Mission: To be a respected national voice for foster, kinship, and adoptive families through networking, education, and advocacy.

Annual Report

2019

NFPA ANNUAL REPORT
Published August 2020

Annual Report available at www.nfpaonline.org
Email us at info@nfpaonline.org
Introduction

It is a pleasure to provide the 2019 Annual Report for the National Foster Parent Association. This report is being distributed on our website and through our social media outlets due to the cancellation of our 2020 Annual Education Conference due to COVID-10 Pandemic.

The past year has been a time of continued change and growth for NFPA. The two most significant changes before 2019 occurred in 2015 with the reorganization of our Board of Directors via Bylaw revisions and the hiring of an executive director in January 2015 and a part-time Administrative Coordinator in August 2015.

The reorganization resulted in a small reduction in the number of Board members and a new process for selecting Board members and officers. As we adjust to the restructuring, we believe the new structure is helping our Board be more focused on strategic direction for the organization. This was evidenced by a strategic plan being developed during 2018. The Board of Directors then rolled out a three-year implementation plan on January 1, 2019. More on that plan below.

The coming years offer many opportunities for our association and the foster, kinship, and adoptive families we support. We hope you will continue to be a part of our movement to support the families who support kids and families within the child protection systems across this country.

Background on NFPA

The National Foster Parent Association (NFPA) was founded in 1972 and is incorporated as a private non-profit organization (501c3). Anyone supporting the work of the association is welcome to be a member. This includes foster parents, adoptive parents, kinship caregivers, social workers, other professionals, and advocates, in general. The organization is led by a board of directors, which is representative of the members. Most activities of NFPA are organized and led by our board directors who are volunteers and supported by our two staff members, the full-time Executive Director and half-time Administrative Coordinator.

NFPA maintains a relationship with independent state foster, kinship, and adoptive parent associations through its Council of State Affiliates (COSA). Thirty-one state associations were affiliate members under the leadership of Jim Hatch, COSA Chair. NFPA also maintains relationships with numerous national organizations through cooperative working agreements, partnerships, and collaborations.

Education

One of the most fun, educational, and motivational activities for NFPA is the annual educational conference. The 2019 conference in sunny Garden Grove, CA, brought together 600 foster care parents, staff, and other professionals from across the country to share information and innovations and to support each another through sharing and laughter.

In addition to the annual education conference, NFPA supports an array of educational endeavors. We are proud to have a long-standing relationship with Foster Parent College, which provides outstanding web-based training, as does Creating A Family. We also partner with Centene to provide training on the NFPAAti.org website. More on this free training program later in this Report.
## Locations for NFPA Annual Education Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Garden Grove, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
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<td>Denver, CO</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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*The 2020 Conference, scheduled for Reston, Virginia, was canceled due to COVID-19 Pandemic.*

*The 2021 Conference is scheduled for Reston, Virginia, June 24-27, 2021.*

## 2019 Conference Sponsors

![UnitedHealthcare](image1.jpg)

![Centene Corporation](image2.jpg)

![Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption](image3.jpg)

![Project Foster](image4.jpg)
Public Policy Development and Advocacy

NFPA has strengthened its advocacy efforts over the past four years. The addition of an executive director provided a focus for public policy requests and has allowed the NFPA to increase our presence in Washington, DC. It has also improved our ability to partner with other organizations such as the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), the North American Council for Adoptable Children (NACAC), Generations United, Adoption Exchange Association, Family Focused Treatment Association, Foster Care Alumni of America, CHAMPS, Creating A Family, National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN), Project Foster Care and others. The NFPA serves as one of the lead organizations that plan and implement nationwide National Foster Care Month activities and develop information for inclusion on the National Foster Care Month website. The NFPA Executive Director represented the NFPA at a Convening at the Brookings Institute in Washington, DC, in January 2019. The Executive Director led a Master Session on working/mentoring birth parents at the NCCAN Conference in Washington, DC, in April 2019. The NFPA Board of Directors supported staff and select board members to preview four movies before public release to provide comments back to the producers. These included Instant Family, Foster, Breakthrough, and I Am Somebody’s Child. They also participated in many interviews with news and TV reporters, video shoots, wrote several articles for publications such as the Chronicle for Social Change, Fostering Families Today Magazine, and The Children’s Bureau Express, and participated in other national conferences with presenting workshops and/or exhibiting during the conferences, i.e., CWLA, FFTA, Family Voices, etc. The NFPA played a significant role in the Rutger Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research Department’s Rutgers University PCORI Foster Care Research Project – Antipsychotic Medication Oversight for Children in Foster Care: Perspectives from Foster Caregivers (Full final Report due out fall of 2020).

