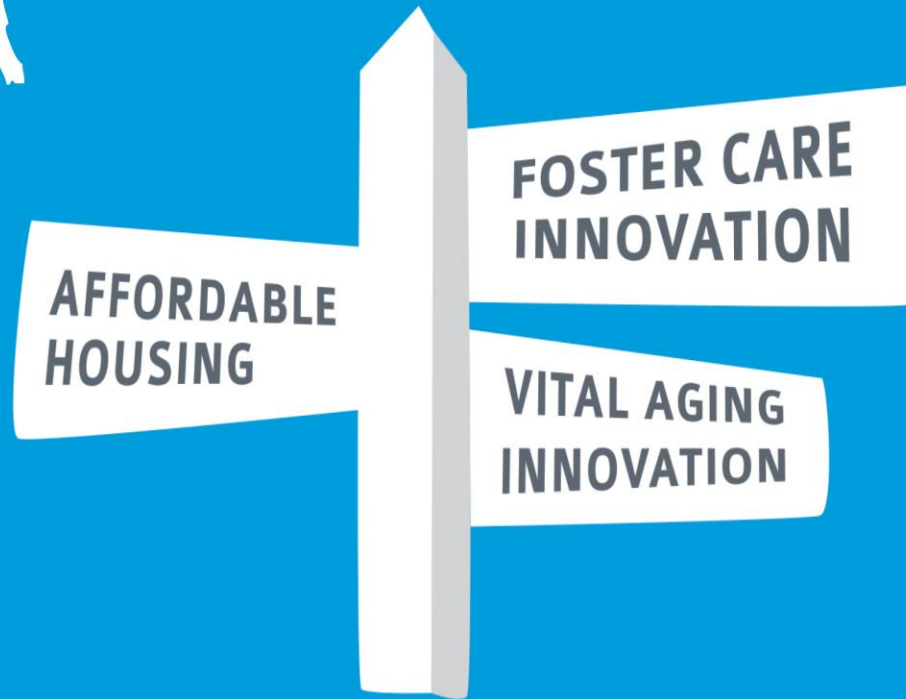




TREEHOUSE FOUNDATION



RE-ENVISIONING FOSTER CARE IN AMERICA



Treehouse
Foundation

Intergenerational Treehouse Community Model

*Meeting the needs of
children who experienced foster care, their
adoptive families,
and the elders who support them.*



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Two Key Initiatives



Intergenerational
Community Model



Promoting Regional
Innovation



Treehouse Easthampton



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Three Partner Model



Treehouse Foundation



**Berkshire Children
& Families**

BERKSHIRES • PIONEER VALLEY

BEACON
communities



Housing at Treehouse Easthampton



- Elders: 48 1-bedroom cottages
- Families: 12 townhouses, 3 – 5 bedroom
- 6 affordable; 6 market rate
- Accessible design for aging in place and persons with disabilities.





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Treehouse Community Members

Total: 120+
(ages 6 months to 90)

- 12 families
- 45 children
- 53 elders

Parents: provide children with legal permanency

Elders: volunteer 6+ hrs/wk to support the wellbeing of children, families and their peers





Treehouse Foundation

"Every child rooted in permanent, loving family and community."

Children and Youth at Treehouse Easthampton 2006 - 2018 (N=101)

<i>(Citations available on request)</i>	National Averages for Foster Youth	Treehouse Youth
High School Graduates	58%	95%
Attending College or Vocational Training	< 10%	100%
High School Drop Outs	(ANNUALLY) 8 - 14%	(TOTAL OVER 12 YRS.) 5%
Children Repeating One or More Grades in School	33 - 46%	2%
Arrests	46%	0
Teens/Young Adults Parenting	48%	2%
Failed Placements / Children Returning to DCF	16%	0

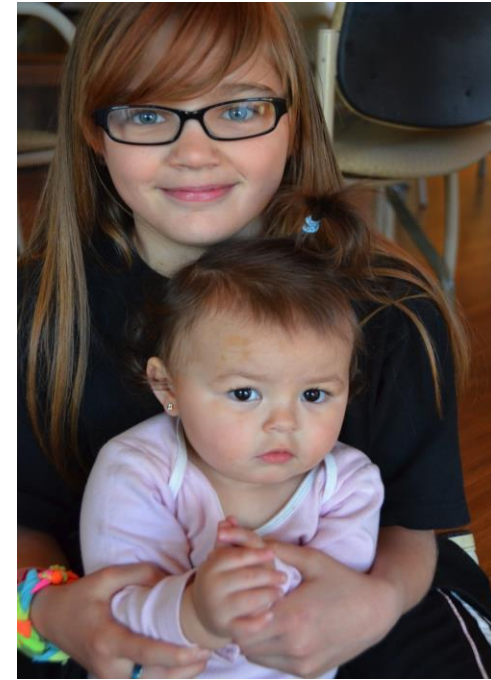


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Outcomes for Older Adults

- Significant increases in self-esteem & quality of life
- Long-term affordable housing
- Reduced social isolation
- Opportunities for leadership & learning
- Ability to age in place
- Peer support





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Treehouse Easthampton Community



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Key Community Features



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Community Center

- Great design matters
- Large multi-purpose Community Room
- Indoor/outdoor gathering
- Library with computers & wifi
- Centralized mail
- Community kitchen
- Conference room
- Partner staff offices
- Work spaces for interns

Living @ Treehouse

- Great design matters
- In-home laundry
- Energy efficient
- Every unit has a porch/patio
- Playgrounds
- Community garden
- Abundant parking
- Beautiful
- Well-maintained





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How is Treehouse Different?

