.

A Man of the People Living a Life of Devotion

Father Flanagan's path reflects a similar process that began during the first centuries of the Church when sainthood was not initiated by the Church, but brought to life by public acclaim or voice of the people.

It began in 1999 when a grassroots devotion toward Father Flanagan among lay Catholics from the Omaha area and









Boys Town alumni inspired the creation of the Father Flanagan League Society of Devotion—the **Pre-Diocesan** or first step in the process.

Then, in 2012, the process entered the next phase when the group appointed a postulator or canon lawyer to formally petition the bishop to open a cause for canonization and investigation of Father Flanagan's life. The Vatican granted the bishop permission to form a tribunal, officially entering the **Diocesan** phase and designating Father Flanagan a *Servant of God*.

At Boys Town, we continue to carry Father Flanagan's vision forward, along with his belief that we are all called to serve the most vulnerable among us.

Steps to Sainthood

- **Pre-Diocesan** (1999)
- **Diocesan** (2012)
- **Roman** (2026)
- **Beatification**
- **Canonization**

Built With Intention

Within the square mile known as Boys Town, Father Flanagan began to create the community he envisioned for the hungry, homeless children who had been lost to society after being orphaned or abandoned. Boys Town would be an idyllic community—with family-style homes and schools, ball fields and churches, a lake for fishing and swimming, trees and gardens, fields and horses. A calm, caring place that emphasized nature and serenity, and where children could live together in an environment that supported their physical, mental, spiritual and intellectual needs.

Today, plans are underway for other amazing projects that support Father Flanagan's vision of Boys Town and its mission of service and love to reach this vulnerable population of young people.

New Preschool for Deaf or Hard of Hearing

This dedicated preschool will welcome children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and their families, to promote language and literacy through a unique and supportive learning facility.

Strong Foundations, Bright Futures

Size: 24,000 square feet

Serves: Children 6 weeks-school age who are deaf or hard of hearing

Capacity: 4 preschool classrooms, 2 infant rooms, 2 toddler rooms

Key Features: Onsite audiologists, therapy rooms, sensory-motor room, art studio, acoustically optimized courtyard

SCAN ME

Discover the life-changing impact of early support.

Scan the QR code to watch the program in action.



Financial



Highlights

2025 Financial Highlights

For more than 100 years, Boys Town's growth and success in saving children and healing families has been possible thanks to generous donations and the foresight and courage of Father Flanagan. Boys Town maintains high standards of fiscal responsibility, working to ensure that its resources will last for generations to come to serve America's children, families and communities.

Helping Children Today and Into the Future

Father Flanagan's Fund for Needy Children, established in 1941, is operated as a de facto restricted fund for the purpose of helping children today and into the future. Unrestricted annual donations are spent on the care of children. None of these donations are put in the Fund for Needy Children unless directed by the donor. Today, as Boys Town continues to balance the competing needs of current and future generations, the Fund for Needy Children is as important as the day it was established. Based on expected investment returns and inflation factors, the Fund for Needy Children can spend, on average, 5 percent of its market value in order to maintain its purchasing power.

Sound Investments, Solid Management

During 2025, the Father Flanagan's Fund for Needy Children provided nearly $55 million of support. This was 5.1 percent of the Fund's January 1, 2025 value.

Sound investments and solid management of the Fund for Needy Children have allowed it to provide stable support for Boys Town at times when markets have been volatile.

Boys Town always strives to be prudent with the dollars received from outside sources, including donations from the public. In 2025, 86 percent of every dollar received was spent on the care of children. Supporting services comprised only 14 percent of total expenses, which is significantly lower than the national benchmark of 35 percent the not-for-profit industry utilizes.

The Gap

Father Flanagan's Fund for Needy Children is an extraordinary resource; however, it only covers a portion of our annual operating expenses. Boys Town relies on the generosity of donors for approximately 25% of its annual operating budget. Your support helps close that gap, allowing us to provide tens of millions of dollars in community benefits every year.



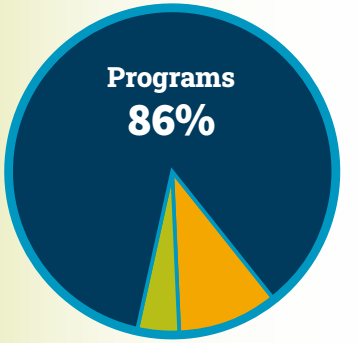




YOUR DOLLAR

Of every dollar donated, 86 cents supports Boys Town programs for children and families.

Data from 2025



Recognized for Fiscal Responsibility

Boys Town has been named a ***BBB Wise Giving Alliance Accredited Charity*** by the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance.

Charity Navigator, one of the nation's largest and most-respected charity rating systems, has awarded Boys Town its highest ratings for the sound management of its finances.

Boys Town was recognized for its transparency with a ***Platinum Seal*** on its Nonprofit Profile on ***GuideStar***, one of the world's largest sources of information on nonprofit organizations.

