



INCARCERATION

is *not* their only option.

Second chances start HERE!



BOYS TOWN
Saving Children Healing Families

A Life- CHANGING

alternative to incarceration
for JUVENILE OFFENDERS



Life after Boys Town for the majority of our youth means using what they've learned in our programs to become productive members of society. This is the true measure of the long-lasting changes and success these juveniles experience through the highly effective, life-changing, and compassionate care and treatment Boys Town provides.

Our youth exemplify good citizenship by continuing their education or getting a job, serving in the military, registering to vote, avoiding involvement in criminal activity and giving back to their community. Their success stories are living proof that even the toughest, most troubled young people can find a new beginning at Boys Town.

An Option for Kids Facing Detention

With an evidence-based programmatic philosophy that focuses on accountability, responsibility and rehabilitation, Boys Town is a proven, cost-effective alternative to incarceration for juvenile offenders. Instead of living in a correctional environment that can often reinforce or perpetuate criminal behavior, juveniles at Boys Town are part of a family that teaches them positive behaviors and social skills, and respect for themselves and others.

Over its nearly 100-year history, Boys Town has earned frequent praise and recognition for its positive and effective approach to meeting the needs of juvenile delinquents.

- » The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has cited Boys Town as an exemplary and effective program for female youth.
- » Our Integrated Continuum of Care® is nationally recognized and supported by more than 30 years of research, establishing it as one of the few effective data-driven models of care for juveniles.
- » The Boys Town Family Home ProgramSM is accredited by the Council on Accreditation.
- » Boys Town's school system is accredited by the North Central Association and the Nebraska Department of Education.

Life-Changing Care, Lasting Outcomes

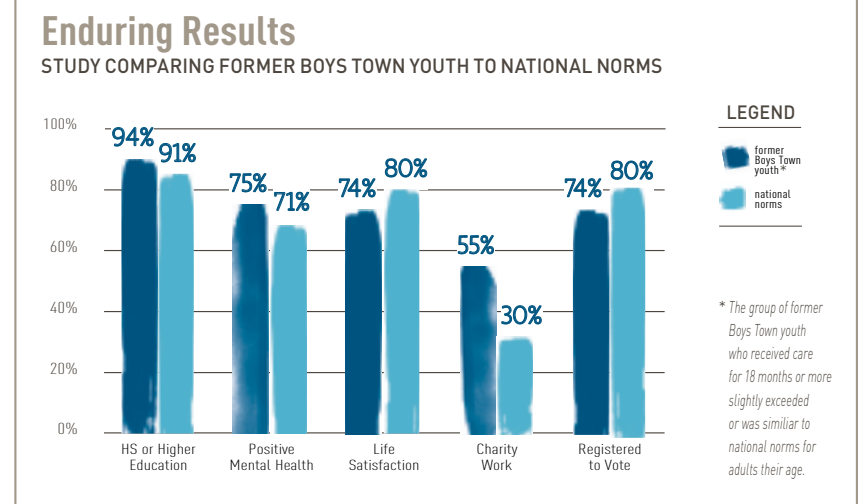
Juveniles served through the Boys Town Integrated Continuum of Care® make significant progress during their time in our programs and maintain their improvements long after program completion. Problems like aggression and drug and alcohol use decrease markedly during placement, and our research shows delinquent behaviors are significantly lower for our youth after they leave our programs.

The success our youth achieve is supported by research. Recent studies that surveyed young adults years after they had completed a Boys Town residential program highlighted the astonishing results of the teaching and care they received. Despite the fact that most of these young people were very much at risk when they came to Boys Town, as young adults:

- » 91% had a high school education five years after leaving Boys Town. (Youth who do not get the help they need for emotional and behavioral problems have only about a 50% chance of graduating from high school.)
- » 82% were employed 16 years after completing our program.
- » 79% of youth 13 and older had not been arrested since leaving Boys Town. *Study findings of Boys Town youth 12 months after departure.*
- » 93% reported that Boys Town had a positive impact on their life.

