HOMME
YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

CHANGING LIVES

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF
WISCONSIN AND UPPER MICHIGAN

lsswis.org/homme
FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS, HOMME YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS HAS TREATED EACH CHILD WHO COMES TO US AS AN INFINITELY VALUABLE INDIVIDUAL.
The young people who come to Homme are troubled, traumatized, emotionally scarred and in danger of developing even more serious issues. We’re glad they’re here. We welcome them with care, compassion and a promise to help them change their lives.

Who We Serve

We’re here to serve children and adolescents, age 10-21; those who are age 18 and older must be on a juvenile court order. We help them learn to cope with and recover from a variety of issues, including the following:

- History of trauma
- Sexual perpetration
- Sexually reactive behavior
- Sexually reactive behavior related to trafficking
- Alcohol and drug abuse
- Delinquency
- Victimization
- Cognitive disabilities
- Dual diagnoses

Both girls and boys are eligible for placement at Homme. The admissions process begins with a referral and a pre-placement interview, which is essential to determining how an individualized treatment program can best meet the needs of each child.

To make a referral or request more information, contact us at 715-253-2116 or homme.admissions@lsswis.org.
Where We Are

Our campus rests on more than 200 acres of woods, hills, streams and ponds in Wittenberg, located in Shawano County in central Wisconsin. We value family involvement, and we offer on-campus housing and transportation assistance for family visits.

What We Do

Our treatment approach, combined with our peaceful campus, helps children and their families regain control of their lives and begin to recover from the traumas and troubles of the past.

We know that there’s a way to reach every child in our care, no matter how many protective walls they build around their thoughts and emotions. Our highly trained staff members have the empathy and patience to find the irresistible invitation that will help each child open up, start to communicate and begin to trust — which all leads to hope and healing.

“We would like to let you all know we really appreciated everything. Our stay at Homme really felt like home. We were comfortable and the staff was awesome. My son is making progress and I am very happy with that. Thanks to the staff for all your hard work in working with our son.”

— Parent of a Homme resident
Why Choose Homme?

- Wraparound care
- Trauma-sensitive care
- Evidence-based practices, including Brainspotting and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Aggression Replacement Training
- Spiritual care offered
- After-care planning
- Fully accredited, on-campus school
- High school credit recovery program
- On-site alternative programming for acting-out youth
- Indoor and outdoor recreation
- Beautiful, rural grounds

Brainspotting is a powerful, focused treatment method that works by identifying, processing and releasing core neurophysiological sources of emotional/body pain, trauma, dissociation and other challenging symptoms.

Our therapists practice Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, in which our leadership team is also trained.

Licenses, Certifications and Accreditations

- Accredited by the Council on Accreditation
- Licensed as a Community Based Residential Facility by the State of Wisconsin
- Licensed as a Residential Care Center by the State of Wisconsin
- Licensed as a Type 2 Facility by the State of Wisconsin
- Member, Wisconsin Association of Family & Children’s Agencies
- Member, Crisis Services for Children Network
- Certified by the Minnesota Department of Corrections
- Approved by the State of Michigan Family Independence Agency
- Approved by the Illinois Governor’s Purchase of Care Review Board

Our Track Record

We're successful in working with children who need intensive treatment. On average, more than 92% of residents discharged from Homme to an optimal placement maintain that placement for at least three months.

The average student at our onsite Visions School gains a full grade level in reading every six months.

Many of our residents come from the Upper Midwest, but we can accept and treat children from all over the United States.
“MY DAUGHTER IS THE MOST STABLE AND DRUG-FREE SHE HAS BEEN IN YEARS. SHE’S ALSO MATURING AND CATCHING UP WITH HER PEERS IN TERMS OF HER ABILITY TO DO CHORES AND SELF-CARE. SHE SEEMS MUCH MORE INTERESTED AND ENGAGED IN DAILY LIFE.”

— PARENT OF A HOMME RESIDENT
Our Treatment Approach

Each of the young people we serve is unique. Our treatment plans and goals are based on objective assessments, including CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths), and their individual needs. Our multidisciplinary team of trained counselors, therapists, advocates and teachers provides wraparound care through psychiatric, educational, clinical and milieu services that support each youth and family throughout treatment.

Our Treatment Approach

We provide:

- Assessments — psychological and psychiatric — to verify treatment needs
- Cognitive behavioral therapy treatment services that are trauma-focused
- Special treatment services, such as Brainspotting, Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and juvenile sexual offender treatment
- Treatment for youth who are victimized and traumatized by trafficking
- Help for youth who are behind in school and require special education services
- Services that help youth make the transition to adulthood
Our Services

Our programs provide structured daily schedules and activities; sight and/or sound supervision; individual and group therapy; family therapy when possible; spiritual care if desired; on-campus educational services; and reintegration to the community.

Most importantly, all of our treatment and supervision is trauma-informed. We understand the traumas these young people have experienced, and are always mindful of how trauma colors their experiences and perceptions, even in the safe and supportive environment of Homme. We reach out to each child with this essential empathy to build trust and the capacity for breakthroughs.

