

True Stories

3 YEAR OLD

Mom brings 3 year old young son to visit Dad at Hope House. He carried a pen in his pocket. He pulled out the pen before the visit with his father and said to the monitor, "I carry this in case I have to stab someone 'cause I'm a bad person."

The monitor sat on the floor to talk with him. He thought Mom and Dad would be together and he had to protect Mom, but he really didn't want to hurt anybody. The monitor let him know that Mom and Dad would not be together, and he did not have to carry a pen, worry, or be afraid at Hope House.

90 YEAR OLD WOMAN

I was speaking at a church one Sunday for their Moment for Mission segment. After I was done and people came to speak with me, a little old woman with a cane, who said she was ninety, had tears flowing down her face and a crumpled \$10 bill in her hand. She tucked the \$10 in my hand and told me her story of how her Mom and Dad separated when she was very young and her Mother would never let her see her father again.

She so wished that there was a place like Hope House back then so that she would have been able to see her father (now long ago deceased) whom she loved.

This true story shows the extent of the pain of a family separated and the pain of that child carried over a lifetime of never seeing that parent again. It never goes away for that child whether age 9 or 90.

4 YEAR OLD

Early on when Hope House was in its first years, I opened the door and a young 4 year old male child entered. He immediately dropped to my feet and kissed them, then looked up to me and asked, "Are you going to hurt me?"

You can imagine my horror and sadness at this display. I picked the child up off the floor and told him, "No I will not hurt you, you are safe here at Hope House. No one will hurt you while you are here."

Can you imagine what this child has experienced in his short life?

SERVING FAMILIES IN THE MAHONING VALLEY FOR 15 YEARS

Services Provided

- Weekly visitation for children with the non-residential parent or family member while supervised in a safe, neutral, non-threatening environment.
- Extended hours allow for visits without interrupting work or school schedules.
- Monitored exchange site—children's drop-off and pick-up between family members.
- ITPP (Individualized Therapeutic Parenting Program) working one on one with both parents to help establish a healthy parent/child relationship.
- Children Education & Support Groups helping the child understand, receive education and support, and cope with a new reality in their lives – the breakup of their family unit.
- Security—Hope House is a secure facility with buzzer entry and security during visits and exchanges.
- Training Youngstown State University senior year Social Work & Human Ecology interns.

Helping children to...

- Maintain an essential relationship with both parents and extended family members in a safe, cheerful setting.



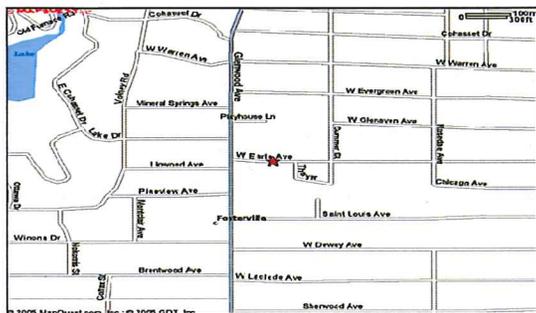
HOPE HOUSE VISITATION CENTER
660 W. EARLE AVE.
YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44511

Phone: (330) 788-8882
Fax: (330) 788-8927

E-mail: cjbhophouse@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.hophousevisitation.org

CHILDREN EDUCATION & SUPPORT GROUPS

- It Isn't Your Fault
- Family Dynamics
- Healthy Relationships
- What Different/What is the Same?
- Feelings
- Anger Management Skills
- Communication Skills
- Conflict Resolutions



660 W. Earle Ave. Southside of Youngstown

ITPP Services Provided

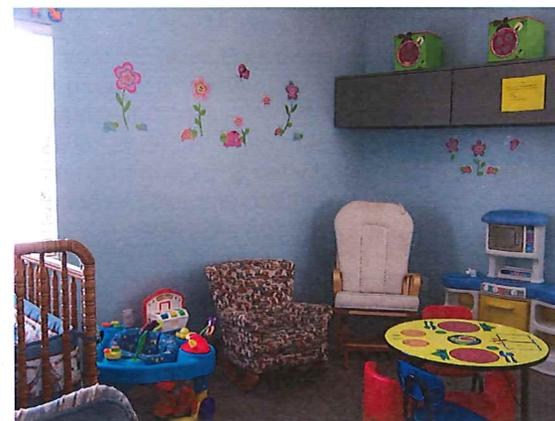
- Delivery of an individualized, therapeutic, parenting plan which includes assistance by a therapist and feedback for the parents.
- Parenting skills will be provided by a therapist before, during, and after the supervised visit .
- Weekly assessment and evaluation.
- Age specific information and techniques will be used to assist parents.
- Supervised by external licensed professionals.
- Helping the child & parent obtain and maintain an essential, healthy relationship with both parents, and extended family members.
- Assisting the child & parent in the transition to different family structures and a new reality in their family setting.



Family Picnic / Playground Area



Hallway with children's artwork



Visitation Room



Meeting room

Hope House Mission Statement

To provide a safe, child-friendly environment for supervised visitation, custodial/non-custodial exchanges and education relevant to the development of healthy parent-child relationships.



Deputy Greg