



Our mission is to heal, prepare and empower children, youth and families in need.

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026

Vera Lloyd Launches New Program - Hear About It From our CEO

As you may have heard, we launched our Community Reintegration program (CRI) in October of 2025, and we are excited to share some updates. CRI is designed to help youth transition from structured residential care into independent, community-based living. It also serves as a diversion to juvenile justice involvement.

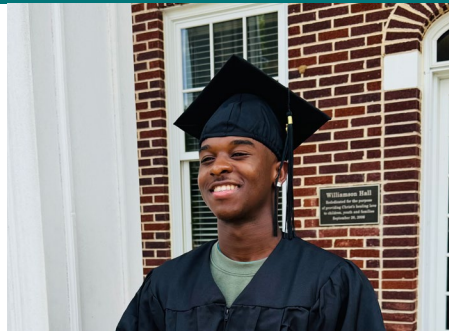
CRI requires our youth to take the initiative in their decision-making, emotional regulation, and personal responsibility. Residents are given opportunities to attend public school, maintain employment, and actively ...

[READ MORE \(Next Page\)](#)

GRADUATES & GEDS Our Story Starts Now!

Vera Lloyd is thrilled to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our youth, with two graduates earning their high school diplomas and three obtaining their GEDs.

These successes highlight the resilience and determination of young people in our care as they overcome challenges to build brighter futures. A couple of the residents plan to get their CDL, two have college plans, and another is excited to spend time with their family and jump straight into the workforce!



MAKE SUMMER FUN FOR VERA LLOYD YOUTH

We work hard to make sure that summer at Vera Lloyd is as fun as it possibly can be for all of our residents. Still, it's about more than that. We give our youth the chance to stay active, spend time outdoors, build healthy routines, and enjoy socialization that supports their physical and emotional well-being. This includes skill-building experiences like swimming, field trips, basketball, and career workshops to help our youth thrive and build resilience.

[READ MORE \(Next Page\)](#)



Vera Lloyd Launches New Program - Hear About It From our CEO *(Cont'd)*

engage in their communities, all within a framework of consistent support and accountability. This is accomplished through a person-centered, evidence-based approach in a step-down environment. Residents work on developing their skills through individualized therapy, family engagement, daily life skills, and workforce development.

Since its launch, CRI has reached several key milestones: the program has consistently maintained a healthy census, started a waiting list for admissions, and extended our referral sources to include private placements in addition to DCFS, DYS, and juvenile court. Three of our residents have completed their GED, with another soon to finish. Residents are attending workforce programs, taking welding classes organized by SeaArk Boats, and volunteering throughout the community. As of this writing, we have

residents working at local restaurants, a local manufacturer, a local nonprofit, and a local nursing home. The residents' jobs have presented even more teachable moments about budgeting and future planning.

Building on this success, Vera Lloyd is expanding CRI with the opening of Lewis House for young women in the very near future. VL will be the first CRI for females in the state, positioning the program for continued growth and increased capacity to serve youth across the state.

Blessings,



MAKE SUMMER FUN FOR VERA LLOYD YOUTH

(cont.)

We're calling on you to make it happen- donate funds or buy essentials like pool passes (\$80/child), swimsuits, sunscreen, and towels directly from our Amazon Wishlist.

Your gift ensures safe, joyful summers that heal and empower.

Visit veralloyd.org/donate or [view our Wishlist here.](#)



Rock Star Donors

We celebrate our rock-solid monthly donors in Vera Lloyd's Sustainer Circle, whose steady support keeps our programs running smoothly.

Monthly gifts like theirs provide reliable funding, freeing us from constant appeals so we can focus on creating joyful moments for youth, like prom and summer enrichment, with confidence and flexibility.

Meet our monthly donors:

Barbara Allen, Rogers, AR
Phil & Tasha Blackburn, Fort Smith, AR
William & Evelyn Deese, Ruston, LA
David & Tamara Laney, Hilton Head Island, SC
Alan & Julie Lewis, Hot Springs Village, AR
Lee & Paige Majors, Little Rock, AR
Joan Neikirk, Little Rock, AR
Melanie Palmer, Fayetteville, AR
Julie Robbins & John Pugh Jr., Little Rock, AR
Clark & Jean Mowry, Hot Springs Village, AR

Become a monthly yourself at veralloyd.org/donate and help us grow this vital circle!

