

A Word From the Executive Director



Dear friends and family of Third Way Center,

Happy New Year!

“It always seems impossible, until it is done.” - Nelson Mandela

That is the truth. Anything worth doing takes time, persistence, energy, and focus- and maybe some luck. We live in a world where there is so much confusion, so many choices, so much information, so much divisiveness -and kids need parenting and guidance, as well as mental health treatment. It is all connected. It is all important. That is the beauty of residential treatment; it is not one thing or another, it is all of it.

There is no question, this work, with these kids, in this culture, in this system, is an uphill battle. We know that our most precious resources for the future, our children, especially children in care, are at risk. They are at risk of hurting themselves, hurting others, committing crimes, lacking the ability to care for themselves, or being chronically ill, dependent, or homeless. The job to overcome seems impossible at times. To take the hardest of clients, and somehow make it safe enough to do the really hard work, to face what they need to face, to help the families heal enough to provide what they need for a safe return home, is not easy work. And oftentimes, the kids in placement do not have homes to go to. And in all of this, there is opportunity.

Our system is broken. The system of care is not supportive of the therapeutic process. We need to work together more than ever. We need to rise above all the obstacles; we need to keep taking kids into care who are hurting the most, who are needing the most. We know that words only have meaning if they inspire action. This is true in every aspect of our lives. The truth, no matter how painful, gives hope, because then we can figure out what to do about it.

On behalf of all of us at Third Way Center, I want to thank you for all you have done

this year to help the youth at Third Way succeed. Your commitment to Third Way Center's mission truly makes a difference.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Renee