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ANNUAL REPORT July 2016 - June 2017

TEAM for West Virginia Children, Inc.

Many thanks to our grant funders:

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation
West Virginia Children's Trust Fund
Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA)
The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation through Mission West Virginia
United Way of Central West Virginia
Foundation for the Tri-State Community
Try This
Change the Future WV
Head Start
Sisters of St. Joseph Health & Wellness Foundation
Sisters Health Foundation

And many other contributors!

Our Initiatives:

Mountain State Healthy Families • Western Regional CASA • Partners in Community Outreach
Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia • West Virginia Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association

www.teamwv.org

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The TEAM continues to sponsor several initiatives to carry out its mission:

Western Regional CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate):

The TEAM initiated the state's first CASA Project in 1991. Each year in West Virginia, victims of child abuse are thrust into court through no fault of their own. These children become victims of a complex legal network of judges, lawyers, and social workers who frequently do not have time to give detailed attention to each child. The judges often find that no one has truly presented specialized, independent and well-researched information or has made recommendations that are in the best interests of the child. Sometimes these children fall through the cracks of the system that was designed to help them. In 1977, the concept of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) was created by Judge David Soukup in Seattle, Washington to insure that the best interests of abused children were being presented in court. The CASA is a trained community volunteer, appointed by a judge, who provides the court with full knowledge of the child's circumstances and makes certain that the child is moved through the child welfare and court systems in a sensitive and expedient manner.

The TEAM's CASA Project, Western Regional CASA, continues to provide high quality advocacy to abused and neglected children in court. The CASA volunteer fully researches the situation and makes recommendations to the judge on what is in the best interests of the child as well as the best permanent placement. The CASA volunteer visits with the child frequently and gets regular updates from the child's caregiver. Western Regional CASA has been providing a trained community volunteer (CASA) to advocate for an abused child in Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Putnam, Boone and Kanawha County Circuit Courts. In the summer of 2017, Western Regional CASA was contacted by the West Virginia CASA Association about taking over the four counties of the 5th Judicial Circuit, Jackson, Roane, Calhoun and Mason Counties. This expansion began in the fall of 2017.

Three CASA Volunteer Supervisors, along with the Program Coordinator recruited, screened, trained and supervised 56 volunteers in 2016. Staff and volunteers advocated for the best interests of 316 abused/neglected children. CASA volunteers and staff participated in over 1800 court hearings. Staff and volunteers also attended almost 440 multi-disciplinary team meetings where updates were given on the progress of the parents to reunify with their children. CASA staff also monitored an additional 607 children whose cases were in the system due to abuse and neglect. The children in these cases are on the wait list for a CASA volunteer. Volunteer recruitment efforts have increased due to the large jump in children in need of CASA advocacy.

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Mountain State Healthy Families:

During this year, Mountain State Healthy Families continued providing the universal screening, assessment and referral system for expectant women as the gateway for families into home visitation and other community resources. Medical providers and social service agencies provided information about the program and invited families to participate. In FY17, 670 families in the program's six-county service area completed a screen and received a resource booklet like *Parenting Step-by-Step: A Guide to Resources in our Community*. Family Resource Specialists visited 270 of those families in their homes. During these visits, the Family Resource Specialists engaged the families in conversations about their parenting backgrounds, hopes and concerns related to parenting, and plans for the future of their families. Based on this information, the families were linked with various community resources, one being the long-term home visitation services of Healthy Families America.

Healthy Families America is a national initiative by Prevent Child Abuse America to establish a universal, voluntary home visitor system for all new parents to help their children get off to a good start in life. Research over the last two decades has consistently confirmed that providing education and support services to parents around the time of a baby's birth – and continuing for months or years afterward – significantly contributes to positive, healthy child-rearing practices, thereby reducing the risk of child abuse and neglect. The goals of the model are (1) to systematically reach out to parents to offers resources and support; (2) to cultivate the growth of nurturing, responsive parent-child relationships; (3) to promote healthy childhood growth and development; and (4) to build the foundations for strong family functioning.

The TEAM entered into its 21st year of providing support to parents who face many challenges and offering them voluntary intensive home visitation services through Mountain State Healthy Families, an accredited program. In FY17 our home visitors served 341 families, facilitating 3,712 home visits. Additionally, group activities were held to provide an opportunity for participants to meet one another for support.

Partners in Community Outreach (PiCO):

Partners in Community Outreach is the coalition of West Virginia research-based In-Home Family Education programs: Healthy Families America, Maternal Infant Health Outreach Workers and Parents As Teachers.