Dear Friends,

For more than a century, Boys Town has remained steadfast in its mission thanks to a strong foundation of purpose, responsible stewardship and a commitment to serving children and families with excellence. As Chair of the Board of Trustees, I am proud to help oversee an organization that continues to evolve to meet the emerging needs of families today.

The Board of Trustees is entrusted with ensuring the long-term strength and sustainability of Boys Town so future generations of children and families can benefit from its mission. Through careful governance, strategic planning, financial oversight and risk management, we work alongside leadership to ensure that every decision advances our purpose and strengthens the organization's impact.

Over the past year, Boys Town continued to make meaningful investments in research, behavioral health, education and family services, while expanding its capacity to meet the growing needs of children nationwide. The Board has remained focused on supporting a strategy that balances innovation with accountability, ensuring lasting value for those we serve.

We are particularly encouraged by the organization's unwavering commitment to building an integrated continuum of care that connects mental and behavioral health services, family support, educational programs and research. This approach reflects not only a clear vision for the future, but also a disciplined strategy for delivering measurable impact and responding to the complex challenges facing children and families today.

The strength of Boys Town ultimately rests on the trust placed in it from supporters, donors, employees, volunteers and community partners. That trust must be earned every day through transparency, accountability and a steadfast commitment to our mission. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I can confidently say that Boys Town is guided by strong leadership, supported by exceptional employees and positioned to advance its mission for generations to come.

Thank you for your support. Together, we are ensuring that Boys Town remains a trusted leader in improving the lives of children, strengthening families and building brighter futures.

Thomas B. Barker
2025 Board Chair
Trustee since 2020

Retired CEO and Chairman of the Board
West Corporation | Omaha, NE

OUR GOVER

2025 Boys Town National

Members of the Boys Town National Board of Trustees

and the Father Flanagan's Fund for Needy Children Board of Directors selflessly support Boys Town's Mission with monetary gifts and gifts of their time, talent and guidance. **On behalf of the children saved and the families healed by their generosity, Boys Town extends heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to our Trustees and Directors for their contributions and leadership.**



Thomas B. Barker
CHAIR
Trustee since 2020
Retired CEO and Chairman of the Board
West Corporation | Omaha, NE



Joni W. Wheeler
CHAIR-ELECT
Trustee since 2021
Vice President Human Capital
Omaha Public Power District | Omaha, NE



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Trustee since 2024
President
EMI Services | Potomac, MD



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Erickson & Sederstrom | Omaha, NE



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Professor Emeritus
Creighton University School of Medicine, Division of Cardiology | Omaha, NE



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UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center
Professor of Pediatrics; Pediatric Director, Lifeline for Kids
University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School | Worcester, MA



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Trustee since 2022
Former Managing Director
Global Private Equity
The Church Pension Fund | Riverside, CT

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Trustee since 2023
President and Chief Executive Officer
Boys Town | Omaha, NE



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Chief Executive Officer
Scoular | Omaha, NE



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Trustee since 2022 & Boys Town Alumnus
Network Engineer
Orion Advisor Solutions | Omaha, NE



Jodi L. Probst, CPA
Trustee since 2018
Managing Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP | Houston, TX



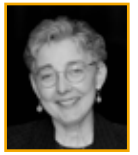
Mark C. Tilden, Esq.
Trustee since 2022 & Boys Town Alumnus
Retired Founding Partner
Tilden Toelupe LLC
Owner
ATM Support, LLC | North Las Vegas, NV



Janet S. Twyman, Ph.D., BCBA, LBA
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Chief Learning Scientist
blast: A Learning Sciences Company | Cottonwood, AZ



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Cisco Systems, Inc. | Omaha, NE



Dorothy Zolandz, Ph.D.
Trustee since 2022
Retired Executive Director of Report Review
The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
Principal
D-Z Impact LLC | Washington, D.C.

100% PARTICIPATION

In 2025, all of our National Board of Trustees made donations to support Boys Town's mission, demonstrating their strong commitment to our efforts to save children, heal families and strengthen communities.

2025 Father Flanagan's Fund For Needy Children Board of Directors

Thomas B. Barker
Director since 2023
Retired CEO and Chairman
West Corporation | Omaha, NE

Rodney J. Kempkes, Chair
Director since 2022
Chief Executive Officer
Boys Town | Omaha, NE

L. Erik Lundberg
Director since 2017
Chief Investment Officer
University of Michigan | Ann Arbor, MI

Helen A. Fox-O'Brien
Director since 2016
Former Managing Director
Church Pension Fund | Riverside, CT

Georganne F. Perkins
Director since 2023
Former Managing Director
Fisher Lynch Capital | Kensington, CA

Thomas B. Woodbury
Director since 2024
Managing Director, Office of Investments
University of Pennsylvania | Princeton, NJ



BOYS TOWN
Saving Children Healing Families

boystown.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
14100 Crawford Street, Boys Town, NE 68010
800-217-3700 | boystown.org

NATIONAL RESEARCH HOSPITAL
555 North 30th Street, Omaha, NE 68131
531-355-1234 | boystownhospital.org

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