

2018 ANNUAL REPORT
**THE POWER OF
OPPORTUNITY**

DEAR FRIENDS:

Activist Marian Wright Edelman was spot on when she wrote, “You can’t be what you can’t see.” At UCAN, we truly understand the meaning of Edelman’s timeless wisdom. When you can’t see beyond your pain or the violence in your neighborhood, it is hard to prioritize anything but fear. When you can only view a job as a way to keep food on the table for your family, a career you are passionate about does not seem within sight. Many of our youth know they have talent and skills to offer the world. But trauma can be blinding and keep you away from a positive path if it is not addressed.

We believe in the power of opportunity. Where there is trauma, we see an opportunity for healing. Where there is healing, opportunities for growth and leadership come into view. Mentorship plays a role, as these opportunities do not exist in a vacuum.

We continue to be incredibly grateful each day to witness the healing and hope UCAN is bringing to people who are facing challenges. We are focused on building a team that is full of pride and trust.

The memories grew exponentially this year, filled with vibrant images of our youth, families, staff members and volunteers beaming with pride from their accomplishments in 2018. These are just a few of the many successes that motivate us to advocate for the youth and families we serve:

- Our Violence Intervention and Prevention Services grew from 214 youth paired with a 1:1 service provider to 330 youth paired with a 1:1 service provider, a 54% increase.
- UCAN’s new family members at Academy South completed another successful year of school.
- We served the largest summer youth employment cohort ever, with 441 youth participating, including 91 youth from North Lawndale.
- We launched our Alumni Association that brings our continuum of care full circle and focuses on “UCAN For Life.”
- We provided needed and deserved raises and froze health care rates for our passionate staff.



Our work is not easy but it certainly is rewarding personally and professionally. As we continue to celebrate our 150th anniversary in 2019, we hope you will continue to play a role in our success. We are all stronger when our young people have opportunities to thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zack Schrantz".

Zack Schrantz
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Markell Bridges".

Markell Bridges
Governing Board Chair

“

WE ARE ALL STRONGER WHEN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE
HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO THRIVE. ”



OUR VISION

Youth who have
suffered trauma can become
our future leaders.

PROGRAMMING THAT MATTERS

UCAN provides a continuum of care and services that equip youth, families and communities with the tools needed to reach their full potential. We also work directly with youth in care of the state's child welfare system and those transitioning out of care to help them live independently. All of our work, which is historically rooted in child welfare and education, is united by a common clinical philosophy: the provision of trauma-informed services and care.

Our programming is designed to support youth in each facet of their life, offer opportunities for their voices to be heard, and provide them with support and opportunity. Our full continuum of care includes:

- Youth Development
- Workforce Development
- Violence Intervention and Prevention Services
- Mental Health
- Alumni Services



In 2018...

579 youth worked with a professional mentor

163 youth graduated the Diermeier Future Leaders Now program

92% of youth say UCAN has helped them to develop leadership skills



**“It doesn’t matter who
I work with, I want them to see that
they can be self-sufficient.”**

NADIA



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

At the very core of UCAN is youth development as an underlying constant in all that we do. While there are numerous resources available for our youths' development, mentoring remains a strong, effective and simple connection that can become a lifeline. For Seantayvia Bird, a UCAN youth of two years, her mentor, Nadia Hill, changed her life.

“I know that she cares – for real,” says Seantayvia. Nadia helped her find confidence and get a job at UPS. Nadia now is aiding Seantayvia as she navigates her senior year of high school and beyond.

UCAN youth Yasmine Kirkwood refers to her therapist as her mentor. “I just love her. She gave me more confidence,” says Yasmine. “She helped me come out of my shell. She’s my inspiration. I don’t know what I’d do without her.”

