



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Tuscaloosa's One Place
A Family Resource Center

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Tuscaloosa's One Place, A Family Resource Center empowers people to achieve their full potential. We provide resources to promote self-sufficiency, strengthen families, and prevent child abuse and neglect thus improving the quality of life for all members of our community.

Through a dedicated effort between our staff and community partners, Tuscaloosa's One Place has made a difference in the lives of local families since 1999. We continue to assess the needs of the community and work to find innovative ways to make a positive impact.

At Tuscaloosa's One Place, A Family Resource Center (TOP) we value family and parent engagement, community collaboration, and providing services in a comfortable environment where families can achieve their best possible outcomes. For the last 19 years, TOP has worked to identify needs in the community and strives to meet those needs through diverse programming, including after school programs, parenting education, case management, relationship education, teen intervention and crisis services. Our holistic programs serve thousands in West Alabama each year.

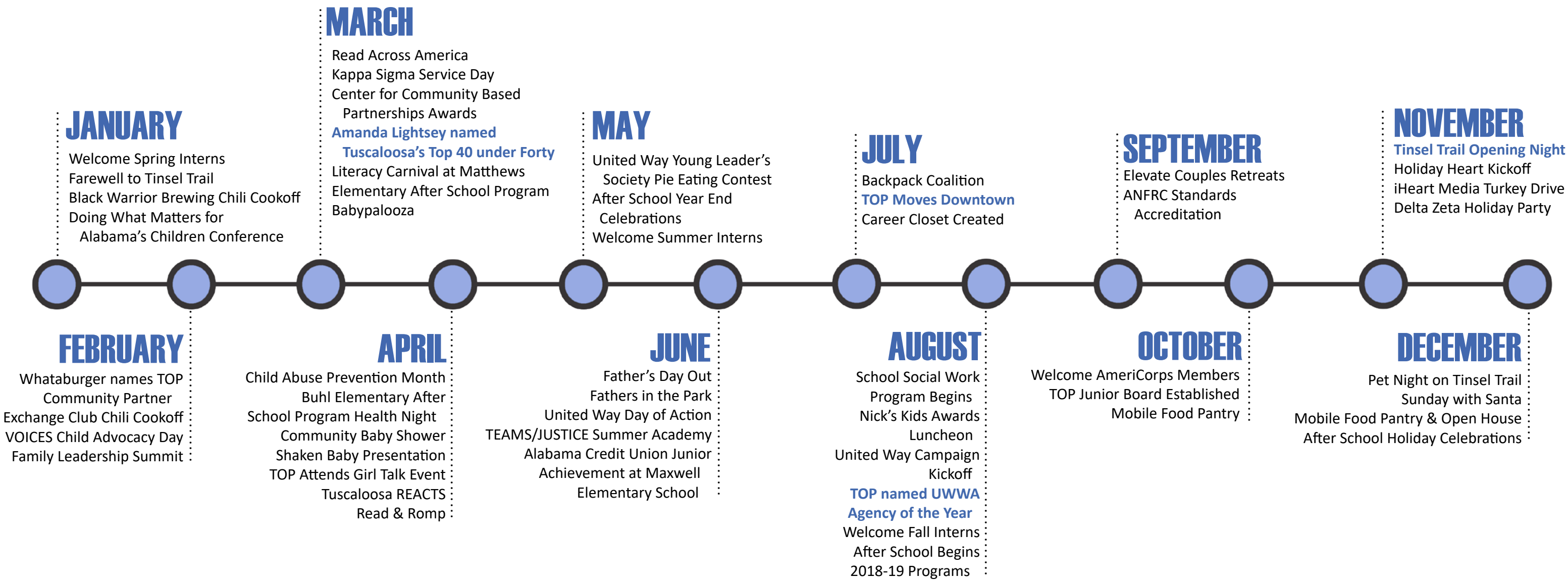
In this 19th year, we accomplished a goal that allowed us to serve the community even more. In July of 2018, a 10 year dream was fulfilled and TOP moved to a new downtown facility!

