



Putting the pieces together requires community support

We have been recognized by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services as a program model for replication. In order to achieve this goal, we need

- A funding source to provide housing subsidies to our young people as they move out on their own. These subsidies will phase out as the youth's earning power increases.
- A corporate sponsor who is committed to replicating the model Independence Inn program in other urban areas.

"The Independence Inn family will support our young people for as long as it takes to establish a stable connection to their community."

Doug O'Dell,
Assistant Executive Director

The Work of SCO Family of Services Includes:
Preventive Services • Foster Care & Adoption Adolescent Services • Services for the Developmentally Disabled • Mental Health Programs • Homeless Services • Special Education Schools • School-based Programs

For further information on our programs and how you can help, contact:

The Development Office
Executive Offices – SCO Family of Services
1 Alexander Place, Glen Cove, NY 11542
516 671-1253 or 718 895-2555



www.sco.org

On an ongoing basis, we are happy to receive gently used clothing, household items and baby equipment. Due to a lack of storage space, we can only accept these items on an as needed basis.

For information about this type of donation, please contact:
Kathleen Catapano at 516 671-2272 or pkcatapano@aol.com

Independence Inn

Helping homeless and runaway youth achieve self-sufficiency



A Program of



Who We Are



The Independence Inn program consists of three residences that provide shelter and support for 44 homeless and runaway youth. One residence is for young men and the other two are for young

women, 14 of whom are young mothers with babies. These young men and women, aged 17 to 20, arrive with no resources except their personal commitment to succeed. Almost without exception, they have reached a stage of crisis and are determined to turn their lives around.

Our Mission

Residents can stay at the Inn for up to 18 months. During that time, our goal is to help them acquire:

- The life skills that are needed for responsible, independent living.
- The career skills that will sustain independent and productive lives.
- The education that will support career goals and independent living.



The Program

Support Systems

- Build internal support systems by developing and practicing communication skills with peers and staff.
- Improve self-awareness and self-monitoring skills to establish self-discipline.
- Build external support systems by reconnecting with friends and family members and strengthening supportive relationships.

Education

- Get back on track with educational goals that may have been interrupted by homelessness.
- Explore alternative educational and vocational resources.
- Gain admission to college, if desired, and access financial aid.
- Develop parenting skills through counseling and modeling.

Employment

- Develop job search, resume building and interviewing skills.
- Use these skills to get a job.
- Open a savings account and deposit half of every paycheck to save for independent living.
- Work towards developing career skills.

Housing

- Explore housing options.
- Locate and secure appropriate housing.

How You Can Help

We are looking for employment opportunities for our youth. Do you have either a short term job or a job that will offer career opportunities?

Do you have internship opportunities that will help broaden a young person's outlook on career choices?

Can you act as a mentor to a young person as he or she transitions into independence?

We need your financial support to continue to provide the services that help homeless and runaway youth to achieve self-sufficiency. A self-addressed return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

