



CHARLES HALL
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foster care agency closes its residential services operations and treatment program after 55 years of serving at-risk youth in ND

On Saturday, October 24, Charles Hall Youth and Family Services is closing its Qualified Residential Treatment Program due to major funding shortages in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the residential program is closing, Charles Hall will continue to operate with limited staff as the agency researches new programming opportunities. Charitable support still is needed from the community in the days ahead as the agency works to find placement for youth currently in care and fulfills financial obligations to its almost 40 staff.

Charles Hall and the state's Division of Children and Family Services are working closely with legal custodians of youth currently in care, as well as with Home on the Range in Beach, ND, and Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch in Minot and Fargo as possible placement options.

At the beginning of 2020, North Dakota had five QRTP agencies serving foster care children and families across the state. With Charles Hall closing its residential program on Saturday, North Dakota now will only have two Qualified Residential Treatment Program facilities to serve foster care children and families struggling with major mental health and behavioral issues, as well as substance abuse issues and poverty.

Charles Hall Youth and Family Services has responded to the needs of over 5,000 at-risk youth from across North Dakota since 1965. Its mission has been to assist at-risk youth in making a successful transition from troubled adolescence to mature adulthood through providing a nurturing and therapeutic environment where at-risk youth could realize hope and learn the life skills needed to build on their innate strengths.

The agency's facilities have included three neighborhood-based group homes and administrative offices in south Bismarck. The agency was founded in 1965 as a mission of the United Church of Christ.

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