

Celebrating 40 YEARS OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES



As we celebrate 40 years of impact at YPN, I am filled with gratitude for every individual who has played a role in shaping this organization. From the visionary leaders and passionate volunteers who laid the foundation, to the dedicated board members, generous donors, committed staff, and supportive community who continue to carry the mission forward—you have made YPN what it is today.

This milestone is not just a reflection of years passed, but of countless lives touched, families strengthened, and given hope for the future. While we honor and celebrate our past, we also look ahead with determination. The needs of families are ever-changing, and YPN must continue to grow, adapt, and lead with compassion and purpose.

As we prepare for the next chapter, we ask for your continued support and guidance. Together we can ensure that YPN remains a source of support, education, and empowerment for generations to come.

Thank you for believing in this mission and for walking beside us on this remarkable journey. Here's to the past 40 years—and to all that lies ahead.

With gratitude,

Alganda Pin

YPN Executive Director

"

I'm a mom, and I know how overwhelming it can feel at times, even when a great network of support surrounds you. I'm proud to serve YPN because I know what tremendous resources YPN offers to families in our community – providing a network of support that all parents need at times! The care and guidance provided by YPN staff is topnotch – and the incentives to earn diapers, clothing, and more provide parents with tangible rewards for their commitment to broadening their parenting skillset. I have attended group nights and other events and interacted with parents and their children; it's great to see them take action to be the best parents they can be!

~ Alison Kaster, *UFG Insurance, YPN Board Chair*



2024 – 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PAUL RUFFALO, BOARD VICE CHAIR, Collins Community Credit Union
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MIRANDA VON AHSEN

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MADDIE BARTACHEK, Parent Educator

KELSEY CONNICK, Jones County Parent Educator

DANA CURTIS, Communications Coordinator

TASIA DAVIDSON, We Care Shop &

Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank Coordinator

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NICOLE HUMPAL, Program Supervisor

ELIAH MADUKULI, Parent Educator

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KATIE STEPHENS, Accounting

HEIKE WAGNER, Volunteer Coordinator

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Our Mission

Create a network of support through education and resources to build confidence and personal accountability for healthy and successful families.

Our Vision

Empowering families and impacting generations, creating a brighter future for our community.

Comprehensive Programs

At YPN, we strive to be the premier provider of comprehensive parent education services, from prenatal care to kindergarten and beyond, to help combat various social issues many families face. We help families navigate resources, create goals, and encourage them every step of the way because we believe that every person deserves nurturing and education to help them overcome barriers and to gain stability in all areas of their lives. This allows parents to be their best for themselves and their families.

- Healthy parenting skills
- Child Development
- Employment and job skills
- Resources for substance abuse
- Financial Literacy
- Transportation
- Housing
- Mental health resources

FY25 Program Impact & Participant Demographics





511,863

diapers were distributed by the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank **533**



moms, dads & kids served at Building Bright Futures' prenatal & parenting groups

86% 🔲 🗌

of YPN children show age-appropriate development

6,817

visits to the incentive-based We Care Shop and the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank



496

4,53

3,785 meals served during all YPN programs



2,006 home visits made to 131 families



languages spoken at weekly group night



Building Bright Futures

YPN's Building Bright Futures core programming model provides participants with comprehensive, long-term prenatal and parenting services, offering families the support, education, and empowerment they need, while also connecting them with their peers in a safe environment. YPN staff guides and supports the entire family for as long as they wish to participate or until their child begins kindergarten. The Building Bright Futures program is currently offered in seven different languages. YPN offers transportation, childcare, and a meal to all participants at no cost.

"

YPN has helped my family with many things, from advice for my children to learning developmental milestones, and helping us locate referrals. YPN also helps us earn points to use in the We Care Shop, which provides diapers, wipes, clothing, and more. We are so grateful for your time, patience, and support.



When I meet with my YPN staff, Kelly, I feel so safe, and that my children are cared for by YPN. Thank you for all you've done for our family."