Your gift helps to provide superior care for children, youth and families in need from all over Arkansas.

www.VeraLloyd.org/Donate

FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

How Vera Lloyd Makes a Difference

Resource Parent Training (RPT) is Vera Lloyd's free, statewide education and support program for foster and adoptive parents, offered online so families across Arkansas can participate without leaving home. May is Foster Care Awareness month, and RPT stands out as a unique lifeline. There is no other program like it in the state providing such easily accessible trauma-informed training at no cost to parents.

Led by clinical expert Megan Greenwood, a foster and adoptive parent herself, classes provide practical tools for navigating every day challenges with children from hard places. Just as important, RPT is a supportive community where foster and adoptive parents can connect, share experiences, and realize they are not alone in the joys and struggles of resource parenting.

We want to give a special thank you to First Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith and to Heart of Arkansas United Way for their generous donation to the RPT program in 2026!

[Learn more about Vera Lloyd's Resource Parent Training Program >>](#)



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www.VeraLloyd.org/about/leadership

VERA LLOYD
PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY SERVICES

BOTANICAL BINGO

With Dinner & Drinks 21+

A GOOD TIME FOR A GOOD CAUSE

JULY 30 | 5:30 PM
STERLING MARKET
515 SHALL AVE, LITTLE ROCK
BINGO STARTS AT 6:15
\$50 PER PERSON

Prizes include a variety of plants, shrubs, and trees.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

Our Partnership with SeaArk



Did you know that every resident on the Vera Lloyd campus receives Workforce Development Education? Young people who leave state care face barriers to education and employment, and we want to give them the tools and knowledge to live independent lives as adults. We work with each resident to help them plan a clear pathway to a job, career, training, education, or military service, all steps towards independence.

Residents take the O*NET career interest assessment, discussing individual results with the program coordinator. They may participate in the Campus Work Program, learning important Life Skills along the way. A resident applies for the job, interviews, and completes employment paperwork, even opening a bank account to hold their earnings. Real-time, constructive criticism helps them redirect their work as they help with special events, landscaping, or even working to rebuild the wooden dock on the campus lake.

Vera Lloyd's most important workforce partner is SeaArk Boats, located in

Monticello. In addition to their staff completing physical improvements and additions to the campus, SeaArk supports our annual Fish Fry. In the past year, they helped establish our inaugural welding training program, guided by company staff. Thirteen campus residents recently completed

the initial training class, and two were hired as welders' assistants at the company!

Speaking about his staff, SeaArk President Steve Henderson states:

"I would like to express my deepest appreciation to these men. They donated their personal time to help facilitate and teach welding to kids at Vera Lloyd. Thirteen kids completed weld training on a simulator. Many of them will begin part 2 of the class learning on a welding machine. This act of kindness not only gives these kids a boost in life but can also help SeaArk with adding future team members. I am honored and very proud to work with each of them. This is what life is all about, making life better. Thank You!"



Want to learn more about our Workforce Program?

Contact Marci Robertson

MarciRobertson@veralloyd.org

VERA LLOYD GOES TO PROM

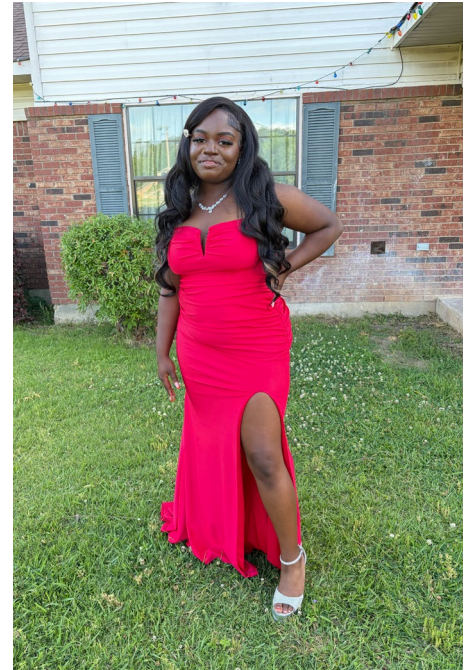
Campaigning for Inclusion

Earlier this spring, we invited friends of Vera Lloyd to help raise funds so five of our residents could attend prom this year.

We're so thankful to share that our goal was met! Because of your generosity, our students were able to enjoy the special details that make prom feel complete, including fitted tuxedos, dresses, hair, and nails.

Prom is an important part of the high school experience, and your support allowed our students take part in the same milestone that their peers look forward to.

Thank you for giving them a chance to celebrate, feel included, and make memories that belong to them.



