



Families United Network, Inc.
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www.families4kids.org

Ashler Manor offers a Community Based Residential Program and Supervised Independent Living Services to serve neglected and abused children, ages 12-18. Programs and services addressing the needs of our residents are geared toward providing comprehensive care, counseling, and enrichment opportunities that will enable the children to internalize socially acceptable behavior in the interactions with others. We continually strive to offer positive community outreach experiences for the youth in our care.

In addition, our residents are active with volunteering hours at local nursing homes, elementary schools, Project Linus, and with beautification service projects such as Adopt-a-Highway and playground clean-up days. Such activities offer opportunities for our residents to enhance self-worth, promote positive thinking and improve responsibility on the part of each resident served. Ashler Manor also maintains an Advisory Board of community minded individuals who provide support, direction and guidance for local service projects.



Throughout the past ten years, Ashler Manor has made it a priority to give back to the community. The residents at Ashler Manor have participated in many programs to support our commitment to volunteerism, community outreach and service in the Lycoming County area. Our agency has partnered with Lycoming County Safety Kids and Comprehensive Highway Safety to deliver pedestrian safety programs to pre-school & kindergarten aged children, assist at local car seat safety checks, and to distribute safety flyers in various Lycoming County communities. Since the inception of the Pedestrian Safety program, Ashler Manor residents have delivered programs to over 400 children in local childcare centers and pre-schools.

Residents Dedicated to Giving Back

Ashler Manor Celebrates 10 Years!



Outlooks

Volume 1, 2005-2006

Annual Newsletter for Stakeholders



COA Awards Accreditation

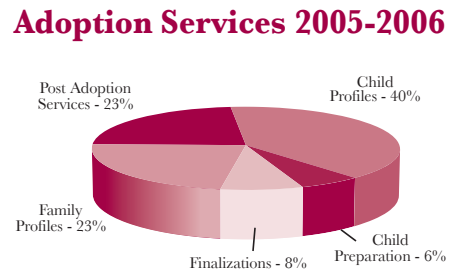
Families United Network, Inc. is committed to providing our stakeholders with the highest quality of programs and services. To further our commitment to excellence, we sought to earn accreditation through The Council on Accreditation (COA). We are pleased to announce that COA has granted Families United Network, Inc. accreditation, effective through April 2011.

Earning accreditation confirms our integrity as an organization through internationally-recognized standards of excellence in the quality of our services and management, as determined by the Council on Accreditation.

The Council on Accreditation is recognized worldwide as a leading advocate for quality social and behavioral healthcare services. COA strives to assist organizations in growth and development through strict governance, management, and service standards. Today, more than 1,600 leading private and public organizations throughout North America have sought COA accreditation.

Finding Forever Families

The 2005-2006 year brought excitement & celebration for children, families and staff as we facilitated the adoption finalizations of 28 special needs children. Undoubtedly, our goal is always to promote children with permanency, but when reunification is not achieved, we shift to explore potential adoptive resource avenues. In past years, foster parents have stepped up to provide a number of children with a chance at a forever family. In the recent year, we have experienced an increased number of kinship resources that have volunteered to make these critical lifetime commitments.



While recognizing the importance and long-term benefits of providing a special needs child with a sense of belonging and permanency, the agency also recently transitioned from the adoption program to the permanency program. By capturing our mission of promoting permanency, we want to ensure that resource families and children are fully aware of the permanency options consisting of reunification, adoption, placement with a fit and willing relative, permanent legal guardianship or another planned permanent living arrangement.

A Celebration of Permanency



Stacy Aungst (center) of Lancaster County provided permanency to a young sibling group of two girls, Janine (left) & Sada (right), on February 28, 2007. The children were placed in Stacy's home as a foster care placement for the purpose of adoption in July 2005. Families United Network, Inc. staff provided ongoing support and supervision to the children & family from the time of placement until the adoption finalization hearing.

Private Adoption Program Launched

Families United Network embarked upon an exciting journey during the past year. In an effort to expand our spectrum of services, the Board of Directors approved a plan to move into domestic and international private adoption.