Instead of several rental houses and portables, the agency is now serving families in ONE PLACE. The facility includes classroom and training space, offices for staff, and room for our families with young ones to play and be a part of the learning experience. The more we grow, the more we realize how much opportunity is yet to come. Our mission is not a simple task, but it is clear—we work to bring families together and be one unit. This year, TOP also became one unit.

We believe in the power of families. We strive to build strong families that build strong communities. We are excited to see what our twentieth year brings, and we are proud to continue making a difference in West Alabama.

*Amanda Lightsey
Executive Director*

2018 AT A GLANCE



WHO WE ARE

Since 1999, Tuscaloosa's One Place has focused on promoting self-sufficiency, strengthening families, and preventing child abuse & neglect. We fulfill that focus by serving our families through career & personal development, family & parenting services, teen intervention & support, and after school & child development.

In 2018, there were 610 reports of child abuse or neglect in the Tuscaloosa area. It takes significant collaboration and partnership to coordinate over 20 individual programs designed to address critical family needs. We strive to meet families where they are to empower them to reach their full potential.

OUR TOP TEAM

STAFF

34 full-time, 5 part-time, and
75 contract staff

VOLUNTEERS

Hundreds of volunteers contributed
29,450 hours of service in 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our top-tier staff acquired 963 hours
of continued training in the last year

PARTNERSHIPS

Community partnerships help us to serve
the whole family. TOP currently partners
with 179 businesses and/or organizations.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION

TOP staff serve on 32 local and statewide
committees and boards of directors.

5141 PEOPLE IN 1749 FAMILIES

Over 2,000 adults & 3,000 children
were served by TOP in 2018.



AFTER SCHOOL & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

730 STUDENTS SERVED through 8 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Buhl Elementary • Collins-Riverside Middle • Davis Emerson Middle
Englewood Elementary • Flatwoods Elementary • Holt Elementary
Matthews Elementary • Maxwell Elementary

- **Academic Remediation**
Mentoring & STEM Programs
- **Family Engagement**
Actively engaging parents through newsletters, one-on-one sessions, parent nights, and family events.
- **Life Skills**
Practical skills to prepare students for everyday challenges & employability, such as WhyTry.
- **Enrichment & Service Learning**
Provides quality educational, recreational & social programs for students. Fifteen service learning projects completed by students.

In partnership with Dr. Melanie Acosta, TOP's Literacy Lab received the Excellence Award for Outstanding Faculty/Staff-Initiated Engagement Effort from the Council on Community-Based Partnerships. The Literacy Lab is an enrichment activity offered in partnership with TOP's after school program at Matthews Elementary School.

SOCIAL WORK

In an effort to continue to engage families and meet the needs of students in local schools, TOP partnered with Tuscaloosa County School System to place five social workers into 11 schools. Social work staff are tasked with helping to address mental health needs and social/emotional development.

Brookwood Elementary • Brookwood Middle • Brookwood High
Collins-Riverside Middle • Echols Middle • Englewood Elementary
Lakeview Elementary • Matthews Elementary • Maxwell Elementary
Tuscaloosa County High • Vance Elementary

ENRICHMENT PARTNERS

Al's Pals
Alabama Blues Project
Alabama Credit Union
Alabama Museum of Natural History
All Fired Up
American Chemical Society
AMF Bowling Alley
Bama Bounders
Bricks 4 Kidz
Catch Kids Club
DiET Program
Discovery Buddies
Dr. Acosta & UA CEE 370 students
DREAM Program
Duncanville Volunteer Fire Department
Dynamic Education Adventures
Fallon Plowman, Dance
Fun Factory
Get Rhythm with John Scalici
Leland Lanes
Libby Listens
noteABLE
Rainey Ranch
READ Alabama
The Gateway
TSNIP
Tuscaloosa Metro Animal Shelter
Tuscaloosa Public Library
United Way
Upsurge
Uptown Art
West Alabama Martial Arts

TEEN INTERVENTION & SUPPORT

TEAMS

Tuscaloosa Encouraging Adolescents with Monitoring & Support

TEAMS serves youth through electronic monitoring, multifaceted case management, and summer programs. In 2018, 34 youth and their families received TEAMS services.