During this period, the WV Home Visitation program continued to grow, to serve over 2,000 new families. This would not have been possible without the federal Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting funding secured by our colleagues at the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health, Bureau for Public Health within the WV Department of Health and Human Resources.

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In October, Partners in Community Outreach received funding from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation to build the capacity and influence of In-Home Family Education programs in West Virginia to improve the health and well-being of young children and their families. With this funding, we have ramped up our training efforts to compliment the trainings provided by the WV Home Visitation Program.

We were able to hire Nonie Roberts as the Partners in Community Outreach Training Specialist. She is developing *The Art of Home Visiting* – which we hope will institutionalize basic trainings that enhance the model trainings that each new home visitor completes prior to going into families' homes, as well as coordinating trainings for Supervisors of home visitors. A significant portion of Nonie's time is spent organizing and facilitating Quarterly Regional Meetings held in each of the WV DHHR Regions for early childhood professionals. Each of these meetings includes a training, chosen by that regional group.

Partners in Community Outreach have also contracted with a Human Resources agency, which has provided two-hour face to face trainings on the following topics: Fair Labor Standards Act and the New Revisions; Job Descriptions, Interviewing, Reference Checks and Personnel Files; and Performance Evaluations, How to Develop a Progressive Discipline Plan Termination of Employees and Unemployment Benefits. In addition, there is an online resource available to our Partners at their convenience.

The PiCO Coordinator received Level VIII on the State Training and Registry System (STARS) Career Pathway in 2017. In addition to serving on the WV STARS Policy Advisory Council, the Coordinator also serves on the online training and entity approval committees.

PiCO is actively involved in the WV Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association. The Coordinator serves as its Secretary and has presented or co-presented *Infant/Toddler Mental Health: What it is and Why Does it Matter?* on numerous occasions. Six early childhood professionals, including two In-Home Family Education program leaders, have attained Infant Mental Health Endorsement, and others are pursuing this credential.

An excellent Reflective Supervision training conducted by Kate Whittaker and Lynn Kosanovich of Healthy Families America was coordinated by the Reflective Supervision Work Group, which consists of In-Home Family Education Model Leaders, the PiCO Coordinator, Chair, and Training Specialist, WV Home Visitation Program staff and the Administrative Coordinator of the West Virginia Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association. This group has recruited additional Reflective Supervision Coaches.

The Partners in Community Outreach Coordinator has provided many hours of technical and training assistance to WV's Infant Safe Sleep Educational Program, *Our Babies: Safe and Sound*.

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This includes WV STARS sponsorship of trainings so that early childhood professionals can earn WV STARS credits.

Both the PiCO Coordinator and Training Specialist have been involved in the Maternal Mental Health effort in WV, which seeks to support new parents' mental health before, during and after the arrival of their baby.

With Parents As Teachers continuing with a new accreditation/endorsement process, our contracted Parents As Teachers Technical Assistant has developed a Personnel Policies template that programs can use to fulfill one of the requirements of the PAT accreditation/endorsement. An evaluation completed by Parents As Teachers programs revealed that the Technical Assistant has been helpful to programs.

Our PiCO logo and In-Home Family Education website (www.inhomefamilyed.com) have been refreshed while retaining the core elements of the design and function. Our Facebook page is posted to regularly. The Coordinator actively participated by providing content for the PiCO page of the new TEAM for WV Children website and content for the Resources page. For both the PiCO and In-Home Family Education websites, there is an interactive form available for families to refer themselves to the WV Home Visitation Program.

Our programs use Referral Partner Outreach materials developed using the Positive Community Norms approach. Two videos, customizable Referral Partner Outreach booklets and Family Recruitment brochures have a unified content and design. During this period, the two videos (*WV Home Visitation – Supportive, Caring, Helpful*) along with several early childhood prevention PSAs were placed on a 40-minute DVD to share with Referral Partners to play in their waiting rooms. The DVD also includes: 2 *Say Yes to Safe Sleep* videos; *Keep Your Cool* (shaken baby prevention) video; *Circles of Caring* (protective factors) video; a 15-minute excerpt featuring In-Home Family Education from WV Public Broadcasting's *The First 1,000 Days: Investing in WV Children When It Counts*.

In 2016, professionals from around the state working in Early Childhood Home Visitation, prevention and treatment formed the WV ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Coalition. In addition, the WV HV ACEs into Resilience Work Group of the Coalition was formed and the PiCO Coordinator and the Director of the WV Home Visiting Program became Co-Chairs of the Workgroup. We examined how other states and regions of the U.S. incorporate information about ACEs and Resilience into their social services. Region X of the Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, which consists of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, developed the *NEAR@Home* toolkit, to assist Home Visitors address ACEs and Resilience in their work. The *NEAR@Home* toolkit combines discoveries from the following disciplines: **Neuroscience**, **Epigenetics**, the **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study**, and **Resilience Research**, hence the label **NEAR**.