Early in 2006, a decision was made to focus on Guatemala as the inaugural country for the international adoption program. By March, we had established referral relationships with three reputable attorneys in Guatemala City and several physicians selected by the US Embassy to complete the final medical examinations for all Guatemalan children adopted by US citizens. To date, we have several families well into their adoptions of Guatemalan infants and several more in the beginning stages.

Families United Network is also exploring opportunities to work with adoption authorities in Ukraine, Nepal and Vietnam. These programs are expected to develop sometime in late 2007.

In the midst of this excitement, there is also a focused campaign to make it known that we now have a system of experts in Pennsylvania to assist individuals and other agencies by conducting home studies and preparing the requisite reports. Families United Network, Inc. continues to search for ways to serve children and families who otherwise may not have their most important needs met through finding each other.

Families United Network, Inc. - Dedicated to Strengthening Families

From the Chief Executive Officer



Families United Network, Inc. has been blessed in many ways this past year. During a time of tightening fiscal constraints at the federal, state, and county levels, as evidenced by a movement of children into lower levels of care and reduced referrals, we have seen significant growth. We

believe that this is an attestation of our quality programming for children and youth, and the outcomes that we have been able to achieve.

Our comprehensive continuum of services ranges from foster, kinship, and residential care, to state-wide adoption services as a SWAN affiliate; and both domestic and international adoption. We are currently contracted with nearly 50 counties throughout Pennsylvania. As a recognized leader in child social services, we have had a significant impact on children's lives, and have assisted many children and families to reunite in a healthier environment.

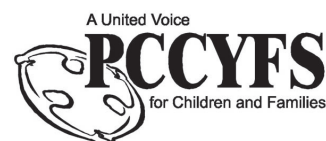
We have been successful in attaining our goals through the dedication and hard work of our staff, our Board of Directors and Advisory Board members, and especially our large network of resource parents. They have all approached their many challenges with a large dose of enthusiasm and the will to succeed. Thanks to your efforts, a sense of hope has been infused into our youth, and they now have new role models on which to pattern their behavior and lives. Our youth have come to us neglected and abused, and we have helped them to heal.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our children.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Neuhard

Thomas A. Neuhard
Chief Executive Officer



South Central Coalition of Foster Care Providers
The Northeast Foster Care Coalition

Our Mission:

Families United Network, Inc. is dedicated to strengthening families by providing children and youth with a safe, nurturing, community environment through a continuum of services, which focuses on reunification or permanency.



Board of Directors

Robert Wagner, Chairman
Joseph O. Smith, Vice Chairman
Sheila M. Ross
Vincent Pearson, M.D.
Mary Ann Tarantino, Secretary

Ashler Manor Advisory Board

Chris Smith
Woody Shaner
Nancy Matter

Corey Palmatier
Tonya Anderson
Paula Miller



Program Locations:

Administrative Office
P.O. Box 64 • Muncy, PA 17756

Foster Care & Adoption Program Offices

Dillsburg Office
204-C Mumper Lane
Dillsburg, PA 17019

Muncy
P.O. Box 264
Muncy, PA 17756

Mount Joy
406 South Angle Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Western Office
302 Brinton Avenue
Trafford, PA 15085

Scranton
1006 Pittston Avenue, Suite 200
Scranton, PA 18505

Residential Programs

Arborvale Manor
2016 Millersville Pike
Lancaster, PA 17603

Ashler Manor
P.O. Box 264
Muncy, PA 17756

We welcome your feedback!

Please direct any questions or comments to
Brandy Bosler at bbosler@families4kids.org
Visit us online at: www.families4kids.org

Families United Network, Inc. does not discriminate in regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, age, or sex.

Who Are The Children We Serve?

