



Looking Glass
Youth & Family Services

Administrative Office

Looking Glass Programs

Counseling Services

- Counseling Program
- Adolescent Recovery Program
- Crisis Response Program

Runaway & Homeless Services

- Station 7 Program
- New Roads Program
- Rural Program

Education & Vocational Services

- Riverfront School & Career Center
- Center Point School
- New Roads School

Residential Services

- Pathways Boys Program
- Pathways Girls Program
- Intensive Treatment Services Program
- Stepping Stone Program
- Parole Revocation Diversion Program

Dear Members of the State School Funding Task Force:

The Looking Glass Stepping Stone program has a long term care and treatment (LTCT) educational program that is serving over 20 youth per year. These are youth that have experienced trauma in their lives that has resulted in their need for intensive treatment in this residential program.

The students in our LTCT school nearly all come from backgrounds of poverty and instability. They have often changed schools frequently and/or missed class time. Most are significantly behind grade level when they come to our program. We employ certified special education teachers, along with classroom aides and behavior support specialists for these students. They receive intensive trauma-informed, evidence-based behavioral/emotional therapy in connection with their intensive academic program. These service integrations are necessary and quite effective.

Our program has a success rate of over 80%. Most students make significant academic progress, often times making up 1 or more grade levels before they graduate our service. Successful school placement transitions are an essential part of our program.

Please move these students into the State School Funding formula and provide funding increases that are closer to the cost of care. These are among the most vulnerable and most challenged students in our state. Providing resources to proven, successful LTCT educational services for these youth saves us all money in the short and long term. And it truly helps save the future for these students.

Thank you.

Craig Opperman
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A United Way Agency

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