

CHILDREN'S AID AND FAMILY SERVICES

SITE NAME: Children's Aid and Family Services

LOCATION: Paramus, NJ

CONTACT PERSON: Mya Martinez, Assistant Director of Human Resources

CONTACT INFORMATION: 201.261.2800 ext.220, mmartinez@cafsnj.org

AGENCY DESCRIPTION: Children's Aid and Family Services preserves, protects and, when needed, provides families. Motivated by compassion for vulnerable children, young adults, frail elderly and their families, we provide high quality and innovative services that meet their social, educational and emotional needs.

Programs and Services:

Adolescent Group Homes

Three group homes in **Bogota**, **Park Ridge**, and **Ridgewood** (Bergen County) provide vulnerable adolescents ages 13 to 18 with 24-hour supervised residential care and treatment, as well as nurturing environments that encourage full participation in local community, civic, and religious activities.

Pre-Adoptive Treatment Homes

This innovative program helps severely traumatized children, under age 12, who are eligible for adoption, to regain their capacity to trust and love. Through intensive therapeutic residential care, boys and girls receive treatment, nurturing, and social skill training to prepare them for adoption. The homes-one for girls and one for boys-are located in **Paramus** and **Ridgewood** (Bergen County).

Employment and Life Skills

Mentoring: Self-esteem building-based mentoring is provided for our younger children ages 5-12, while strength-based mentoring is offered to our adolescents. Through supportive one-on-one relationships, mentors effect positive changes in our younger children's lives by building close and trusting connections. For our older children, mentors and adolescents are matched according to talents and interests.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Group Homes Program - Provides a therapeutic environment for children and adolescents living in a group home setting. Residents range in age from 4 to 18 years of age. Children's Aid and Family Services currently has four homes. We accept a limited number of interns to work in our younger homes (PATH Program/direct care) during the summer. This is a paid internship.

During the academic year (September - May) Children's Aid and Family Services accepts two interns to work in our case management division of the group homes program and accepts interns interested in gaining experience in direct care.

Youth Support Services - This program supports all of our adolescents in our out of home care programs and in the near future will support the young adults that are aging out of the DYFS

system. This program works on independent living & social skills, houses our mentor program and helps coordinate prevention programs.

Baby Basics Program - Provides basic necessities for infants - two years of age to low income families. Works with volunteers and coordinates fundraising activities to benefit the program.