

About the New Beginnings Transit Home

The New Beginnings Transit Home is a temporary residential placement of safety for children between the ages of 0-18 years who are victims of child abuse, neglect and who are in need of care and protection. Children are placed at the Home via a Court Order from the Magistrate of Family Court.

We operate on a planned referral basis preparing Children to move on to permanent placements within **one year**. It is sincerely hoped that Children will move onto permanent placements in a shorter time frame (six months). However, there is recognition that support resources and placement options especially for the older children are not always forthcoming. We support these placements by working in partnership with The Division of Human Services. We work in partnership with parents and with other agencies using clear service plans for all of our Children which are regularly monitored and reviewed. The staff team is dedicated to working in a solution focused, trauma informed way and recognizes the essential need for staff to build positive relationships with the Children.

Our anti-discriminatory practice respects individual needs and backgrounds by promoting positive attitudes towards health, disability, religions, cultures, ethnicity, language, sex, sexuality and marital status in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Children and Young Persons Act 1972.

Our aim is to enable Children to develop their full potential and their sense of self-worth by meeting their individual needs. We do this by improving their social skills and their ability to help themselves.

We help Children come to terms with their situations and prepare them for moving on by acknowledging their difficult times and concentrating on finding creative solutions to their problems.

The Transit Home is an excellent example of this enhancement and Government's commitment to implement the ideals within the reformed legislation.

“The increase in incidences of Child Abuse and Neglect in Saint Lucia continues to be a serious concern for practitioners, policy makers and society at large. Issues of poverty, illness or death of a parent, parental migration, lack of parenting skills, teenage pregnancy, corporal punishment, drug addiction and mental illness, are some of the factors that have been attributed to the increase in incidences of child abuse and neglect.”¹

Mission Statement

“We provide good care in a safe home environment to develop the full potential of each Child by focusing on their physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being, and maintaining links with their families”.

What We Do

Transit Home New Beginnings provide the following services:

- Residential Placement
- Parenting Programme
- Clinical Interventions
- Case Management by Social Worker

- Group Counseling
- Behavior Modification Program
- Educational Support and After School Support
- Volunteer Program
- Mentorship Program
- Birthday Club

Some Objectives:

- To Provide a temporary place of safety for children at risk
- To provide a cadre of trained workers capable of providing emotional support, and skills to help prepare children for their eventual reintegration into their families and communities.
- To begin the healing process for children in crisis by providing them with counseling and other therapeutic interventions
- To reduce the intergenerational cycle of child abuse

Voices of the Children

- “I really appreciate everything you are doing for me. Even if I don’t show that I appreciate it, I do. You the best persons in my life. I want to thank you so much.”

- “Not for what I have done and for what I will ever be, will never change the way yall are to me. I really want to say that I had a good time and you were really looking for the best in me. I am sorry for all the mistakes I’ve made here and willing to change, I will always remember everyone at the Transit Home and keep you in memories for you are the people who cherished and loved me.”

- “What made me happy was being taken care of by staff. Being looked after. I enjoyed working with the children as a family.”

- “Thanks for all that you’ve done for me from the time that I’ve been here.”