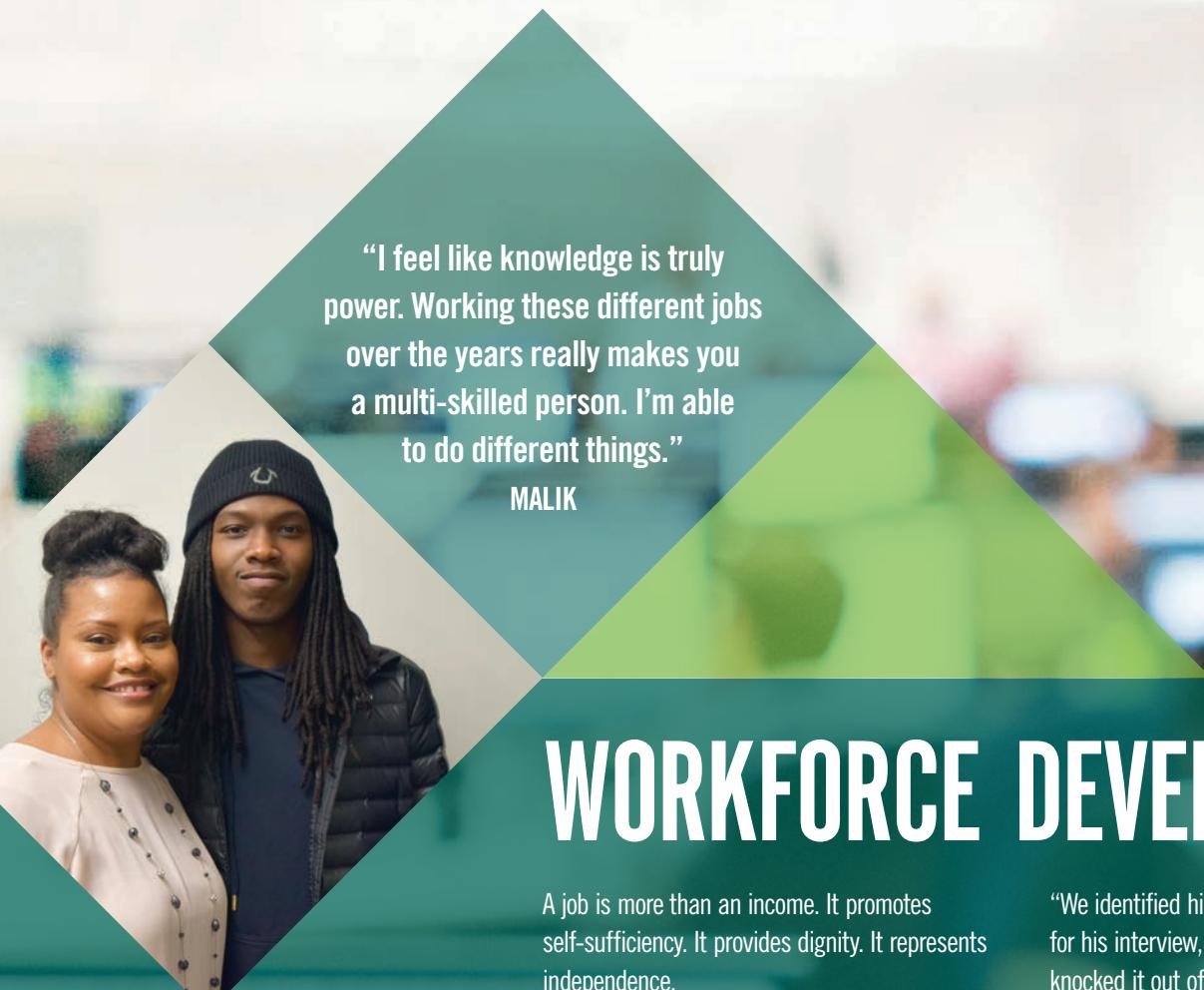
“It’s good to have a person like that outside of your family,” Seantayvia adds.

In 2018...

562 youth and adults participated in a Workforce Development program

430 youth and adults completed a work-based learning program

92% of youth stated that because of UCAN, they or the children in their care have made progress toward academic and/or career goals



“I feel like knowledge is truly power. Working these different jobs over the years really makes you a multi-skilled person. I’m able to do different things.”

MALIK

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A job is more than an income. It promotes self-sufficiency. It provides dignity. It represents independence.

UCAN’s Workforce Development program assists youth and adults in finding a job and navigating all that comes with employment. Malik Moore first came to UCAN uncertain of what work he wanted to do, but quickly was given the opportunity to test his skills in different industries, including in restaurants and the YMCA.

Malik earned an internship with Cinespace Chicago Film Studios where he worked in the prop department for NBC’s TV series “Chicago PD.”

“We identified him as a candidate, prepped him for his interview, and then he went down there and knocked it out of the park,” says Ladon Blumfield, UCAN Project Manager of One Summer Chicago. “He got the last slot, and there were interviews after him.”

“UCAN has been in my corner for it all,” Malik says. “Guidance helps you figure out your character, and UCAN has been that person for me. They pushed me; they have always been by my side. They want to see you do better and it makes you want to do better. When you see them smile and know you put that on their face, it changes you as a person. UCAN has been great, and I know they got my back.”

