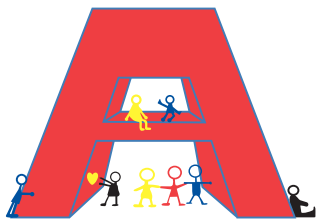


United for West Virginia's Kids!

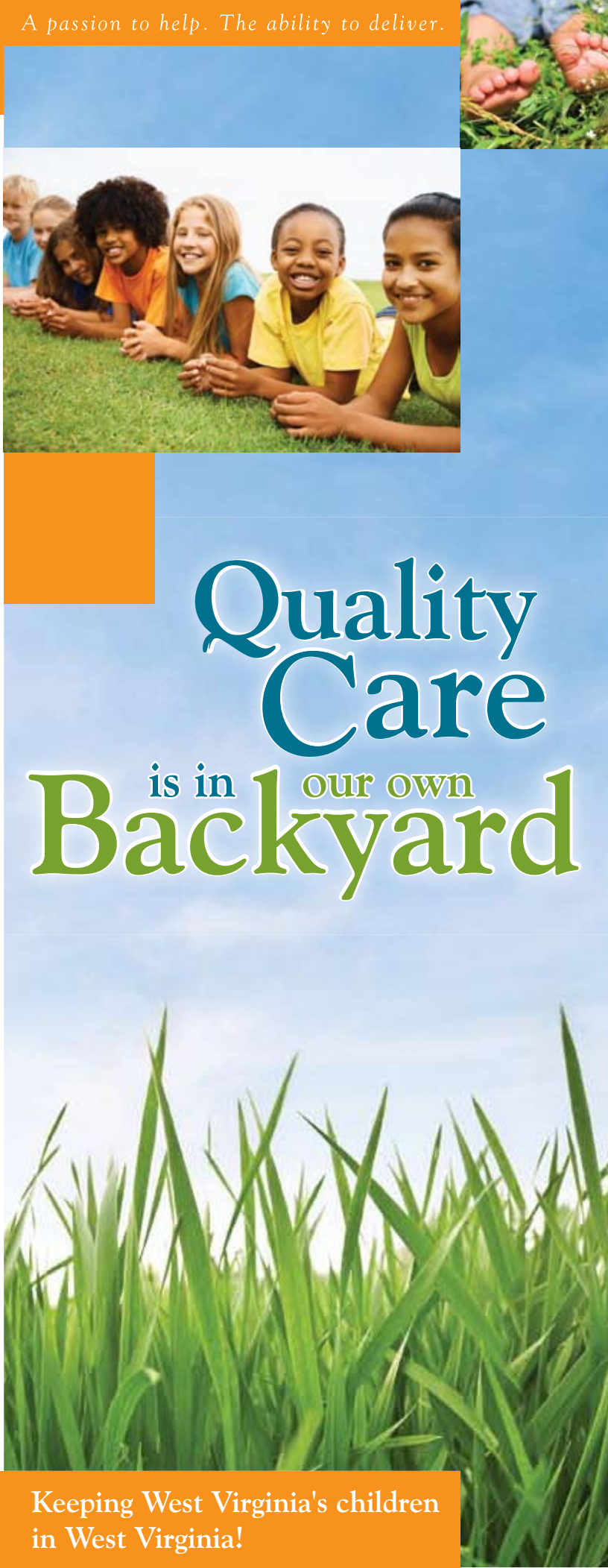
A passion to help. The ability to deliver.



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Quality Care is in our own Backyard

Keeping West Virginia's children
in West Virginia!

United for West Virginia's Kids!

The **West Virginia Child Care Association** and the **Alliance for Children** are uniting for West Virginia's kids! We pledge to take a stand for our kids by:

- Championing quality behavioral health and child welfare programs found right here at home,
- Supporting the dedicated providers who care for our children in need, and
- Working together to provide care for our kids within our state's borders.

