



Multisystemic Therapy through Harborcreek Youth Services helps families with teens 12-17 throughout Erie County reconnect. [Click to learn more!](#)

[Learn More](#)

Support Expressive Therapies at HYS

Please consider a tax-deductible donation of any amount towards our [Therapeutic Arts Initiative](#), which will provide traumatized kids with healing expressive therapies like art, music, movement, and writing. Thank you for your help!



Donate



Our Mission

Using Sanctuary practices and principles, we help youth and families overcome adversity and build positive futures within a safe, Christian environment that respects and promotes individuality and strengthens community.

Catholic Charities

Harborcreek Youth Services is affiliated with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Erie. Admissions, provision of services, and client referrals are made without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, or sex.

[Catholic Charities, Diocese of Erie](#)

Our Program

Harborcreek Youth Services is a fully

How It All Began | Harborcreek Youth Services

In 1911, The Right Reverend Monsignor H. C. Wienker and the [Sisters of St. Joseph](#) founded the Catholic Boys Protectory to provide a safe haven for boys too old to remain at St. Joseph's Children's Home of Erie. Three years later, Monsignor Wienker began accepting youth from the Erie County Juvenile Court.

Over the next fifty years, the campus grew to include an administration building, school and recreation center, and home-like residential quarters with a chapel, garage, workshop, and swimming pool. The Catholic Boys Protectory was known at various times in its history as the Catholic Training School for Boys, the Harborcreek Home for Boys, and the Harborcreek School for Boys.

The 1970s brought a progressive change in the treatment of troubled juveniles. The new philosophy prompted the school to purchase several community living facilities or "group homes" throughout Erie County. These facilities gave small groups of clients the opportunity to live off campus with experienced counselors and guidance directors. With this radical departure from its traditional provision of childcare, the institution flourished.

The Harborcreek School for Boys underwent another transition in the late 1980s when a shift toward an intensive treatment concept spurred the addition of intensive treatment units throughout the community. In 1985, the Harborcreek School for Boys became Harborcreek Youth Services to more accurately reflect these changes in philosophy, programs and services, while emphasizing treatment and education.



In 1998, the main campus experienced its first major construction in more than thirty-five years. A residential treatment facility, a unit designed to house and treat young men with mental health problems, was constructed. Additionally, a residential wing was added to the main building.

In 2005, Harborcreek Youth Services implemented changes in its residential program to become a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. More recently, the agency developed a Community Programs division that currently consists of [Multisystemic Therapy \(MST\)](#) and [Therapeutic Treatment Foster Care \(CRR-Host Home\)](#) in Erie County.

For over a century, Harborcreek Youth Services has had great success with children who require treatment and support. Today, the agency is a model comprehensive behavioral management system and methodology treatment center. Our goal is now, as it has been throughout our history, to establish routine, healthy behavior patterns in the lives of at-risk youth, and to encourage them to trust and respect themselves and others.

accredited child and family social service agency recognized for achieving the highest standards of professional practice in child residential and family preservation and treatment services through our PRTF, MST and CRR-Host Home programs.



Our 2017 Annual Report

[Click here](#) to view Harborcreek Youth Services' 2017 Annual Report in PDF format. If you'd prefer a paper copy, please contact us at 814-899-7664.

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