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Home visiting professionals develop relationships with the families they serve over the course of many months or years. They are highly skilled in building trust and creating safe spaces for meaningful conversations. Adopting a protocol of asking, listening, affirming and remembering the life experience of each parent, including her or his ACE history, can be an important part of strengthening each family.

Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia (PCA-WV):

As the state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, PCA-WV has implemented a variety of projects and initiatives throughout the state during the past year. Through our programs:

- 23 hospitals and local partners are implementing the Say YES to Safe Sleep Program, reaching 97% of the births in WV to help keep infants safe while they are sleeping.
- Over 170,000 materials promoting safe sleep and shaken baby prevention were distributed to families statewide.
- 44 local “Partners in Prevention” grants were awarded in 44 WV counties.
- More than 83,400 WV parents, children, professionals and community members received face-to-face support or training through these grants.
- Over 700 parents participated in 28 Circle of Parents groups during the past year.
- Child Abuse Prevention Month activities were conducted throughout the state.
- Various child abuse prevention trainings on topics including Strengthening Families, Mandated Reporter Training, Safe Sleep and Shaken Baby prevention were provided.

What follows are the various projects and initiatives under the umbrella of our state chapter.

Partners in Prevention (PIP) - Through our Partners in Prevention (PIP) mini-grant program, 44 grants of \$5,000 each were awarded last year to community teams making a difference in preventing child maltreatment. With a focus on building Protective Factors identified by the Center for the Study of Social Policy that are linked to the prevention of child abuse and neglect, PIP teams implemented activities and services based upon locally-identified needs, as well as consideration of promising and evidence-based practices. Their plans are also supported through the establishment of logic models, parent involvement, reflections of past experiences, lessons learned throughout the years, and personal stories from those they serve.

Community projects included training on preventing child sexual abuse, mandated reporting, ongoing Parenting Classes, Parent-to-Parent Support Groups, Baby Pantries, Educational & Supportive Events (such as Family Days/Nights; Family Field Trips; Moms & Dads Day Out; Pre-K Academy), Community Parent Resource Fairs and Baby Showers, Community Discussions & Forums, and Community Trainings for Parents, Professionals, and Community Members.

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More than 83,000 WV parents, children, professionals and community members received face-to-face support or training through the PIP Teams. More than 74,000 educational materials made it into the hands of parents, professionals and the public. The teams received ongoing technical assistance from our Community Partnerships Coordinator. PIP Team Leaders also participated in an annual 3-day training session.

Our Babies: Safe & Sound - This educational campaign provides parents and other caregivers of infants under the age of one, as well as expectant parents and professionals, with information and tips on ways to keep babies safe while sleeping, and how to keep your cool when babies cry. The overall goal of the campaign is to help prevent West Virginia infants from injury and death.

During the past year, we expanded our *Say YES to Safe Sleep for Babies Hospital Project* to 5 additional hospitals, bringing our total to 23 hospitals statewide. Collectively, these hospitals serve over 97% of the births in WV. We are making great progress towards having 100% participation to reach every child born in the state.

During the past year, over 170,000 materials promoting safe sleep and shaken baby prevention were distributed to families statewide. We conducted numerous trainings on infant safe sleep and shaken baby prevention. We also produced our new Say YES to Safe Sleep video and DVD for parents and caregivers of newborns. Additionally, we conducted a number of activities at hospitals across the state during Infant Safe Sleep Month.

Strengthening Families West Virginia – Families gain what they need to be successful when five key protective factors are robust in their lives and communities. The Strengthening Families Initiative and Protective Factors Framework™ promote optimal child development and reduce the likelihood of child abuse.

We have supported implementation of the *Strengthening Families* Protective Factors Framework in West Virginia through community mini-grants and providing training to early care and education, advocacy, child welfare, mental health, housing, business, medical, education and other sectors during the past year.

Our nationally-certified trainers offer the “Bringing the Protective Factors to Life in Your Work” series, and other learning opportunities ranging from a 30-minute overview of Strengthening Families to a 5-hour session for in-home family educators. Five different workshops are offered annually. This year SFWV expanded partnerships and equipped new community members to nurture Protective Factors among families in their communities. SFWV mini-grants were awarded for six local projects located in Brooke, Hancock, Cabell, Lincoln, Kanawha, Wayne and

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Monongalia counties. Additionally, our SFWV Project Coordinator's consultation with state child welfare and children's behavioral health partnership resulted in an agreement to adapt the national CSSP child welfare Strengthening Families training modules, which will be included as part of WV's System of Care online professional development offerings.

