

ON-SITE SERVICES AND PROGRAMMING PROVIDED:

- Individualized and strength-based programming, which may include Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Solution-Focused work
- Medication monitoring
- Daily and independent living skills instruction
- Trauma-informed care
- Family support services
- Parenting curriculum and supports
- Socialization opportunities
- Health services
- Skill building sessions

OFF-SITE SERVICES AND PROGRAMMING PROVIDED:

- Educational services through Lockport School Dist.
- Vocational training with Niagara Orleans BOCES
- Outpatient therapy and psychiatry with local clinic services
- Medical, dental, and vision care within Niagara Co.
- Job and/or volunteer opportunities
- Recreational, cultural, and/or spiritual activities
- Extracurricular School Activities (sports, drama, clubs, etc.)

“NEW BEGINNINGS”

The name Aurora means “new beginnings” and we strive to provide a new start; a journey that will lead them in a positive direction.

Youth have many types of feelings and these are important to us. Coming to a new place can make anyone anxious or scared. Youth and families may be angry or sad about these changes. We want to know how we can help. Be sure to let us know what you are feeling or what you may need.

Aurora House staff use several tools to help families progress on their journey. We believe in collaboration, meaning that everyone is involved in the planning process and in providing support for youth and their family as they progress through the recovery process.

ABOUT COMMUNITY MISSIONS

Community Missions (CMI) has provided a unique blend of services to address the needs of the Niagara community since its founding in 1925.

The initial population served was homeless individuals and families, which are still served today. For nearly a century, CMI's programs have evolved to meet the needs of its community. The agency now provides 24 programs in its four divisions: Crisis & Community Services, Mental Health Housing Services, Mental Health Recovery Services, and Youth Services.

The agency serves a diverse set of populations including youth, adults, families, the homeless, juvenile justice involved youth, youth and adults with mental illness, persons living with HIV/AIDS, and returning citizens. CMI serves vulnerable populations that have been marginalized, overlooked and challenging in their presentations and behaviors.

For more information on the programs offered by Community Missions, contact:

- **Crisis Services** (*Community Kitchen, Emergency Housing, Food Pantry, etc.*) - (716) 285-3403 ext. 2221
- **Niagara Visions PROS** - (716) 205-8708
- **Respite Services & Transportation** - (716) 285-3403 x. 2280
- **Mental Health Housing** - (716) 285-3403 x. 2275

CMI Mission Statement

Community Missions provides integrated human services that meet people where they are and help them find and elevate their place in the world.

CMI Statement of Religion and Faith

As a Christian agency, our chosen role in terms of religion and faith is to express our belief that everyone benefits from spiritual growth. We will provide resources, programs, and community linkages, without proselytizing, that will enhance spiritual growth and wholeness in the faith/spiritual tradition of an individual's choice and support them as they seek to grow in that tradition.

Aurora House



Compassion In Action Since 1925



**Aurora House is a community residence
for youth ages 12-17 located in Lockport.**

5311 Ernest Rd.

Lockport, NY 14094

Phone: (716) 433-1905

Fax: (716) 433-2081

Toll Free: (800) 595-6818

www.CommunityMissions.org

 **@communitymissions**

 **/CMINiagara**

Aurora House

WHAT IS AURORA HOUSE?

Aurora House is a Community Residence treatment program for children and adolescents with mental health diagnoses and SED (Severely Emotionally Disturbed) Classification.



It is a co-ed, 24-hour supervised residence housing a maximum of eight youth, ages 12-17. Treatment periods are estimated to be from six to nine months.

Youth attend school, work, volunteer and recreational activities, and appointments within the community.

REFERRALS & ADMISSIONS

Aurora House does not accept direct referrals from community providers or families. The referral needs to be approved and endorsed by Child Single Point of Access (C-SPOA). To have a youth referred to Aurora House, complete the C-SPOA application (parts 1 & 2) on Community Missions' website and submit to your local county C-SPOA, requesting Aurora House.

Referrals can be made by the Department of Social Services, Residential Treatment Facilities, State or Private Psychiatric Hospitals, SPOA, families, and/or other service providers.

Referrals will be reviewed for admission criteria and presented to the Aurora House Intake Committee, who determines eligibility for the Program.

Intake Committee decisions are communicated to the referring party and next steps discussed. Pre-placements visits are required prior to admission.

Once a youth has completed pre-placement visits an admission date can be set. A parent and/or legal guardian must be present for the youth's admission to the program.

AURORA HOUSE OBJECTIVES:

- To provide each youth with assistance in managing and understanding their behaviors, coping with crisis, and improving their daily living skills and self-esteem.
- To assure linkages to appropriate mental health, education, medical, and dental services.
- To utilize a **strength-based** approach, encouraging youth to participate in extracurricular, recreational, spiritual, work, or volunteer activities based on their individual talents and interests.
- To utilize a **trauma-informed** approach where the impact of trauma is understood to ensure that services promote healing.
- To ensure that youth & families receive comprehensible care that is **culturally and linguistically appropriate**, considering factors including, but not limited to: race, gender, age, sexual orientation, and spirituality.
- To provide **youth-guided** care where youth are given decision-making roles in policies and procedures and are encouraged to express desires for their daily lives, recovery, and care.
- To provide **family-driven** care, encouraging families to have a primary decision-making role in their children's lives and to advocate for their best possible care.
- To assist each youth to work toward the most appropriate discharge option.



DISCHARGE PLANNING

Discharge planning for Aurora House youth begins the day of admittance. It is our goal for youth to return to their parent or guardian.

Families and youth are encouraged to involve many external supports in their service planning; the support system outside of Aurora House makes a discharge home a successful transition.

Prior to returning home, necessary referrals will be made to each family's community for in-home case management services, educational placement, outpatient therapy and psychiatry services, and any other supports family and youth may require to be successful.

Community Missions' Family Liaison will continue to follow-up with families for six months post-discharge.

SERVICE PAYMENT

Aurora House receives payment through sources including Social Security Supplemental Income, Medicaid, Adoption Subsidies, and Social Security Disability Income.

For financial information, please contact the Aurora House Program Manager or Clinical Coordinator.

Contact the Aurora House Program Manager or Clinical Coordinator for discussion on applying for Medicaid and Social Security, and other payment or financial information.

ADDITIONAL CMI SUPPORTS

- Family Support Program
- Crisis/Emergency Housing
- Food Pantry and Community Soup Kitchen
- Clothes Closet