**KENNETH B. WALKER RESIDENTIAL HOME, INC.**

**Counseling Program Description**

Kenneth B. Walker Residential Home, Inc. (KBW) is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization located in the heart of Columbus, Georgia. Since 2003, KBW Residential Home has been serving the youth of Columbus and surrounding communities as a theradputic residential facility and since expanded to counseling services for youths not only placed with KBW’s residential program but youths in foster care or in the community.

KBW is a contracted provider with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as wrap- around services provider which provides in home intensive services to the entire family in order to prevent home placement disruption. We receive referrals from DJJ and DHS. KBW is a licensed Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Program licensed through Department of Community Health to provide Level III.5 residential treatment and community based outpatient substance abuse treatment and education for adolescents 0-21. KBW is also a contracted Core and IFI provider with Amerigroup Families 360 program.

KBW is governed by a Board of Directors made up of community leaders consisting of educators, local business members and city officials. Our Board of Directors is committed to meeting the needs of youth in our community.

**Mission, Vision and Values**

The mission of KBW is to provide the opportunity for each child to reach his fullest potential in a quality setting that encourages the pursuit of excellence and meets developmental needs.

Our vision is to become the leading agency providing safe, nurturing, and therapeutic services in an effort to decrease the recidivism rate of our youth and help them become productive citizens of our community.

In keeping with our mission and vision, KBW subscribes to a value system that reflects that personal and professional boundaries are central to the mission of KBW. In order to be successful and accountable we must embody the following values:

1. Respect, as evidenced by courteous, professional behavior, tolerance of other’s feelings and recognizing and maintaining professional boundaries.
2. Honesty, as evidenced by establishing trustworthy relationships and being truthful in our words and actions.
3. Responsibility, as evidenced by the demonstrated commitment to those dependent upon us for the completion of personal and professional tasks and goals performed in a courteous manner.
4. Understanding, as evidenced by demonstration of tolerant behaviors toward others and recognizing and supporting the concept of self-determination and the power of human potential.
5. Competence, as evidenced by the demonstration of professional knowledge and skills to contribute to the knowledge base of the home and agency.

KBW is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in both group home care and counseling.

**Philosophy**

KBW believes that counseling is a journey of self-discovery. Through counseling, the therapist and client work together to explore the person’s inner thoughts and processes. The goal is to increase awareness and facilitate change in the client’s thought process.

KBW‘s counseling program is utilized in conjunction with the residential program to assist the agency and the youth in obtaining the overall goal of reducing the recidivism rate.

**Treatment Modality**

KBW operates the program with an evidence based treatment model, Feedback Informed Therapy (FIT). Feedback informed therapy has two outcome measuring components designed to tract the therapeutic relationship between the worker and the residents while providing an indicator of the client’s success in the residential setting. The Outcome Rating Scale and the Session Rating Scale are used to measure the client’s perception of treatment over the previous two weeks.

The origins of FIT trace back to the 1980s and ’90s, when several researchers began tracking therapist effectiveness. However, these researchers mostly worked independently in university settings and administered lengthy instruments that contained upwards of 90 questions, according to Seidel (As you can imagine, these measures weren’t exactly feasible in real-life settings). In the late ‘90s, a group of researchers, including Scott Miller and Barry Duncan, aimed to create several measures that were short enough for therapists to actually use during sessions and comprehensive enough to provide information on how a client was doing and how the therapist was doing in helping them. Today, two of the most popular measures are the Outcome Rating Scale (ORS) and the Session Rating Scale (SRS), which both feature four items. The ORS, which a client completes at the start of a session, asks about their wellbeing. The SRS, which is filled out at the end, asks about the therapist’s performance (Psych Cental.com). The treatment model speculated that the client's feedback determines the measure of success while in residential treatment.

The therapeutic goal of the milieu is predicated upon the evidence-based treatment model, known as Feedback Informed Therapy, formally known as Client Directed Outcome Informed. The treatment model suggests the feedback from the client which guides the success of ten therapeutic relationships or placement success. This is achieved by asserting the client as owner of the process by encouraging full participation as evidenced by the repeated attempts to have the child experience inclusiveness from the intake to treatment team and discharge. The origin of the treatment process is derived from the client’s change theory. The treatment team role is to create an environment in which the client can enact that change theory.

Feedback Income Therapy is included in The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Registry of evidence-based programs and practices. The model offers clinicians and facilities the opportunity to build skills for improving client engagement and eliminate dropout rates. The ability to integrate real time outcomes, improve clinical effectiveness and execute evidence-based plan for improving quality treatment outcomes are benefits experienced by FIT.

FIT has three principal concepts which are (1) to enhance the factors across theories that account for successful outcome; (2) to use the client’s ideas and preferences (theory of change) to guide choice of technique and model; and (3) to inform the work with reliable and valid measures of the client’s experience of the alliance and outcome.

We provide:

* Highly trained professional providers
* Positive peer culture groups
* Peer mediation
* Connectivity of support resources
* An active voice and role for youth to participate in their planning and future.

**Organizational and Program Goals**

Additional therapeutic interventions and treatment environment is governed by the program's adoption of Trauma Informed Care. The greater majority of youth admitted into the residential treatment have experienced some form of childhood trauma including psychological abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, abandonment, harm to a relative, family imprisonment, addiction, grief and involvement with the juvenile justice system. Therefore the treatment team is committed to delivering an environment focused on Trauma Informed Care. Our goals include

1). creating a safe environment for staff and youth, 2). rebuilding attachments with a caring system driven by positive interventions, 3). normalizing or accepting behaviors identified as common among youth exposed to trauma, 4). replacing the maladaptive survival behaviors with healthy coping tools, 5). encouraging youth to exist beyond the survival, grasp their potential, and 6). finally creating that environment of believing in the possibility of change and the change process.

KBW provides individual therapy utilizing the FIT on a weekly basis and groups on a daily basis. KBW partners with licensed therapist and employs experienced staff qualified to provide therapeutic services utilizing this model. Counseling services are provided in the home as well as in the main office. Counseling services are available Monday through Saturday from 8am to 7pm or by appointment.

**Our Community Partners**

Our community partners have committed to supporting KBW by providing counseling services to our youth. Our community partners assist KBW to continue the success of our program.

* The Department of Juvenile Justice
* The Department of Public Health
* The Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
* Resolution Anger Management and Counseling
* Amerigroup Families 360

**Costs for Services**

Families and youth do not pay any fees for counseling services with KBW. Amerigroup Families 360 provides a fee schedule for services. Department of Juvenile Justice provides reimbursement for the warp around services.

**After Hours/ Emergency Contacts**

Clinical Director Rudolph Martin (334) 614-0959

**The following staff are available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week:**

Tim Crumbley @ 706-681-1991 – Chief Executive Officer

Tasha Mahone @ 706-358-9901 – Chief Operations Officer