

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

1. How long will I have to remain in placement?

The average length of stay in a residential program is 6 to 7 months, and the remainder of your time is spent in aftercare. Ultimately, your time will depend on your behavior.

2. Where will I sleep while I am in a residential program?

The residential programs are home-like settings. Some have individual rooms while others have dorm-style sleeping.

3. Will I be able to come and go while I am in a residential program?

No. You will not be allowed to leave the non-secure placement residence without permission. The Close to Home residential program staff will determine when you are allowed to leave the program.

MORE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

4. Can I go home or will I be able to receive visits or phone calls while I am in a residential program?

You will be given the opportunity to receive home passes within 30 to 60 days after arriving at the residential program, as well as make phone calls to and receive visits from approved callers/visitors.

5. Who can I talk to if I have a problem with the program?

Your assigned PPS is available to respond to any questions or concerns you may have. You can also request to speak with an ACS Residential Care Advocate by asking your assigned PPS or by calling the ACS Parents' or Children's helpline directly at (212) 676-9421.

6. What kind of programs do you have for youth that identify as LGBTQ?

All of the residential programs are LGBTQ-affirming and can connect you to services or resources to meet your specific needs.

What You Should Know About Close to Home

Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner

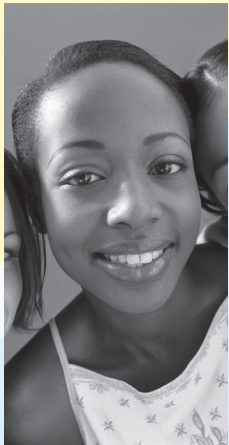
Felipe Franco
Deputy Commissioner

NYC
Administration for
Children's Services



WELCOME TO CLOSE TO HOME

Close to Home allows young people who are found to be responsible in Family Court of committing a delinquent act to receive placement services in a program (in/ or) close to the communities where they live. Placement is a combination of time in a residential program and time in the community (on aftercare) with specialized services and monitoring.



While in a residential placement program, you will:

- attend school located in a stand-alone building or at your facility;
- work toward promotion into/from middle school or earn academic credits that count towards a high school diploma;
- have opportunities to communicate with your family and an attorney;
- receive medical, mental health and/or substance abuse services as needed and;
- participate in positive programming and activities.

WORDS YOU WILL HEAR...

Intake – Once a Family Court judge has given an order for you to be placed with Close to Home, an ACS Intake and Assessment Specialist will gather information about you from different sources, interview you and your family to make sure the information is accurate, and review all of the information, and match you to a provider that can best meet your needs.

PPS – Each young person in placement is assigned an ACS Placement and Permanency Specialist (PPS). The PPS will work with you during placement as well as the Close to Home residential program staff, your family members, community-based programs, and schools to help you stay on track and reach your goals.

Transitional Meeting – Once a decision has been made about which residential program you will be placed in, a meeting is held with you and your family, the Close to Home provider, and the PPS to discuss the placement decision and address any questions.

OTHER WORDS YOU WILL HEAR...

EOP – An Extension of Placement (EOP) is a court proceeding that extends the amount of time a young person remains in placement.

AWOL – A young person is be considered Absent Without Official Leave (AWOL) when they leave the program or the presence of a supervising adult without permission, or fail to return to the residence from an authorized visit at the required time.

Release Date – The date that a young person moves from a residential program to aftercare in the community.

Modification – A modification is when a Family Court judge changes a young person's placement order and transfers the young person out of Close to Home and into a more secure State facility.