



Rebuilding Children's Lives

BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA

A community campus providing a safe, loving environment and an exceptional education for children in need.



A Guide for Referring Children to New Song Mission



The New Song Campus

New Song Mission is a new and extraordinary resource for Indiana children who are struggling. Modeled after nonprofit community campuses across the country, the New Song campus is unique to Indiana, offering long-term, comprehensive residential care to children in need.

New Song's 100 acre community campus is located in the scenic hills of Brown County, Indiana. In this beautiful setting we provide at-risk children a safe, loving, family-like environment and an enriching educational experience. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, New Song is completely funded through the generosity of individuals, businesses, foundations, and churches.



Unique characteristics. Some of the unique features of New Song are:

- Voluntary enrollment which is free to parents
- Private placement by parents, grandparents, and guardians
- A beautiful 100 acre campus with several homes, a recreational park, a 2 acre pond, a brownstone-lined creek, and more than a mile of hiking and biking trails
- Family-like homes and a supportive community
- Full-time, nurturing houseparents who unconditionally love the children
- An individualized Plan of Care tailored to meet the needs of each child
- An exceptional, on-site education
- Extensive pre-service and in-service staff training
- Regular, flexible visitation schedules for parents, grandparents, or guardians
- Completely funded through the generous financial support of donors
- Multi-year care for kids who lack adequate family support structures
- Holistic, compassionate care
- Oversight by a multi-disciplinary board of directors

***Every child deserves
a nurturing family.***



Experience and training. With 25 years of experience in child advocacy, social work, foster parenting, and juvenile justice, the leadership of New Song has carefully developed its programs and educational system to meet the specific needs of the children we serve. Houseparents, teachers, and other direct care staff participate in a significant 40 hour training program which helps equip them to address the special needs of the children who are in our care. Periodic in-service training is also provided throughout the year. Staff training includes information on the following topics:

- Abuse and trauma
- Neglect
- Separation and attachment
- Poverty
- Love and Logic (child management coaching)
- Mindset (de-escalation strategies)
- Fatherlessness
- Cultural awareness
- Concepts in Christian counseling
- CPR and First Aid



Grassroots organization. From its very inception, New Song has received substantial, invaluable assistance from a broad-based network of volunteers. Professional architects, civil engineers, and skilled tradesmen donated countless hours in designing and building the campus, with the much-needed help of hundreds of volunteer workers. Educators, counselors, recreational therapists, and others provided exceptional insights in the development of New Song's programs and academics. And dozens of churches from a variety of denominations came together to provide significant financial assistance. We remain very grateful for ongoing partnerships with friends and supporters from across the state.





Families and Programs

The children at New Song live with full-time, supportive husband and wife married couples who are trained to meet the needs of at-risk children and youth. Our houseparents provide the love and support children need in order to thrive, giving them an important opportunity to bond with healthy, responsible adults.

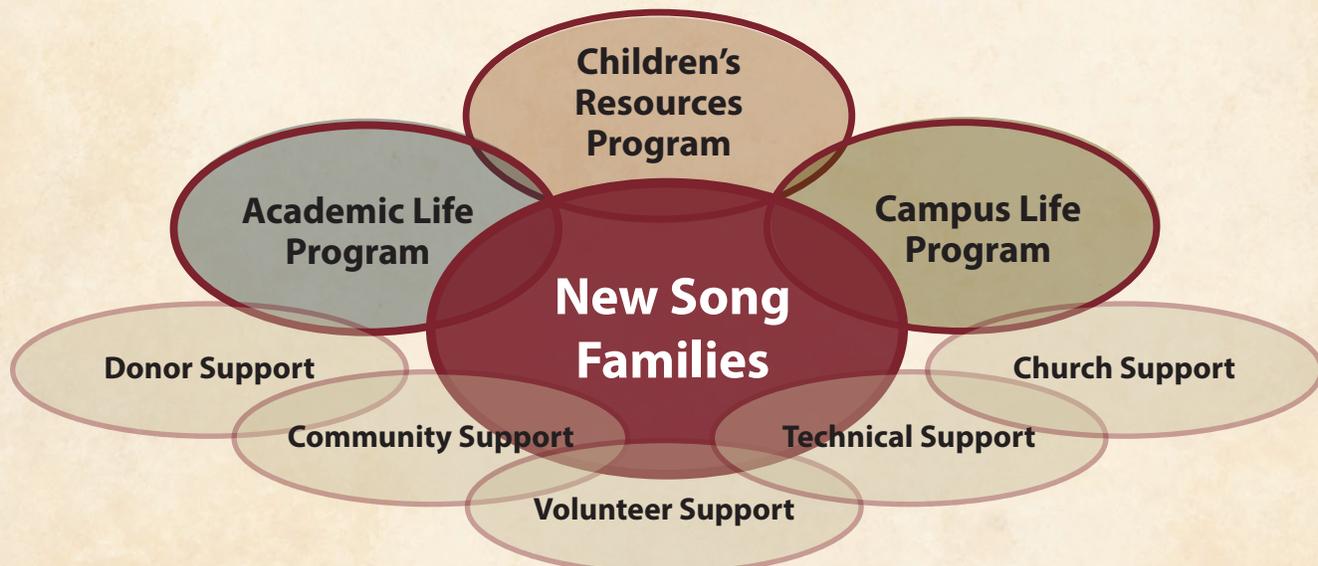
Children on campus live in attractive ranch-style homes with walk-out basements. Each home includes a large living room, a spacious kitchen, seven bedrooms, and a study for counseling or homework. Up to eight kids live in each home, generally two children per bedroom.