NFPA maintains a list of position statements on broad public issues that are available on our website. The Public Policy Committee recommends new public policy statements to the Board of Directors, reviews and updates current position statements. The committee welcomes recommendations from our members for consideration of developing and adding additional position statements.

National Foster Care Month

NFPA takes an active role in promoting National Foster Care Month. During May, groups across the country highlight the work of foster families. The month includes a proclamation from our sitting U.S. President, as well as hundreds of proclamations from governors and mayors. The Federal Children’s Bureau provides the National Foster Care Month web site, which is loaded with information about foster care. The website is located at www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth. NFPA takes an active role in planning the website content and promoting local and national activities. NFPA also provides blue wrist bands in support of the month. Contact us at info@nfpaonline.org to order wrist bands.

Walk Me Home

Walk me Home is a unique program of the NFPA that helps to both raise awareness of the local needs related to foster care and helps raise funds for local and state foster care associations, child-placing agencies, and other foster care related entities and helps to build community support for children in foster care and the foster families and kinship families who support them. These events are significant for recruitment efforts. Contact Marion Rhines, our Walk Committee Chair, if you, your foster parent association, or your agency is interested in organizing an event. 2019 was the Walk Me Home program’s
12th birthday!!! Some implementation changes to our program guidance booklet are resulting in more successful events and provides hope for future Walk events as the COVID-19 Pandemic recedes.

**Centene Corporation – NFPAti.org**

The NFPA and Centene Corporation have partnered for many years to promote quality training for foster parents, and kinship caregivers provided free through Centene’s FosterCare.edu program as well as their free in-person training available to local and state foster parent associations and child-placing agencies. In 2019, Centene agreed to become the official sponsor of a new training website for the NFPA, the National Foster Parent Association Training Institute (NFPAti.org). Their financial, professional, and technical support has helped this website grow in content and popularity. Centene produces 1 to 3 live/recorded webinars each quarter to provide these training options to those who need the training on the new website. Their sponsorship of this program allows the NFPA to offer the training free to anyone who needs it – no need to be a member of the NFPA. All training options are free twenty-four hours a day/seven days a week to anyone seeking information and support as they parent their children through times of stress and uncertainty. Indeed, we hope these training options will encourage everyone who utilizes the website to join the NFPA as a member to show their support and help the NFPA have funds available to continue other projects and programs that benefit foster, kinship, and adoptive families.

**United Health Care (UHC)**

The NFPA and United Health Care collaborated in 2016 for the development of training curricula for their staff who work with foster families/children through their Medicaid Managed Care contracts in many states. 2017 saw this curriculum demonstrated in several states by trainers representing the NFPA and UHC. 2018 encompassed an update of the training curriculum as well as additional in-person training facilitated by UHC and NFPA representatives to UHC staff, foster and kinship parents, and agency and county foster care staff. 2019 saw the collaboration add attention to our annual training conference and funding to support a Champion’s Reception at the conference.

**NFPA Strategic Plan**

The NFPA committed to a comprehensive strategic planning process in the summer of 2018. The process engaged staff, board members, stakeholders, and community members to establish a direction of growth for the NFPA. The result was a three-year plan that began implementation in January 2019. This plan focuses on NFPA resources, both personnel and financial, on three key strategies designed to make progress toward the organization’s mission and vision of supporting foster families. These three strategy areas include board development, membership, and operations. The substance of these strategies is articulated and brought to life in action steps.