JUSTICE

Juveniles Supported Through Integrated Community Engagement

JUSTICE provides reentry programming to juveniles returning to the community from secure residential placements. Assistance includes case management, mentoring, and civil legal services. JUSTICE was awarded the 2018 **Excellence Award for Outstanding Community Partner-Initiated Engagement Effort** by the Council on Community-Based Partnerships. Twenty four youth were served through JUSTICE in 2018.

CRISIS & EMERGENCY SERVICES

TOP offers one-on-one consultation in times of crisis or emergency needs. Needs often include homelessness, clothing assistance, and/or food assistance. In 2018, TOP conducted

90 IN-PERSON CONSULTATIONS

1074 CALL-IN CONSULTATIONS



FAMILY & PARENTING

HOME VISITATION

No Place Like Home, Families First & Intensive In-Home Services served 119 families through home visitation programs. Over 90% of participants served were successfully discharged from the program.

PARENTING EDUCATION

Parent2Parent & Parent Project are offered to increase positive parenting skills and improve child well-being. 121 parents received education through these programs.

CHAMPS

Changing Habits & Making Parents Stronger

CHAMPS is a program designed to promote financial stability, relationship skills, and parental involvement for noncustodial parents. In 2018, 130 parents were served, resulting in an increase of \$40,891 in child support payments.

SAFE SLEEPING

Two safe sleeping initiatives have been implemented at TOP to reduce the rate of SIDS: **Cribs 4 Kids & Baby Box University**. In 2018, TOP served 113 parents through these initiatives.

BABY TALK

TOP staff made 26 maternity ward visits and provided early child development information and resources to 99 new mothers.

FUSE

A Healthy Relationship Education Program

A project of the Alabama Healthy Marriage & Relationship Education Initiative, five curricula are offered to serve youth, individuals, and couples. Classes were provided to 422 participants in 2018.

PARENTING

In the Community

• Strengthening Families

Participants receive parenting resources, information, and provide ongoing data used to evaluate community parenting needs. There are 10 families currently in the program.

• Parent Leadership Academy

Nine parents participated in group sessions designed to create a network of strong parents and families in Tuscaloosa.

• Community Baby Showers

TOP hosted two community events to provide parenting information and resources to expectant or new parents.

GED

Our partnership with Shelton State Community College provided Tuscaloosa residents with access to local GED classes.

IN THE COMMUNITY

TOP is proud to serve our community with education, events, and activities to holistically serve the needs of local children and families.

DOING WHAT MATTERS for Alabama's Children

For the 12th year this statewide conference focused on improving the well-being of Alabama children, hosting over 230 participants with topics including: resilience, employment, human trafficking, drug trends, social media, legislation, and more.

FATHERS IN THE PARK

In partnership with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Alumnae Association, TOP hosted Fathers in the Park. Over 640 attendees enjoyed a day of free family fun, made possible by over 40 community partners and 135 volunteers.

HOLIDAY HEART

Local business, organization, and personal donations were coordinated through TOP to make the holidays magical for 500 children. Throughout the holiday season, 87 families also received meals.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRIES

New in 2018, TOP began serving Tuscaloosa through hosting mobile food pantries. During two events, 300 families were served with over 10 tons of food. The mobile pantry hosted at TOP in December also provided many clients with necessities, such as clothing, toiletries, and hygiene supplies.



Amanda Lightsey
Executive Director

AGENCY OF THE YEAR

TOP was recognized as the **2017-2018 Homer Butler Jr. Agency of the Year** by the United Way of West Alabama. This award is given annually to the UWWA partner agency that sets a standard of excellence by serving its mission in an outstanding manner.

JUNIOR BOARD

TOP formed its first ever junior board consisting of junior and senior high school students throughout Tuscaloosa County. The junior board consists of students from private, public, and home schools. Board members volunteer, plan, and execute fundraisers and donation drives. The junior board learns from TOP staff, board members, and local leaders about how they can serve and impact their community, preparing them to be successful leaders in the future.

