

# ANNUAL REPORT

# ABOUT US

Located in Austin on a 10-acre campus, The Settlement Home for Children is a licensed nonprofit that helps children in foster care access the support they need to restore and preserve a permanent sense of well-being.

Our mission is to promote healing and growth in children, young adults and families by providing a continuum of care, support and resources.

We serve individuals who have experienced severe emotional trauma, abuse and neglect.

Our vision is to end the cycle of child abuse.



children served in our residential programs (RTC, GHP and SIL)

79

## 44

children and young adults served through our Aftercare Services 4,240

hours of therapeutic care were provided to our residents

## **43**

children served through our Foster & Adoption Program

## 22,787

safe nights were provided to our residents, meaning they were safe while in our care

## 100%

of students in our UT Charter School advanced to the next grade level

# OUR PROGRAMS



#### **Residential Treatment Center (RTC)**

Our Residential Treatment Center provides 27 beds for youth ages 12–18 in a highly structured environment with 24-hour therapeutic support. While many children in foster care are in the state's custody for basic needs, all residents at The Settlement Home for Children come to us with urgent, critical needs. Our RTC is a safe and nurturing environment that enables our residents to begin trusting in the healing process.

#### **Group Home Program (GHP)**

Our Group Home Program provides 23 beds for adolescents ages 12-18 in a home-like setting with 24-hour therapeutic support. The goal of the GHP is to create a family-like environment while giving our residents the opportunity to practice independent living skills that help them prepare for adulthood. Residents go grocery shopping together, cook at home and get to practice healthy social skills.

#### **Supervised Independent Living (SIL)**

Our Supervised Independent Living Program provides 11 efficiency apartments for young women 18 and older who are not quite prepared to live on their own and choose to remain in the custody of Child Protective Services. We provide case management and therapy to our residents, which helps them build independent living skills and empowers them to lead successful and fulfilling lives.



We see this reflected in the story of one of our former residents who moved out from the SIL into her own apartment. She moved to the SIL in 2022 and was able to maintain employment while simultaneously navigating some difficult situations. During her stay, not only did she complete her driver's education and obtain her license, but she also enrolled in Austin Community College and left our program with over \$4,000 in her savings account!

# OUR PROGRAMS

#### Foster & Adoption Program (FAP)

Our Foster & Adoption Program works closely with Child Protective Services to provide safe, loving homes—whether temporary or permanent—for boys and girls of all ages who can no longer remain in their current living situations. In 2024, we celebrated eight adoptions and provided post-adoption therapy support for 31 children. Since receiving our license, we have facilitated 197 adoptions and continue to guide families through every step of the foster and adoption journey by training them in trauma-informed care, supporting them through the foster and adoption process and providing post-adoptive services.



One adoption we facilitated last year was for brothers Adrian and Michael who found their forever home in Pflugerville, Texas! They were placed in a home with a loving foster parent who dedicated his time and effort to making sure they felt safe, valued and loved. The brothers were placed in a home near their sister who also found her forever home, so they can maintain their important sibling connection. In only eight short months, Adrian and Michael were adopted and officially changed their last names!

#### **Post Adoption Services**

Our Post Adoption Services offer ongoing support to families after adoption, including family therapy, parent coaching and more. Our goal is to follow families after adoption since we know that the work towards positive permanency does not end on Adoption Day. Due to the high demand for our services, we hired an additional post-adoption therapist this year, which allowed us to double our impact in providing evidence-based therapy to post-adoption families. In 2024, we provided 662 therapy sessions plus 18 group therapy sessions for post-adoptive moms. Our aim for next year is to start two more groups for tweens.

#### **University of Texas Charter School**

Our on-campus University of Texas Charter School serves students in grades six through 12 within a supportive learning environment. To support our students as they work towards their academic goals, The Home provides individualized student graduation plans, regular one-onone support, credit recovery and weekly tutoring. In 2024, we had six students graduate from our charter school.





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Thanks to generous donors like you, The Settlement Home for Children continues to provide safe, nurturing care for children who have experienced unimaginable hardship. Every contribution helps us offer therapy, education and a stable home environment where children can heal and grow.

As we look to the year ahead, the need for our services continues to grow. With your help, we can expand our reach, strengthen our programs and give more children the tools they need to heal and thrive.

Please consider making a gift today and be a part of transforming lives.



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