**Board Development**

The sub-committee has three goals: 1) increase satisfaction from 69% to 90% by December 31, 2021, as reported by the annual survey of Board members, 2) increase board engagement from 56% to 95% by December 31, 2021, as reported by the annual survey of Board members, and 3) increase corporate partnership revenue by 9% by December 31, 2021.

**Membership**
The sub-committee has seven goals: 1) identify member’s needs, 2) yearly satisfaction survey, 3) clarify membership tier benefits, 4) increase the number of memberships, 5) improve the NFPA’s ability to listen to and meet member’s needs, 6) improve member’s awareness of the mission, vision, range of programs, and accomplishments to retain current membership, and 7) increase funding through membership.

**Operations**

The sub-committee has three goals: 1) create a succession plan approved by the Board, 2) begin executive transition conversation by mid-2021 or earlier depending on readiness, and 3) increase funding and support by 10% each fiscal year to create sustainability through 2021.

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**Financial Summary**

**National Foster Parent Association, Inc.**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**As of December 31, 2019**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

Bank Accounts

1001 WFB General Funds  241,846.48  
1001b WFB Youth Scholarship Funds  9,313.60  
1001c WFB Helen Stone Scholarship Funds  16,417.00  
1001d WFB Conference Scholarships  2,000.00  
1001e SAVE Conference Sponsorships  20,000.00  
1001f State Awards - Restricted  25,000.00  
Total 1001 WFB General Funds  314,577.08  
1002 Petty Cash  0.00  
**Total Bank Accounts**  $314,577.08  
Accounts Receivable  
1101 Grants Receivable UHC  0.00  
**Total Accounts Receivable**  $0.00  
Other Current Assets  
1200 Prepaid Expenditures  6,404.21  
1300 Office Equipment  1,559.89  
1400 Accumulated Depreciation  -1,028.55  
**Total Other Current Assets**  $6,935.55  
**Total Current Assets**  $321,512.63  
**TOTAL ASSETS**  $321,512.63  

**LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

Liabilities  
Current Liabilities
Accounts Payable
2001 Accounts Payable 21,876.56
2002 Payroll Taxes Payable 168.00
Total Accounts Payable $22,044.56

Other Current Liabilities
2200 Walk Me Home Events 0.00
2201 SAVE Event 20,000.00
2202 Conference Sponsorships 5,000.00
2203 State Awards - Restricted 25,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities $50,000.00

Total Current Liabilities $72,044.56
Total Liabilities $72,044.56

Equity
3001 Unrestricted Retained Earnings 134,086.38
Retained Earnings -5,865.40
Net Income 121,247.09
Total Equity $249,468.07

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY $321,512.63

NFPA receives no state or federal funding. The association relies on membership dues, conference net revenue, grants, donations, corporate sponsorships, memorials, etc.

Board Members

The following are the NFPA Board members at the time of the June 2019 annual meeting. The Board meets in person twice per year and meets by virtual conference call the first Monday evening of each month.

Executive Committee:
President: Karen Poteet - Oklahoma
Vice President: Tom Rector – California
Secretary: Eileen Pasztor – California
Treasurer: Peggy Kirby – Louisiana
State Affiliates: Jim Hatch - Maine
Member at Large: Tammy Wells - Nebraska

**Board Members:**

**Director:** Antoinette Cotman - New York

**Director:** Cate Hawks - Virginia

**Director:** Shawn Johnson - Texas

**Director:** Bob Ruble - California

**Director:** Brian Donahue - Connecticut

**Director:** Sue Don-diego - Florida

**Director:** Patricia Llewellyn - Florida

**Director:** Eshele Williams - California

**Director:** Marcus Stallworth - Connecticut

**Director:** Mary Beth Don-diego – Florida

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**NFPA Partners – Programs and Sponsors**