> ~Pamela & Bahati with their children, Daniel, Michael, and Precious, 2024-current



Luke, Anne, and their son, Levi 2024 - current

Luke and Anne initially participated in our Building Bright Futures program. Luke and Anne have two children, Sabrina (4 years old) and Levi (8 months). Luke enjoyed participating in the Dads' Group, while Anne first joined the Toddler/Preschool Moms' Group before transitioning to the Newborn/Infant Group. Later, they started participating in YPN's Parents as Teachers Home Visitation Program. In this program, they reported feeling more confident in their ability to take care of Levi and felt empowered by their ability to use their efforts in home visits and other healthy behaviors to earn points

for the We Care Shop. Luke and Anne continue to thrive by building connections at both group and throughout their home visit experience.

66

We have learned a great deal about how to care for Levi. Everything about the Dads' Group has been great — getting to know the other dads, and the facilitators — I love everything about it."

~Luke

Meeting other moms and dads out there and learn how to be a good parent to both kids."

~Anne



Home Visitations

YPN offers home visitations to families in Linn and Jones Counties. YPN uses the Parents as Teachers® curriculum, a globally recognized, evidence-based model, that promotes a reflective approach to support parent partnerships with their YPN Parent Educator, parent-child relationships, and family well-being.









Home Visitation Program Highlights

- Families meet twice per month for 60 minutes with a Parents as Teachers® Certified Parent Educator
- Visits focus on family and child development with the Parents as Teachers® evidence-informed and research-based curriculum
- YPN provided 2,006 Home Visits to 131 families with 209 children (ages 0-5) in Linn and Jones counties in FY25.

Home Visits are funded by Linn and Jones County Early Childhood Iowa (ECI).



DECAT

YPN offers additional tools for parents through Linn County Decategorization (**DECAT**) funded curricula. These additional parent groups and training expand on the support given through core YPN programming, and provide further opportunities for parents of children ages 0-18 living in Linn County. The information provided helps to educate and improve behaviors and relationships between parents, children, and the community.



These additional offerings are funded by Linn County Decategorization Grant

DECAT Program Highlights

YPN provided **135** hours of education to more than **189** parents via **41** in-person and virtual courses in FY25.

<u>Course Offerings Include:</u>

- Parent Café
- 24/7 Dad
- Love & Logic
- Understanding Dad
- Incredible Years
- Make Parenting A Pleasure

We Care Shop



\$33,892 total value of in-kind donations

198 community donors

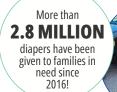
158
volunteers served
1,335
hours in the We Care Shop and EIDB

6,817 visits by shoppers in the We Care Shop and EIDB

The YPN We Care Shop is an incentive-based program that allows families to earn points in various ways, by attending group meetings, prenatal well-child visits, participating in activities such as school or work, accessing counseling, and achieving personal and family goals, among other healthy behaviors. The points are then used to purchase baby and childcare items.

The We Care Shop is run by YPN staff and volunteers who assist parents with their shopping needs, including baby care items, formula, diapers, gently used clothing (sizes 0-5T), toys, games, books, and more. Community members have donated all items in the We Care Shop.

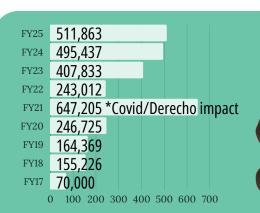






The Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank (EIDB) was created in 2016 by YPN and the Eastern Iowa Health Center (EIHC). These organizations saw a common need: Diapers. So simple, yet so important. Seeing the hardship that diaper costs have created for some of the community's most vulnerable families, they developed an incentive-model program where families can earn diaper points by participating in YPN prenatal and parenting programs, being a patient of EIHC, and/or receiving WIC services.

We know that one in two families in the United States struggles to afford diapers for their children. Thanks to generous donations, we can help to alleviate that financial stress for our families.





Minnesota Early Learning Design The Prenatal (MELD) was founded in Cedar Rapids, the inital starting point of Young Parents Network!