Circle of Parents West Virginia - Circle of Parents is a national network of parent-led self-help groups, where parents and caregivers share ideas, celebrate successes and address the challenges surrounding parenting.

The Circle of Parents Network had a total of 28 groups that met during the past year. Circle groups held a total of 406 meetings, and the total number of parents who participated in Circle meetings, grew from 466 in FY 2016 to 715 in FY 2017. The total number of children, who participated in a children's program while their parents met, grew from 129 in FY 2016 to 215 in FY 2017.

The Circle of Parents network also completed an evaluation project, which highlighted the positive impact on participants. 92% of respondents said Circle of Parents helped them improve their parenting skills. 92% also said Circle of Parents made a positive difference in their family.

Child Abuse Prevention Month- All of our *Partners in Prevention* teams actively participated in Child Abuse Prevention month, which was proclaimed by Governor Jim Justice and celebrated nationally. Participation in the *Pinwheels for Prevention* campaign has grown remarkably in our PIP-centered communities. In 2017, we distributed over 14,000 pinwheels to our PIP Team Leaders across the state.

The pinwheel symbol has become widely recognized as a symbol for happy childhoods and our work to promote children's health, safety and well-being. The engagement activities are growing each year including pinwheel awareness gardens, "Paint the Town Blue" and "Wear Blue" events, displays in business storefronts, awareness walks/ fun runs, media blitzes (both print and social media). There were also numerous children's day at courthouses across the state, engagement with local early education programs, libraries, the business community, and schools, recognition events for local child advocates, and prevention-focused training, community events, and celebrations throughout the month.

WV ACEs Coalition - In early 2016, Prevent Child Abuse WV joined with over 70 different organizations and individuals to form the West Virginia ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Coalition. The PCA-WV State Coordinator serves as Co-Chair of the Coalition.

The ACEs Coalition held quarterly meetings during the past year and coordinated efforts to build more awareness and knowledge about the impact of ACEs on health and well-being. We

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launched the ACEs Coalition website at <http://www.wvaces.org>, and have used that site and our Coalition Facebook page to promote trainings and webinars across the state.

We also obtained the rights to two ACEs-related documentaries: *Paper Tigers* and *Resilience*, which we have made available to community partners for community screenings and community dialogue sessions.

Finally, the ACEs Coalition also completed a detailed analysis of the prevalence of ACEs among West Virginia adults and the linkages between high ACE scores and WV health outcomes. These findings were published in an Issue Brief entitled *Stumbling Blocks or Stepping Stones: Findings on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in WV*, which was released in early 2018.

Public Policy - PCA-WV continued to advocate for policies that promote safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments, thereby preventing child maltreatment. We convened the Legislative Action Team on Children & Families, which meets weekly during the Legislative Session and distributes action alerts as needed to mobilize advocates in support of policies affecting children and their families.

In addition, we helped lead efforts for the State Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children to complete its final report and recommendations, which were presented to the Legislature in early January 2018. The response to the recommendations was very positive. Lawmakers pledged to enact the recommendations and have taken action to do so with full implementation expected by July 2019. The Task Force number one recommendation was to require training for all public school employees, including but not limited to educators, administrators, and service personnel focused on developing skills, knowledge, and capabilities related to preventing child sexual abuse and recognizing and responding to suspected abuse and neglect.

WV Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Development Campaign – The CTF Development Campaign had another positive year with our second highest total donations ever. 10,859 people donated to the CTF during the past year. This is a 65% improvement in number of donors during the past 4 years. Donations totaled \$141,718, which is 2.8% increase from the previous year, and more than double what the total was when TEAM for WV Children began the annual development campaign, encouraging donations to the CTF.

We achieved these positive results by: distributing updated CTF promotional brochures and information to tax preparers statewide including Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites in WV, H&R Block, Jackson-Hewitt and other tax preparation offices open for seasonable business during tax season; producing a new PSA encouraging donors to “Check the Box” for the CTF on their state income tax form; and implementing a Social Media campaign with Facebook ads encouraging donations to the CTF.

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Presentations and materials distributed by Partners in Prevention Teams including Rotary Club meetings, Grandparents Day, Mothers Day, Fathers Day promotions, and tax campaign promotions.

