

## AGENCY SERVICES

Lighthouse is a comprehensive youth and family services organization providing a wide range of services for young people ages 0-24 and their families. The continuum of care is meant to make it easier for youth and families to receive the support they need, encompassing emergency shelter, residential treatment, foster care, community juvenile justice, transitional and independent living programs for older homeless youth, and mental and behavioral health services, including in-home care for families in crisis.

A staff of more than 350 full-time and part-time employees, assisted by some 300 volunteers, and more than 200 foster parents work to assure the success of the following services:

### *Homeless Youth Services*

**Street Outreach** offers supplies and assistance to youth who are experiencing street homelessness. Staff members canvas homeless camps and abandoned buildings to find youth and young adults and connect them to needed services.

**Lighthouse Youth Housing Opportunities** places eligible young adults leaving the foster care system and older homeless youth into their own apartments and provides them with support services. Our inventory of apartments exceeds 120 with many of these contracted through local landlord relationships (referred to as “scattered site housing”) as well as over 50 units owned by Lighthouse, including 39 units at the **Sheakley Center for Youth**.

**Shelter Services** consists of the **Lighthouse Sheakley Center for Youth** (first floor) and **Mecum House**. **Sheakley Center** is a shelter for homeless young adults ages 18-24 ready to work toward having a stable home of their own. Each young adult works with a case manager to create goals and a plan to achieve them. Support services include mental and behavioral health services, life skills training, and educational and employment support. **Mecum House** provides an accessible, safe refuge for children, ages 11 to 17, who have been abused or neglected or who face other threatening situations in their home. The team at Mecum House is trained to understand, work with, and advocate for youth who are in crisis. The goal is always to help the family reconcile and reunite if possible. Both shelters offer significant privacy to our clients. Sheakley Center houses 36 individual bedrooms with room for up to five overflow beds. Mecum House can house up to 20 youth in private and semi-private bedrooms.

The Sheakley Center for Youth also houses a **Resource Center**, a safe place for homeless teenagers and adults to come in off the streets and get basic need items. This includes food, toiletries, a shower, and laundry facilities. A registered nurse is onsite providing basic health care and first aid. Lunch is served daily. A coordinator is always available to help youth find employment opportunities, housing, and mental health and substance abuse services.

### *Clinical Services*

This service area provides **outpatient behavioral health and mental health services for children, youth and families experiencing challenges in the home, school, or community, also including:**

**Integrated Access** offers a comprehensive intake and assessment process. A diagnostic assessment is the first step in identifying, diagnosing, and recommending services and/or support. Our mental health assessment team can provide comprehensive, same day assessments and referrals for those ages 3+. Our assessors can quickly connect individuals with needed services, such as outpatient therapy, substance use disorder treatment, shelter and housing for homeless youth, and an array of other services.

**Intensive Services** provides treatment, rehabilitation, and supportive services for youth ages 14-24 who have severe and chronic mental illness. An individualized approach to help teenagers and young adults find and keep employment, better manage mental and physical health symptoms, find and live in their own homes, recover, maintain optimism, and achieve individual goals.

**School Based Services** employees work with school personnel to identify students with mental health or behavioral health needs and link them to appropriate services such as therapy. They also provide crisis management support and prevention services to the school.

**Foster Care and Adoption** provides foster parents for abused and neglected children up to age 18 who are referred by children's services agencies and juvenile courts.

### ***Juvenile Justice and Residential Treatment Services***

**Hamilton County Community Juvenile Justice Services** staff members work with youth transitioning from ODYS institutions returning to the Cincinnati area. Staff offers assistance in job development and assistance in helping youth complete their educational goals.

**Montgomery County Community Juvenile Justice Services** is located in Dayton, Ohio and provides youth counseling, and reentry services including intensive Aftercare Program and therapy services to boys returning to their communities following incarceration.

**Lighthouse Youth Center at Paint Creek** is a community-based option for boys ages 15-18 adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court in Ohio. While on the residential campus, youth receive cognitive behavioral treatment interventions, mental health services, sex offender specific and substance abuse treatment- all designed to target criminogenic risk factors and teach youth how to manage their own behavior. **Paint Creek Academy**, the onsite charter school, utilizes a restorative justice model to engage youth in service learning and community service projects while targeting academic advancement and employability skills. An additional learning opportunity is the horticultural program which includes two onsite greenhouses.

**New Beginnings (NB)** (for girls) and the **Youth Development Center (YDC)** (for boys) are Lighthouse's two residential treatment locations. Both are safe and welcoming places where teens heal through nurturing, accountability, and guidance. Lighthouse residential treatment helps youth ages 12-18 overcome serious emotional and behavioral problems along with other obstacles. Each young person receives personalized treatment and support.

**Ross County Community Juvenile Justice Services** is located in Chillicothe, Ohio and provides outpatient mental health, sex offender specific treatment, and substance abuse services.

### ***Lighthouse Green Learning Center powered by Groundwork***

The Lighthouse Green Learning Center is an Agricultural Learning Center in Madisonville with Groundwork Ohio River Valley (Groundwork) as our Operating Partner. A project of the National Park Service, Groundwork engages youth and communities in urban environmental activities that positively impact their quality of life.

Groundwork leads year-round programming at the Lighthouse Green Learning Center and the Community Garden at Ward and Chandler Streets. Initiatives include an education program, summer job opportunities for students, and the Green Corps, a professional urban conservation corps made up of young adults from the city. Groundwork and Lighthouse youth will grow native trees for community reforestation, design demonstration sites, and learn life skills associated with healthy food and business.

## ***Equity Initiatives***

The goal of **Equity Initiatives** at Lighthouse is to bring awareness to the unique experiences of minority populations and how to best serve those young people and their families. This initiative is a priority for all programs and services across the Lighthouse continuum of care.

Each client served at Lighthouse has a unique story and requires an individualized approach to address needs. By focusing on these unique experiences, Lighthouse hopes to increase consciousness both internally among employees and volunteers as well as externally in the community. We also strive to identify best practices for serving these individuals in order to deliver the best outcomes. We currently have **targeted initiatives** related to **racial equity**, **gender equity**, and **LGBTQ cultural competency** that are housed in Administration. Lighthouse serves as a leader in these areas and will continue to prioritize equity across the agency.