


**BUILDING A
BRIGHTER FUTURE
STARTS TODAY!**





A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay was founded in 2009 and has raised the standard for residential group homes by providing a safe, loving, and nurturing environment focused on sibling groups with a "Live-In" House Parent Model.

Our mission is to provide a safe, loving and nurturing home for foster children. Over the past 15 years, we have served more than 1,600 foster children and over 700 families. We are proud to be part of the solution to child welfare needs in Tampa Bay and a model for organizations beyond.

**TRANSFORMING
CHILD WELFARE
SINCE 2009**

TAMPA BAY CHILDREN IN CRISIS

25%

*of Florida children in
foster care reside in
the three-county
Tampa Bay area.*

5,000+

*children are in foster
care in the Tampa Bay
Area every night.*

*Hillsborough County
has the 5th highest
number of reported
cases of abuse and
neglect in the state.*

*Florida ranks 3rd
among all states in the
number of cases of
child abuse and
neglect.*

Keeping siblings together was just the beginning. Today, our campus in Brandon, Florida, includes five homes where we provide residential care for children from birth to age 18 years. In 2021 we added a sixth Independent Living Home where we provide residential support for young adults ages 18–22. At A Kid's Place, children have access to comprehensive wrap-around services that meet their full spectrum of physical, mental, social, emotional, and educational needs so they can heal, prepare for reunification with their families, and attain lifelong success and stability.

"A Kid's Place provides high-quality, effective services to children, adolescents, and families in Brandon, Florida, and provides a safe, homelike environment in a neighborhood setting. Its services are family focused, and the organization has built a well-deserved reputation as leaders." - Brenda Jackson, MS, AMFT, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

WHAT SETS A KID'S PLACE OF TAMPA BAY APART IS OUR COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING MORE THAN A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE.

We emphasize stability and normalcy, our approach leads to positive outcomes—from family reunification to improvements in physical, mental, and socio-emotional health—for the children we serve. The keys to our success include:

A MODEL THAT WORKS

1. OUR "LIVE-IN" HOUSE PARENT MODEL

Brothers and sisters live together in one of five on-campus homes with "Live-In" House Parents trained in trauma-informed care. Family-style meals, adventures, excursions, support at school events, and celebrations provide a loving, normal existence and foster meaningful family engagement, which is integral to the healing process.



"For the staff at A Kid's Place, this is not a job, not a paycheck. This is their life. They live and breathe to do right by these kids and go beyond what anyone could expect. They do it because they love them." - Art Schultz, Board of Directors

2. INDIVIDUALIZED CARE PLANS

Internal and external case managers work together with House Parents, staff, and licensed professionals to create step-by-step plans to improve the physical, mental, and social-emotional health of each child, according to their needs.

"We understand that the path to healing is not a 'one size fits all.' Every child has unique needs, and every child's path to healing looks different. We meet them where they are. We don't ask them to conform to our programs. Instead, we ask what we can provide them so they grow and heal." - Jynelle Armstrong, Program Director

3. COMPREHENSIVE, ACCESSIBLE SERVICES

From immunizations, medical and dental care to behavioral therapy and tutoring, we partner with licensed care providers to care for children holistically. We also provide targeted, developmentally appropriate programs for children of different ages, including:



- **A satellite Hillsborough County classroom for children in grades K–5** that offers small classes and provides individual attention by a Hillsborough County teacher, allowing these children to thrive and better enabling them to succeed once they return to mainstream public school.
- **An Independent Living Program**, designed to equip teens with the life skills they need - from cooking nutritious meals to exploring careers with guest speakers from local businesses and trades.

“Imagine a child that hasn’t seen a dentist or a doctor in years or hasn’t had access to a stable education. At A Kid’s Place, we get every child the services they need. That way, when children leave us, they are equipped with the skills to succeed and with parents that can support and embrace them. We create success stories.” - Judge Daryl Manning of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in Florida, and Board of Directors

4. FOCUS ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND STABILITY

We facilitate family engagement while children are with us by providing space for family bonding and therapy. We also work with families after reunification and connect them to services that support their long-term success.

5. EXPANDED STEPPING STONES PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE "AGED OUT"

Just because a child turns 18 doesn’t mean they are able to achieve stability and success on their own. That’s why we recently added a sixth home to serve 18- to 22-year-olds. At our Independent Living House, young adults live semi-independently near their younger siblings and get help developing the life and job skills they need to transition to full independence.





