

SHOWING UP WILDER

Annual Report

WILDER

2026



Letter from Wilder's President and CEO

When Families Thrive, We All Do

Life doesn't happen one challenge at a time. A family navigating a housing crisis may also be worried about a child's mental health. Someone searching for work may be caring for an aging parent. And unexpected events can threaten the stability families have worked so hard to build.

As I reflect on this past year, I'm grateful to the families who place their trust in Wilder, the staff who bring compassion and expertise to their work, and the supporters and partners whose generosity makes so much possible.

This year reminded us just how connected our lives are. During Operation Metro Surge, federal immigration enforcement activity created fear and uncertainty across immigrant and refugee communities, including among Wilder staff and their families. Drawing on trusted relationships and deep community connections, our staff helped families access food, essential resources and support during an extraordinarily difficult time.

The resilience of these families and our colleagues reminds us of the strength within our communities. But resilience shouldn't mean facing hardship alone.

At Wilder, we know that when one person struggles, an entire family can feel the impact. And when someone receives the support they need, it can create possibilities for generations. That's why we're strengthening connections across our programs and services, listening to families and building on the strengths they bring to their own lives.

Through Wilder Research, we also help communities understand the challenges they face and use evidence to inform decisions that improve people's lives. Whether we're providing direct support, sharing knowledge or bringing people together, our work is grounded in a simple belief: people deserve to be heard, treated with dignity and supported in building the futures they envision.

As we look ahead, we'll continue listening to families, strengthening connections across Wilder and working alongside our communities to create opportunities for lasting stability.

Because when we strengthen a family, we create possibilities that reach beyond one person, one household and one generation.



Armando Camacho

Armando Camacho
Wilder's President and CEO

Integrated Services for the Whole Family

Our strategic plan centers families in everything we do. Through a Whole Family Approach, Wilder is connecting services to meet the needs and life goals of the whole family — not just one person. We're committed to working alongside individuals, families and communities, honoring their strengths and supporting the future they envision for themselves.



Maternal Care



Education Support



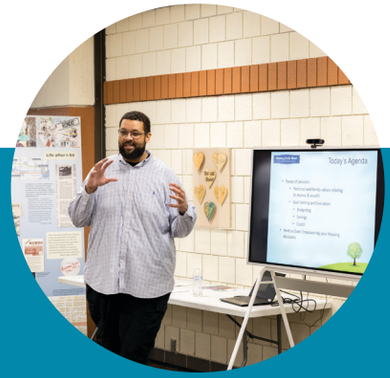
Mental Health and Substance Use



Aging Support

Mission

Wilder is a collective force for social good that works to see all people thrive. We champion stability and wellness through direct services, advocacy, and research.



Housing Support and Wealth Building



Research

Vision

People that thrive in their fullness. Good that lasts for generations.

Values

Center equity, listen with intent, act with kindness, build trusting relationships and take action with others



Advocacy

Moving Forward, Together.

Sometimes the difference between being stuck and moving forward isn't a major intervention. It's having a partner who helps you get exactly what you need when you need it. For one mother and her child, that partner was Wilder, through Wilder's Family Investment Fund and the support of a Project BOLD coach, as they worked toward the future they envisioned for themselves.

Liz was connected with Project BOLD, a whole family program through Saint Paul Promise, a project of Wilder, after her child's school raised attendance concerns. Project BOLD serves the whole family and pairs participants with a family success coach – a trusted partner who helps families navigate choices, decisions, and resources on their own terms. Coaches recognize that every family's path looks different. At the time, Liz and her child were experiencing homelessness. To take a step towards securing stable housing, Liz was actively seeking employment.

As part of Liz's job search, an additional barrier emerged: she needed professional clothing and basic hygiene items, and her child needed clothes for school. Through her relationship with her family success coach, Liz connected with the Family Investment Fund, which provides immediate and direct assistance to families served by Wilder. With Wilder's support, Liz secured what she needed – and soon after, she was hired by a local coffee shop, an important step towards stability.

Liz's story reflects what's possible when people closest to a challenge are trusted to identify their needs, and resources exist to help them act on it.

Wilder's Family Investment Fund helps make these partnerships real. Your gift ensures that when a family identifies what they need to move forward, the support is there to meet them.

All names are pseudonyms; real identities have been withheld for confidentiality.

Give to support Wilder's work.
wilder.org/donate

To protect the privacy of the people we serve, this photo does not depict the individual featured in this story.



By the Numbers



110,081

clinical service visits that included evaluations, treatment, therapy, skills work and psychiatry check-ins.



136

research reports and evaluations conducted to support data-driven decisions made by policymakers and communities.



3,067

students and families engaged in school-based programming.



3,543

people participated in housing, economic stability, aging, early childhood, and family programs.



54,302

meals served to families and individuals facing food insecurity.



3,389

people received mental and behavioral health services.



100

families received weekly donated groceries for six weeks during Operation Metro Surge.



$45,000+

given directly to families and individuals through the Family Investment Fund during Operation Metro Surge.