Our organizations have a history of stepping up to help make improvements in our system that benefit West Virginia's children and families. Because we represent a wide variety of **behavioral health and**

child welfare programs including adoption, assessment, emergency shelters, family-based treatment, foster care, group care, family preservation services, independent living and residential treatment, our **focus is on the most vulnerable and difficult children** who have experienced **abuse, neglect, emotional and behavioral difficulties, substance abuse and/or delinquency.**

There are hundreds of quality treatment programs and services provided throughout the great state of West Virginia where **thousands of dedicated child welfare professionals** spend every minute of every day doing what's best for our children. Because of the geography of our state, programs and services can be found in small towns and rural counties. On any given day, treatment is taking place in schools, community centers, outpatient clinics, hospitals, residential facilities and homes. We go where help is needed.



West Virginia Provides the Best Quality Care for Our Children

Child-Focused Reasons

- West Virginia's **most valuable resource**, our children, are best served in their homes, schools and communities by West Virginians.
- The support needed by West Virginia's children with emotional, social and behavioral challenges is best provided in their home **community**. This is particularly important when a child leaves treatment and enters back into his/her own life – family and school.
- Research has shown that children are more **successful** when they receive care **close to their families** and their communities.
- Educational interruptions and transitions are minimized as children can continue in West Virginia sponsored school settings with **ease** of school transfers and educational credit maintenance.

Family Reasons

- Families are **equal partners** and provided every opportunity to be active in their child's treatment.
- Providing treatment in a child's community allows regular contact between children, their parents, siblings, extended family as well as their **natural support system**.
- A child in treatment in close proximity to their home provides opportunity for **family therapy and visitation**.

Economic Reasons

- By reinvesting the estimated \$23 million or more we spend every year to outsource our children and jobs to out-of-state facilities, we can create an estimated **1,000 jobs** and have a **\$100 million economic impact**.
- West Virginia Programs support **local** grocery stores, gas stations, retail, medical services, school systems, etc.
- By **investing the future** of our children to West Virginia service organizations we are also guaranteeing the current and expanded employment of qualified, trained and active West Virginians.

