



THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

Helping Children Thrive with “Families First” Initiatives

At Hillside, we know every child deserves a family. A safe, stable family environment is the surest setting in which a young person can thrive. Because those settings can take myriad forms, we’re developing and delivering innovative services that restore vulnerable family bonds and build new ones.

Our commitment is only increasing to an array of initiatives that yield improved care models and more positive outcomes:

Parents as Teachers supports the concept that moms and dads are their child’s first educators. This evidence-based program helps participating parents learn to anticipate developmental milestones in their children—from birth to 5 years—resulting in measurable long-term improvement in family bonding and other vital areas.

Hillside’s innovative Family Finding program has shown remarkable promise, and is being emulated statewide. This program uses a combination of rigorous community outreach and careful interventions to help form new, lasting connections between youth in our care and long-separated family members.

Foster care placements are needed in unprecedented numbers. Hillside is spreading the word like never before for qualified, committed families in all regions served by Hillside. Our recruitment, screening and wraparound services offer support to committed, caring families with room in their homes and in their hearts for a young person in need.

Through these and other programs and techniques, Hillside is at the forefront of the evolving field of child-and-family services. But approaches like these require support not readily budgeted in traditional public program fees. Visionary philanthropy is making the difference in our ability to rise to help children find the homes—and the stronger futures—they deserve.

Benefits of “Families First” Initiatives

- Helping vulnerable young people **rebuild lasting connections** with biological relatives has been clinically proven to reduce a child’s sense of loneliness and isolation, and increase their hope for the future. These are key factors in improved life outcomes.
- For youth unable to reconnect with their biological families, **increased access to caring and stable foster home placements** can have an invaluable impact on their future outcomes—making them less likely to be reliant on public supports, and more likely to contribute significantly to their communities.
- The Parents as Teachers model has been proven to increase parents’ knowledge of early childhood development, provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, prevent child abuse and neglect, and **improve school readiness and academic success**.



“Family Finding is one of dozens of Hillside programs that provide coordinated support to countless children, adults and families in need. Hillside is uniquely positioned to affect positive change—with your help.”

*Marsha Whitley
Director, Hillside Institute
for Family Connections™*

The Impact of Your Support

Hillside programs and services make a powerful, proven difference for vulnerable young people and families. Your philanthropic support of Hillside’s mission makes you a partner in our work to change individual lives and strengthen whole communities.

By supporting Hillside, you’re helping us expand and sharpen these “Families First” initiatives that provide greater developmental stability for children in need.