United Health Care

AdoptUS Kids

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

Fostering Media Connections

Centene Corporation

Family Focused Treatment Association

NACAC

Northwest Media (Foster Parent College)

Adoption Exchange Association

National Foster Care Month Workgroup

Horatio Alger Scholarship Program

Dept. of Homeland Security-Blue Campaign

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

CHAMPS Campaign

National Foster Care Coalition

Fostering Families Today Magazine

ATTACH

Child Welfare League of America

Combined Federal Campaign

Generations United

National Grange

Wendy’s Wonderful Kids

AECF

CWLA Practice of Excellence Commission

SAFE Coalition for Human Rights

American Academy of Pediatrics

Combined Federal Campaign

York & Zacharia LLC *
*A special thank you to York & Zacharia LLC for Mr. Zacharia for donating his expertise and work on updating the Federal Tax Guide for Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Caregivers each January for many years. Thanks to Bill’s Tax Service for providing this update for 2019 at no cost to the NFPA and for doing this work very timely when Mr. Zacharia was unable to do the update.

**Major Accomplishments of 2019**

- Completed the first full year of the three-year Strategic Plan. Strategic Planning continues to be led by an oversight group and day to day work is being accomplished by three workgroups: Board Development, Membership and Operations, all composed of Board members and one representative of the Council of State Affiliates
- Completed participation in a research project with Rutgers Institute for Health, Healthy Care Policy, and Aging Research for PCORI funded research on Antipsychotic Medication Oversight for Children in Foster Care
- The Code of Ethics for Foster Families Advocacy Project was passed on to a committee of the Council of State Affiliates to complete the review and provide an updated document.
- Two in-person meetings with Jerry Milner, Associate Commissioner, Children’s Bureau
- Participated in FFTA Public Policy Institute and CWLA Hill Day in Washington, DC
- Participated in Think Tank on Peer to Peer Interventions and Constituent in Engagement System Change: Elevating the Evidence
- Presented workshops at the CWLA, Georgia and SAFE conferences
- Exhibited at the CWLA and FFTA conferences
- Rolled out new NFPA Exhibit items
- NFPA authored articles in the Chronicle for Social Change, the Children’s Bureau Express and Fostering Families Today magazine
- Numerous articles in magazines and newspapers that mentioned the NFPA
- Responded to hundreds of email and phone requests for information or assistance
- Regular publication of *The Informer*, an excellent national source of news and information concerning foster care. [http://news.nfpaonline.org](http://news.nfpaonline.org)
- Continue *The NFPA Scoop*, NFPA’s online blog. [http://blog.nfpaonline.org](http://blog.nfpaonline.org)
- Published Federal Tax Benefits – Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Caregivers – 2018 tax year
- Sale of National Foster Care Month blue wristbands through our online e-commerce form.
- Walk Me Home events held in several locations across America
- Fostering Families Today magazine highlights NFPA articles in each edition of the magazine
- Continued partnership with FosterParentCollege.com
- NFPA exhibit at numerous National conferences
- Thirty-one state foster parent associations affiliated with NFPA
- Six academic scholarships awarded to seniors living with foster/adoptive families
- Fifteen scholarships available to foster, kinship and adoptive parents to attend the 2019 conference
• Successful annual education conference in Garden Grove, California, with over 600 in attendance
• Promotion of Giving Tuesday requesting donations
• Participation in national groups - National Foster Care Coalition - National Foster Care Month Planning Group - CWLA Practice of Excellence Commission
• Maintain social media outlets – Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, NFPA Blog, Informer e-newsletter
• Redesign of the website providing vital information to resource parents, students, researchers, and members of the general public.

National Sponsors

National Foster Parent Association
14508 Owen Tech Blvd., #129, Austin, Texas 78728
Office: 800-557-5238    Fax: 888-925-5634

info@NFPAonline.org    NFPAonline.org