JUNIOR BOARD MEMBERS:

Sarah Taylor, Chair
Alexis Archibald, Vice Chair
Cindy Hayes, Secretary
Michael Coats
Brionna Humber
Kayla Jenkins
Rhiannon Nelson
Ellen Nicholson
JaNaya Walton

OUR EVENTS

Black Warrior Brewing Company hosted the 4th Annual Chili Cookoff with proceeds benefitting TOP. Over a dozen competitors participated with hundreds of patrons in attendance.

The **United Way YLS Pie Eating Contest** is a multi-agency fundraising event highlighting each agency's mission. Proceeds benefit UWWA partner agencies.

TINSEL TRAIL

In 2018, Tinsel Trail was awarded the Tuscaloosa News Best of the Best Seasonal Attraction. TOP is proud to have created a holiday tradition for the Tuscaloosa community to enjoy. For the 6th year, Tinsel Trail lined the Tuscaloosa River Walk with 180 decorated trees complete with **Avenue Pub & Central Mesa's** Candy Cane Lane. Tinsel Trail includes beloved events, including Grand Opening festivities, Pet Night, and Sunday with Santa.

Tinsel Trail is free for the whole community to enjoy from November to January each year. Trees are sponsored & decorated by community businesses, organizations, and individuals.

Together, we are making
a difference.





Mobile Food Pantry
October 2018

OUR NEW HOME

For 19 years, we called Redmont Drive home. Due to the changing needs of the agency and community, TOP relocated to a prime location in downtown Tuscaloosa in July of 2018. Our new home allows us to be more centrally located and closer to other nonprofit service providers.

A larger home affords more opportunities to grow. Our facility has improved meeting and classroom spaces, welcoming areas for families and partners, and allows for streamlined service delivery to improve the impact we are able to have on children and families.

MAKE AN IMPACT

Your gift makes a difference. A tax-deductible donation at any level stays right here in the Tuscaloosa community and helps move vulnerable children and families in the direction of hope.

For information on ways you can support Tuscaloosa's One Place, A Family Resource Center, visit tuscaloosaoneplace.org or contact Amanda Lightsey at alightsey@tuscaloosaoneplace.org.



VOLUNTEER



MATCHING
GIFTS



MAJOR
GIFTS



PLANNED
GIVING

FROM THE CHAIR

2018 was another year of strong performance and growth for Tuscaloosa's One Place (TOP). On behalf of the TOP Board of Directors and staff, I am proud to recognize the positive impact our agency is making on families in the Tuscaloosa community and West Alabama area. TOP has been providing a comprehensive approach to local families for the last nineteen years.

Our goal has always been to empower families to reach their full potential, resulting in improved quality of life for all members of our community. In order to best serve our families, we continue to build and nurture community collaborations, including state and local social service agencies, educational partners, as well as local businesses. Our collaborative partnerships strengthen TOP and our systems of support for the families we serve every day.

Every staff member at TOP brings unique skills and abilities to help our families thrive. They create a caring, enthusiastic atmosphere that helps us shine, and that warmth is radiated throughout our community. I am so grateful to be a part of this agency, and I am proud of the work TOP does for West Alabama and the difference it is making in the lives of families.

*Ross Bryan
Chair, Tuscaloosa's One Place
Board of Directors*

OUR BOARD

Ross Bryan, Chair
Chad Tindol, Vice Chair
John Malone, Secretary
Carla Bailey, Treasurer
Kimberly Bailey
Leah Colvin
Chris Gunter
Leslie Guy
Reed Lightsey
Debra Nelson-Gardell
Alisa Robertson
Kelsey Rush
Steve Steele

Ex-Officio Member:
Joy Humphrey

Emeritus Members:
Star Bloom
Helene Hibbard
Al May





PO Box 2476
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403
205.462.1000

tuscaloosaoneplace.org