VERA LLOYD
PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY SERVICES



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MISSION



TOUR



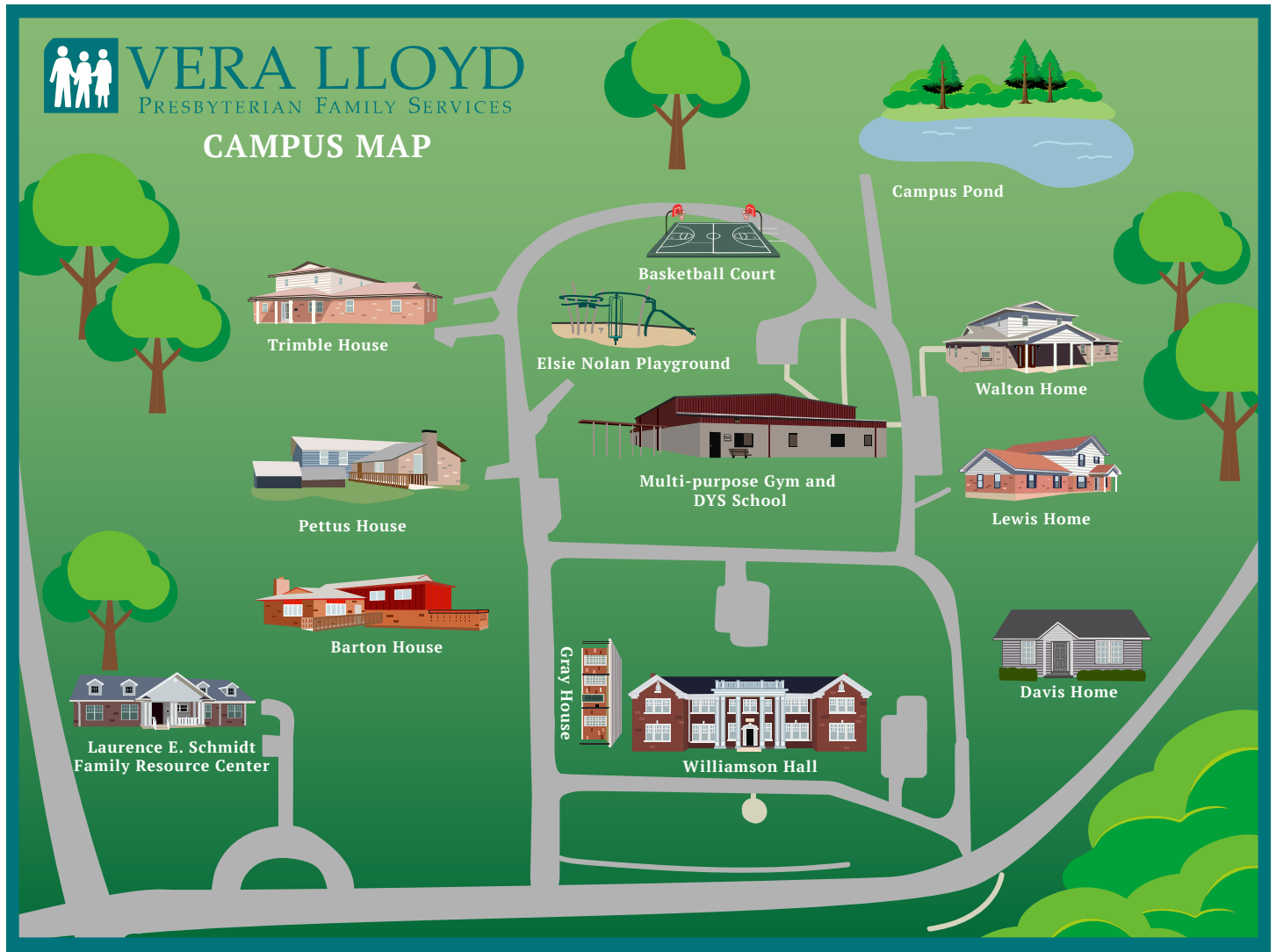
Join the Tour

The Mission

Vera Lloyd is hitting the road this summer to share how we are changing the lives of Arkansas youth and families in need.

CAMPUS MAP

Take a Tour of Vera Lloyd



LULU WILLIAMSON LEGACY SOCIETY

These are donors we have designated Vera Lloyd in their estate plans. Legacy gifts make an ongoing and lasting impact on Arkansas' children, youth and families.

ACTIVE MEMBERS:

Includes donors who have officially notified the agency of their intent to include Vera Lloyd in their estate plans.

Mrs. Lynda Bowman
Mr. and Mrs. William Cagle
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