

Plummer Youth Promise

Family for Everyone



Every young person has a family unconditionally committed to nurture, protect and guide them to successful adulthood.

Young people who leave the foster care or juvenile justice system without safe, stable, permanent family connections face grim outcomes, including high rates of homelessness, unemployment, early parenting and lack of education.

Plummer Youth Promise is changing that by deeply and effectively engaging families for each young person we serve while building their skills and community connections, and by sharing our knowledge with others.



Permanency Strategies

FAMILY SEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

We find and engage parents and family to decrease a youth's loneliness, strengthen their sense of identity and belonging, increase their family network and develop a relationship with a safe, emotionally secure, permanent parent. When no biological parent or relative can provide that, we expand their family network by identifying other caring adults.



YOUTH-GUIDED, FAMILY-DRIVEN TEAMING

Youth voice and active participation is critical in planning for a young person's family relationships and future. We build a team around each youth, prioritizing parents, relatives and other caring adults and driving the process toward a family outcome. Our teaming approach includes key professionals and addresses all areas of youth safety, permanency and well-being. The goal is a safe and permanent parent for each youth, with a network of lifelong family relationships and supports that sustain success beyond discharge from the child welfare system to family.

PERMANENCY READINESS

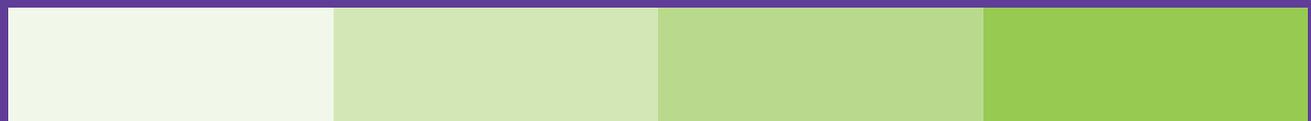
Addressing readiness for permanency from both the youth's and the family's perspectives, and developing a plan that includes informal and formal supports, is essential to preventing a future re-entry to the child welfare system. We help youth clarify past events, experiences and relationships, preparing them to live with and/or be part of a lifelong family. We prepare the adults to safely parent and/or sustain family relationships by helping them understand the impact of trauma and access the needed services and supports. We also help the adults to recognize and feel successful managing challenging behaviors that often result from a youth's life experience, enabling them to make an informed, unconditional and lifelong commitment to the youth.

**“I’d been looking and looking for him.
But he found me first. And I was so happy”**

— Mother reconnected with her son after he spent 16 years in foster & group care

Progress in the Face of Adversity

*Permanency is assessed at intake and a **1-4** rating is assigned. We review data about each young person quarterly to assess progress toward permanency.*



1 No family connections and no understanding of the need for family.

Safe, emotionally secure parenting relationship in a life long, legal family. **4**

“These are the only pictures I have of me and my dad. I’m going to bring them to school so when I feel mad, I can look at them.”

— 14-year-old girl, talking through tears after seeing her Dad for the first time in more than 7 years



“Plummer was my family until they set me up
to not need them to be my family.”

— 19-year-old young man who spent 10 years in foster and group care



■ **“I didn’t know I had a sister.”**

— 16-year-old girl who’d been in foster or group care for 5 years

Progress in the Face of Adversity

*Our residential programs serve young people, ages **13-22**.
Upon arrival at Plummer, they've:*

Spent an average of **5 years** in the child welfare system. That's **1,825 childhood days** without a permanent family.

Been moved an average of 8 times. In FY 17, one of our teens had been **moved 27 times** in his short life.



61%

61% leave Plummer having a safe, emotionally secure parenting relationship.

“What helped me the most was the day you gave me pictures of my mother, brother and sister. I was so worried about them every day.”

— *12-year-old boy who hadn't seen his mother or siblings since he was 5*

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

(978) 744-1099 x124

- **Group Home:**
Young men ages 13-18
- **Supported Apartment:**
Young men ages 16-22
- **Community Apartments:**
Young men or women ages 18-22

FOSTER CARE

(978) 935-9555 x101

Boys and girls ages birth – 22

INTENSIVE PERMANENCY SERVICES

(978) 744-1099 x130

Permanency services provided to young people living in non-Plummer, congregate care settings

PERMANENCY PRACTICE LEADERSHIP

(978) 744-1099 x124

Consultation and training on permanency best practices

ONPOINT

(781) 710-0865
or (978) 594-1657

Collaboration among Plummer Youth Promise, Essex County Juvenile Probation and Salem Police; designed to keep young people from entering detention.

Plummer Youth Promise *Family for Everyone*



“You have to have family. You have to have loved ones that love you.”

— 16-year-old boy who ultimately spent 17 years in foster and group care