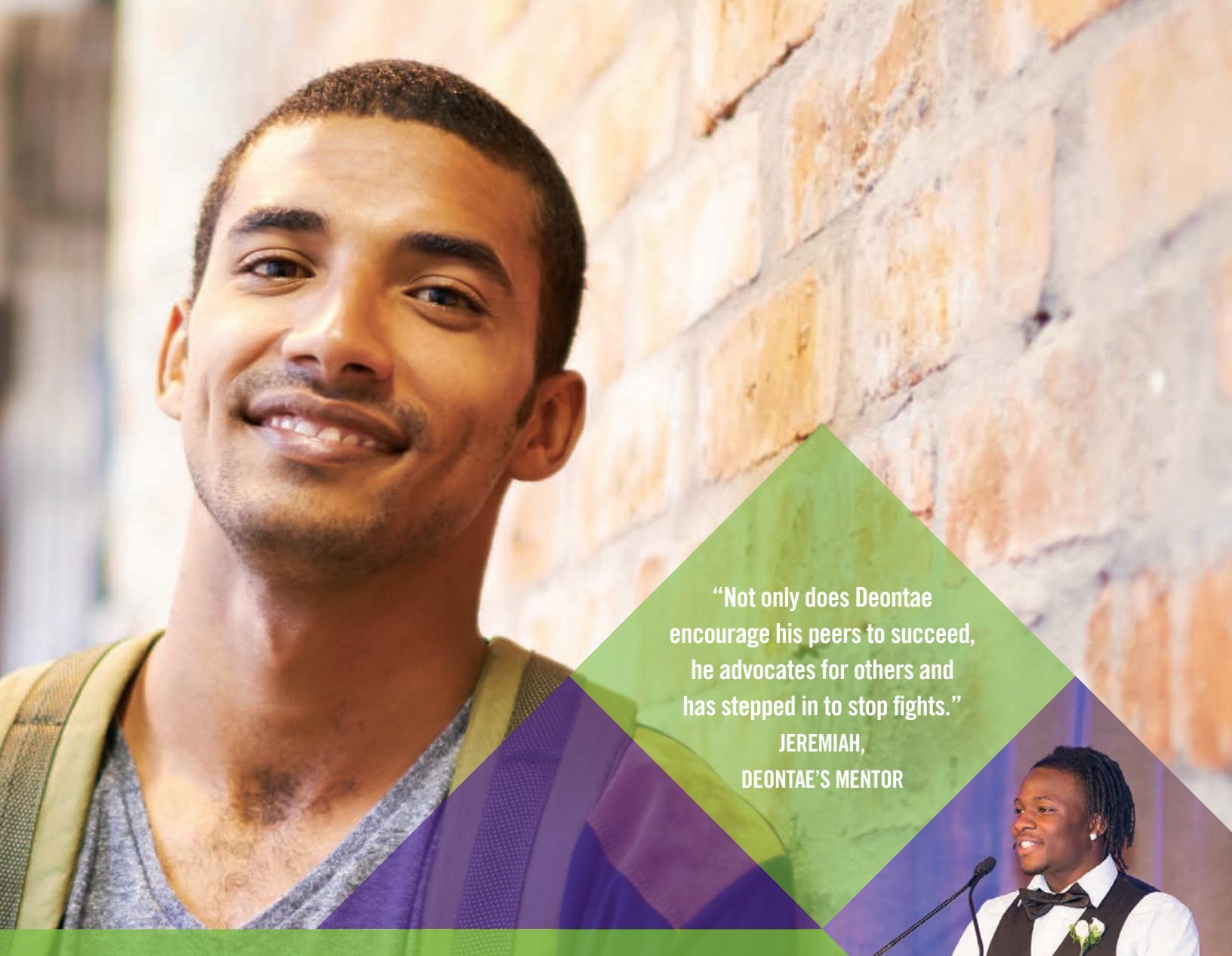


In 2018...

94% of youth said UCAN helped support them to make healthy choices

139 mediations were conducted by the Violence Intervention and Prevention team

91% of VIPS participants were connected with a caring adult



"Not only does Deontae encourage his peers to succeed, he advocates for others and has stepped in to stop fights."

**JEREMIAH,
DEONTAE'S MENTOR**

VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES

Preventing violence can seem like an insurmountable feat, but UCAN's Youth Development Coaches scale it down to daily, manageable goals that impact and sometimes save lives on a grander scale. Though many facets of UCAN programming assist in preventing violence, such as counseling, the Violence Intervention and Prevention Services (VIPS) team hits the pavement in North Lawndale to bond with youth in the community and intervene when needed.

