

Shelter Care

Population Served

The Shelter Care Program accepts referrals exclusively from the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court. These young males often come from unstable or dysfunctional households and do not receive supportive parental guidance. Parent-child conflicts and domestic violence are not uncommon.

With a primary goal of stabilizing behavior and returning youth to law abiding conduct, CCH's main focus is to address physically or verbally aggressive actions and criminogenic risks as youth await a juvenile court case.

CCH achieves this through a strength-based approach that targets specific behaviors, attitudes, and needs. Residents reflect on their past misdeeds and are held accountable for their actions.

Identified Problems

Youth who are actively involved with the Juvenile Court typically display behaviors that put them at greater risk for continued delinquent and/or criminal behavior. Along with the normative stresses and strains inherent in the teen years these youth are further burdened with:

- Poor impulse control
- Anger management issues
- A lack of positive role models
- Distorted cognitions

Without help, these youth may well continue on a path of delinquency and continue their dysfunctional or anti-social behavior.

Life Skills Programming

Shelter Care youth participate in a daily group that addresses: basic life skills, development of pro-social life goals, financial literacy, consequences of continuing illegal behavior, drug/alcohol prevention and education about job skills.

The daily group is designed to better position the youth to positively move forward in the face of their involvement with the juvenile court system. This 3-hour, six days a week group is key to the success of Cleveland Christian Home's Shelter Care programming, which goes beyond basic service provision to provide life enhancement skills that will serve the youth upon discharge from the program and into the future.

