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December 11, 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Temporary Housing for Boys & Girls Haven Teens Displaced by Fire

Boys & Girls Haven Pre-Independent Living Program prepares to welcome young people into newly furnished, temporary housing after the program lost apartment building to accidental fire.

Louisville, KY – After a devastating kitchen fire destroyed the Boys & Girls Haven Pre-Independent Living (Pre-IL) building two weeks ago, the 501c3 non-profit agency is now prepared to move the teens into temporary apartments.

“For the last two weeks, our young people have slept on cots inside individual tents in our campus gym,” says Boys & Girls Haven CEO, Read Harris. “On Wednesday, we are excited to help these teens move back into an apartment setting. It will certainly be a welcome change.”

The Boys & Girls Haven Pre-IL Program is one of the few transitional, supportive living programs for boys and girls in foster care in the state of Kentucky. The program offers fully staffed and supervised dorm style living to provide young adults, aged 17-21, with the independence, accountability, and support needed to successfully transition from foster care to adulthood. Before the fire, each participant in the program had a private, one-bedroom apartment and access to 24/7 on-site youth counselors to provide guidance and care.

For the last two weeks, a top priority for Boys & Girls Haven included finding a temporary living space while the agency determines the feasibility and timeline for recovery of the burned apartment building. “In order to meet the specific needs of our Pre-IL Program, we had to find a compact living space to keep all of our kids together,” says Read. “At this time, the young people will be sharing bedrooms in one and two bedroom apartments not far from our residential campus,” says Read. “The specific location of the apartments allows our staff to continue to provide 24/7 care to the kids.”

Read also notes that the outpouring of support from the community made such a quick turnaround possible. “Thanks to donations from hundreds of compassionate individuals and businesses we will be able to furnish each living space with the essential items our young people lost in the fire. We have everything from towels and sheets, to laundry baskets and kitchen appliances.”

For wishing to assist with the long term recovery period, Boys & Girls Haven is still accepting gift cards, [cash donations](#), and items from their [Amazon Wish List](#) to cover the needs of the teens and the program during the extended recovery period.

[Boys & Girls Haven](#) is a full-service foster care agency located in Louisville, Kentucky. Since 1948, the 501c3 nonprofit has transformed the lives of thousands of abandoned, abused and neglected children by providing stability, education, and life skills that will lead to success in adulthood. We employ a multifaceted, therapeutic approach including residential and in-home foster care, transitional and independent living programs, career and life skills training, preventative community-based counseling services, and a variety of other programs and services.

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