

# Safe Harbor Children's Center

## Program Details

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Safe Harbor Children's Center serves children that are in the custody of the state who have been removed from neglectful and dangerous situations. As a state licensed long-term residential shelter, clothing, meals, academic support, independent living skills, transportation, and therapeutic counseling are provided on-site. Medical, dental, and psychiatric services are provided on an outpatient basis.



Based upon person-centered care, our residential program at Safe Harbor Children's Center is prepared to serve a variety of residents. The program supports stabilization then family reunification or transition to a less restrictive setting. Safe Harbor Children's Center provides an environment in which the child feels truly accepted and engaged in a rigorous individual program, where youth will develop a sense of efficacy and pro-social skill competencies that will prepare them to be successful upon program transition. Our program offers services designed to facilitate an intensive, comprehensive, and therapeutic services that is centered on the healing of the child. Staff offer a goal focused, learning atmosphere designed to equip youth with emotional stability, educational success, healthy hobbies for life and coping skills.

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

**Population served:** The Children's Center is licensed for children from birth to age 18. The program services children in the custody of the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) and/or the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

**Settings:** Safe Harbor completed construction of the Windolf Residence, a state of the art group home for up to 24 children. The home is spacious and houses 12 girls and 12 boys with a shared commercial kitchen, grand dining room, computer room and tutor room. The administrative office is across the parking lot and has a large art studio on the second floor.

**Hours and days of service:** The center is open 24 hours a day 365 days a year, and is fully staffed with childcare workers. Specific service professionals are available from 9AM – 5PM, Monday through Friday, and on call for emergencies.

**Frequency of services:** Services offered are individually planned for each resident and are based on the youth's age, condition, behavior, risk and protective factors, needs, desires, and family situation, including attitude, role and potential for helping.

**Payers and funding sources:** Referrals are received from the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) and/or the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Additional funding is obtained through state and local donors.

**Fees:** The program has contracts with DFCS and DJJ for a per diem rate per youth placed at the Children's Center.

**Referral sources:** Referrals are primarily received from Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) and/or the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

**The following services are provided:** Achieving emotional stability is a primary focus for all youth placed at Safe Harbor. Supporting educational success is instrumental in sustaining success during and post-placement. Safe Harbor ensures to provide: clothing, meals, access to medical and/or psychiatric care, transportation, school support, independent living skills, vocational training/ assistance, therapeutic assessment and intervention, and case management.

**Partner Agencies:** Division of Family and Children Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, and United Way of Coastal Georgia and Glynn County School System.

**Relevant information about our Scope of Services can be found in the following resources:**

- Agency website: [www.safeharborcenterinc.org](http://www.safeharborcenterinc.org)
- Reviewing the Resident Handbook
- Contacting the Program Director at 912-289-9940

**Entry Criteria:** Safe Harbor Children's Center is licensed for two program designations as part of our contractual agreements with our referral agencies- Base and Additional Watchful Oversight (AWO). Eligible youth must be referred by a case manager of the referring agency - DFCS and/or DJJ. The program does not accept children that are actively homicidal and/or suicidal or have a designation and/or behaviors indicative of Maximum Watchful Oversight or higher level of care.

Youth previously discharged according to program case plan may be re-admitted, depending on need of services. Youth who run away/ elope after the initial placement are eligible for re-admission, based on a mutually agreeable behavior contract.

**Ineligibility:** If a youth does not meet the eligibility requirements for entry into the program, a denial letter will include the reasoning for ineligibility and includes a list of resources and programming suitable to the youth's needs.

**Transition Criteria:** Human Service Professionals assist residents with service planning and coordination of services. Residents may transition after successfully completing the program back to caregiver, a transitional living program, and/or a foster home. Based on need, that transition may include transportation, additional pre-planning meetings, maintaining connections with other service providers when possible, an array of needs assessments, visits to the facility prior to placement, etc.

**Exit Criteria:** Discharge from the program occurs when the Court and/or the referring agency has mandated a placement change, a youth either completes all of their relevant goals for moving to permanency, and/ or the youth needs a higher level of care and support.

**Service Delivery Model:** At Safe Harbor Children's Center, we are committed to fostering an environment where every child feels valued, heard, and empowered. Our service delivery model revolves around the core principle of person-centered care, recognizing each child as a unique individual with distinct needs, preferences, and aspirations. We believe that by centering our approach around the children we serve, we can create a nurturing and supportive home environment that promotes growth, healing, and a sense of belonging.

Key Elements of Our Service Delivery Model include individualized care planing, empowerment and autonomy, holistic support services, culturally responsive care, and continuous improvement and learning.

**For additional information, please contact:**

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