



Helping Kids in Crisis.
Building Strong Families.



Program Areas

Out of Home Residential Services

Teaching, Learning and Connecting (TLC) Group Home is a community-based group home designed to meet the needs of teen females, age 13-18. Youth staying here receive tutoring, take part in therapeutic groups, recreational activities and independent living skill building.

Bridges Transitional Living Program offers supervised, community-based apartment living for youth, ages 16-21, who have been homeless or are learning independent living skills. Youth may live alone or with a roommate, with access to 24-hour staff support.

Emergency Shelter offers 24-hour short-term emergency shelter for children and youth, primarily those age 12-18, including homeless and runaway youth or those experiencing crisis. This facility is also able to accommodate sibling groups, as well as teen mothers and their children.

Foster Care and Emergency Foster Care staff work closely with children, biological parents, and foster families to build and maintain relationships. Individual families provide foster care and emergency placements for children, ages birth-18. Permanency

is the goal for each child, which includes reunification, adoption, guardianship, or independent living. Respite care, support groups, and extensive training opportunities are also available for children and families, as well as 24-hour support for the foster family and youth.

Street Outreach Services (SOS) offers street-based assistance to runaway, homeless, and at-risk teens, including support, referrals, and crisis intervention. SOS staff focus their efforts on high risk schools, homeless shelters and on the streets of Lincoln to connect with homeless youth.

Early Childhood and School-Age Programs

Early Childhood Development Centers (ECDC) serve children, ages six weeks to six years. The centers utilize Creative Curriculum Gold Edition and continuity of care where the teacher and four children transition together to classrooms from birth to age three and ages three to five.

Community Learning Centers (CLC) offer on-site before-and-after school childcare for elementary school children, grades K-5, as well as specialized clubs that enhance academic performance. The CLC programs also focus on family and community involvement and operate a School and Neighborhood Advisory Committee (SNAC).

Family Solutions

Family Support Services are intended to facilitate parent participation in child-directed interactions, use of positive social praise, and introduction of parent-directed activities, including daily living activities of parenting such as bedtime rituals, toilet training, curfew, consequence, chores, etc., use of appropriate coping skills to manage the parents'/caretakers' behavior, appropriate discipline and specific interventions. Demonstrated, specific skills taught establish a nurturing and secure relationship while increasing a child's pro-social behavior and decreasing negative behavior. Services also provide the supervision required to control and manage safety concerns identified by referral sources.

Visitation services provide for supervision of the interaction between a child(ren) and his/her parent(s) as part of a Safety Plan and/or court order. This service is provided when a child has been placed outside the home or for supervision of the parent and child interaction when a child has not been removed from the home but safety must be controlled and managed.



Healthy Families, in collaboration with Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, provides outreach services to at-risk teen mothers and first time single-parent families providing pre-natal and post-natal services that combine nursing services and parenting resources. Using the Healthy Families America evidenced-based practice, this model utilizes social work and case management as a support to home visitation nursing services.

Partners in Permanency (PIP) “wraps” services around families in need to address the issues that may cause the family to lose custody of their child. The family’s needs are identified through a comprehensive process involving both the youth and his or her family, and results in a unique set of community services that support the family and make it possible for the child to remain in the home and in the custody of their family.

Intensive Family Reunification and Preservation focuses on: 1) helping youth who currently reside in an out-of-home placement successfully and permanently transition home, and 2) helping youth and families in crisis to safely remain unified while addressing their needs in their home or foster care.

Juvenile Justice

Tracker Services provides one-on-one supervision and advocacy for youth, ages 13-18, who are at risk of an out-of-home placement, or are in the process of transitioning back home. Trackers assist youth in the areas of education, employment, recreation, basic living skills, crisis intervention, and family development.

Juvenile Diversion Services (JDS), offers youth who have committed law violations in Lancaster County the opportunity to avoid further involvement in the juvenile justice system through successful participation in this program. Services support youth in learning how their actions have affected themselves and others, work to restore harm, and encourage positive and productive participation at home, in school, and in the community. Teen Court is also available as an option for Juvenile Diversion and is structured to provide a peer-driven diversion alternative.

Life Skills Center provides an on-site structured environment where youth can acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for navigating through the demands and challenges of everyday life. Staff help youth recognized their

potential by providing guidance and support in making positive choices. Staff provide academic tutoring and GED preparation, offer positive social activities, support employment searches and job readiness, and engage youth with their community.

Drug Screening and Testing (DST) conducts drug screening for youth whose offense is related to substance abuse or for adults who are involved with the child protection system and substance abuse has been a concern related to their ability to safely parent their children.

Electronic Monitoring/Global Positioning System (EM/GPS) bridges the gap between unrestricted freedom and supervision for youth with a history of unaccountable time. EM is available for youth whose behaviors put them at risk to themselves or the community by allowing them to remain in their homes, go to work, attend school, and maintain other pro-social activities while helping deter undesirable behavior, supporting treatment, and increasing public safety. GPS is utilized for short periods of time to ensure stability and provide rehabilitative services to the youth.