
Safe Haven for Children



Lutheran Social Services of New York's ("LSSNY") [Safe Haven for Children](#) program provides comprehensive, full-time care for children referred by the Office of Refugee Resettlement ("ORR"), which is a part of the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families.

We operate two 11-bed group homes that serve children ages 13 – 17. We have temporary foster care homes for children aged 2 – 12. These children have come without their parents to the United States in hopes of better lives for themselves and to escape community violence.

Most of the children are coming from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. During their journey to the United States, they have been apprehended at the border by the Department of Homeland Security and are placed in the custody of the ORR while their immigration case proceeds in court.

LSSNY's Safe Haven Program identifies and screens sponsors, usually parents or relatives, so that children can be safely released to be cared for in the community while their immigration case proceeds. Children typically stay in our care for 30-45 days before they can be safely released to a sponsor.

For many of these children, our program is the first time that they live in a safe, stable environment, surrounded by adults who nurture and care for them.

The comprehensive care provided by LSSNY includes access to clinical, medical, educational, recreational, and casework services for these minors. Service plans for each of the minors are developed by an Interdisciplinary Team, comprised of an on-site Clinician, Teacher, Case Manager, and Child Care Workers. Case planning is scheduled with the Interdisciplinary Team on a weekly basis to review and plan services based on each child's needs and progress and to ensure each child is learning the skills necessary to become self-sufficient, productive members of the community.

[For more information, or to find out how you can help, please contact:](#)

Christina Rock
Parent Resource Coordinator
Safe Haven for Children
crock@lssny.org | 917.684.8861



**Lutheran Social Services
of New York**
