



## Dare Family Services, Inc.

265 Medford Street Suite 500 Somerville MA 02143

**Incorporation Year:** 1968

[www.darefamily.org](http://www.darefamily.org)

**Organization Contact:** smustafa@darefamily.org Shaheer Mustafa  
Human Services Foster Care



**CEO/Executive Director:** Mr. Shaheer M Mustafa

**Board Chair:** Mr. James A McDaniel Esq. Choate, Hall & Stewart

**Mission Statement:** Dare Family Services is a private, nonprofit social services agency operating throughout Massachusetts to provide: intensive, treatment foster care to severely abused and neglected children; housing and support services to developmentally disabled adults and to pregnant and parenting teens; and support and stabilization services to at-risk families. Dare Family Services is dedicated to the belief that every child is entitled to the security and stability of a loving family; we are committed to guiding and nourishing each person in our care to independence.

**Needs Statement:** Raising funds for our agency's general operations will help Dare continue to provide the highest quality care to the youth and families we serve. Private funds will enable us to maintain our residential program for pregnant and parenting teens; to preserve our rigorous recruitment of superior foster parents; to provide increased trainings to our staff and foster parents to address the varied and intensive needs of the young people in our care; and to retain the remarkably talented staff members who work with tireless dedication to serve our youth and families.

**Impact Statement:** The unprecedented, ongoing budget cuts to the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families have had significant impacts on our agency. The state has drastically reduced its referrals to residential programs, which are more costly than foster care programs. As a result, our intensive foster care programs now serve children and adolescents who previously would have been placed in residential programs due to the extent of their psychological and psychiatric diagnoses.

Historically we served a large population of youth with oppositional defiant disorder (acting-out teens). Now, the majority of our population is extremely traumatized youth. The young people in our care today come to us with a wide range of serious diagnoses including schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, Aspergers syndrome, obsessive compulsive disorder and neurobiological disorders caused by abuse and neglect. They exhibit behaviors such as fire setting, self-injurious behaviors and physical aggression.

Dare has risen to the challenge of the increasingly severe behaviors and diagnoses of the youth in our intensive foster care programs. Our staff—including our clinical director, Dr. Steven Willis—and foster parents are doing remarkable work with these young people. Specifically, our top three recent accomplishments have been: recruiting foster parents who are able to manage the behaviors of these children and adolescents; training our foster parents and staff to specifically address the changing behaviors and diagnoses of the youth in care; and providing direct care to our young clients to help heal past trauma and prepare for healthy futures.

Our agency's primary goal always is to protect our children from further abuse and neglect. We also aim to manage our programs with strict financial oversight to ensure their success. We strive to maintain an unwavering focus on quality control to retain the highest quality staff members and foster parents.

**Full-time Staff:** 138

**Volunteers:** 5

(excludes part-time staff)

### Programs Detailed on Profile

Intensive Foster Care Program

Residential Services for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Family Support and Stabilization

Pregnant and Parenting Teens Program

**Projected Revenue:** \$24,896,670.00

**Projected Expenses:** \$24,887,843.00

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$24,646,907	\$23,915,028	\$22,526,792
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$24,209,297	\$23,201,002	\$22,329,730

**Top Funding Sources**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Top Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</b>	--	--	--
<b>Second Highest Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</b>	--	--	--
<b>Third Highest Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</b>	--	--	--