

# Pendleton Place focuses on the child and family

By Laurie Rovin

**W**e know that the prosperous future of Greenville is dependent upon how we raise our children in the present. And, in order for children to become contributing members of our community, they need to grow up in nurturing, safe homes.

At Pendleton Place for Children and Families (PPCF) we are working on just that. Our work is no longer centered on just the foster child; we want to focus on supporting and healing the whole child — and their family — whether they are part of the foster care system or not. Hence, our mission is to keep children safe and support families in crisis through prevention, assessment and intervention.

Together, we are leading the way by financially and emotionally investing in our future — our children. In 2011, Pendleton Place began a journey of creative and necessary transformation. We learned that in order to be accountable

to our donors and partners, we needed to step back and assess our value to helping children touched by abuse and neglect. We needed to talk with community stakeholders, examine community needs and identify service gaps that we felt our expertise could fill.

Our success is your success. Faced with challenges in 2011, we could have experienced dire results. Thank you 2011 Wade Hampton High School students, Arizona's Children's Charities, Greenville Women Giving, Synnex Share the Magic, United Way of Greenville County and other local donors for investing in our infrastructure which allowed us the time to carefully assess where our organization could be most valuable in today's changing child welfare world.

2013 was a good year for PPCF. We became nationally accredited, validating our hard work to create high quality, impactful programming. With accreditation, Pendleton Place made an agency-wide commitment to producing and sharing

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Laurie Rovin is executive director of Pendleton Place for Children and Families. For more information go to [www.pendletonplace.org](http://www.pendletonplace.org).

outcomes with our donors and community partners. As such we don't want to just do more of the same; we are committed to changing the game for our community's youth. This requires innovation at the program level and investments at

the local, state and federal level.

Through your investments, we have transformed our program services, moving from a 100 percent residential and short-term emergency care organization to a multi-program service delivery agency. Today, our campus is comprised of three buildings, and, three main programs (25 percent residential care for youth in foster care and 75 percent community based services, to include youth aging out of the foster care system).

Our programs include: (1) John I. Smith Supportive Services is comprised of a 10-bed girls home for abused and neglected youth, as well as targeted case management services for at-risk community youth to help them achieve success. (2) The Family & Child Assessment Center (FCAC) is a collaborative effort led by PPCF, Greenville County Department of Social Services, Greenville Health System Children's Hospital and United Way of Greenville

County that provides comprehensive assessment to children and families entering the foster care system. (3) Family Bridges offers supervised family visitation and safe custody exchange services for non-custodial parents with court ordered visitation, as well as a free parenting group utilizing an evidenced based model called Parents Anonymous.

Founded in 1975 by the Junior League of Greenville, Pendleton Place for Children and Families intends to continue providing innovative and collaborative services that will build a community where children are safe, families are strong and victims become whole again. I invite you to visit our website, watch our mission video and learn more about our programs.

We welcome your investment in our organization. Call us for a tour. If you know someone who needs help, please send them our way through [www.pendletonplace.org](http://www.pendletonplace.org) or 864.467.3650.