## **HEARTBEAT OF HOPE**

Spring 2022 Newsletter



#### PROVIDING MENTAL **HEALTH SERVICES**

#### IN THE GREATER MILWAUKEE AREA

Milwaukee is one of the largest cities in the state of Wisconsin, where a significant number of youth and their families need our mental health services. It is important to our mission that every youth who comes to us can break free from generational trauma and heal for generations to come.

We have two mental health facilities in Milwaukee to help youth get through their struggles with depression, anxiety, PTSD, ADHD, trauma, grief, low self-esteem, suicidal thoughts and more.

The first is our Milwaukee Counseling Center, located in Glendale, which offers traditional therapy. At this location, youth work with Rawhide's qualified, licensed therapists who use many therapeutic methods through a trauma-informed lens.

equine-assisted therapy three days a week. Youth who attend equine-assisted therapy sessions often experience breakthroughs in their mental health if they struggle opening up during traditional therapy sessions.

The second is our partnership with the MKE Urban Stables, which offers

**LOCATIONS** 

**Bank Five Nine** 5555 N. Port Washington Road Suite 207, Glendale, WI 53217

- AND -

**MKE Urban Stables** 143 E. Lincoln Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53207°

\*This location also offer CHAPS Equine-Assisted Therapy services

Continued on the next page.

Each youth works with a support team consisting of a therapist, horse handler, horse and, oftentimes, a family member or caregiver.

Unique experiences and special moments happen frequently, thanks to the equine that connect with youth based on their needs. Some horses pair up with youth who have been through sexual abuse, while others connect more with youth who have depression or anxiety.

Equine-assisted therapy consists of activities, such as grooming, haltering and leading the horses, playing games or doing obstacle courses. These interactions encourage youth to build a relationship with the horse by creating, observing, relating or reflecting on what is happening in the arena. After just a session or two, youth begin to feel more comfortable opening up so their therapists can give the youth proper tools to heal. Through the deep connections with their therapist and horse, youth can build therapeutic relationships necessary to increase their overall success in each session.

Having traditional and equine modalities in an urban setting brings a unique option to the Greater Milwaukee area. Our therapists are available and ready to work with you!

Want to meet with one of our amazing and caring therapists at our Milwaukee Counseling Centers?

Scan the QR code or call 1-877-300-9101 to schedule an appointment!





**Jazmin Binns**MSW, CAPSW



Samantha Jamrozik
MS, LPC-IT, NCC



**Becca Kisley** MS, LPC, SAC

#### DEAR RAWHIDE FRIENDS,

## According to the World Health Organization, there has been a 25% increase in anxiety and depression since 2020.

That means the need for therapy services has significantly increased in our own communities. The Rawhide team is here to be a leader in mental health by providing traditional, occupational and equine therapies to boys and girls at our eight counseling centers around the state.

In 2022, we will focus on expanding our reach to as many youth as possible to provide the behavioral and emotional support they need. It is never too late to start healing, and our hearts and services are here to make a difference.

We are excited to host four fish fry events and a Polynesian Paradise themed The Main Event Gala! We also look forward to opening our newest residential home, the Starr Youth Home, which is named after our beloved co-founders, Bart and Cherry Starr.

The year has started off strong and we are excited to see where it takes us!

God bless,

Alan B. Loux

ala B. Long

President and CEO, Rawhide Youth Services

## WE WANT TO SEE FAMILIES THRIVE

#### SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING

Rawhide offers school-based counseling in 16 schools across four school districts in Milwaukee, New London, Fond du Lac and North Fond du Lac.

Our highly qualified therapists help heal our youth in the following schools:

#### Fond du Lac

Evans Elementary School Fond du Lac High School Pier Elementary School Roberts Elementary School Sabish Middle School STEM Academy Woodworth Middle School

#### North Fond du Lac

Bessie Allen Middle School Friendship Learning Center Horace Mann High School

#### Milwaukee

Milwaukee Academy of Science



#### **New London**

New London High School New London Middle School Sugar Bush Elementary School Parkview Elementary School Readfield Elementary School





#### PARTNERSHIP IN YOUTH DIVERSION (PIYD)

Our Green Bay Counseling Center has also partnered with Brown County and the Brown County Public School District to offer the Youth Justice Diversion Program (YJDP). This program helps youth overcome their struggles with mental health and/or substance abuse by improving healthy family engagement. Through therapy and education, we are committed to the safety, rehabilitation and success of all youth and their families to build a stronger community.

Through this special program, Rawhide offers an established, evidence-based curriculum to:

- Reduce truancy rates
- Strengthen family relationships
- Reduce Brown County juvenile justice referrals
- Strengthen community partnerships with families
- Provide mental health and AODA intervention and support
- Promote the safety and welfare of families and their communities
- Offer a comprehensive system of care through resource and referral sources

Our mental health services and AODA intervention opportunities strive to help divert students from future criminality and reduce the number of referrals that go to protective services and youth justice through sessions that are at home, in school or virtual.

We look forward to growing these relationships and building our partnerships with more Wisconsin schools and counties in the future!





#### STARR YOUTH HOME PROGRESS



#### The Starr Youth Home

Our Starr Youth Home is nearly complete! We are excited to welcome 16 new youth to campus soon. This 10,000-square-foot home's open-concept will increase safety, convenience and capacity in a family-centered, therapeutic environment to care for at-risk boys who suffer from severe trauma and abuse.

The modern household is decorated with neutral tones and simple decor to create a cozy atmosphere, where youth will feel safe and right at home. There are 12 bedrooms each with a full, private bathroom. There are single and double bedrooms that can hold up to 16 youth at a time.