West Virginia Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association:

Highlights of the Association's work in 2017 include:

- Added 32 new members to the West Virginia Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association (now have a total of 51 members).
- Celebrated the endorsement of 7 people within West Virginia.
- Developed a webinar introducing the Infant Mental Health specific core competencies, including ways for professionals to include in everyday work.
- Hosted and facilitated a week of lunchtime webinars in October and May with over 150 people participating each day from 43 counties around the state.
- Launched our Facebook page and a social media campaign around Infant Mental Health during the state's Infant Mental Health week.
- Facilitated a One Day Institute (*Mental Health Issues Within the Parent Child Dyad*) during Celebrating Connections and sponsored 3 sessions/presenters within Celebrating Connections.
- Participated in many webinars and presentations throughout the state that highlighted Infant Mental Health, the Association, and the Endorsement.
- Opened enrollment for Endorsement within our own EASy portal for the first time in our state.
- Accepted 9 EASy registrations to begin process of Endorsement.
- Facilitated 4 people being trained as reviewers for Endorsement.
- Sponsored a social media presentation for other providers to talk about engaging our audiences through social media.

**TEAM for West Virginia Children
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joy Adkins, Community Volunteer
Melanie Akers, Hoops Family Children's Hospital
Cathy Burns, *Vice-President*, Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce
Jo Dee Gottlieb, Marshall University Social Work Program
Beth Hammers, Marshall Health
Barbara Hoeft, H3LLC
Lisa Jacobson, The Huntington Land Company
Nigel Jeffries, City of Charleston
Cindy LeGrand, Bright Futures/WV Birth to 3
Lauren Oxley Mayo, *Treasurer*, Mid-Atlantic Maintenance
Chris McNeely, The Fyffe Jones Group
Samuel Moore, Pastor, Full Gospel Assembly
Patricia Proctor, Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy
Marie Redd, Paralegal
Celes Sheffield, Ebenezer Community Outreach Center
Sarah Walling, Secretary, Jenkins Fenstermaker PLLC
Jennifer Wheeler, *Vice-President*, Cabell Assessor's Office
Christie White, *President*, First State Bank
Martha Woodward, Community Volunteer

Each Board member is elected to serve a three-year term. Each officer is elected to serve a one-year term.

During this year, the Board of Directors held meetings on July 19, 2016; September 13, 2016; October 4, 2016; November 8, 2016; January 10, 2017; March 8, 2017; March 14, 2017; and May 9, 2017.

Board meetings were held at 4:30pm at First State Bank in Huntington, WV until September when the Board meetings moved to the TEAM's new office at Campbell Woods in Huntington

The TEAM's Annual Meeting was held on October 27, 2016 at 6:00pm at TEAM's new office at Campbell Woods in Huntington, WV.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Laurie McKeown, Executive Director
Florence Tabor, Office Manager
Connie Kinsey, Administrative Assistant
Michelle Rollyson, *WV Infant/Toddler Mental Health Association Administrative Coordinator*
Kim Runyon Wilds, *Western Regional CASA Coordinator*
Jim McKay, *Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia Coordinator*
Michelle Comer, *Mountain State Healthy Families America Program Coordinator*
Michele Baranaskas, *Partners in Community Outreach Coordinator*

Financial Statement 2016-2017

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 268,137
Accounts Receivable	\$ 5,813
Grants Receivable	\$ 262,885
Other Receivables	\$ -
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 20,633
Workers Compensation Deposit	\$ -
Total Current Assets	\$ 557,468

Furniture, Fixtures, and Office Equipment	\$ 38,457
Deposits	\$ -
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 595,925

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 133,919
Accrued payroll liabilities	\$ (85)
Accrued vacation	\$ 65,707
Deferred revenues	\$ 218,213
Line of credit	\$ 200,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 617,754

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$ (21,829)
Temporarily restricted	\$ -
Total Net Assets	\$ (21,829)

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 595,925
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Public Support & Other Revenue

Contributions	\$ 30,033
Federal & State grants	\$ 3,333,142
Other Grants	\$ 314,662
Total Support	\$ 3,677,837

Revenue

Fees for services	\$ -
Interest and dividends	\$ 6
Rental Income	\$ 2,040
Fundraising sales	\$ 49,317
Miscellaneous	\$ -
In-kind revenue	\$ 42,459
Total Revenue	\$ 93,822

TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$ 3,771,659
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EXPENSES

Program Services :

Advocacy	\$ 281,567
Family support	\$ 1,850,055
Education	\$ 924,922
State system	\$ 371,097
Total Program Services	\$ 3,427,641

Support Services :

Management and General	\$ 298,135
Fundraising	\$ 22,150
Total Support Services	\$ 320,285

TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 3,747,926
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Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets

Excess of (deficit) for the year	\$ 23,733
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ (45,562)
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ (21,829)