



EAGLE VILLAGE
WHERE POTENTIAL SOARS

24,018

children were victims of abuse and/or neglect in Michigan in 2023.

8,463

of those children, birth to 17 years old, were removed from their homes and put into foster care, shelters or residential placement.

We believe in the potential of all people, regardless of their story.

EAGLE VILLAGE IS A PLACE OF SOLUTIONS. This is our 56th year of serving and equipping youth and families for success. We provide a full continuum of services for Michigan's abused and neglected youth that continually grow and adapt to meet the changing needs of our communities. We offer life changing solutions that compassionately meet individuals where they are as a whole person; mind, body and spirit.

PROBLEM IDENTIFIED

The statistics in Michigan show the reality that thousands of children experience abuse and/or neglect in their homes. The outcome is children who do not feel safe in their homes and have lost trust in the adults who should be protecting them. They live with the fear of not knowing what each day will bring. This population has a high rate of homelessness which leads to a life of lost potential, unrealized value and living without hope.

THOUGHTFUL SOLUTIONS

Eagle Village is solution focused to meet Michigan's mental health issues. We use trauma informed therapy, occupational therapy, experiential activities and create individual treatment plans to help each youth work through their trauma. Eagle Village is committed to improving lives and futures. We want each child to realize their value. A concept we teach is that their past doesn't determine their future. Our goal is to create intentional paths and teach them the skills to help them navigate life; one of change, determination and hope.

MAKE THEM YOUR MISSION

Invest Your Time

- » Join us for a Friends Friday tour to learn more about opportunities on our campus
- » Come teach our youth a skill
- » Plan a group service project
- » Experience a mission trip close to home

Invest Your Resources

- » Make a financial gift
- » Make a planned gift
- » Call 231-305-6511 to discuss supporting our mission
- » Purchase something from our online wish list for our youth

Join Our Missional Team

- » Gain experience and make a real impact as a member of our staff
- » Commit to lifegiving work

The Eagle Fund helps give our youth opportunities to help them soar to their potential.

Eagle Village children matter. We created the Eagle Fund to provide a way for your gift to directly impact the youth we work with. It shows them they are worth investing in and that their lives and futures are important. We are able to go above and beyond licensing expectations with your thoughtful support.

Go to: eaglevillage.org
or scan the QR code to learn more.



It Takes a Village



LIFE THROUGH THEIR EYES

**The story is real, but the picture and name have been changed to protect our youth.*

"Christmas is seen as the most magical time of year for kids my age, but for me, it's the hardest. This is my second Christmas at Eagle Village, and my feelings are pretty mixed about it. Last year was incredible! I got to see what a real Christmas is like. My peers and I received gifts during the "Many Days of Christmas," which helped us bond and have a great time together. Everything felt new and exciting.

This year, I was really hoping to celebrate Christmas with my forever family, not just my Eagle Village family. It's been tough this time, but I hold on to my faith to keep me strong.

I have faith in my therapists who help me stay on track with my programs and plans. I trust my staff who support me through both the good and bad moments, helping me use coping skills the right way. I also have faith in my friends here. Even though they've changed over the past year, I always find a way to make new friends and encourage them to succeed, even when I feel like I'm struggling.

I believe in myself, knowing that even if I can't find a family to take care of me right now, one day I will have my own family to care for.

I'm thankful for all the gifts that Eagle Village has given me, especially the gift of believing in myself."

- Howard, Age 16



HE WANTED TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE WOULD CATCH HIM

Cody came to Eagle Village when he was 8 years old. He was a very sad and confused little boy, having been adopted by a family and then removed from that home because of abuse and neglect. He was moved through four foster homes before arriving at our Eagle Village residential program. When he arrived, he kept repeating, "I want to be homeless and I don't want a family". We learned that when he was with his family he would run away from home and no one would look for him. Clearly "family" brought him great pain and resentment.



Cody was cautious and tested staff to see if we really cared about him. One of the most memorable moments is when he climbed a tree. After he realized that we were not going to let him fall; he climbed down into the arms of Ben, a staff member, and did not want to let go. Cody knew he was safe and valued.

"Cody believes he is worthless, I tell him he is worth it."

- Benjamin Brandt, Eagle Village staff

This is a big step for a boy who has been in so many different placements. Cody wants to feel what children typically do, that they can trust the adults caring for them. He wants to know that someone will catch him.



Our Eagle Village tagline is "Where Potential Soars". When a child feels valued, safe, and genuinely cared for, they can thrive. We walk with them through their trauma to heal and develop coping skills; helping them find a new path for life and to see the strength in their resilience.

Cody has made great progress. He loves walking through the woods with staff, playing with toy trucks, and just enjoyed celebrating his birthday. He requested and received strawberry cake with strawberry icing, making it his first real birthday celebration. Cody is beginning to understand what a family and home should be.

JOY OF THE SEASON

For many of us, the Christmas season is filled with traditions and joy, celebrating the incredible gift of Christ. But many children in residential care do not have positive memories of Christmas. We work to help our youth through difficult emotions and to build experiences that give them the Joy of the Season.

The first JOY of the Season was the Many Days of Christmas. The 10 days prior to Christmas, gifts were left at each house for youth to enjoy when they got home from school. We thank those who provided great gifts - such as, gingerbread house kits, handmade hats, and games.

The second JOY of the Season is our Village Christmas program, a tradition of inviting guests to our campus to celebrate our residential youth. The Christmas Program is followed by guests visiting youth houses to see their themed decorations and receive a homemade ornament.

The third JOY of the Season is our "Santa Shop". This gives each youth the opportunity to experience the joy of giving by selecting a gift for a housemate. This tradition was created by the generosity of a donor couple who also volunteers as Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The final JOY of the Season is to plant the seed of what home should feel like during Christmas. Less than half of our youth have family to spend the holiday with. Celebrating this special holiday with them and watching them open a wrapped Christmas present, possibly for the first time, is an incredible joy of the season for us.

Please invest in our kids as prayer partners, volunteers and by sending your important financial support. Your belief in our work gives us joy, no matter what season it is!

We wish you a blessed holiday season!

Cathy L. Prudhomme

Cathy Prudhomme
President/CEO of Eagle Village

"I want a family for Christmas. Mom and a dad. I can just see us baking cookies & playing games." - Abby, Age 14



"Books, I want more books. Since I've been here at Eagle Village, I really have been able to sit and be calm, and do something simple... like reading! Oh! a reading chair and a blanket would be awesome too!" - Taylor, Age 12



"I just want a good mom and a good dad." - Kai, Age 9



"Family." - Anna, Age 13