

## Our Services

### FOSTER CARE

Family Ark partners with caring adults to make positive changes in the lives of children who have experienced neglect, abuse, domestic violence, mental illness, substance abuse or other trauma. Our foster parents provide nurturing, compassion and patience within a safe, stable home environment. At Family Ark, our foster parents make a lasting impact on the lives of the children and families we serve.

### HOME BASED SERVICES

Family Ark's Home Based Services program helps to preserve, support and stabilize families in crisis, while helping to create healthy nurturing relationships. The primary goal of family preservation is to prevent a child from being removed from his/her home and to reunite the child with his/her parent when removal has occurred. Our team provides individualized case management and therapeutic services to each family member in the home setting.

### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Family Ark's clinical staff provides behavioral assessments and evaluations to determine the services that best meet clients' needs. Clinicians also provide specialized services that allow clients to address maladaptive behaviors and past trauma.

### OUR CAMPUS

Family Ark's beautiful 83-acre campus includes natural wetlands, walking paths and open play spaces. The campus is a unique part of who we are and is utilized for family events, therapeutic activities, supervised family visitations and community events. Our Lodge facility can comfortably accommodate up to 150 people and is used for meetings, events and trainings. We also provide no-cost shopping to the families we serve in our Commissary, which houses donations of food, clothing, toys, and other essential items.

### OUR MISSION

Family Ark provides quality human service programs which promote positive change in the lives of children and families in the communities we serve.

### OUR HISTORY

In 1971, local visionaries saw the need for preventative treatment for troubled youth who were involved in the juvenile justice system and identified the need for keeping youth close to their communities with programs designed as alternatives to incarceration. This led to the development of the Clark-Floyd Youth Opportunity Center which later became Regional Youth Services, incorporated in 1973. In 2009, Regional Youth Services, Inc. began management of Noah's Ark Children's Village in Jeffersonville, Indiana and after acquiring the facility in 2012, consolidated all offices to the 83-acre campus. Family Ark, the new name for both agencies, is the culmination of more than 40 years of giving hope to children and families.



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## Giving Families Hope. Creating Healthy Communities.



*Strengthening families to create  
a healthy community*

### OUR GOALS

- We work together in partnership with our children, referral sources, parents, foster parents, and other community providers to promote positive change in the lives of children and families.
- Whenever possible, we will seek to keep the child in the home of his/her biological family while working toward overall improvement within the family system.
- When it is necessary to remove a child from the parents' home, we will attempt to keep the child in the family's geographical area to facilitate contact and seek reunification as quickly as therapeutically possible.
- We will strive to keep admission to our programs easy, uncomplicated and at a reasonable cost.
- We will continue to assess the changing needs of the community and expand our programming as necessary.
- We will remain aware of the profound effect removal from the family can have on a child and let this awareness influence our actions on behalf of the child.



## Become a Foster Parent

If you're an adult with a heart for children, we want to talk with you! Family Ark is looking for foster parents to help children (birth to age 18) who have experienced abuse, neglect or other trauma.

### WHO ARE FOSTER PARENTS?

Foster parents are individuals or couples aged 21 or older. Some have raised or are currently raising children, and others have never raised children. They come from all walks of life, various income levels and careers, different educational backgrounds, and are diverse in many ways. All share a desire to have a positive impact on the life of a child.

Foster parents have these qualities:

- Patience
- Dedication
- Compassion
- Stable home environment
- Unconditional loving heart
- Sense of humor
- Healthy balanced outlook on life



### BENEFITS OF BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT

- Training from professionals in the child behavioral health field
- Opportunities to be supported by other foster parents
- 24 hour on-call support
- Careful matching of children with the foster family
- Frequent visits and contact from supportive staff
- Respite care
- Monthly payment to help you provide for the needs of the child
- Most children have free access to health, dental, and eye care services through Medicaid.

### BECOME A RESPITE PROVIDER

Respite providers play a critical role in foster care. They provide a needed break and support for full-time foster parents. The temporary care that respite providers offer is essential to maintaining healthy relationships in the foster family and leads to greater success for the child. Respite care typically occurs over the course of a weekend or single week.

## Every Family Matters

“Family Ark gave me trust, belief, and understanding. That right there was another reason I didn’t give up. I was not only a client but part of the family at Family Ark. That’s what it’s all about, FAMILY!”

*Home Based Services Client*

“Family Ark allowed me to learn a new way of life and changed my life. I have the support of a family who loves me and workers who teach and work with me allowing me to make changes.”

*Foster Youth*

“As long as I can remember, I have always wanted to make a difference in children’s lives. I know we make an impact on each child, BUT the true impact is on our lives. Just like your own children they will drive you nuts, make you smile, raise your blood pressure, and melt your heart.... sometimes all in the same day. Fostering for us is an extended family commitment. Everyone is involved; aunts, uncles, grandparents, and our children. Each new child is another opportunity to extend our family circle.”

*Tabitha, Foster Parent*

“Knowing the work we do stabilizes families, protects the best interests of our children, and ultimately, creates a better community, keeps us focused on the future.”

*David Hillman, President  
Family Ark Board of Directors*

## Other Ways to Help

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

As you can imagine, it takes significant resources to provide all of the training, oversight and support for programs across multiple counties in Southern Indiana. Your tax-deductible donation makes it possible for us to provide needed services to children and families in crisis. Family Ark is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

### VOLUNTEERING

Whether you're serving on a committee, sorting donated items, helping with outdoor projects, or serving in some other capacity, your time and energy can have an enormous impact on our ability to fulfill our mission.

### FOOD, CLOTHING AND TOYS

One of the resources we provide to our parents is access to clothing, toys and non-perishable food items for the children in their care. In particular, we always need new or unused clothing for teens and pre-teens. Additionally, we are always in need of backpacks, school supplies, and toiletries for children coming into care. Thank you for thinking of our children!

### SPREAD THE WORD!

When you tell family members, friends and colleagues about the work we do at Family Ark, you make it easier for us to connect with the whole community. Find us on Facebook and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter online at [www.thefamilyark.org](http://www.thefamilyark.org). Spread the message – together we are strengthening families to create a healthy community!