Treehouse

- Permanent home with loving family
- Strong community connections
- Long-term relationships across generations
- Integrated long-term programs & interventions
- Highly collaborative & responsive to emerging needs
- Educational advocacy

Others

- Don't stop "the bounce"
- No community support; social isolation
- Difficult to maintain relationships with caring adults or friends
- Lack of coordinated access to short-term programs & interventions
- Lack of long term focus, relationships, connection
- Less responsive to changing needs





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Treehouse Communities 2.0

- Incorporating TAY (transition aged youth)
- Some 2-bedroom units
- Market rate senior units
- Urban/suburban settings
- Embracing regional diversity
- New regional & state partnerships



Long-term Social & Economic Costs of Aging Out



- Shattered lives & families
- Estimated \$300,000/per person for social services addressing poverty, mental health issues, homelessness, substance use, or incarceration
- High likelihood of the next generation experiencing foster care

Treehouse: Hub of Innovation



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Over 3,000
children & youth
have been served
by
programs
launched through
Treehouse.
Here's a sample...



Camp to Belong
1,000 children/
youth

RE
ENVISIONING
FOSTER
CARE
IN
AMERICA

THE TREEHOUSE FOUNDATION PRESENTS:

Fifth Annual
RE-ENVISIONING FOSTER CARE IN AMERICA CONFERENCE
Family, Community & Permanency For All Children
MAY 30, 2014 | 9 AM - 5 PM | HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Keynote Speakers

- Dr. Ruth McRoy
Boston College Graduate School of Social Work
- Shirley W.C. Martin
Pozum 51st Community
- Dr. Yolanda Kelly
Director, Inclusive Department of Children, Youth & Families
State of US

REFCA 2014 Champion Awards
We are proud to honor these dedicated individuals for their outstanding service to children & youth in foster care.

- Karen Bakal, California Congresswoman
- Sista Cancel, Foster Youth Advocate/Entrepreneur
- Paul Fitzsimons, Massachusetts Department of Children & Families, Acting Deputy Commissioner
- Stan Rosenbergl, Massachusetts State Senator

CONFERENCE SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- The Role of Playfulness in Healing and Strengthening Children (Shirley Green, LENA's Social Playwrights)
- Therapists and DCW Working Together to Improve Outcomes for Children Affected by Complex Trauma (Dr. Sarah Proctor & Dawn Swanson)
- Permanence: It's Possible for Youth in Residential Care (Lauren Frey & James Lister)
- Creating Effective Adult/Youth Partnerships Based on Best Practices, an Interactive Workshop (Jovette Highwater)
- Transition Age Youth: Meeting Housing & Other Critical Needs (Dr. Jane Walker Benjamin)
- Building a Stronger Child Welfare Workforce (Terry Chaffetz)
- Panel: Permanency Plan for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: What Everyone Needs to Know (Moderated by Judge Lillian Miranda (JF) with Elizabeth Armstrong, Jamie Caron, Attorney Amy Katz, Honorable Sally Padden, & Attorney Patricia Scheck)
- Transracial Adoption: Practice and Policy Issues (Dr. Ruth McRoy)
- Building and Maintaining Change within Child Welfare Systems: Stages and Critical Elements for Success (Dr. Nicolas Kelly)
- Family Search and Engagement Strategies and Best Practices (Lori Ryan and Mary LeBlanc)
- DAY LONG YOUTH TRACK: Sponsored by HEROES Leadership Track's Foster Youth in Action & NACAC's Community Champions Network

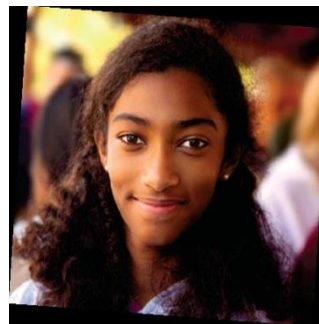
REGISTRATION & INFORMATION: refca.net

CEU's Available! Social Work, Psychology, LMHC & CAFIs Available.



REFCA Conference
300 thought leaders
from across the country

Birdsong Farm
250
children/youth



HEROES Leadership
350 TAY

HEROES YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT



Helping Everyone Receive Our Everyday Stories

CHANGE. TEACH. BUILD COMMUNITY.





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Treehouse MetroWest Boston



Treehouse
Foundation



Treehouse Foundation



2Life
COMMUNITIES

Age affordably. Live well.

Plummer ✓
Youth Promise
Family for Everyone





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Ready to Replicate!

- 13 years of lived experience
- Proven results
- Award-winning
- Financially sustainable business model
- Leverages existing \$ in more impactful and cost-effective ways
- Efficient delivery of services
- Successful, vibrant public/private partnerships