Program and Outreach Services Program were piloted in Iowa County.

was opened. It was hosted by Cedar

Young Parents Network initiated the Parents As Teachers (PAT) curriculum in Linn County.

Young Parents Network engaged

in a "Building For

Tomorrow" facilities

capital campaign



Implementation of services specific to the Latino Community in Cedar Rapids.

successfully relocated to **Business Journal** the Sister **Mary Lawrence Community Center** after a highly successful "Building Futures" capital campaign with Boys & Girls Clubs of Innovation Award in the Collaboration Cedar Rapids, Kids First Law, and Gems of Hope.

Network



We Care Shop celebrates its 20th Anniversary!



Partnership with Eastern Iowa Health Center to create the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank, Inaugural **EIDB Diaper Drive** held in October!

1985 1990 1993 2000 2007 2009 2011 2013

1988 1991 1998 2003 2008 2010 2012 2014 The Young Dads

Program, one of the first young fatherhood programs in the nation, was founded with seed money from The Hall Foundation.

MELD was offically named "Young Parents Network."

Broadway Maybies celebrated their first produciton. raising \$4.823.

> Young Parents Network implemented The Pregnancy Prevention Programs.

Network

was established.

which raised \$200,000! YPN's first capital



The Wee Care Shop was closed due to the flood.



programming for fathers was formed



Formation of the Child Family Community Partnership (CFCP) in conjunction with Boys & Girls Clubs of Cedar Rapids and

Tanager Place.



YPN began the oversight of the Taylor Area Neighborhood Association.

YPN began the

certification

process for

Service Enterprise.

recognizing the

critical nature

volunteers have in

the overall success

of our nonprofit.

YPN celebrated the 25th Anniversary of **Broadway Maybies!** Directors from Boys & Girls Clubs

received the Iowa Volunteers Hall

Governor Brandstad

to the African immigrant and of Cedar Rapids formed YouthPort



East Central Iowal

and Lunch & implemented STEM

2016

Implementation of services specific refugee community in Cedar Rapids.



Rebranded from Young Parents Network to YPN.

In response to the national COVID-19 pandemic, YPN began virtual groups for more than 100 families per week.

In August, a Derecho hits Eastern Iowa, devastating our community. YPN expanded services and helped families with recovery. housing, food, and supplies.



A federal grant allows YPN **Home Visitation** participants to receive 100% of their diaper needs

> YPN launches "My Why: A YPN Podcast" Conversations to highlight programming and community connections.



YPN is recognized as the winner of the 'Community Impact Award' at the 1st ever 'lowa Podcast Awards' presented by Upload Media Group.

2018

2021

Added Swahili as a language offering in our African program services to meet the diverse needs in our community.



In 2020, the Brian Stutzman Giving Society was established.

EIDB distributes 647.000+ diapers and served 2,300+ families in need.

WANA (Westside Area Neighborhood Association) recognizes YPN as a Critical Collaborator within the Westside neighborhood.



Inaugural Trivia Night Fundraising Event (replacing the 31-year running **Broadway Maybies** fundraiser).

We Care Shop's 30th Anniversary!



YPN celebrates 40 vears of serving East Central Iowa.





Reflecting on the past 40 years, what stands out to me is how a single person's passion to provide support to four teen moms has grown to be the outstanding agency it is today. It's easy to be impressed by the numbers — the thousands of parents striving to be the best parents they can be, at the same time facing unimaginable barriers. The thousands of hours that our selfless staff, board members, and volunteers have provided to make these families successful. The hundreds of community partners and donors who made it all possible. But beyond the numbers, I think of the incredible families we've had the privilege to empower — whose resilience, dedication, and love for their children have been the true driving force behind YPN's success."

> ~Kathy Kaiden YPN Director of Development, 1995-2020





Chad & Kristina, and son Zachary 1990-1993



"

MELD was there for me when I found myself pregnant at age 17. They offered birthing classes and classes to help through early childhood. I was supported through this trying time in my life. I'm still friends with some moms I met there.

My favorite part of attending programming was gathering with peers and not feeling judged. I enjoyed being able to bring my husband (we were not married at the time) to the prenatal classes since we were going through this journey together.