Regulation Reasons

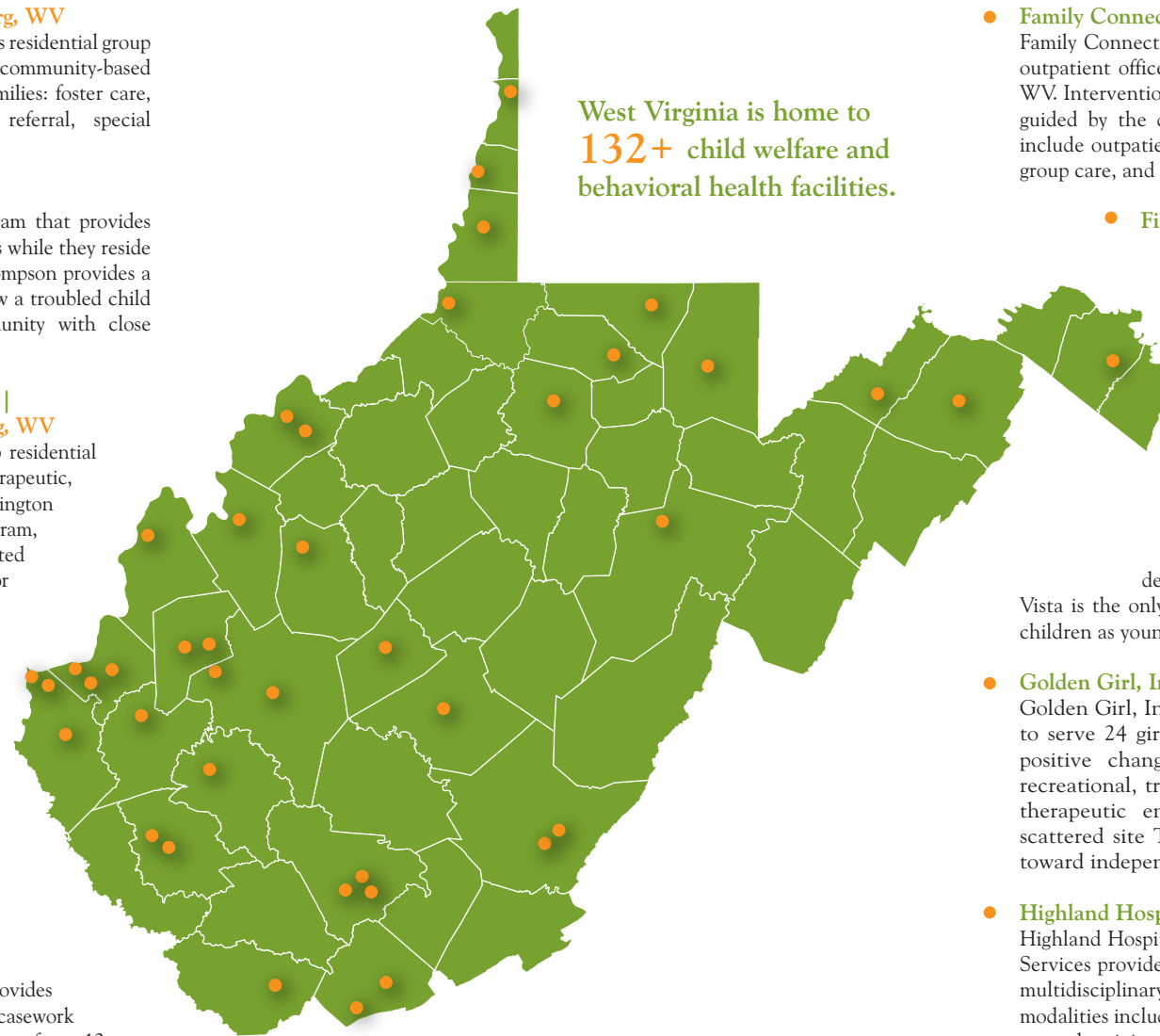
- Caring for West Virginia's children in West Virginia certified, licensed and regulated service agencies assure **standard of excellence** directly overseen by state licensing standards, regulations, policy and quality outcomes.
- Face-to-face monitoring, evaluation and treatment involvement by the the DHHR staff is better facilitated by community placements whereas all significant team members have more **ready access and response** to a child's needs.

Travel Reasons

- Families do not have as far to travel to visit the children who are in treatment **close to home**.
- Many families do not have the money and/or transportation to travel out of state to visit their child.