Deontae Lewis was enrolled in UCAN's VIPS program and learned how to de-escalate conflicts

non-violently, and carried that philosophy into school and on the football field.

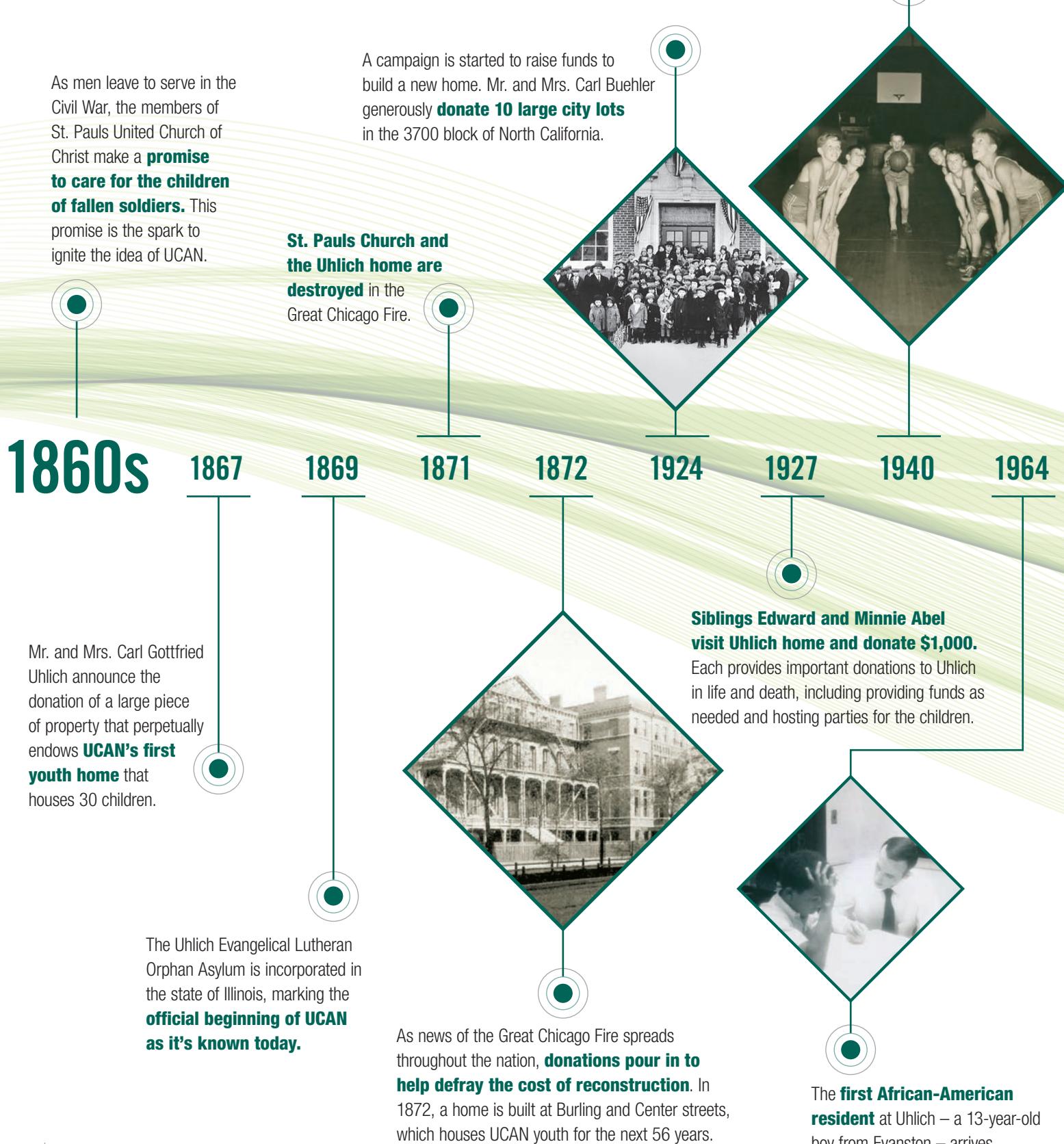
Upon graduation, Deontae was awarded a 2018 Youth Leadership Awards scholarship, which he has used to attend Harris Stowe University in St. Louis, Missouri.