The following three key program areas support the New Song families: Academic Life Program, Children's Resources Program, and Campus Life Program.

Academic Life Program. New Song's on-site educational program has been created utilizing advice and ideas from dozens of Indiana educators. Our strategy with students is to provide them with highly individualized instruction led by licensed teachers who are uniquely gifted and trained to work with students who have emotional and educational deficits.

The lower level of each home is reserved for education, with both a classroom and an adjoining hands-on activity room included in the large, walk-out basement. New Song teaches children to the Indiana Department of Education State Standards.

Children's Resources Program. New Song uses a full spectrum of services to help the children in our care. These include academic and social assessments, a comprehensive Plan of Care, uniquely trained houseparents and support staff, and the services of independent child therapists, when necessary.



Family Programs and Support System



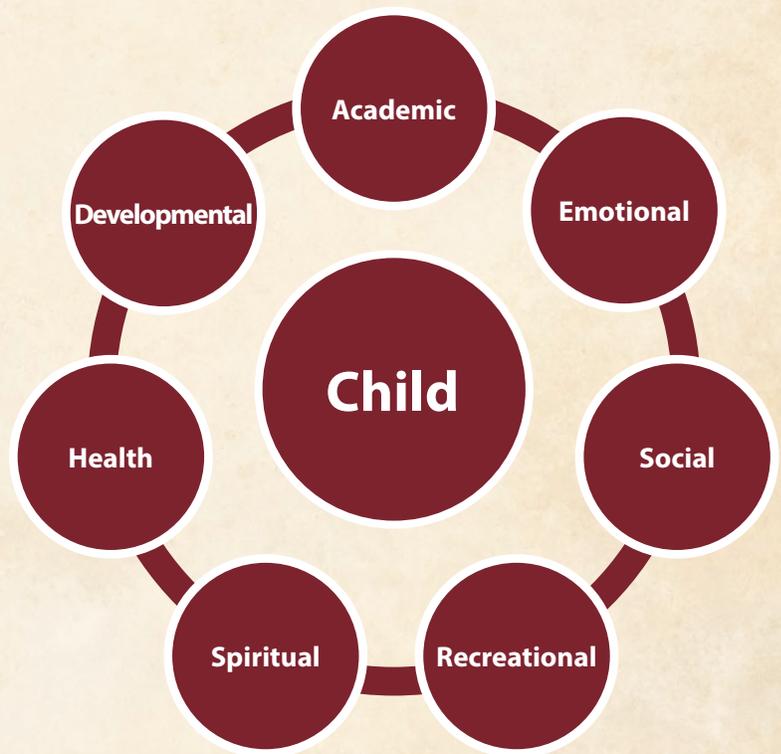
Each child at New Song has an integrated Plan of Care designed to guide houseparents, teachers, and support staff in helping the child reach his or her personal goals and potential. The Plan of Care is designed by an interdisciplinary team of New Song staff members, along with the child and his or her current caregivers. The Plan of Care provides a comprehensive framework for holistically caring for each individual child.

Campus Life Program. One of the wonderful benefits for the children who live at New Song is the ministry's scenic setting in the hills of Brown County. Our beautiful 100 acre campus includes several large homes, a recreational park, a pond for fishing and canoeing, a creek, and wooded trails for hiking and biking. At New Song, kids are provided with a wonderful environment in which to learn, live, and grow!

Living on the New Song campus helps kids develop a meaningful sense of belonging, and also instills in them the importance of personal responsibility that comes from being an important member of a broader campus community.

Recreational opportunities on campus include organized activities, informal games, hiking on trails, team sports, participating in the arts and music, developing personal hobbies, therapeutic physical activities, and simply relaxing in nature. Off-campus outings such as educational field trips, church youth group outings, and cultural experiences like local plays and musical concerts are also an important part of the kids' experience at New Song. We believe that it is extremely valuable to provide kids with a wide variety of enriching activities to meet the developmental needs of children of all ages.

As a Christian ministry, the spiritual life of the children and youth we serve is very important to us. We want kids to experience the gentle, caring, compassion of God through the knowledge of Christ Jesus as we believe that there is no greater comfort and joy than personally knowing the Lord. It is out of our faith in Christ that we love and serve children in need, and we hope to be good Christian role models in every interaction with the kids who are in our care.



Holistic Care for Children



Parent, Grandparent, and Guardian Involvement

Parents, grandparents, and guardians voluntarily apply for the enrollment of their children at New Song, and they remain involved in their children's lives through regular visitation, phone contact, and correspondence. New Song's goal in enrollment is to select those children who can best be helped by the love, care, education, and programs we offer.

