

Residential Treatment for Children With Problem Sexual Behaviors



Providing Insight That Leads to Personal Responsibility...

Youth Villages has been offering residential treatment for children and adolescents with problem sexual behaviors since 1988.

Treatment Approach

The safety of children in our care is a top priority. This is particularly important when working with youth who exhibit problem sexual behaviors. Treatment is provided in small group settings with young people separated according to age, gender, intellectual functioning, and degree of behavior, i.e. hands-on offenses versus inappropriate, sexually reactive behavior.

Master's-level counselors provide group, individual, and family therapy. They also utilize materials that are published by the Safer Society Press, a national research center on the prevention and treatment of sexual abuse. Adolescents with sexual behavior problems complete the *Pathways Workbook* and also work on the *Relapse Prevention Workbook*. Pre-pubescent children with sexual problems use the *Roadmaps to Recovery Workbook*. All of these workbooks are guides to helping people with sexual-touching problems and focus on building internal controls while strengthening external controls so that the risk for re-offense is decreased.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is used to help clients identify the thinking errors that have supported their sexual acting out. Counseling and milieu therapy strive to correct these thinking errors and help clients understand the patterns (cycles) of behaviors that may lead to relapse. The client learns how to interrupt this cycle and identify risk factors in order to avoid problem situations in the future. When appropriate, victim reconciliation work is completed during the treatment program. Throughout the program, there is an emphasis on developing healthy sexuality and the ability to make healthy sexual choices.

Problems are addressed; responsible behavior is taught

Staff Training

Program counselors receive specialized training provided by the Tennessee Sexual Offender Treatment Board and the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers. Program counselors and managers receive weekly consultation with a licensed professional who is knowledgeable in current treatment practices of adolescent sexual abuse. Direct-care staff receive training on issues of supervision, boundaries, sexual development, human sexuality – identifying thinking errors.

Family Involvement

We at Youth Villages believe that family therapy is critical for treatment success. We are committed to helping parents overcome any barriers to family therapy, including distance and financial concerns.

Admissions Criteria

- Age range: ages 8-17
- Verbal IQ: 50 and above
- Medical problems may be significant but must be stabilized

Financial Considerations

The intensive, around-the-clock treatment we provide is not inexpensive; however, it is substantially less than the cost of most similarly accredited agencies. Many state departments of Medicaid, along with many medical insurance policies, pay all or much of the cost of treatment. We are a Medicaid provider for Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Wyoming, as well as numerous insurance carriers. We are also a contract provider for child welfare agencies in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Mississippi, Florida, and Tennessee. We will do everything we can to make care affordable.



How to Make a Referral

Referrals may be made by phone or by mail to:
Placement Services Dept.
P.O. Box 341154
Memphis, TN 38184-1154
or call: 1-877-983-6767

For more information about Youth Villages' programs, contact Jane Hemphill at (901) 251-4930 or jane.hemphill@youthvillages.org



Founded in 1986, Youth Villages has built a national reputation for offering the most effective programs and services to help emotionally troubled children and their families. Headquartered in Memphis, the private nonprofit organization provides a fully integrated continuum of services, including residential treatment, intensive in-home services, treatment foster care and adoption, group homes, a transitional living program, crisis services, and family-based care for children with severe developmental disabilities.