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Higher Ground



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Youth focus

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF YOUTH AND FAMILIES BY PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE.

At a time when other treatment programs are closing, Higher Ground in Wichita, Kansas is growing and searching for better ways to support young people and families struggling with drug and alcohol abuse.

Helping youth choose to change

Effective treatment services for youth may seem as scarce as hens' teeth, but area referral sources find just that at Higher Ground. Counselors in the "Learning the Ropes" Adolescent Program are hand-picked for their skills and ability to overcome the oh-so-familiar high-risk adolescent mindset. Impossible, you say? "Not so," says Clinical Coordinator, Margaret Maniaci. "Our counselors are trained to invite participation and encourage teens to find their own healthy answers to daily challenges."

Techniques like motivational interviewing

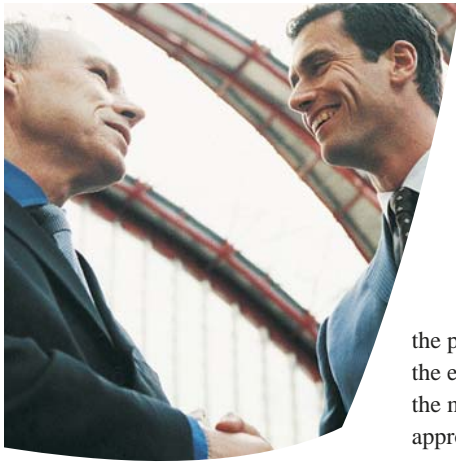
and experiential therapy are used in this program to empower young people. "The groups create a healing tapestry by weaving together therapeutic games, cognitive behavioral therapy, education and processing. "Kids are drawn into participation before they know what happened," chuckles Maniaci. "By the time they graduate, teens in the program have achieved sobriety, improved the relationship with their parents and discovered they have unlimited possibilities for their life."

Higher Ground's 65-70% success rate bears this out!



STAFF WATCH

Reaching youth and supporting families in crisis requires more than just employees...it takes a blend of younger and older staff, a variety of skills and educational levels and TONS of patience and compassion. Higher Ground is pleased to introduce its remarkable staff: Clinical Coordinator, Margaret Maniaci; Team Leader, Michele Shimer; Experiential Coordinator, Michael Hunter; Family Counselors, Carol Gallegos and Chenoa Simmons-Daniels and the arrival of new counselor, Meredith Reuter. All team members are available for referral needs.



Does Treatment Work?

Often people referring teens to substance abuse treatment question whether it works... the answer is YES.

the progress of a teen, even in the event of relapse, and decide the most effective management approach.

Of course the ultimate goal is to help the teen become abstinent. But the immediate goals are to reduce substance use, improve the teen's ability to function and minimize medical, legal, school and family complications of their use.

Statistics show that the more

treatment given, the better the results. Teens who stay in treatment longer than three months usually achieve more lasting sobriety.

Family involvement in the treatment process is crucial. Everyone around a teen using becomes affected. Holistic programming that involves the parents supports the teen and family healing together.

It takes time, but it does work.

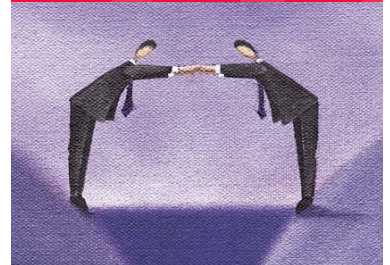
The level of drug use by teens is the highest of any developed country of the world

Contact Higher Ground for substance abuse treatment services for youth, ages 12-17, at 316-262-2060.

The secret to good substance abuse treatment is synergy. When counselors and referral sources agree on a treatment course of action, both understand the milestones that mark progress.

Counselors at Higher Ground team closely with referral agencies to communicate progress through monthly reports and telephone conferences. The team evaluates

BRIDGING THE GAP: Probation to Treatment



Communication is often the point of breakdown between referral sources and treatment programs. Higher Ground staff members provide monthly progress reports to Probation, Court Service Officers and School Counselors, offering current, pertinent information on client progress. Contact HG Staff for more info.



Higher Ground

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