Beth Bradburn, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of Homes by WestBay, first learned about A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay in the fall of 2016. With the holidays approaching, Homes by WestBay was looking to sponsor an employee gift drive for local children. After one of her team members suggested A Kid's Place, Beth and the rest of the leadership team came out to learn more.

"All of these children come from some kind of broken background. A Kid's Place understands they need to be healed from the inside out. There is no quick fix, and it's a lifelong journey to heal," Beth explains. "The combination of the people, the House Parent model and the way they nurture, the programs and the consistency they provide - they instill hope and start children on the road to healing."

Soon thereafter, Homes by WestBay demonstrated their dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of the children living at A Kid's Place, and started contributing donations after every home closing in honor of their buyers.

**"SEEING WHAT A
KID'S PLACE IS
DOING HAS
TOUCHED EVERY
SINGLE ONE OF US
AT HOMES BY
WESTBAY!"**





Beth is thrilled about the opportunities **Building a Brighter Future** will make possible. *“Therapy, computer skills, sports, and play—they are all critical parts of the healing process,”* says Beth. *“Building the activity center will strengthen our existing programs and enable us to add new programs that help put kids on that road to healing.”*

“Building a Brighter Future will make A Kid’s Place a more robust solution for child welfare so that more children break the cycle of abuse, neglect, and abandonment that brought them to us in the first place.” - Beth Bradburn, Co-Chair - Capital Campaign Steering Committee

THE CHANGING CHILD WELFARE LANDSCAPE



"We spent two years exploring the best ways to grow. We've checked all the boxes. Now we are ready to move swiftly so that A Kid's Place can keep moving the needle in child welfare."

– Brad Gregory, CEO

Our demographics have changed.

We are serving more teenagers and young adults than ever before. This shift presents new challenges because we must provide a much wider range of services in order to meet the needs of every child in our care.



WE NO LONGER HAVE THE SPACE

to provide the full range of services all our children require to grow and heal. We have outgrown our facilities.

Without enough classroom spaces, visitation rooms, or therapy rooms, we cannot simultaneously accommodate every child's needs - from counseling and family visits to tutors and extracurricular programs - as effectively and efficiently as we should.

We have limited indoor spaces for play, sports, and extracurricular activities, which contribute to a child's sense of normalcy, support their mental and physical health, and allow them to explore hobbies and vocational interests.

There are limited gathering spaces that accommodate all the children in our care, along with our House Parents and staff, for events like birthdays, award ceremonies, and holidays. Today we must transport everyone offsite for gatherings or host multiple events to accommodate our entire community.

We have the people, the compassion, and the knowledge to serve children and their families in the Greater Tampa Bay area better. Now is the time to take action and ensure we can deliver the comprehensive, individualized services every one of our children needs and deserves to heal and break the cycle of abuse and neglect.

WE ARE PROUD TO LAUNCH BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE



THROUGH THIS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, WE WILL CONSTRUCT A MUCH-NEEDED ACTIVITY CENTER.

Located on campus near our six residential homes, this facility will become the center of our community and will include:

A large, climate-controlled gathering space

Therapy and family visitation rooms

Classrooms for arts/crafts, vocational education, and community engagement

A dedicated educational computer lab

Spaces for enhanced services within our Stepping Stones program focusing on independent living skills, trade school certifications, and mentoring

An outdoor basketball court

An indoor multisport court, exercise room, and a swimming pool

THIS CAMPAIGN ISN'T ABOUT CHANGING WHAT WE DO. IT'S ABOUT DOING MORE OF IT.

Building the activity center will enable us to more effectively serve the children in our care because it will create more opportunities to connect them to the people—House Parents, families, peers, teachers, coaches, tutors, doctors, and community members—and services they need to grow, heal, and achieve success.



WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS WE BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR THE CHILDREN WE SERVE. WITH YOUR GIFT,

- ♥ **YOU can be the reason children get every opportunity they need to grow and heal.**
- ♥ **YOU can be the reason children learn the life skills they need to find success.**
- ♥ **YOU can be the reason A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay becomes a more comprehensive, effective solution for child welfare.**

"A Kid's Place is unique because they keep siblings together; because they make sure every child is up to date on immunizations, physicals, and dental care; and because they provide kids the services they need no matter their need—from on-site therapy to after-school programs. Simply put, A Kid's Place puts kids first and does whatever it takes to help every child in their care." – Bill Griffin, Guardian Ad Litem

OUR VISION FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

THERAPY & FAMILY VISITATION ROOMS

Where we deliver trauma-informed care and get families back on the road to reunification.