Gender: 51% female, 49% male
Age: 3% 0 - 11 month 24% 11 - 15 years
28% 1 - 5 years 21% 16 and older
24% 6 - 10 years
Race: 51% Caucasian
26% African American
12% Hispanic
11% Two or more races

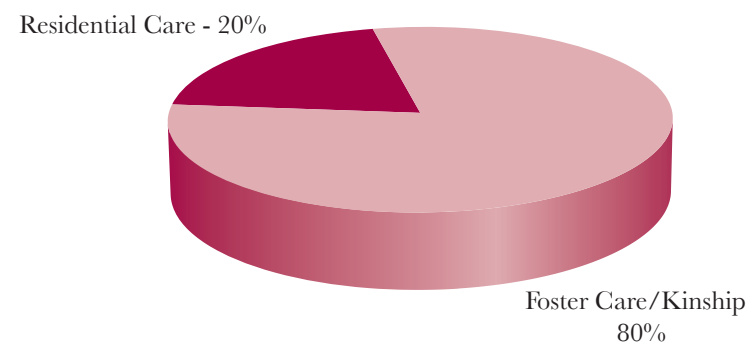
Foster Care Program Highlights

The past year has been particularly busy for the Foster Care division of Families United Network. In addition to significant increases in overall placements in 2006, sixty-three percent of the children discharged from foster care left to join a permanent family. There is no better reward for our work than to see children return to their birth family or achieve some alternate form of permanency. We have placed family engagement high on the priority list of foster care services, and the results are evident. The highest percentage of positive discharges involve children experiencing family reunification.

Kinship services became a focus of much energy this year. This expanded endeavor began with our completing formal kinship home studies for several county children and youth agencies. By the middle of 2006, we had become fully engaged in providing all levels of kinship care ranging from conducting informal family assessments to full case management of placements with agency and county responsibilities being fulfilled by Families United Network.

In addition, our program offices have solidified existing and forged new relationships with county children and youth agencies across the state. This has led to the development of new projects and increased referrals. The growth the agency has experienced brings with it the joy of helping to fill voids in service for needy and deserving children and families. We look to the future with an on-going commitment to keep our quality sights high and our pledge to service strong.

Clients Served 2005-2006



Filling the Independent Living Gap

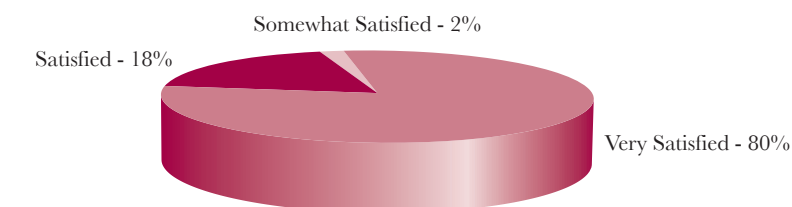
According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, approximately 20,000 youth age out of foster care each year and are not prepared to live independently. Many of those young adults lack a basic education; may become un-employed, homeless, and dependent on public assistance. While Federal mandates now require provisions for independent living services for Pennsylvania youth ages 16 and older, Families United Network, Inc. has been committed to fulfilling that need for the past five years.

Families United Network, Inc. offers two Supervised Independent Living Programs to provide structure and support in an environment that allows youth to practice independent living skills with a greater degree of freedom and independence.

Ashler Manor in Muncy, PA serves the independent living needs of adolescent females, ages 15-18. The program has recently expanded to address the needs of more youth in Pennsylvania. Patterned after Ashler Manor's successful independent living model, Arborvale Manor began serving the needs of adolescent males, ages 15-18 in the Lancaster, PA area. Both programs focus on teaching life skills that will lead to self-sufficiency, independence, and a healthy, productive adulthood. Youth are provided services based on individually assessed needs in areas such as life skills, education, employment, future goals, and discharge planning.

In the upcoming year, the Families United Network residential programs look forward to meeting the community based needs of youth by offering quality programming, supported by our team of highly dedicated professionals and our shared commitment to making a difference in the lives of adolescents.

Client Satisfaction Survey 2005-2006



Life After Families United Network

Where do children go after being in our care?

54% return to family
15% reside with an unrelated resource family
9% are adopted
7% move into shelter care
7% other destinations
4% are emancipated
4% permanent legal custodianship