Many years later, I was the Prenatal Coordinator at YPN! I was proud to help other moms by sharing my education and own parenting experiences with them.

Today, I am an OB nurse with over 25 years of nursing experience. My husband and I have been married for 31 years. Our son Zachary is now 34 years old. He has two sisters, who are 23 years old and 19 years old.

This program is invaluable. I found pride in both being a participant and an employee."

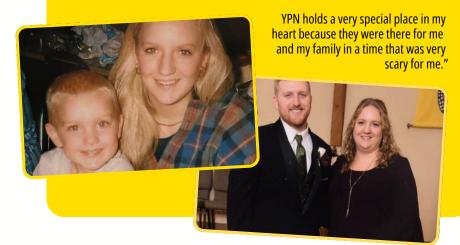
Amber and son Christopher 1992-1993

66

YPN impacted my life by helping me build friendships with other moms in similar situations to mine. I still run into old YPN friends, and we talk about our kids and now grandkids. YPN was supportive, educational, and I always felt welcome.

I remember building relationships and gaining knowledge on how to care for my child, as well as the importance of caring for myself.

Today, I own my own home and work as a preschool teacher. I recently completed my bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Ambrose University and am working to become a therapist. My son is now 32 years old, has two associate's degrees, and is now an Electrician. He is married with a 2-year-old daughter. My son and I have always had a close relationship, and I love visiting him and his family.



James & Caitlyn, and daughter Aria 2017-2021

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We had an amazing experience with YPN. When we started, my then-boyfriend was 22 and I was 19, and we were facing an unexpected pregnancy. We had very negative reactions from family and did not have a support network. Coming to YPN, there was no judgment, and we had someone else sharing in the excitement we felt to be first-time parents. James and I welcomed our first daughter, Aria, in December of 2017. Shortly after getting home, both the Moms' Program Specialist and the Dads' Program Specialist stopped by to make sure we were settling in. During weekly groups, I began meeting other moms with babies the same age as mine, and we would share similar struggles and frustrations, becoming new moms in a space with no judgment. James was able to discuss his struggles with adjusting to parenthood in his Dads' Group without feeling like he was a bad dad. We continued attending as Aria got older, and she began making friends as well. This group was amazing for us!

Without YPN, we would not have built the connections and support network we have today. I met my best friend at Moms' Group, and our daughters have now been best friends since. If I were talking with a stranger about YPN, I would tell them that attending the classes will be life-changing in the best ways. You gain a network of friends and mentors who support you in every way.

Today, Aria is now seven years old. We have also since welcomed another daughter, Amelia, who is two years old. We have gotten married, purchased our own home, and welcomed 2 dogs. We also both have full-time employment in our fields of study. Without YPN, I don't believe we would be where we are now, as we learned so much about healthy relationships, money management, and resource navigation."



VPN Volunteers

YPN volunteers are the best in our community! They are the heartbeat of our organization, and we would not be able to provide the services that we do without them. By giving of their time and talents, these dedicated and caring individuals save our organization critical dollars that can go directly to supporting programming for the participants we serve.

253
volunteers served
2,329
hours at Building Bright Futures Group

58 volunteers served 377 hours at DECAT programs

496 total volunteers served 4,534 hours in all YPN programs



66

I first started volunteering with YPN to fulfill the service hours I needed for a class. I never expected that almost 15 years later I'd still be there. The staff at YPN, the children and families they serve, along with YPN's commitment to the community, have kept me returning every week. YPN is a vital resource that will empower families for generations to come. I am proud to be a part of their work and to make a positive impact on the lives of so many families."

~Tracy Ehlert, YPN Volunteer



"The work that YPN does to give a hand up and not a handout empowers parents and allows them to have a successful life. Raising kids is hard, even in the best circumstances; for many families, having a support system like YPN is invaluable. I support their mission because I have witnessed the impact they have made."

