

United Family Services, Inc

“We Address Difficult Problems with Realistic Solutions”

HISTORY

United Family Services (UFS) is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1991 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas with funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention sub-granted through the Arkansas Department of Human Service. The objective of the agency was to provide nonexistence services that could be used in the Arkansas Judicial System. In 1991, United Family Services developed the first successful Home Detention/House Arrest Program utilizing electronic monitoring in the state for juveniles and adult offenders.

In 1993, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention selected United Family Services' Home Detention/House Arrest Program as one of the most effective programs in the nation. UFS was the first agency in the state of Arkansas to provide its own Electronic Monitoring Services with the capability of providing Electronic Monitoring Systems throughout America.

Over the years United Family Services has continued to grow. In 1996, UFS expanded the agency's mission *to provide communities with an effective comprehensive program that:*

- *keep families together,*
- *prevent out of home placement, and*
- *reduce commitments and re-commitments to the Division of Youth Services.*

UFS's goal is to provide the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as well as the courts and the Division of Youth Services (DYS) with realistic alternatives to serving troubled children and youths.

To achieve this mission UFS developed a Comprehensive Treatment Model (CTM). The CTM consists of five components that are community-oriented and include a holistic approach using prevention, intervention, diversion, treatment services, and sanction programs. The agency's targeted service areas included:

- 11th East Judicial District - Arkansas County
- 11th West Judicial District – Jefferson and Lincoln Counties

In 2000, UFS expanded the success of the Comprehensive Treatment Model programs to two additional counties.

- 6th Judicial District – Pulaski and Perry Counties

The Comprehensive Treatment Model achieves the following objectives:

- ✓ To reduce contact of juveniles with the juvenile justice system and the Division of Children and Family Services
- ✓ To reduce out of home placement keeping youths in the least restricted environment
- ✓ To reduce commitment from targeted service area to the Division of Youth Services
- ✓ To reduce the recidivist rate of juveniles released from the Division of Youth Services
- ✓ To maintain the reduction of commitment and recidivism

Through the Comprehensive Treatment Model, UFS currently provide an array of services to include:

Aftercare – SOP Aftercare	Casework
Drug Assessment & Counseling	Compliance Electronic Monitoring
Emergency Shelter	FINS Intervention
Intensive Supervision & Tracking	Parenting Education
Prevention/Intervention	Residential Treatment
Specialized Aftercare	Therapy
Interstate Compact	

In the following pages United Family Service has compiled performance data to show the successful impact of its services has had on the juvenile justice system in Arkansas. UFS's service areas are the first (Pulaski) and fourth (Jefferson) largest populated areas in the state. The 2000 Census reported a population in Pulaski County of 361,474 of which 39,962 are juveniles between the ages of 10-17. In Jefferson County there is a population of 84,278 of which 10,315 are juveniles ages 10-17.