Kids best served. At New Song, we have a tender heart for all children in need, but we realize that we are a better fit for some kids than others. The children and youth we can best help have several of the following issues and characteristics in their lives:

- Poverty
- Fatherless
- Unstable housing
- Emotional and behavioral issues
- At risk of abuse, neglect, or delinquency
- Educational deficits
- IQs of 80 or more
- 5-15 years old (at age of enrollment)

(At this time we are unable to care for children who have severe symptoms of reactive attachment disorder, serious mental illnesses, violent tendencies, or those who have sexually abused others.)

Enrollment process. The New Song enrollment team is led by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. The enrollment process generally involves the following four steps:

1. Parents, grandparents, or guardians are referred to New Song Mission
2. Parents, grandparents, or guardians contact New Song's enrollment coordinator
3. Enrollment application and other paperwork is submitted

4. Enrollment interview is held, information is reviewed, and a determination is made in the best interests of the child

Parent, grandparent, or guardian empowerment. Caregivers who are chronically living in a state of crisis and whose children need out-of-home care oftentimes feel like they have no options for their children. Though they genuinely love and care about their kids, they frequently lack the resources or extended family to provide them with safe, alternative care. By giving parents, grandparents, and guardians a positive choice, New Song is empowering them with a new opportunity for their child.

Visitation. The separation of a child and his or her parent or caregiver is very difficult. We have empathy for each person involved in the enrollment of a child at New Song, and we will help to maintain a positive relationship between children and their parents, grandparents, or guardians. Coordinating safe and consistent visitation is a significant priority of New Song. At the beginning of a child's enrollment, a visitation schedule is established in the initial Plan of Care, with input from the parent or caregiver who is involved.



Periodic reporting. Parents, grandparents, and guardians have the right to know how their child is progressing while in the care of New Song Mission. Reports are prepared and provided on a monthly basis. In addition, New Song leadership and staff regularly communicate with parents, grandparents, and guardians to keep them updated.

Length of stay. We realize that each child's situation and needs are different, so the time children live at New Song will vary. We generally feel that the longer a child remains in our care, the better the future of that child will be. The minimum length of stay is one year, and we offer many kids the opportunity to grow up on the New Song campus throughout their childhood years.

How to Refer Families to New Song Mission

Referring parents, grandparents, and guardians to New Song. Perhaps one of the most beneficial, life-changing things you could do for a child is to refer that child's parent, grandparent, or guardian to New Song Mission. If you currently know of a child or sibling group whose caregiver is unable to raise the children due to the caregiver's physical, emotional, or mental health difficulties, please consider referring them to New Song.

Below are some ways that you can refer parents, grandparents, and guardians to New Song Mission.

1. Provide them with New Song's phone number and email address: 812-372-1004, info@NewSongMission.org
2. Provide them with New Song's website: www.NewSongMission.org
3. Give them a Parent Brochure



4. Schedule a phone conference with a New Song representative
5. Bring them to see the New Song campus

Providing compassionate care for children in need.

The vision of New Song Mission is to rebuild the lives of children who are suffering so that they will feel loved and become fully equipped to fulfill God's wonderful purpose for their lives. We invite you to visit our campus or talk with a New Song representative to experience and learn first-hand about the compassionate care that New Song provides to some of our state's most vulnerable children.

Thank you. New Song Mission is a source of hope, healing, and encouragement for children in need. We thank you in advance for considering referring parents, grandparents, and guardians to New Song, and we look forward to a strong partnership with you, for the sake of kids.



"New Song's philosophy and approach to children in need would be a tremendous gift to any child who has survived difficulties such as neglect, abuse, drug/alcohol addiction or abandonment. I have worked with many children surviving desperate and volatile situations over the years, and they make incredible progress when they are safe, nurtured, have hope and feel valued. Many of them have never been exposed to any spirituality in their home environment and therefore have a difficult time imagining that they are loveable and then later have difficulty functioning as a teenager with no basis for their morality or their beliefs or decision making. New Song provides the priceless gift of a safe haven where spirituality can be introduced and developed in a child while surrounding them with love and life skills to build a life of success. I am thrilled to know that New Song is an innovative placement resource available for the children and families I work with, whom often have few placement options, especially in Southern Indiana."

Lynn Minton, LCSW, ACSW
Director/Therapist
Life Solutions
Bedford, IN

"It is evident to me that the leadership of New Song has thoroughly researched and carefully planned the establishment of this remarkable children's home community. That New Song is a nonprofit organization operating free from tax payer funds while having the best interests of children is very commendable, and the organization certainly has my respect and admiration. I am personally very confident that New Song Mission is providing a credible and much needed option to parents who are unable to care for their children."

Greg Walker, State Senator
Bartholomew County, Indiana

Rebuilding children's lives, through the love of Christ Jesus.



Mailing Address:
PO Box 488
Nashville, IN 47448

Administrative Office:
4640 Progress Drive
Columbus, IN 47201
812-372-1004

New Song Mission is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Christian organization serving disadvantaged and at-risk children of Indiana.
For more information, you may email New Song at info@NewSongMission.org

www.NewSongMission.org