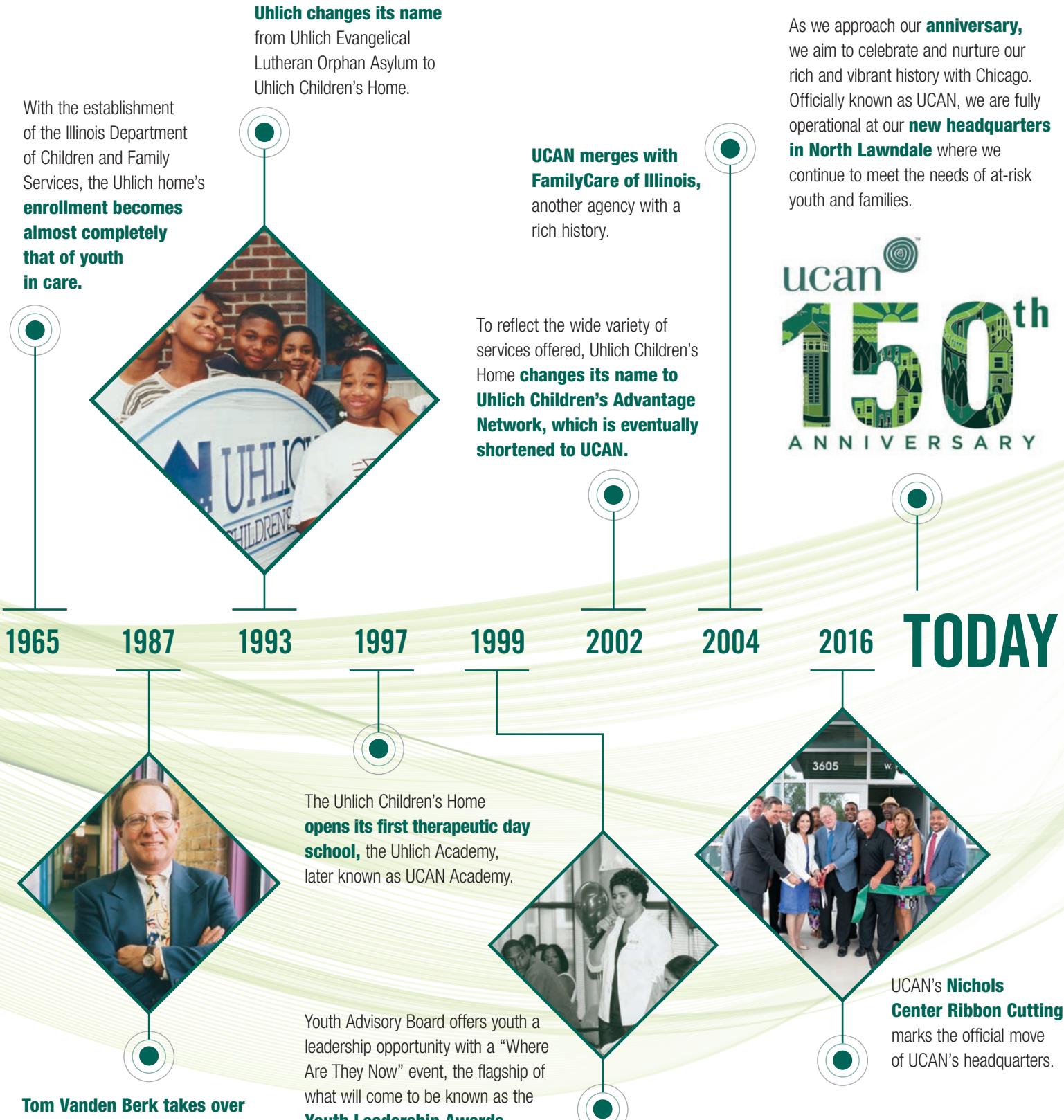
"At UCAN, it always seems like everybody is smiling," says Deontae. "It makes me want to be there. Going there has made me see that doing something you love can last a long time."