Primary Services

In addition to residential treatment, we offer outpatient services and short-term placements.

Assessment

During a 30- to 45-day assessment placement, we offer stabilization of a young person’s behavior and determine individual needs, assess risks and identify appropriate interventions. The result is a thorough assessment and set of recommendations for treatment and a successful transition back to the community. Psychiatric and psychological assessments are included.

Residential Treatment for Cognitively Disabled Boys Age 10 and Older

Quest is a Homme residential unit specifically designed to provide individualized treatment for cognitively disabled boys age 10 and older who have committed sex offenses or other crimes. A wide variety of treatments are available including individual, family and group therapy; multi-sensory integration; team and self-esteem building; basic life skills training; anger replacement therapy; community service opportunities; and much more. The program is flexible and accommodates a variety of lengths of stay.

Sexually Reactive Behavior Treatment for Girls

Pathway is a Homme residential unit for juvenile females age 10 and older who have sexually reactive behaviors due to neglect, abandonment, abuse or trafficking, and who
often have behavioral and delinquency issues. Treatment is individualized and based on each girl's progress through five phases: they complete each phase by earning points through treatment assignments and behavioral scores. Each phase brings more opportunities to practice healthy interactions and experience greater independence.

**Sexually Reactive Behavior Treatment for Boys**

**Nelson Hall** is a Homme residential unit for juvenile males age 10 to 16 who have engaged in sexually offensive or reactive behaviors. Treatment focuses on breaking down unhealthy errors in thinking, building positive thinking patterns and treating past traumas. Therapy incorporates T.O.P. (Trauma Outcome Process) for Taming Violence and Sexual Aggression for youth who have exhibited violent and/or sexually aggressive behavior. It addresses challenges that children and adolescents face in making decisions about getting into trouble or staying out of trouble.

**Intensive Change Program For Young Men**

Our **Acceptance Unit** provides an intensive program for male youth age 17 to 21 that includes cognitive behavioral therapy, family sessions, individual therapy, relapse prevention and more. These young men participate in a rigorous Life Skills Management curriculum that can lead to vocational education and supervised off-campus work experience, and follow individual care plans based on assessments of their readiness for returning to the community. This program includes academic assessment and follow-through.

**Education: Fully-accredited, On-campus School**

**Visions Junior and Senior High School** is our on-campus, fully accredited school, providing structured education for youth while they are placed with us. Coursework is recognized by Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois schools, and our teachers are certified in special education. Visions uses the Dubuque Management System along with Skills Streaming, a component of aggression replacement training that provides intensive social skills training, progressing from external control to internal motivation. Visions School offers small class sizes, with teachers who have certifications in exceptional education needs. Our teachers help students recover credits and get back on track for graduation.

During their time at Visions School, students average more than 80% growth in their math and reading skills.
“EVERYONE AT HOMME — FROM THE TEACHERS AND THERAPISTS TO THE UNIT LEADERS, FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS TO THE KITCHEN STAFF — UNDERSTANDS TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE. IN FACT, OUR KITCHEN STAFF IS A GREAT EXAMPLE. THEY KNOW THAT SIMPLY GOING THROUGH THE LUNCH LINE HERE CAN BE HARD FOR CHILDREN WHO MAY HAVE BEEN TRAUMATIZED BY BULLIES IN THE CAFETERIA AT A FORMER SCHOOL. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT EVERY INTERACTION WE HAVE WITH THESE CHILDREN IS IMPORTANT.”

— HEATHER YAEGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Secondary Services

Respite

We provide a physically and psychologically safe environment for at-risk youth whose parents, guardians or other caregivers need respite. We meet each child’s needs in a supportive, trauma-sensitive atmosphere. Services are available for boys and girls, age 10 to 17. Respite placements may be up to nine days in a row (stays beyond nine days are considered to be short-term placements).

Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) Treatment

We assess AODA treatment needs upon placement and assign appropriate community resources. Our treatment approach provides the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual support needed to achieve a life free of alcohol and drugs.

Community Service and Employment

Through part-time work at animal shelters, senior centers and other locations in the community, residents experience the good feeling of helping a vulnerable population. They re-learn empathy, build self-esteem and gain skills that will translate to the larger workforce. Some of our residents also work in business settings, thanks to local employers who partner with us to provide those opportunities.

We have also partnered with providers of training related to our services, including T.O.P. (Trauma Outcome Process), the sexual assault cycle and relapse planning. In addition, we partner with several group homes and foster care resources to provide step-down services for youth who are difficult to place.
Contact Us

Homme Youth and Family Programs
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Wittenberg, WI 54499
715-253-2116
homme.admissions@lsswis.org
lsswis.org/homme

Homme Youth and Family Programs is part of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, which provides life-changing services that meet the most urgent needs of individuals and communities throughout Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Our programs and services are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation or background.