

John K. Crosswell Home for Children

"for the sake of children and families"

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Executive Director
Jerry L. Allred, Jr., LISW-CP

06/20/2023

The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the House
South Carolina House of Representatives
506 Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Speaker Smith,

I am writing to provide some more details regarding our plans to use the allotted funds to help diversify the program service array offered by the Crosswell Home.

In the coming year, we plan to further expand our foster home program by implementing targeted recruitment strategies aimed at finding new foster families willing to accept teenagers, sibling groups, and other difficult to place youths. Adding these families under our Child Placing Agency umbrella will enable us to offer more placement options for children in foster care throughout the state, as well as offering opportunities for children in our residential program to step-down from group care into family foster care.

We are also pursuing implementation of an evidence-based model of practice into our residential program, such as Trust-Based Relational Intervention. Standardizing our model of care and offering increased training for all of our staff will ensure that our caregivers are fully equipped to meet the complex needs of children who have faced trauma and adversity. We plan to implement this new model of care by selecting staff members to attend practitioner training so that they can conduct ongoing training with the rest of our organization.

As we have opened our residential program to more children and teens with higher levels of needs, we have found ourselves in need of a weekend supervisor who can offer increased behavioral support for our direct care staff. This individual will provide increased continuity of care between the week days and the weekends for our children, and will provide an additional layer of support for the rest of our weekend staff.

Finally, we would like to partner with a consultant to help us identify needs and gaps of service within our immediate community that we can help address. We desire to expand our service array to offer in-home services to families needing short-term support.

Sincerely,



Jerry L. Allred, Jr., LISW-CP
Executive Director

Crosswell Home for Children/ministering to the needs of children and families since 1935

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Crosswell Home is operated by John K. Crosswell Home POF