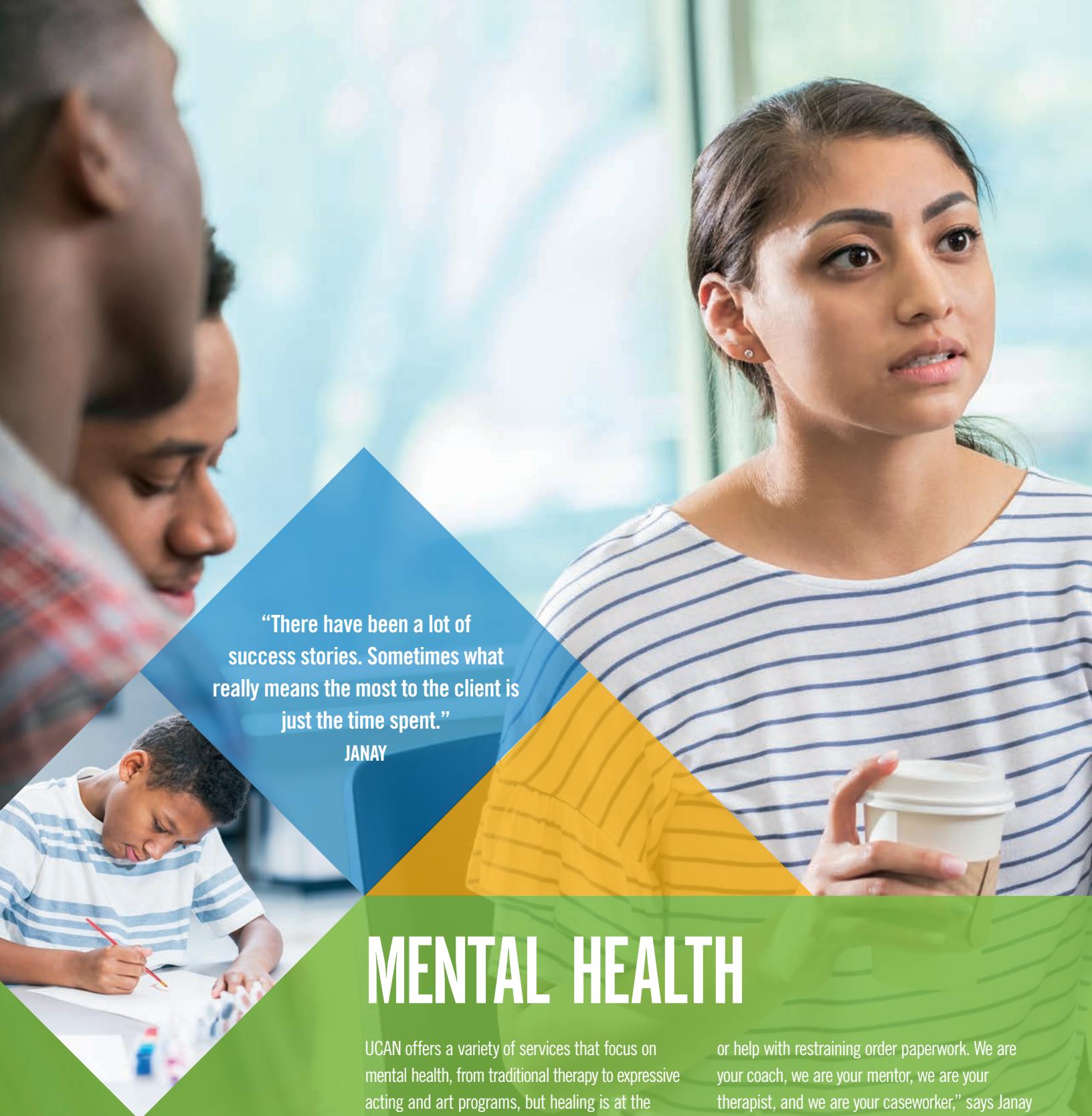
UCAN THEN . . .

The **Edward J. Abel Building**, which features a gym and woodshop, opens and provides Uhlich home youth with new recreation options instead of relying solely on neighborhood parks.





...UCAN NOW



"There have been a lot of success stories. Sometimes what really means the most to the client is just the time spent."

