

Nashua Children's Home

MAIN BUILDING

125 Amherst Street
Nashua, NH 03064
(603) 883-3851
FAX (603) 883-5925



GIRLS HOME

86 Concord Street
Nashua, NH 03064
(603) 595-8868



BOYS INDEPENDENT LIVING HOME

119 Amherst Street
Nashua, NH 03064
(603) 880-3691



TRANSITIONAL LIVING HOME

123 Amherst Street
117 Amherst Street
Nashua, NH 03064
(603) 821-7088

www.nashuachildrenshome.org



Nashua Children's Home

*Enriching the lives
of children and families
since 1903...*

Nashua Children's Home

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Nashua Children's Home has a century-long tradition and a history of responsiveness to community needs. In 1899, Josiah Fletcher donated property on the corner of Burrett and Brook Streets in Nashua to the First Baptist Church "for the purpose of maintaining a home for orphans and destitute children of Nashua and vicinity." The agency commenced operation in 1903 as the "Nashua Protestant Orphanage Association," administered by a Board of Directors representing all of the Protestant Churches of Nashua.

The orphanage was moved to 125 Amherst Street in 1922. By the mid-1900's, orphanages across the nation were struggling to meet the needs of children and families who were products of an increasingly troubled society. As recommended in 1970 by the Child Welfare League of America, the Association was reorganized with a more professional staff. The orphanage became officially non-denominational,

and the name, "Nashua Children's Association," was adopted. In 1979, an on-grounds special education school was added to provide instruction for children of surrounding school districts whose very special needs could not be met in the public schools. In 1982 a girls residential program was constructed in response to the severe shortage within the State of New Hampshire of residential services for girls. A continued shortage of resources within New Hampshire, compounded by increasing need, prompted an expansion of both the residential and educational programs in 1989. A new home for girls was opened at a separate location, 86 Concord Street, in 1993. The Carriage House at this location is presently utilized as an "Independent Living Home," preparing girls, ages 16 and older, for the obstacles of adult living. An Independent Living Home for boys opened at 119 Amherst Street in 2002. A "Transitional Living Home" for young men and women that have "aged-out" of the child-protective or juvenile justice system commenced operation at 123 Amherst Street in 2004, and expanded to 117 Amherst Street in 2005.

In order to more accurately reflect its mission to children and families, the name of the organization was changed to Nashua Children's Home in 1998. Current services at Nashua Children's Home are provided by a host of professional direct-service staff, including bachelors-level residential counselors and supervisors, certified special education teachers and classroom aides. Individual, family and group counseling in both the Residential and Educational programs are provided by masters-level therapists. In addition to administrative staff, a number of child-centered support staff complement ongoing efforts on behalf of children, youth and their families.

Nashua Children's Home is proud of its successful history and will continue to respond to the contemporary needs of the community.



Residential Program

The Residential Program offers a comprehensive care and service program for New Hampshire children and families. The program consists of four distinct residences for children between the ages of 6 and 18 years. The two latency-aged residences and the two adolescent residences each provide supervision and guidance for up to twelve children. The adolescent girls residence is located at 86 Concord Street with the other three residences at 125 Amherst Street. The Carriage House at 86 Concord Street, and the property at 119 Amherst Street serve as "Independent Living Homes," preparing youth, ages 16+, for the challenges of adult living.



The Residential Program offers a wide range of recreational and social activities on and off grounds. Children are encouraged to utilize the community's recreational and cultural resources.

Family involvement is essential to the success of this program. Family participation, visits and community connections are the prime indicators of successful family reunification. Home visits are encouraged to the fullest extent possible. Reunification efforts with families are assisted by the continued involvement of Residential Program staff for a minimum of 90 days post-discharge.

Joint residential/educational placements are available; however, many youngsters attend public school. An organized liaison program ensures that regular communication with public school personnel is maintained and that concerns are attended to quickly and effectively.

Nashua Children's Home has the capacity to respond to crises which necessitate an "emergency" placement of a youngster and to circumstances which require a "short-term" (up to 14 days) separation of child and family.

Nashua Children's Home also provides youth attendant services, accepting status-offending youth, primarily runaways referred by local police departments, for placement up to 72 hours.

The Residential Program is licensed by the NH Department of Health & Human Services. Requests for further information or inquiries regarding placement of a youngster should be directed to the Residential Director.



Educational Program

The Educational Program provides services for students with educational disabilities between the ages of 7 and 15. Three self-contained classrooms of 10 students, each supervised by a certified special education teacher and an aide, offer a favorable teacher to pupil ratio and close interaction.

The Educational Program is designed for students who cannot be appropriately educated in less intensive programs within the public schools. These students need services which include counseling and structured social and recreational activities during the school day. Each group of children engages in supervised activities outside of the classroom to learn the social, living and academic skills necessary for their reintegration to the public school system.

As in all programs, families are partners with us. Since they are the major source of support for the child when reintroduced to public school, a partnership is essential.

The Educational Program is certified by the NH State Department of Education. Further information and/or inquiries for placement of a student should be directed to the Educational Director.



Transitional Living Program

The Transitional Living Program (TLP) was developed to assist young adults in transitioning into self-sufficiency and prevent long term dependency on the social service system. Housing is provided at a nominal rent, along with continuing staff support and guidance for young adults that have exited the child-protective or juvenile justice system. The program is located at 123 Amherst Street (an apartment building with 3 one-bedroom units and 2 two-bedroom units) and 117 Amherst Street (a two-bedroom single-family home.)

Young Adults entering the TLP must be between 18 and 20 years of age, and will have, in most instances, remained in care until "aging out." Participants must qualify for "low-income" housing, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Further information and/or inquiries for housing should be directed to the Independent/Transitional Living Coordinator.

Mission Statement

Nashua Children's Home is committed to the care, welfare and educational achievement of children and youth within its Residential and Educational Programs, and the successful transition to adult living of the young men and women in its Transitional Living Program. Nashua Children's Home provides care and stability to boys and girls unable to remain with their families, special education services for students who have not been successful in public school settings, and supportive housing for youth that have "aged-out" of care.