

CHILDREN'S HOME PHILOSOPHY OF CARE

At the Children's Home we believe that every child deserves a safe place and every child has a life worth living. We are dedicated to providing services to improve the safety, stability and well-being of children, their families and the community.

Many of the children and the families we serve have experienced painful or troubled lives; they may not feel safe, secure or successful in their home, school or community environments. Consistent exposure to traumatic events and environments can alter a person's perception, causing them to see the world as a threatening place. Frequently they may appear fearful, angry, withdrawn or uncaring. They may also feel abandoned and dismissed by the rest of society.

Our job is to help these children, and family members, to overcome such fears and to inspire them to see that a better life is possible. Teaching skills that will help them to make better choices for their lives is crucial. At the Children's Home we do this by emphasizing the importance of building and maintaining positive relationships with others. The following values and principles guide this effort:

Hope - We believe in the possibility for growth, change and forgiveness. We nurture that belief in ourselves and in others.

Healing - We promote a climate where people feel safe and experience improved physical, emotional and spiritual health.

Caring - We show compassion in how we treat others. We show sensitivity to their concerns, problems or pain. We reassure them that they are not alone.

Respect - We see the best in others regardless of who they are. Our words and actions recognize the special needs and individuality of each person we serve or with whom we work.

Integrity - We are honest in what we say and do. Honesty and competence are fundamental in developing trust.

Responsibility - We hold ourselves accountable for our decisions and actions. We believe every person has the capacity to make decisions and understand the consequences.

Collaboration - We use teamwork to accomplish more than any of us could by working alone. We believe we can best serve and care for others by blending the talents and dedication of many caring people and organizations.

Stewardship - We make wise use of the resources entrusted to us.

This philosophy emphasizes the importance of keeping children connected to their families. Our work with the families involves them in the treatment and planning of their children's lives; so that they can support and maintain their child's progress. This includes sharing the strategies and skills we have found to be successful with their children. It is the ability to develop and maintain positive, supportive relationships that helps build a life worth living.