Learn More About West Virginia Providers

- **Board of Child Care at Falling Waters | Martinsburg, WV**
Board of Child Care is a child welfare agency that provides residential group care for children referred by state agencies. BOCC offers community-based programs to further support children and strengthen families: foster care, therapeutic counseling, adoption information and referral, special education, child care and a car loan program.
- **Braley and Thompson, Inc. | Dunbar, WV**
Braley and Thompson is a treatment foster care program that provides community-based treatment for children and adolescents while they reside with highly trained therapeutic families. Braley and Thompson provides a variety of comprehensive treatment modalities that allow a troubled child the opportunity to grow and develop in the community with close supervision, therapy and support.
- **Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Inc. | Beckley, Burlington, Grafton, Keyser & Martinsburg, WV**
Burlington United Methodist is a Level II and III group residential care and community-based organization that provides therapeutic, educational, and spiritual services to families in need. Burlington provides specialized foster care, Right from the Start Program, adoption services, student attendance assistance, targeted case management, family preservation and a home for adolescents with co-existing disorders.
- **Cammack Children's Center | Huntington, WV**
Cammack Children's Center is a Level II therapeutic group home for 32 severely emotionally disturbed dependent/delinquent youth ages 12-18. Cammack offers an intensive professional multi-disciplinary focus in a setting primarily for those who require intensive services over an extended period of time within a centralized therapeutic setting.
- **Children's Home Society | Martinsburg, Charleston, Romney, Morgantown, Parkersburg, Huntington, Summersville, Logan, Beckley, Lewisburg & Princeton, WV**
The Children's Home Society of West Virginia provides comprehensive child welfare, behavioral health, social casework and advocacy services to over 6,887 children each year from 12 primary locations throughout WV. Programs include adoption, foster care, in-home and in-community services for children and families, emergency shelter care, respite, medication, parent education training, prenatal and early childhood services, volunteer and mentoring, youth services, visitation and reunification, school based social work, day care and comprehensive assessment services.
- **Crittenton Services, Inc. | Wheeling, Weirton, New Martinsville & Morgantown, WV**
Crittenton Services, Inc. offers a full continuum of behavioral health care for children and families in WV. The 42 bed residential program, is the only licensed residential program offering behavioral health care to maternity and parenting girls in WV. The Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), bridges the gap for young women that are severely at risk for home removal due to behavioral challenges. Wellspring Family Services offers community based behavioral health services throughout Region One of WV. Currently in over 90 schools and working with over 500 families in their home environment. Fully accredited by the Council of Accreditation (COA).
- **Davis-Stuart, Inc. | Princeton, Beckley, Bluefield, Maxwelton & Lewisburg, WV**
Davis-Stuart is a Presbyterian therapeutic residential treatment facility for adolescents ages 12 to 17 who cannot live at home. Programs include: WV Department of Education school for grades 6-12, equine therapy program, subsidized on-the-job training in the community, the Philip Roy Life Skills



West Virginia is home to **132+** child welfare and behavioral health facilities.

Curriculum Individual and group therapy with four Master's level therapists, structured weekly chaplaincy program and other voluntary religious activities, and much more.

- **Daymark, Inc. | Charleston, WV**
For more than thirty-five years, DAYMARK has been serving youth and families within the Greater Kanawha Valley and all of West Virginia. Our mission is to advocate and provide services for at-risk youth and their families in the community. DAYMARK operates three programs. Patchwork is a runaway and homeless youth shelter for youth ages 11 to 18. Turning Point has group homes for adolescents which provide independent living skills in a homelike atmosphere. New Connections offers a variety of support groups, a GED classroom, job readiness training as well as an Independent Living program with on and off site apartments for youth.
- **Elkins Mountain Schools | Elkins, WV**
Elkins Mountain provides residential services to boys ages 13-17 and community-based services to boys and girls ages 3-17. Youth enrolled in the program receive intensive treatment services delivered in a campus and community setting that is located in the rural mountains of eastern West Virginia. Through an educational and vocational curriculum, counseling, and extracurricular and life skills activities, Elkins Mountain Schools prepares the youth in the program to live responsible and productive lives.