This research also shows that juveniles who stay in the Boys Town residential program for a greater length of time are near or exceed the national norms in areas like education, employment, voter registration, charity work, military service, family relationships and positive mental health as adults.

The need for positive intervention with troubled youth is great. Besides the human toll of shattered lives and broken homes, there is a tremendous financial cost. Recent studies indicate that society could pay up to \$3.75 million over the lifetime of every 14-year-old who does not complete high school and turns to a life of crime and substance abuse. (The average age of youth admitted to Boys Town is 14.)



Boys Town youth maintain their improvements long after program completion



Program Features

Focus on Family

- » The Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, is home to around 400 youth. Girls and boys live separately in 60 homes with a trained married couple called Family-Teachers®, who serve as the primary caregivers.
- » Youth attend school, participate in sports, music, clubs and other extracurricular activities, do chores at home, and plan and enjoy family outings as they learn new social skills and positive behaviors.

Schools and Education

- » Students attend an accredited middle school and high school, each with teacher-to-student ratios of 1-to-10.
- » Boys Town partnered with Harvard University to create the Expedition Literacy (formerly Reading Is FAME®) program, which helps students gain two years of reading improvement for each year of instruction.

Specialized Services

Research shows that up to half of all juvenile offenders have a mental health diagnosis and up to two-thirds have substance abuse issues. Juveniles placed at Boys Town have access to qualified clinicians who provide:

- » Mental health and/or substance abuse evaluations
- » Substance abuse treatments
- » Individual, family and group therapy
- » Professional psychiatric care

Skill-Based Teaching Model

- » Individualized treatment goals are developed for each youth at admission.
- » Juvenile offenders learn social skills that enable them to appropriately interact and communicate with others, develop skills that will help them get and keep a job, and practice problem-solving skills that will help them make good decisions on their own and cope with situations in everyday life.
- » Juveniles work to be responsible and accountable for their referral behaviors as they progress toward becoming productive citizens in the communities from which they come.

Effective Communication

- » Information is gathered and shared with interested parties in a timely manner.
- » Youth move quickly through the admissions process and make a smooth transition into their new Boys Town home and school.
- » The involvement of a youth's family or legal guardian in the youth's care plan is maintained and reinforced.
- » The youth, his or her family, Boys Town staff and other interested parties all are involved in plans for a youth's departure.

Youth Profile

UPON ARRIVAL
AT BOYS TOWN
(girls and boys ages 10-18):

- » History of criminal activity
- » Resistant to treatment
- » Drug and alcohol use
- » Family problems
- » Runaway behaviors
- » Poor coping and problem-solving skills
- » Very limited anger and impulse control
- » Lack of self-discipline
- » History of truancy and school problems



Research shows that failing to save just one high-risk youth can cost society \$3.75 million.



93% of youth reported that Boys Town had a positive impact on their life.



THE BOYS TOWN *Integrated Continuum of Care*[®]

An initial assessment identifies where on the Continuum a youth should start, and ongoing assessments during treatment determine when he or she should move to another level.

Since all services are based on the Boys Town Model[®] and share the same values, operating practices, language and expectations, youth do not have to “start over” when they move through the Continuum. This allows boys and girls to graduate from levels of more intensive care and supervision to those of greater independence and empowerment as they improve. Boys Town not only offers a broad spectrum of treatment for youngsters’ emotional and behavioral problems, but also provides expert health and medical care.



Aftercare

- › Youth transition back into their communities with the assistance of an aftercare plan.
- › Planning covers the areas of community employment, education, housing, health care, legal assistance, and family or community counseling.
- › Scholarships are available for qualified youth who graduate from Boys Town and wish to pursue post-secondary education.

Referrals and Admissions

For more information on all of the effective, cost-efficient programs Boys Town provides for at-risk youth, or to make a referral, contact the Boys Town Admissions Office at **1-800-989-0000**.

Referrals are accepted via FAX at (402) 498-1925; via email to admissions@boystown.org; or through the U.S. mail at:

**Boys Town
Admissions Department
13603 Flanagan Blvd
Boys Town, NE 68010**





Contact Us

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