

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

**CHILDREN'S HOME
AND AID FAMILY
VISITATION CENTER**

Tour presented by

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At a glance



Bloomington, Illinois

Serving the 11th Judicial Circuit, which includes the Illinois counties of McLean, Livingston, Logan, and Woodford



Community served

McLean is the most densely populated county, with 170,594 residents. The remaining four counties are rural and have a combined population of 115,803 residents. Children's Home and Aid is the sole provider of supervised visitation and exchange in the entirety of the 11th Judicial Circuit.



children's home & aid

Family Visitation Center

CHILDREN'S HOME AND AID FUNDING

OVW JFF funding synopsis

- We received our initial three-year grant in October of 2019
- We were recently awarded our second OVW JFF grant for the 2022 year
- Children's Home and Aid Family Visitation Center is 100% supported by OVW JFF funds.

Other programs

We have funding to provide services for The Children's Room located within the McLean County Law and Justice Center.

- The Children's Room offers families a safe, child-focused space for children to be cared for while their parents are participating in court procedures. It acts as a safe haven, shielding children from the potential trauma of seeing and hearing distressing family events relived in court proceedings.
- This is a safe and secure room that can only be accessed by a key or if you are admitted by staff. Children are not allowed to be discharged from the space without their legal guardian coming to get them.
- Each parent/guardian is given a pager, similar to the kind used in restaurants, so the parent can be buzzed if the children needs something. Only that parent will be allowed into the Children's Room to retrieve the child.

Children's Home and Aid Family Visitation Center



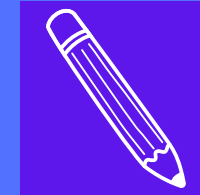
Visitation services provided

Supervised visitation and safe exchange services



Meeting the diverse and unique needs of our families

We complete an orientation with each individual participant to gather the unique characteristics that every family brings to our family.



About our services

- Capacity to provide up to 35 supervised visitation and safe exchange visits per week
- Currently provide safe exchanges 3 times per week
- Engaged with 32 families since July of 2022

Children's Home & Aid Family Visitation Center



Hours

- Visitation and exchanges
 - Monday through Friday
 - 12–8pm
 - Saturday and Sunday
 - 8am–5pm



About our team

- Two full-time visit monitors
 - 40 hours/week
- Two part-time visit monitors
 - 20 hours/week and 10 hours/week, respectively
- Part-time Outreach Worker
 - 27.5 hours/week
 - Located at the Children's Room
- Program Director, Program Manager, and Program Supervisor included in JFF grant at different capacities

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- 11th Judicial Circuit Court
 - Primary source of referrals
- Mid-Central Community Action/Countering Domestic Violence (CDV)
 - Provides training, assists in planning and carrying out project activities, provides court advocacy, and serves as the primary domestic violence victim services provider
- McLean County State's Attorney Office
 - Provides referrals to the FVC, promotes trainings among attorneys, and assists in planning and carrying out project activities
- Prairie State Legal
 - Provides referrals to the FVC, promotes trainings, and provides input into the design of the project to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community
- YMCA/Stepping Stones
 - Provides referrals to the project and assists with planning and project design, and is the sexual assault services provider for this project

Meetings with partners are weekly, bi-weekly, and quarterly.

Our community partners continue to be a huge strength to our program. They not only provide referrals to our programs, but they also advocate strongly for the work we do, while helping families to learn about the services that we offer.

CHILDREN'S HOME AND AID FAMILY VISITATION CENTER'S PHYSICAL SPACE

Overall features

- Two individual visitation rooms that can be used as exchange spaces or for supervised visitation
- Office space for staff central to visitation area
- Common area with individual restroom, infant changing area, and snack station

Separate entrances and exits

- Located on opposite sides of facility for arrival and departure of each participant
- Front entrance utilized by caregiver, offers private space where children are able to speak individually with visitation monitor and check in with staff

Safety features

- Multiple locked entrances located between entrances and exits that require an access badge and key to enter or exit the visitation/exchange area.

Safety features cont.

- Panic buttons located in each visit room, as well as a mobile panic button to be utilized in the outdoor, fenced in play area that is attached to the facility



this is the family visitation center at Children's Home and Aid in Bloomington

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Children's Home & Aid Program Tour



Thank you for being part of this tour of Children's Home and Aid Family Visitation Center!

Learn more about us at
<https://www.childrenshomeandaid.org/parenting/family-visitation-center/>

We'd love to answer any questions you may have about our services, physical space, or other details.

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