JANAY

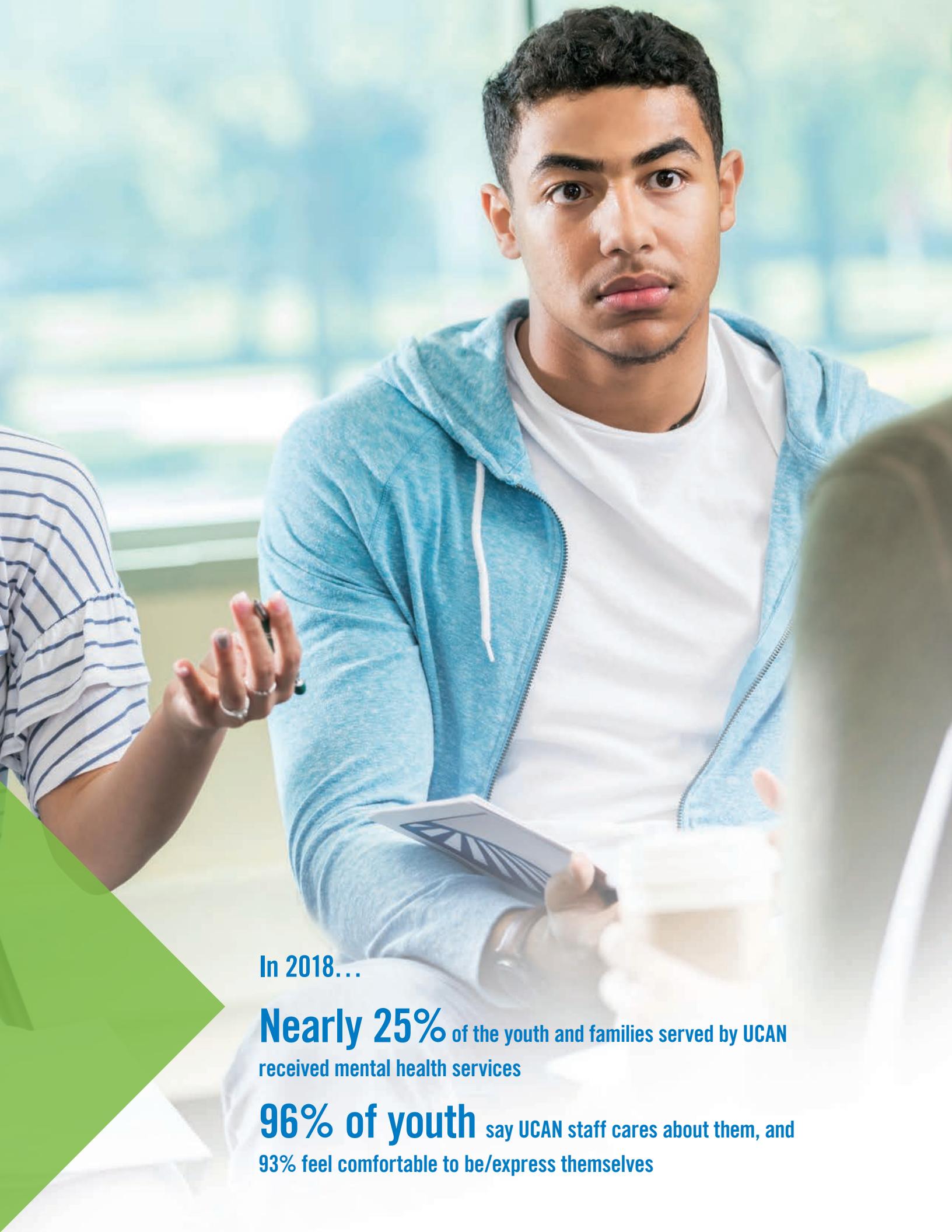
MENTAL HEALTH

UCAN offers a variety of services that focus on mental health, from traditional therapy to expressive acting and art programs, but healing is at the core of our programming. UCAN Survive is a new program dedicated to healing victims or witnesses of crime that range from robbery to sexual abuse. It combines counseling, mentorship and caseworking to assist the client.

"We help them with goal setting, jobs and educational advocacy. We have youth who need us to step in for parental counseling or help with court

or help with restraining order paperwork. We are your coach, we are your mentor, we are your therapist, and we are your caseworker," says Janay Brinkley, a UCAN Youth Development Coach.

UCAN piloted the UCAN Survive program to enable individual clients to come together monthly in a group support setting. The goal: address and practice healthy self-coping skills, grow confidence, provide education about the criminal justice system, and encourage hope for the future.



In 2018...

Nearly 25% of the youth and families served by UCAN
received mental health services

96% of youth say UCAN staff cares about them, and
93% feel comfortable to be/express themselves





In 2018...

47 alumni were involved in activities and supports

10 alumni were active as mentors/volunteers for UCAN

94% of youth said UCAN has given them the opportunity
to improve their future

“I shared with her
that I was also a former
DCFS Parenting Teen client. I think
our relationship grew from there
because she knew I was
a former client.”

PRESTINA



ALUMNI SERVICES

Even when youth age out of foster care and programming, the relationships formed with caring adults at UCAN are lifelong. Many youth return to visit, keep in touch with their caseworker or mentor and even return to UCAN as employees. For Charlestein Dantzler, her Parenting Worker became one of her closest friends.

Charlestein had just graduated high school when she found out she was pregnant, which is when Prestina Singleton became her Parenting Worker.