~Chris Edwards, YPN Board of Directors & Trustees

"I've known about YPN since the 80s, and I have known many people who have used their services. As a volunteer in childcare and the We Care Shop, I have witnessed the commitment that parents make to the program and their families. They earn points, and I see the joy that comes from being able to get diapers, clothing, and toys for their children. I see the difference that YPN makes in their lives."

~Barb Pino, YPN Volunteer

"Fathers are greatly underserved, but we know the impact that engaged fathers have on their children. I've seen parents come to group feeling like they're alone, and after sitting with their peers, they realize they're not. I enjoy the connections I've made with families over the past 16 years, and I will always treasure my time with YPN."

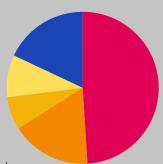
~Jim Brown, YPN Volunteer & Board of Directors

"I serve with YPN because I can be part of something bigger than me, and I know the difference their impact makes."

~Aaron-Marie Thoms, YPN Board of Directors

Funding Streams

- 49% Government Funding*
- 18% Grants
- 17% Donations
- 9% United Way of East Central Iowa
- 7% Event Fundraising



*State of Iowa Dept. of Health and Human Services, Early Childhood Iowa, and Linn County Decategarization



Events & Partnerships



Our 3rd Annual YPN Trivia Night Fundraiser was a huge success! 300+ community members attended to support YPN programs! Emcee Eric Hanson brought the fun and challenging trivia. Thanks to all for supporting our mission! Learn more at **ypniowa.org/trivia-night**



YouthPort was created in 2012 to provide a referral network of programs & services. Together, we provide safety, meals, academic support, parenting education, literacy & STEM initiatives, music & art therapy. Learn more at **youthport.org**



Each October since 2016, YPN and the Eastern Iowa Health Center have hosted Operation Diaper Drive, a community-wide cause to help stock the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank! Each year, this event grows with support from sponsors, donors and volunteers! eiDiaperBank.org



YPN hosts events throughout the year for our participants to enjoy, such as our annual Safety Fair, Resource Fair, STEM Night, Summer Graduation Picnic, Holiday Dinner for 250+ parents & children, and our Holiday Shopping, which provides 170+ families with 260+ children with 3 brand new toys and stocking stuffers. These experiences are made possible by corporate sponsors and donations.





These corporate community partners supported YPN programs with contributions at the \$500 level or higher between Jan 1, 2024-December 31, 2024. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy.

YPN SEEDS for Growth Giving Society members, your commitment makes an immediate impact on the critical needs of our agency and local families.

- Support for families through programs, providing knowledgeable staff & volunteers
- Educate families by offering quality curricula, incentives, and access to resources
- Empower families to be their best, and achieve their goals with accountability and dignity
- Discretionary budget that allows us to grow our overall operations and capabilities
- Share YPN opportunities with your staff: to donate, gift matching, and volunteer time off

Alpine Level (\$50,000+)

Iowa Community Action Association United Way of East Central Iowa

Maple Level (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Greater Cedar Rapids Community
Foundation
Transamerica

Walnut Level (\$10,000-\$24,999)

GreatAmerica Financial Services Corporation UFG

Legacy Level (\$5000-\$9999)

Alliant Energy Foundation
Big Grove Brewery
Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust
Collins Aerospace
Lil' Drug Store Products, Inc.
New Leader Manufacturing
Raytheon
Van Meter, Inc.
World Class Industries, Inc.

Advocate Level (\$2500-\$4999)

100+ Who Care Cedar Rapids Metro
Bankers Trust
Dave Schmitt Construction
Diamond V Corporate Fund
Hawkeye Communication/Fandel Alarm
Hills Bank & Trust
ITC Holdings
McIntyre Foundation
Randy Kuehl Honda
Rinderknecht Associates, Inc.
Veridian Credit Union
Wellpoint Corporation
Witwer Trust Fund

Oak Level (\$1000-\$2499)

Berthel Fisher Companies
CCB Packaging, Inc.
Cedar Rapids Metro North Rotary
Community 1st Credit Union
F&M Bank
Mercy Medical Staff
Midwest Equipment Company
Noelridge Christian Church

Oak Level (\$1000-\$2499)

Paulson Electric/
PEC Communications
Raining Rose, Inc.
Solum Lang Architects
St. Matthew Catholic Parish
TrueNorth Companies
West Side Transport Inc.