151

community-based events hosted by Wilder.



"With Wilder, I feel connected to a greater community of people who just want the world to be a better place for all of us."

- Wilder Supporter

Meals on Wheels volunteers from the Minnesota appellate court picking up meals to deliver to Wilder participants.



Sonya (pictured center with green hat) surrounded by women she's walked alongside as a Family Peer Specialist.

You Are Not Alone

Like many parents, Sonya was determined to create a wonderful and fulfilling life for her son so he could thrive both inside and outside of the classroom. That's why it was especially disheartening to her to watch her young child struggle in elementary school while she and the educators around her sought answers.

Sonya, who raised her son alone, knew she had to do something and she began researching options that would offer the support her family needed. That's where Kofi, Wilder's culturally specific program, came in. The school-based mental health therapists discovered that her son, who is now well into adulthood, had attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

It was a turning point for her son, and for Sonya too. As Sonya says now, "Being a parent, all you really want is the best for your kids. You feed them, you give them the foundation part of life. But there's things in the middle that you just don't know about – mental health, learning disabilities. You lose track of those because you're focused on making sure there's food, the lights are on, there's love. I gave them all of that. But I missed those little things." Kofi founder Rudy Rousseau told her something she hadn't heard before, "It's okay. You're not alone."

At Wilder, supporting others well means supporting the people around them too – their family, their household, the people who show up every day. Helping build stability in the lives of those we serve is an important part of holistic care. Sonya learned that firsthand, navigating a system on her son's behalf long before she'd do the same work for a living.

Her son credits her determination for the man he is now – someone who provides for his own family and community.

Sonya carries that into her work now, as a Family Peer Specialist at Wilder. "That's why I love what I do," she says. "I get to connect with parents. Whatever they're going through, I want them to trust me – which is why I tell them my story. It's okay if you're alone and you think nobody's there. If you don't know who to turn to, I'm here. I can help them get the foundation right."

She's proud of her work, and proud to do it alongside colleagues who specialize in mental health – one connecting with parents, the other with kids, both building toward the same foundation.

Learn more about mental health services.
wilder.org/mental-health

Seen and Heard

We believe that all families know and want what is best for themselves. And this value drives how Wilder approaches its work. For years, families have shared their experiences with Wilder as they navigate challenges, access services and work toward a better future. Their perspectives offer something no report or data set can fully capture: firsthand knowledge of what works, what doesn't and what could be better.

Now, Wilder is creating a new way to put that knowledge into action. The IMPACT Family Advisory Group will bring parents, caregivers and community members together with Wilder staff and leaders to help shape decisions that affect families. Rather than simply asking for feedback, Wilder is creating opportunities for families to influence how services are designed, delivered and improved. And families helped build the group from the beginning.

In the summer of 2025, Wilder held a series of listening sessions, followed by design team meetings in early 2026. Together, families, community members and Wilder leaders imagined and designed what a family advisory group could look like. Their conversations quickly moved beyond meeting schedules and organizational structures to something more personal: What does it take for people to feel heard, respected and valued?

One participant captured that feeling in a verse about her experience with Wilder: "A place where I feel seen and heard … when challenges come, Wilder says, 'Together, we can get through.'" Those words helped reflect the spirit of what the group wanted to create.

Together, participants identified what meaningful involvement should look like: recognizing families as experts in their own lives, welcoming different perspectives and removing practical barriers, such as transportation and childcare, that can keep people from participating.

They also chose a name that reflects their shared vision. IMPACT stands for "I matter, My truth is honored, Purpose brings us together, All voices are welcome, Connection creates trust, Together we go far."

This fall, IMPACT welcomed its first members, bringing together people with firsthand experience of Wilder's programs to share their insights, build relationships and work alongside staff and leadership.

The group represents an important step toward ensuring that the people closest to the challenges also have a voice in shaping the solutions. Because when families help shape the decisions that affect their lives, everyone benefits.



Members of the design team grounding their meeting in shared purpose and vision.

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Wilder's work is stronger because of the people who guide it. Our board members bring wisdom, care and a deep commitment to our mission, helping us stay connected to the communities we serve. We're thankful for the ways they give, guide and lead year after year.

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Revenue

Sources of dollars used to finance operations

(In Millions)	FY 2026
Government fees and contracts | 60%	$40.9
Wilder Foundation Endowment | 19%	13.1
Contributions and private grants | 12%	8.4
Consulting revenues | 6%	3.8
Private contracts, insurance and fees | 2%	1.1
Other income | 1%	0.9
TOTAL OPERATING DOLLARS	**$68.2**

Expenses

Expenditures by Service Group

(in Millions)	FY 2026
Community Mental Health and Wellness | 43%	$27.5
Economic Stability and Aging Services | 20%	12.6
Administration | 16%	10.2
Wilder Research | 15%	8.7
Fundraising | 3%	1.9
Interest and financial expense | 2%	1.1
TOTAL OPERATING DOLLARS (excludes investment performance)	**$62.2**



Here for good.

WILDER

wilder.org

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