

PCHAS' mission is to provide Christ-centered care and support to children and families in need. We provide these services regardless of race, gender, national origin, financial resources, or religion to more than 3,400 children and families across Texas and Louisiana each year.

Many of the clients we work with need help as a result of a crisis such as divorce, illness, violence, homelessness, or alcohol/drug abuse. PCHAS' seven core programs make a huge difference in the lives of children and families who need it most. Below are descriptions of these programs.

**Adoption** Our adoption services provide training and support for couples seeking to adopt children and information and support to women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy and are considering making an adoption plan for their child. Adoptive families are guided through the legal process and receive support and training before a child is placed in their home.

**Foster Care:** Our staff carefully screen, train and support foster families financially and emotionally. The children in foster care, like most of our clients, come from backgrounds of abuse, neglect, poverty and abandonment.

**Child and Family (in-home family preservation):** The Child and Family Program helps stabilize families during a crisis such as poverty, abuse/neglect and homelessness. A Child and Family Specialist visits families in their homes to assess their needs, identify existing strengths, and develop plans for improved stability and well-being. We provide this unique family preservation program in 20 locations throughout Texas and Louisiana.

**Group Homes:** We operate two group home campuses, one in Itasca and one in Waxahachie, TX. The children are ages 5-18 and have experienced some type of trauma, such as a death in the family, divorce of parents, neglect, abandonment or abuse. The campuses serve children who have been privately placed and those placed by Child Protective Services (CPS). On average, children stay 12-24 months, though some may stay shorter or longer periods depending upon their needs.

**Single Parent Family:** This program provides a much-needed safety net for struggling single mothers and their children, many of whom are facing homelessness due to poverty, abandonment or other crises. In addition to housing, the program offers financial and emotional support, family therapy and other services that promote self-sufficiency.

**Transitional Living:** The transition into adulthood can be challenging for any adolescent, generally occurs over many years and involves substantial support from family and friends. However, some young adults do not have support from family members and friends during this important time. This program helps those 18- to 24-year-old young adults who do not have a family support system as they transition into sustainable independent lives.

**Education:** Our team of dedicated PCHAS staff members work with professional tutors to help the children build their skills and gain confidence. For children in our Group Homes who are high school age, our Advanced Education and Support Services team helps prepare them for college/vocational training after they graduate.

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Presbyterian Children's<sup>SM</sup>  
Homes and Services



Eight-year-old Devon entered our Group Homes Program after witnessing domestic violence and substance abuse in his biological family. Traumatized by these experiences, Devon was frightened, prone to tantrums and delayed academically when he came to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS).

His PCHAS Group Home parents, skilled in Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) methods, provided emotional support and soothed Devon's fears. Over time, Devon had fewer outbursts and a greater sense of control over his emotions. As Devon healed, his biological parents also sought treatment and were able to overcome domestic violence and drug abuse.

This past summer, Devon and his biological parents reunited. His biological parents learned and incorporated TBRI® techniques at home and have started a new chapter as a loving, stable family.



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