- **Family Connections, Inc. | Colliers, WV**
Family Connections is a licensed, non-profit mental health agency with outpatient offices in Weirton, WV and a residential facility in Colliers, WV. Interventions provided by Family Connections are derived from and guided by the developing body of knowledge in the family field and include outpatient therapy, home-based services, evaluation, residential group care, and training and consultation.
- **First Choice Health Systems | Charleston, WV**
First Choice Health Systems has one of the most comprehensive networks of mental health providers in the state. FCCHS network can help private health plans and other mental health programs obtain access to behavioral health providers.
- **Genesis Youth Crisis Center | Clarksburg, WV**
Genesis Youth Crisis Center, Inc. operates two programs dedicated to serving youth in crisis. 1. Genesis Youth Center is a twelve bed facility serving youth from the ages of ten to seventeen. 2. Alta Vista Children's Shelter is an eight bed facility designed for children from the ages of six to fourteen. Alta Vista is the only emergency shelter in West Virginia licensed to accept children as young as six.
- **Golden Girl, Inc. | Ceredo, WV**
Golden Girl, Inc. is a nonprofit group home for girls that is licensed to serve 24 girls from ages 12 to 21 and is designed to encourage positive change and growth through a series of educational, recreational, treatment and support services in a warm, loving and therapeutic environment. Additionally, Golden Girl offers a scattered site Transitional Living Program for older youth working toward independence.
- **Highland Hospital | Charleston, WV**
Highland Hospital provides intensive inpatient care for youth ages 5-17. Services provided are guided by a master treatment plan developed by a multidisciplinary team of mental health professionals. Treatment modalities include: group and peer therapy, individual and family therapy, art and activity therapy and academics.
- **KVC Behavioral Health | Charleston, Wayne, Logan, Parkersburg, Princeton, Point Pleasant, Hamlin, Ripley, Huntington, Teays Valley, Beckley, Spencer & Mullens, WV**
KVC is a child placing agency and behavioral health services provider in 26 counties of WV for children in state custody. They operate 13 office locations providing foster care and in-home family preservation and are committed to enriching and enhancing the lives of WV children and families.
- **National Youth Advocates Program | Charleston, Fairmont, Martinsburg, Parkersburg & Wheeling, WV**
The National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP) provides cost effective, community based services and support, foster care and in-home services for children, youth and families. NYAP offers flexible, creative outcome based solutions to meet the unique needs of the communities they serve and the individual needs of the youth and families involved in their programs.
- **Olympia Center | Kingwood, WV**
Olympia Center Preston, Inc. is a drug or alcohol rehabilitation center with a primary focus on substance abuse treatment. The treatment center provides residential long-term treatment care. There are special groups and programs for adolescents, persons with co-occurring mental and substance abuse disorders, and criminal justice groups.

- **Pressley Ridge | Crab Orchard, Ona, Morgantown, Clarksburg & Parkersburg, WV**
Pressley Ridge is a private, non-profit organization committed to serving children and families through innovative programs that are strength based and ecologically focused. Between 95 and 100 children, infant to 21 years of age are served in Treatment Foster homes; family based care with specially trained foster parents. Residential programs include two small group homes and three campus based facilities serving 154 children, male and female between the ages of 11 and 18.
- **Prestera Center | Charleston, Huntington, Winfield, Madison, Wayne, Point Pleasant, Hamlin & Clay, WV**
Prestera is the largest behavioral health services provider in West Virginia, and offers family-centered services to children and adolescents experiencing behavioral, emotional, substance abuse or problems with addictions. Some of the clinically proven services offered by Prestera include: Case Management, Outpatient, Intensive Outpatient, School-Based, Mentoring, Respite, Intensive Care Coordination, In-Home, Addictions and Psychiatric/Psychological.
- **River Park Hospital | Huntington, WV**
River Park Hospital, Inc. is a 165-bed facility that provides behavioral health services to children, adolescents, adults and seniors in both inpatient and specialized residential treatment settings. River Park is dedicated to improving the quality of life through the delivery of individualized treatment that is accessible, compassionate, effective and affordable.
- **Stepping Stone, Inc. | Fairmont, WV**
Stepping Stone, Inc. is a licensed, non-profit, Level I residential facility serving boys age 12 - 17 years of age as well as transitioning adults 18 -21 years of age. The mission of Stepping Stone, Inc. is to teach adolescent males to be positively self-reliant through a program of behavior modification fostering a positive self-image, academic and vocational skills, respect for society and personal responsibility.
- **Stepping Stones, Inc. | Lavalette, WV**
Stepping Stones, Inc. provides Residential, Transitional Living and Community Based services. The Level II Residential provides a full array of clinical services for male youth ages 11 - 17 years at intake. The Level I Residential helps prepare co-ed youth ages 16 years to 21 years for independence by emphasizing experiential life skills and assuming more personal responsibility for daily living. It's My Move is the Transitional Living Program that provides 3 Phases of support: on-grounds Level I; Phase 2 Supervised Apartment Living in Huntington, WV and as a Licensed Chafee Independent Living Provider we offer housing support through the Phase 3 of Scattered Site Apartment Living. At all levels of programming, we have strong relationships with the public school system as well as post-secondary educational programs
- **St. John's Home for Children | Wheeling, WV**
The St. John's Home for Children, a private, nonprofit agency established in 1856, is a family centered social service agency that operates a 12-bed residential Level II group home for males age 8-14 presenting with behavioral or emotional difficulties or who are victims of abuse/neglect. Our mission is to promote child and family well-being through collaboration with the community and provision of direct services.
- **Try-Again Homes, Inc. | Fairmont & Parkersburg, WV**
Try-Again Homes, Inc. is a private, non-profit corporation committed to providing safe nurturing places for children in need and dedicated to the growth, development, and empowerment of individuals and families for healthier communities. Try-Again Homes, Inc. is a licensed child placing agency which provides foster care for abused and/or neglected children from birth through 21 years of age. In addition, we provide family visitation and behavioral health services for children and families in West Virginia.

