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TENNESSEE CHILDREN'S HOME

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> JAN 31 2011 METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Tennessee Children's Home East will be:

Providing care for Department of Children Services Level II boys in a family home setting

Attending to their educational, emotional and physical needs

Will be providing counseling, alcoholic and drug treatment

Group treatment for anger management and conflict resolution

Providing in home care for parents and/or guardians

Each home will have a set of parents, relief parents and 24 hr awake staff.



Board of Trustees



SUMMARY, HISTORY, BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Tennessee Orphans' Home was incorporated in Tennessee on September 14, 1909, for the purpose of "supporting and educating orphan children regardless of sect, creed or denomination." Its operations consisted primarily in the care of children who, for various reasons brought about by the country's economic depression and World Wars I and II, no longer have a family able to take care of them. During that time, TOH served, on any given day, over 200 children, from infants through early adulthood. In April 1947, TOH received not-for-profit 501(c)(3) recognition by the Internal Revenue Service.

As society changed, so did this organization. In September 1982, it changed its name to Tennessee Children's Home. It expanded its services to include foster care, group home residential treatment, child and family counseling, and independent living programs. The purposes of TCH became to support, educate and provide Christian out-of-home care for children who are victims of abuse, dependent neglected, orphaned, and/or exploited, making all reasonable and practical efforts to provide services to meet their intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual needs. A further purpose is to provide family intervention that is intended to prevent or reverse family disintegration through a series of community based and family based intervention strategies.

With four campuses located across the state, Tennessee Children's Home is able to offer a variety of services to children and their families. These include residential care for children placed by the Department of Children's Services and/or juvenile justice and classified as needing Level II services. TCH also offers mentoring, adoption, habilitated services for young adult women with special needs, A&D programs and foster care. The group home residences are family oriented-serving no more than 8 children per house under the guidance of house parents. Each campus offers supervised recreational facilities such as gymnasiums, lakes for fishing and boating, swimming pools, low and high ropes course, nature trails, softball fields, volleyball, exercise and weight-lifting equipment, games rooms, and other activities.

Frequently, loving parents privately place their children at TCH when the parents and children need professional assistance in overcoming family problems. All the children in our care, regardless of the program, receive professional counseling. For some privately placed children, those classified as Level II, TCH offers on-campus and highly structured, therapeutic educational facilities. TCH also provides a minimum 3-month monitoring program to assist children and their families in the transition back into home, school, and work environments.

The Level II residential care program is designed for children who may be abused or neglected and who may exhibit runaway or delinquent behavior. They may have problems with their families, local law enforcement, school environments, or with their own personal behavior. The children served are between 13 and 18 years old. The children receive individual and group counseling, assistance with individual problems, and behavior modification instruction designed to help them become responsible adults. They live in group homes designed to be as family integrated as possible.

The Cornerstone School in Spring Hill and New Heights in West TN are the on-campus schools that provide for the educational needs of children in Level II programs and private placements. Most of these children are academically behind and/or have special learning needs. The school offers a structured and treatment-oriented environment, a 8:1 student-teacher ratio, tutoring, and special education classes. Students take courses in Math, Science, English, Reading, Life Skills, Physical Education, and Bible.

As the Tennessee Children's Home works with children who have been victims of abuse, neglect, orphaned and/or exploited, all reasonable and practical efforts are made to provide services to meet their intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual needs. This program has already proven successful as we observe the changes in student's behavior. The children become more self-confident, have less personal behavioral problems and are more productive as members of their community. We are providing the highest quality program promising the overall growth and success of each child in our care.