

Lee Carlson Center Through the Years



LEE CARLSON CENTER™

For Mental Health & Well-Being

Celebrating 40 Years in Our Community

1979

Agency founded: Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Well-Being (then known as Central Center for Family Resources) was founded as a community mental health and 501c(3) charitable organization serving Anoka County.

1984

Program launched for adults with serious & persistent mental illness: Under the agency umbrella, a drop-in-center for adults with serious & persistent mental illness called Bridgeview opened its doors in Fridley at Islands of Peace Park.

1990

Child Psychiatry added: To fill a growing demand, the agency added Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists to the team.

1994

Bridgeview moved: With help from Anoka County and the "Anoka County Community Action Program," Bridgeview moved to a house on 81st Avenue in Spring Lake Park.

1996

Agency introduced a Domestic Abuse Program: To fill a community void, the agency launched a Domestic Abuse Program focused on aggressors and victims of domestic violence.

2009

Renaming to Lee Carlson Center: As a tribute to our founder, on October 19, 2009 Central Center for Family Resources officially became Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Well-Being. Lee Carlson Center also became Children's Therapeutic Services and Supports (CTSS) Provider.

2010-2011

New initiatives and recognition: Agency launched a "Restorative Parenting Program" within our Domestic Abuse Program, designed to help families heal wounds and regain trust. The agency becomes a licensed Rule 29 Mental Health Outpatient Provider.

2012-2014

Alliances: Allina Health provided grants to educate and inspire Bridgeview members to adapt healthier lifestyles. Lee Carlson Center became an Essential Community Provider (ECP) under the MN Department of Health.

2015-2017

Transition: Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Wellbeing hired new Executive Director Rob Edwards and joined the Minnesota provider association AspireMN. School Based Mental Health Services expanded to Fridley and St. Anthony/New Brighton Schools, in addition to Centennial and Columbia Heights Schools. The agency began providing CTSS in-home mental health services to children and their families. 2017 saw the opening of the Coon Rapids Clinic and embedded mental health services at North Metro Pediatrics. 2017 also marked the start of a 3 year strategic plan that would guide excellence in mission implementation through 2019.

2018

Expanding the impact: Lee Carlson Center expanded programming to Osseo Area Schools, St. Francis Schools, Spring Lake Park and Totino-Grace High School. Bridgeview added housing support services and Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS) for adults with severe and persistent mental illness. Lee Carlson Center added Intensive Treatment in Foster Care (ITFC) becoming one of the first agencies in the state providing intensive mental health services to children living in foster care.

2019

What's Next: Lee Carlson Center added another 5,000 square foot location in early 2019 in Brooklyn Center providing all the same services in each location that it offers in Fridley. Along with the growth in clinics Lee Carlson Center will expand service in Osseo Schools adding an additional seven schools. The agency will add programming in the Anoka-Hennepin School District focused on early childhood and elementary age students and their families. Partnerships with Blaine and Columbia Heights Police Departments will continue to expand the organization's role in meeting community members by conducting critical outreach to engage community members in the agency's programs and services.