Making A Difference West Virginia Providers Shine!

On any given day, there is an average of **360** kids in out of state treatment facilities.

West Virginia Provides the Best Quality of Care

It makes sense to do everything we can to provide opportunities for our children to receive care in West Virginia where they can stay **connected to their support systems**. While this is important for all children, it is particularly an issue for children who are temporarily placed out of home. Because the majority will return home, **their school, families, communities and home should not be a stranger to them**.

In-state facilities and treatment programs are **regulated by the state of West Virginia** through legislation and oversight by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and Department of Education. These stringent licensing requirements and standards of care ensure that **West Virginia's children are receiving the best quality of care**. We cannot say the same for out-of-state treatment facilities that are not required to follow the same rules and regulations. By **using in-state programs and services**, as West Virginians, we are doing what is best for our children, their families, the professionals who care for them and the organizations that exist to impact their lives. Quality care **is** found in our own backyard!



How YOU Can Help

- 1 Raise awareness about the **quality of care** provided by West Virginia's child welfare organizations and professionals right here at home.
- 2 Share information about how **out-of-state placement** of children affects West Virginia's children, families, communities, providers and economy.
- 3 Strive to reduce the state's reliance on out-of-state care consistent with WV Legislative intent with its creation of the **Commission to Study the Residential Placement of Children**. Require public accountability that demonstrates the number of children sent outside West Virginia's borders is markedly decreasing.
- 4 Work with **WV Child Welfare stakeholders (WVDHHR, WVDE, courts, providers, etc.)** to eliminate policy barriers, and day to day practices that reduce effective utilization of in-state resources that can and do provide appropriate care.
- 5 Continue to support providers in finding ways to offer the most **cost effective and creative services** consistent with identified outcomes expected by federal policy and provide for a well funded Child Welfare system that will "do whatever it takes" to achieve the safety, permanency and well being of West Virginia's children.
- 6 Ensure that our children and our jobs are not outsourced. When children are sent to out-of-state facilities, **West Virginia loses our children, our jobs and our revenue**. This has an enormous effect on in-state providers and our state's economy.

West Virginia has some of best child welfare professionals in the country – people who have dedicated their lives to making life better for our children. The social workers, counselors, direct care staff, and managers have compassion that never ends, **hope for a better tomorrow** and dedication to seeing it through the long haul.

When asking West Virginia's child welfare professionals, **'Why do you work where you do?'** this is what we heard...

"I work for this agency because of the emphasis on including families in the **healing** process."

"When I see a troubled teen, I see **hope**. They are at a crossroads with choices. For better or worse, changes are ahead in their future. We have the **passion** and ability to impact those choices that will shape their lives."

"I do this work because: It's what I am supposed to do. It is, and always has been, **my calling**."