Today, Charlestein works at a jail as a medical assistant. Her daughter, now six, is heading into second grade. Charlestein and Prestina, who now is UCAN's Alumni Service Manager, still keep in regular contact.

“I wanted to give something to (Charlestein) that was given to me,” explains Prestina. “We both had children at a young age and we didn’t really have a lot of family or support, so I wanted to be that support for her. I had that support from my former parenting worker when I was at UCAN, and we became best friends over the years, and I wanted that same thing for Charlie, and all of my girls.”

In 2018...

63% of North Lawndale residents

served were age 18 or younger

7,163 North Lawndale residents

were served and impacted by UCAN's programming

More than 70 North Lawndale residents

worked at UCAN's campus

NORTH LAWNDALE CAMPUS

Since moving its headquarters to North Lawndale in 2016 with the opening of the John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Program Center, UCAN has made it a priority to connect with the community – and connect the community to our campus, services and resources. Among a long list of our community-based partnerships are those with the Restorative Justice Community Court, Center For Economic Progress, and Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago. The North Lawndale Athletic and Recreation Association (NLARA) was founded with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council, the Kinship Initiative at

Old St. Pat's Church and Play Like A Champion, with UCAN also serving as a host and fiscal agent.

UCAN continues to host at its Nichols Center headquarters a growing list of nonprofits, community organizations, churches and others who gather in the spirit of community service. As the community's sixth largest employer, UCAN is a long-term investor that is making a deep and lasting impact in North Lawndale.





can



● Government Grants & Contracts	90.00%
● Private Revenue	8.34%
● Trust Income	1.30%
● Investment Income	0.36%



● Therapeutic Youth Home	21.87%
● UCAN Academy	17.25%
● Professional Foster Parenting	17.11%
● Transitional/Independent Living	15.08%
● Teen Parenting Service Network	9.23%
● Violence Intervention & Prevention Services	6.37%
● Counseling & Youth Development Services	4.09%
● Housing Support Services	4.16%
● Workforce Development	2.21%
● Other Programs	2.64%



● Program Services	86.98%
● Management & Support Services	10.62%
● Fundraising	2.40%

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

FISCAL YEAR 2018

In Fiscal Year 2018, UCAN Program Revenue increased 12% over the prior year.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2018

Total Assets	\$65,292,031
Total Liabilities	\$24,447,319
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$40,844,712
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$65,292,031

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

Revenue	
Program	\$39,712,477
Fundraising	\$3,681,017
Trust	\$574,860
Investment	\$158,303
TOTAL REVENUE	\$44,126,657
Expense	
Program	(\$38,322,989)
Management & General, Support	(\$4,679,338)
Fundraising	(\$1,056,454)
TOTAL EXPENSE	(\$44,058,781)
NET OPERATIONS	\$67,876
Gain on Investments & Trusts	\$286,479
North Lawndale Campus, Net	(\$345,393)
Pension Plan Adjustment	\$412,194
CURRENT YEAR CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$421,156
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$40,423,556
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$40,844,712

Financials reflect UCAN Operations only. Title Holding Company information not included.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The following gifts were generously made during our 2018 fiscal year. (Totals reflect and include overall pledges from our Capital Campaign.)

\$500,000 +

Chicago Community Trust
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\$100,000 +

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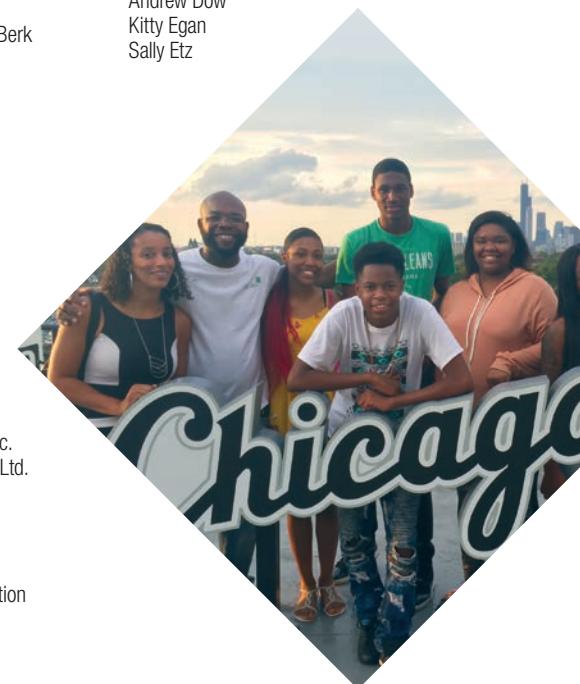
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