We want to thank all our donors who helped make this possible. The Starr Youth Home is expected to open in April.





# FROM STRUGGLANG TO FLAING

## **CURTIS NEVER HAD A STABLE ENVIRONMENT GROWING UP.**

His mom struggled to take care of him in Texas so he was sent to Wisconsin to live with his grandma. Unfortunately, she was also abusive and neglectful. It forced Curtis to grow up quickly. He began taking care of himself at 9 years old, never knowing when he was going to eat next or where he was going to sleep. As a way to deal with his pain and loneliness, he turned to drugs, stealing cars and self-harm.

#### THIS PATH LED HIM TO RAWHIDE.

Once he got settled into his youth home, Curtis realized how lucky he was to be at Rawhide. The staff cared for and encouraged him to finish school. It was the first time he felt hope that he could be a healthy and successful person. Curtis was especially appreciative of the staff who stuck by him through his good and bad days. In therapy, he worked closely with his licensed Rawhide therapist. They met frequently to talk through his struggles and learn tools he could take with him when he faced the struggles of life back home. It helped teach him about his own strength and that he was capable of making healthy decisions for himself.

#### **CURTIS IS DOING WELL IN GEORGIA.**

He is finishing up high school and is taking a welding class to prepare for a future career in the manufacturing industry.

To save money for college, he works two jobs between classes. He also stays in contact once a week with several Rawhide staff who changed his life.

But most importantly, he is making healthy choices and enjoying his life.



## IT'S MORE THAN JUST A CAR... IT'S A LIFELINE.

Comfy, old sedans. Well-worn trucks. Sporty boats and used snowmobiles. Donating used vehicles that have been put on many miles and need repairs to fully function again are similar to youth at Rawhide who have also been moved around a lot and struggled through years of neglect and abuse.

Your used vehicles help raise funds for us to directly impact these at-risk youth who need us the most.

If it ever moved, it can make a difference!

### **DONATE TODAY!**

1-800-RAWHIDE | Rawhide.org/Donate



Rawhide became one of the first organizations in Wisconsin to receive a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) certification through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF). This certification allows us to continue providing the highest quality residential care treatment.

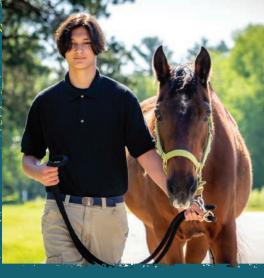
Every organization is required to meet several standardized qualifications, including implementing an evidence-based, trauma-informed care model for treatment. After extensive research, we chose to partner with Cornell University out of New York to implement its evidence-based Children And Residential Experiences (CARE) model. It provides six principles to guide decision-making, considering the best interest of the children and families served. All staff at Rawhide, no matter their role, will be participating in the CARE training so everyone is equally educated on trauma-informed care.

Thank you to everyone on staff who helped us implement this wonderful program to our organization.

Scan the OR Code for more information or call 1-800-RAWHIDE.









#### 2021 BASKETBALL SEASON

CONGRATS TO THE YOUTH WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE STARR ACADEMY ALL-STARRS BASKETBALL TEAM.

We had a great season with themed nights and wonderful sponsors.







## UPCOMING EVENTS

Fish Fry Dinners: Every 3rd Friday June-September

Starr Youth Home Open House: Coming in April

The Main Event Gala: May 19, 2022

Tours & Café 15 Lunch: Available during business hours

Can't make it to these events but still want to support us? **SCAN TO DONATE.** 





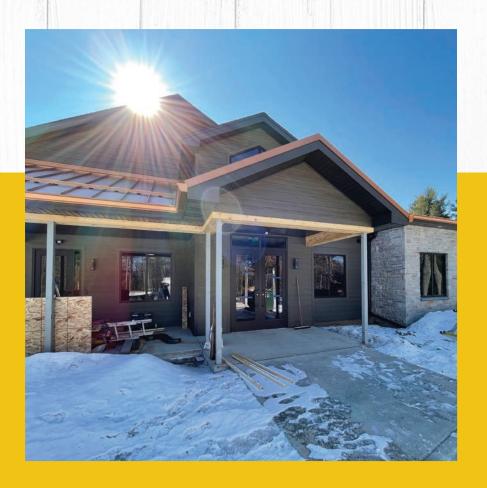
#### NEWEST RESIDENTIAL HOME TO OPEN SOON!

See inside.

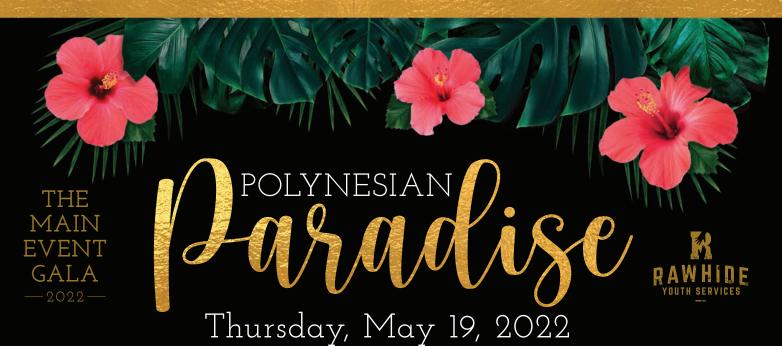
#### **Rawhide Youth Services**

E7475 Rawhide Road New London, WI 54961

1-800-RAWHIDE | Rawhide.org



## SAVE THE DATE!



Doors open at 5:30 p.m. • Lambeau Field Atrium in Green Bay

Learn more at RawhideGala.givesmart.com