"Many girls come here feeling hopeless and unwanted; their belongings are in garbage bags! Where else do they have to go? I see them for **what they can be**, that's my job. How **blessed** I am to watch the transformation of these young women. I love my job!"

"We are **responsible** for the next generation."

"Most people dread a teenager. Somehow they fill me with as much hope as a newborn baby because you know for better or worse, where they are isn't where they are going to stay developmentally, emotionally, physically, etc. Somebody has to **stick through the tough times**, help them pick up the pieces of their shattered pasts and help them feel hope so they can build a future. That's us, hope is contagious!"

"Someone has to like our kids and **advocate** for them."

"Several years ago I took a girl to court who had been with our agency for about a year. The judge looked at her and said, "You are not the same person I met a year ago. You have **changed** so much. What happened?" She looked at me and with tears streaming down her face said to the judge, "It is all

A Profile of In-State Treatment

Agency	Number of Board Members	Number of Staff	Number of Foster Parents	Number of Children Served	Locations	Annual Budget
Board of Child Care at Falling Waters	25	74	n/a	102	1	\$ 6,104,944
Bralely and Thompson, Inc.	5	50	68	133	4	\$ 2,400,000
Burlington United Methodist Services, Inc.	31	235	68	341	6	\$ 11,000,000
Cammack Children's Center	21	45	32	75	1	\$ 2,500,000
Children's Home Society	21	215	108	9,700	12	\$ 14,547,528

Crittenton Services	18	150	n/a	1,411	5	\$ 6,000,000
Davis-Stuart, Inc.	12	120	n/a	105	5	\$ 5,185,000
Daymark, Inc.	29	37	n/a	3,441	4	\$ 1,696,634
Elkins Mountain Schools	6	103	n/a	121	2	\$ 5,900,000
Family Connections	9	18	n/a	80	2	\$ 789,000
First Choice Health Systems	8	9	n/a	525	1	\$ 1,850,000
Genesis Youth Crisis Center	10	60	n/a	220	2	\$ 2,200,000
Golden Girl, Inc.	7	35	n/a	60	1	\$ 1,800,000
Highland Hospital	17	373	n/a	n/a	1	\$21,500,000
KVC Behavioral Health	5	130	180	320	13	\$ 12,000,000
National Youth Advocates Program	10	25	84	194	5	\$ 2,598,800
Olympia Center	3	45	n/a	75	1	\$ 1,800,000
Pressley Ridge	21	279	45	634	9	\$ 16,400,000
Pretera Center	18	830	n/a	3,277	50+	\$ 40,000,000
River Park Hospital	9	281	n/a	675	1	\$ 25,000,000
Stepping Stone, Inc.	10	15	n/a	26	1	\$ 500,000
Stepping Stones, Inc.	10	20	n/a	40	2	\$ 1,500,000
St. John's Home for Children	12	15	n/a	16	1	\$ 801,285
Try-Again Homes, Inc.	8	30	63	231	2	\$ 2,125,000
Total	325	3,194	648	20,391	132+	\$ 186,198,191

*Number of Children served
July 1, 2009- June 30 2010

with tears streaming down her face said to the judge, "It is all because of this woman who is sitting beside me. She's changed my life". I knew then that I **made a difference** in a child's life."



Children Speak Out

Why Treatment in West Virginia is Best for Them

"Even if you can't return to your parents, there is **still other family around** when you're close to home."

"It makes me feel **safe**. Knowing I can see and talk to family, I don't feel alone."

"It's easier with **transportation**. When I was out of state my parents didn't visit."

"There are **different rules** in different states."

"I can stay more **connected with friends** if I'm close to home."

"Sometimes we get made fun of when people learn we're from West Virginia because **they think we talk different**, or just that we are different."

"My case worker can **visit more often** if I'm in my home state."

"I want to live where the **doors don't lock**."

Live so that when
your children think of
fairness and integrity,
they think of **you**.

~ H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