Goldfinch Level (\$500-\$999)

Bradley & Riley PC
Daybreak Rotary
Grace and Space, LLC
Heartland Bank and Trust Company
Kenwood Records Management, Inc.
Lucky's on 16th
Ohnward Bank & Trust
Rayser Holdings
Ryan Companies
Salem United Methodist Church
Slingshot25 LLC
US Bank

In 2020, the **Brian Stutzman Giving Society** was established to honor the former Executive Director's impact and legacy and highlight individual donors' investment in the financial stability of YPN. As the agency plans for the future, it is imperative to think long-term and strategically to ensure young families in Eastern lowa, and beyond, continue to have access to quality programs and services. The gifts below were received between January 1 - December 31, 2024 by individuals who gave \$500 and above. **Thank you to the 2024 Brian Stutzman Giving Society*** members:

Legacy (\$5000+)

Anonymous Jon and Tatum Buse Kathy Donnelly Teri and Brian Donnelly Pat McGrath Gary and Cathy Rozek Jacqueline Wilhelm Jim and Linda Zachar

Advocate Level (\$2500-\$4999)

Jeremy Elges and Èmily Blomme Chris and Lisa Edwards Matt and Kate Evans Ted and Trish Ellison Robb and Dana Loftsgard Mary Lou and William McCartan Mindy Olson and Ethan Domke Dusky Terry

Oak Level (\$1000-\$2499)

Anonymous
Craig and Ann Adamson
Linda Apsey
Brandon and Kim Blankenship
Christy and Brian Brandt
Ann and Dave Bunting
Josh and Jen Burgett
Terri Christoffersen
Pat and Suzie Dale
Ann Dorr

Oak Level (\$1000-\$2499)

Dana and John Ehrhart Brian Fagan Tork and Lynn Harman Amy and Chris Hummer Alison and Leony Kaster Cindy Klein Patti and Kyle Kunz Brad and Tamra Lang Erin and Britton Langdon Dennis and Mary Miller Brandi and Chris Mueller Kirt Norris Ron and Sue Olson Autumn and Alejandro Pino Al and Martha Ruffalo Miranda Von Ahsen and Shane Dietze Frank Weinstein Larry and Joni Witzel

Goldfinch Level (\$500-\$999)

Anonymous
Terry and Johanna Abernathy
Argenis Acosta
Michael and LeAnn Arnold
Shannon and Kevin Baranowski
Shaun and Ashley Barry
Anthony Bennett
Zachary Bruce
Shannon and Chris Bruns
Scott and Janice Byers
Lorilei and Jim Christner

Goldfinch Level (\$500-\$999)

Brad and Olivia Curtin Ellie Evans Brooke and Andy Fitzgerald Dennis and Diane Flynn Gallagher Family Donor-Advised Fund Kim and Brent Garrett Luis Granadillo Iohn Hanna Brad and Jade Hart Julia and Matt Herzog W. Richard and Ellen Hull Sandy and John Ikeda Chad and Julie Koutny Constance and AJ Losch Brad and Amy Marcus Marcia and John Myers Elizabeth and Brett Papendick Rudy and Barb Pino Ron Pins Jim Brown and Cindy Reece Tisha Ritter Diana Rodriguez leff and Michelle Rossate Paul and Hillary Ruffalo Ianice Russell Jared and Brittany Scanlon Ionathan Scheib Geri and Joseph Schmitt John Chaimov and Jenny Schulz Brian and Stephanie Slocum Aaron-Marie and Derek Thoms Andy and Bailey Tiedt



"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

~Nelson Henderson



*Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy.



Young Parents Network

420 6th Street S.E., Suite 260 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401















Mark your calendars and join us for our 4th Annual YPN Trivia Night fundraiser. **Friday, March 27, 2026!**











ypniowa.org