With the addition of multiple therapy rooms, more children will be able to meet on campus with medical professionals, therapists, and counselors whenever they need them. In these safe, private spaces, children will also be able to visit more regularly with their families - an important step in the reunification process - and participate in family therapy.



FLEXIBLE CLASSROOMS & COMPUTER LAB

Where we will fuel our children's growth and confidence by giving them opportunities to expand their minds, practice new skills, and discover their passions.

With new multiuse classrooms, we will be able to accommodate more children in educational, vocational, and recreational programs at the same time. This is especially important given the number of children we serve, the broad age range of children in our care, and the limited time between school dismissal and bedtime. At the computer lab, children will be able to access the tools they need to complete schoolwork. Adolescents, teenagers, and young adults will also be able to participate in virtual training opportunities tailored to their interests and future plans.



THE COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACE

Where everyone feels welcome and has a seat at the table.

For the first time on campus, our children, House Parents, and staff will be able to come together inside for events like birthdays, graduations, awards banquets, Halloween trunk-or-treats, and Thanksgiving dinners. Such events restore a sense of normalcy in children's lives and strengthen our community from the inside out.



A Kid's Place - Activity Center

Brandon, Florida



04-07-12-2021

BASKETBALL COURT, MULTISPORT COURT, EXERCISE ROOM, AND SWIMMING POOL

Where kids can be kids!

With an outdoor basketball court, an indoor multisport court, and exercise room, younger children will gain new opportunities for structured and unstructured play while older children and teenagers gain healthy recreational outlets on campus. Every child in our care will take swimming lessons as we seek to prevent drowning, Florida's leading cause of death to children. During our long, hot summers, our entire community will be able to relax, play, and enjoy time together.

We give children a piece of their childhood back. At A Kid's Place, kids get to be kids - often for the first time in their lives - rather than caretakers responsible for themselves and their siblings.

"Anybody who has been a parent knows that if kids are not burning off their extra energy, they are much more likely to be getting in trouble. Kids need to have a place to come together and swim, play games, and shoot balls. And they get so much more out of sports than just the skill of shooting a basket or making a goal. They learn how to get along with each other, how to resolve conflicts, how to be a good sport and a leader - we want to encourage all of that." - Cammie Chatterton, Steering Committee Co-Chair



BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE STARTS TODAY!



A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay has a strong track record of providing the safe, loving home children in foster care need—whether they are infants or preparing to cross the threshold into adulthood. Our comprehensive services meet children and families where they are while helping restore their health and relationships and preparing them for stability.

One of A Kid's Place's greatest strengths has always been our willingness to evolve, and it's time to evolve again. We must take action to bridge the gap between what we can provide in our limited facilities today and the services, programs, and opportunities we know our children need.

"There are thousands of children in the Greater Tampa Bay area that require foster care, and there aren't enough qualified parents that can take them in. A Kid's Place fills a real void. That's why we decided to go 'all in' with this organization. We see our gifts put to work right away caring for kids here in Tampa Bay. And when we lift up these children, we lift up our entire community." - Art Schultz, Board of Directors

THANK YOU TO OUR STEERING COMMITTEE

Beth Bradburn, Co-Chair
Cammie Chatterton, Co-Chair
Colton Curry
Terry Curry
Ellie Dahl
Brad Gregory
Samantha Mellen
Gina Miles
Art Schultz
Bria Washington

When you make a gift to Building a Brighter Future, you will do more than help us build a community gathering space, therapy and family visitation rooms, classrooms and a computer lab, along with a sport court and a pool. You will open the door to deeper, more frequent, and more impactful interactions between the children in our care and House Parents, families, peers, program leaders, staff, therapists, and medical professionals. The healing begins here.

- ♥ YOU WILL HELP US SERVE THE CHILDREN IN OUR CARE MORE EFFECTIVELY.
- ♥ YOU WILL ENSURE EVERY CHILD HAS ACCESS TO THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY NEED TO GROW, HEAL, AND ACHIEVE SUCCESS.
- ♥ YOU WILL BUILD A BETTER, BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR THEM, THEIR FAMILIES, AND OUR ENTIRE TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY.



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