

As Seen In

Bloomberg Businessweek, Fortune & Money

CLEVELAND >> Business Profiles

A Not-for-Profit with a For-Profit Mentality

By applying sound business principles, this behavioral health organization continues to develop tools and opportunities to help Ohio's youth rise above adverse childhood experiences to lead healthy, positive lives.

“We don't seek donors; we seek investors,” emphasizes Richard Graziano, president and CEO of The Village Network, which offers a multidisciplinary, multidimensional approach to assisting children and young adults who need the best care possible to become happy, productive members of the community.

“To investors we deliver what they would expect from any entity worthy of their resources: transparency that demonstrates the value of product lines, data related to services provided, and quantifiable results. They receive regular statements of impact.”

Forward-thinking, research-based leadership, supported by a dedicated team of experienced and compassionate caregivers, has achieved a “healthy bottom line,” according to Graziano: “We have been able to expand our care to more youths in Ohio and implement leading-edge treatment options.”

In the past three years, the number of youths served at any one time has risen from 400 to over 1,000. As in any successful business, carefully controlled growth is encouraged.

Richard Graziano
President and CEO



Strategy/Innovation

The Village Network's strategic business plan is a living document that is constantly revised as new clinical models emerge.

Although traditional services—including residential and day treatment, foster care, court intervention services, alternative schooling, and adoption services—are solidly in place, the behavioral/medical connection is one of special focus and implementation. The Village Network is currently undergoing training by Dr. Stuart Ablon, an associate professor of psychology and director of Think:Kids, in the Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) approach.

In addition to partnering with Nationwide Children's Hospital and Cleveland Clinic, The Village Network has earned flagship status with Dr. Bruce Perry and his innovative Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), which seeks to reprogram the impact of trauma, neglect, or maltreatment on a child's brain.

Measuring Impact

Outcome measures are largely based upon how many of the youths graduate from high school, go on to further education—including military service or vocational training—and obtain jobs and stable housing.

“In order to be successful, we need our kids, their families, our investors, and the community-at-large to trust that we will never give up on a child—and we don't,” says Graziano, who discovered early on that working with kids was his passion. “The bottom line, for us, is seeing kids thrive in a supportive, stable, caring environment and in healthier communities. It's seeing them become role models. There's no better ROI than that.”



*The Village Network has
21 offices throughout
Central and Northeast Ohio.*

330-264-3232

thevillagenetwork.org

Celebrating 70 Years

of unwavering dedication to youth and families