

OTHER COMMUNITY MISSIONS

YOUTH SERVICES

- **Aurora House (Youth Community Residence)**
- **Falls Street Station (YHDP)**
- **Family Solutions Program (FSP)**
- **Juvenile Supported Case Management (JSCM)**

Youth Services

provides strength-based services that empower at-risk youth with juvenile justice, mental health and homeless challenges.



Staff offer a professional, nurturing, and supportive environment to allow youth and their families to recognize their full potential and accept responsibility for their decisions and actions.

- **Aurora House** is a youth community residence located in Lockport. The facility provides complete care, for an established period of time, for eight youth diagnosed as seriously emotionally disturbed (SED). The program serves the eight counties of Western New York and offers 24-hour staff supervision.
- **Falls Street Station (Youth Homeless Demonstration Project - YHDP)** offers transitional housing and Rapid Re-Housing programs for youth and young adults. Supports are offered to help guests of the program move toward more permanent housing and self-sufficiency.
- **Girls Circle** promotes resiliency and healthy relationships in pre-teen and adolescent girls, and young women. The group specifically addresses the growing issue within local schools of how to best address problem behaviors among female students.
- **Juvenile Supported Case Management (JSCM)** is designed to link youth and their families with support services and resources to help youth adjudicated as juvenile delinquents avoid further crime and violence once they have returned from out-of-home placement.

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 22 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.

Family Solutions Program



Compassion In Action
Since 1925



Family Solutions Program is a family intervention program designed to establish positive family influences on at-risk youth behavior and build social skills for youth well-being in preparation for a successful adulthood.

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/CMINiagara

Family Solutions Program

Dear Family Solutions Participant,

Welcome to Family Solutions Program (FSP)! FSP is a family group program which aims to strengthen families by providing experiences that increase skills for successful living and positive relationships. FSP sessions are intended to be enjoyable and lively. Families work together and learn from each other. FSP sessions provide support to families and help develop stronger relationships.



As a family you will meet for two hours once each week for 10 weeks. You can expect to gain skills and discuss topics aimed at helping strengthen your family. These include:

- Family cooperation and communication
- The importance of education
- Managing anger and conflicts acceptably
- Effective parenting skills
- Making good decisions
- Dealing with peer pressure

Target Population for FSP

- Youth (7-17 years old) and their families
- Siblings are welcome!
- At-risk youth/juvenile offenders
- Truant students and youth with behavioral issues
- Parents/guardians (anyone who are considered "family" to the referred child)

Time and Location of Group Session:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Family Solutions Program Goals

The goal of the FSP is to promote changes in the youth and family environment. Youth and families gain knowledge and skills needed to:

- Increase youth life skills and family strengths.
- Overcome perceptions of hopelessness and sense of uselessness that results from experiences such as school failures and negative involvement.
- Assist families to discover and utilize their strengths and resources.
- Help parents learn parenting skills.
- Increase life coping skills as challenges in daily living are encountered.
- Reduce school dropout rates and juvenile delinquency.

Important Things to Know

- There will be 3 - 7 other families attending sessions.
- Weekly attendance is required to build trust among families & provide the most benefits.
- Feel free to bring any siblings (age 7+) and/or other important adult family members in the life of the youth referred to the program.
- Friends of the youth are NOT allowed to attend.

Referral Process

Referrals are primarily accepted from Niagara County Probation Department, however, referrals from Niagara County Department of Social Services and other sources, including parents, are considered.

Cost of FSP

FSP services are offered at no cost to referred families.

Overview of Families4Change, Inc.

Families4Change is a non-profit organization that has founded two family-based programs, which are nationally recognized evidenced-based practices: Family Solutions Program (FSP) and Families and Schools Connected (FSC). Both programs are rooted in the strength-based family-focused approach.

Comments received from local families who have graduated from FSP:

- "It taught us how to communicate, that is the key."
(mother, Middleport)
- "It helps us to get along a lot better in our home."
(grandmother, Lockport)



- "As a mom, you question yourself to keep you in check when dealing with a teen who is struggling. Did I do the right thing? Did I say the right thing? Was I fair when giving a consequence even though I was angry or just tired of the same fight for the thousandth time, etc. It was really encouraging to know that I'm not alone. There are other parents just like me who love their kids and just want what's best for them, while trying to establish peace and a bit of order in their homes." (mother, Middleport)
- "FSP is a very important program. It keeps the children busy, out of trouble. I feel the program could run longer due to some kids needing it longer than others. My daughter isn't at risk anymore. It helped us bond and become closer." (mother, Niagara Falls)

Contact Us:

For more information, please contact:

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