



boystown.org/iowa



BOYS TOWN IOWA

Saving Children and Healing Families in Iowa

DID YOU KNOW?

- » Boys Town Boys Town has been healing families in Iowa since 1989.
- » Our unique in-home programs serve more than 1,100 families and 2,300 children in Iowa every year.
- » Boys Town now provides family services in 30 rural and urban counties in Western Iowa.
- » Boys Town is one of the largest nonprofit child and family service organizations in the country. Every year, our services touch the lives of more than 2 million people across the United States.

WHEN IOWA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ARE HURTING, BOYS TOWN IS THERE WITH LIFE-CHANGING CARE.

Through **IN-HOME FAMILY SERVICES**, our primary service in Iowa, Boys Town Family Consultants work right in the homes of families that are in or near crisis, and in danger of falling apart. No matter what the underlying cause – economic hardship, substance abuse, marital issues, family conflicts, health challenges or others – the goal is to prevent children from being taken from their home or to reunify them with their family if outside placement is necessary.

Boys Town Family Consultants are available to families 24/7, helping them to build on their strengths, improve their parenting skills and connect with community resources and support. Family Consultants also help families learn how to solve problems on their own so they can maintain a stable, nurturing home long after an initial intervention ends.

Like all other services and programs in Boys Town’s Continuum of Youth & Families Services, In-Home Family Services is based on the research-proven Boys Town Model®.

In **BOYS TOWN COMMON SENSE PARENTING®** classes, parents and other caregivers learn proven techniques that can help them build strong family relationships, prevent and correct children’s misbehavior, use consequences to improve behavior, teach self-control and remain calm. Classes are provided in the community in formal and informal settings.

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Saving Children, Healing Families®

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Boys Town Iowa locations:

MAIN OFFICE
1702 West Broadway, Suite 17
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
712-302-7900

SIOUX CITY OFFICE
600 Fourth Street, Suite 901
Sioux City, Iowa 51101
712-258-6523

SPENCER OFFICE
35 West 1st Street
Spencer, IA 51301
712-262-5035



OUR MISSION

Changing the way
America cares for
children and families.

Other Helpful Services Available from Boys Town

- » The **Boys Town National Hotline® (800-448-3000)** is a free resource and counseling service that assists youth and parents 24/7, year-round, nationwide. The Hotline receives more than 150,000 calls and other contacts every year.
- » **YourLifeYourVoice.org** is a special website developed by the Hotline that enables and encourages teens to share their problems, concerns and challenges in positive, creative ways and provides access to immediate help in a crisis.
- » **Boys Town School-Based ProgramsSM** provide a variety of training and instructional resources for teachers, administrators and other school staff that can support or enhance an educational environment. Training programs are based on the Boys Town Education Model®, which focuses on teaching skills, building relationships and using effective discipline procedures.
- » The **Boys Town Family Home ProgramSM** provides a family for children, ages 10 to 18, who cannot live at home and whose needs require specialized care. Six to eight boys or girls live in each of the nearly 60 Family Homes that make up the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska. A married couple called Family-Teachers® is responsible for the daily care and daily needs of the children in their home. Many of these children have serious emotional and behavioral problems. During their stay, children learn social skills, attend school, participate in extracurricular activities and take part in daily chores and activities as members of their Boys Town family. When children leave, they generally return to their families or begin to live on their own (usually working, attending college or joining the military).
- » The **Boys Town Residential Treatment Center (RTC)** provides a proven, medically directed treatment program to change the lives of children, ages 5 to 18, who have severe behavioral and mental health problems. Our goal is to help children gain the self-assurance and academic and social skills they need to succeed in life. RTC services are available at the Village of Boys Town.

JEANETTE'S STORY: **Mom Overcomes Addiction to Reclaim Her Family**

Her first experience with methamphetamines happened when she was just a teen. That encounter launched what would become a debilitating relationship that shadowed her life for years.

Jeanette dabbled in drugs throughout early adulthood, only stopping when she became a mom. Raising three children offered enough distraction and motivation to keep her sober. But drugs were never far away.

When her marriage soured, she spiraled back into addiction. Soon after, she lost custody of her children.

Jeanette's family was eventually referred to Boys Town Iowa **In-Home Family Services®** for support and counseling. It didn't start well. "I was anything but easy," remembered Jeanette. "I was still in my addiction and didn't think people should be invading my space."

Overcoming Jeanette's hostility took patience and effort. A Boys Town **Family Consultant** met weekly with the family, supervising Jeanette's visits with her children and listening to everyone's concerns.

The Family Consultant also helped widen and strengthen Jeanette's social supports by connecting her with local addiction recovery groups and providing her with a "Parent Partner," someone who had experienced similar struggles and could mentor Jeanette to be an advocate for herself and her children.

After months of frank conversations, skill teaching, encouragement and counseling, Jeanette overcame her addiction and was joyfully reunited with her children.

The stories provided about the children and families in our care are real. In some cases, names may be changed and details altered to protect their privacy and therapeutic interests.

➔ To learn more about Boys Town services or how you can be part of Boys Town's mission, call **712-302-7900** or visit **boystown.org/iowa**.