All of us at Pressley Ridge share a dream that one day all kids may thrive. All of our efforts every day are directed at creating a world in which our vision can become a reality.

“All Kids Thrive”

All of us at Pressley Ridge share a dream that one day all kids may thrive. All of our efforts every day are directed at creating a world in which our vision can become a reality.

“Whatever it takes to create success for children and families”

Our mission statement speaks to our complete and unequivocal commitment to do all in our power to improve the lives of children and families everywhere and especially those whose lives we touch. There is no challenge too big or barrier too strong to keep us from doing our utmost on their behalf. We succeed when they succeed, then and only then.
Provide Services
For almost two centuries Pressley Ridge has served society by caring for its most vulnerable member.

Create Partnerships
Nothing of lasting value comes out of work in isolation. Each child and family we serve belongs to an eco-system of which we are but a part.

Provide Training
We believe the quality of the services we provide to children and families is directly related to the quantity and quality of the training we provide to those who lead our programs and who provide our services.

Conduct Research
We’ve long held the notion that anything we can do, we can do better. Thus we continuously evaluate our programs and assay the efficacy of our interventions.

Build Awareness
If all kids are to thrive, we must touch lives well beyond the reach of present-day Pressley Ridge programs and services.
Growth and Innovation
Increase Pressley Ridge’s impact to vulnerable children and families through growth and innovation.

Diversified Funding
Strengthen Pressley Ridge’s financial position through diversification of revenue.

Technology
Utilize technology resources to increase organizational efficiency, satisfy internal/external reporting requirements and provide innovative services.

Organizational Development
Increase staff competency and efficiency in the delivery of program services and organizational support functions.
“Everyone has the power to be __________.” If you could fill in this blank, what would you say? Everyone has the power to be helpful . . . supportive . . . courageous . . . a friend . . . a hero? The possibilities are limitless. The charge to fill in this blank, to believe that everyone has the power to be something for someone, is what fuels Pressley Ridge year after year. This past year was no exception.

Every day we provide innovative services to children and families. Whether we are facilitating adoptions, helping parents advocate for their children, empowering a bullied child, or offering a parenting class, we are there for them. This year, we measured the quality of our work by asking ourselves: Are we making an impact? Being their difference?

“Making an impact, Being their difference.” Such a statement seems so logical in our line of work that it is almost easy to overlook. Sometimes, though, it is the simplest gestures that change lives. Our Re-Education Principles guide how we interact with our children and families, develop programs, and set treatment goals. When it is clear that developing a special skill will help a child succeed, we nurture it. When it is clear that a child with behavioral issues needs structure, we provide it. When it is clear that a child with special needs requires more services at school, we help their parents advocate for them.

One of our best qualities is that we continue to support our children and families beyond treatment. We follow up with phone calls or visits to offer a listening ear, make suggestions, or just to be a friend long after they have received direct services. We believe it is important to demonstrate the very principles we are trying to teach our children; in this case, that trust is essential and communities are important.

As you read this report, we hope you feel our impact and see our difference. Since 1832, we have been refining our approach to the crises faced by children and families. Over 1,000 staff members serve more than 5,600 children and families annually. Our services extend across six states nationally and two countries internationally. Thanks to support from individuals like you, we have been able to give our children the tools they need to dream, discover, and grow.

In each story, fact, and figure, we invite you to think about the ways we have filled in the blank. We know who our children and families have the power to be.

To challenge ourselves, we have asked: “Who do we have the power to be?” The answer is simple: We dare to make an impact. We dare to be the difference.

Sincerely,

Susanne Cole
President and CEO

Jennifer Fox Rabold
Board Chair
Residential Options
We create supportive places to practice new possibilities and life contributions.

Foster Care Connections
We provide family havens for safety, renewal, and return.

Community-Based Support
We offer coaching and self-discovery – in the home, in the moment, and over time.

Educational Opportunities
We welcome kids into schools that start with their strengths – places of joy, belonging, confidence and contribution.
All children deserve trusting relationships.

So our first priority is building close connections with kids and their family networks.

*And they respond: beginning to trust themselves, each other, and new sources of support.*

All children are full of potential.

So we start with their strengths, to draw-out their unique gifts.

*And kids respond: by contributing to their communities and creating productive lives.*

All families want to stay together.

So we stand with the whole family to help them find a way – without judgment, labeling or blame.

*And families respond: by coming together again – with fresh understanding and new ways of communicating.*

All families can use a little help sometimes.

So – whether the situation looks hopeless or it's just a rough patch – we provide coaching and support, in the home, in the moment, over time.

*And families respond: by practicing new strategies and patterns of relationship that really last.*
COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT
offers coaching & self-discovery – in the home, in the moment, and over time.

Being Their Courage

Until recently, 49-year-old Amanda, diagnosed with anxiety disorder, was afraid to leave her home. Setting foot outside gave her panic attacks. Her family made demands of her that exacerbated her fear and stress. Worst of all, they were often disrespectful toward her.

When Amanda came to Pressley Ridge’s Outpatient Treatment Program, every problem seemed like a crisis. Both of her adult children have substance abuse problems. Her daughter is in prison and is verbally abusive, and her son has two young children whom he often leaves in Amanda’s care for days at a time. Her mother regularly needs rides to appointments and help cleaning her home. Because Amanda’s family relied on her for help, she felt overwhelmed by every decision; her time was being monopolized.
In therapy, Amanda learned how to take charge of her life. First, she focused on taming her reactions to everyday problems and learned to see that approaching issues with a positive attitude could affect positive change. Then, she worked on ways to set boundaries with her family and learned that she could still be caring and helpful to others without having to be there for them all of the time.

Once Amanda felt empowered to say “no” and reclaimed her time, she started to take steps in shaping a life outside of her home. With her partner, Amanda attended a local farmer’s market and an annual arts festival she never thought she would see. She went to the grocery store by herself and examined every aisle without feeling any panic. Most astonishing of all: she drove two-and-a-half hours by herself to reconnect with a childhood friend.

To say that Amanda is making strides is not enough – Amanda has changed her life. When asked how her family is handling her new outlook, Amanda’s therapist says, “People aren’t happy that she’s setting boundaries, but they’re respecting them.” With change, empowerment, and respect, Amanda now has the attributes needed to guarantee her a brighter tomorrow.
Foster Care Connections
provide families with havens for safety, renewal, and return.

Being Their Hope

Without family support, Brenda, a mother of five, found herself in relationship after relationship with abusive partners. Sometimes, she used drugs to ease her stress. She did not have a job or the resources to manage her children.

Brenda often relied on her eleven-year-old daughter Abigail to help with household tasks and managing her siblings. Just a child herself, it was hard for Abigail to keep up. Finally, she had had enough. Abigail called police and told them she was concerned: her house was dirty, and there were bugs everywhere.

Abigail and her siblings were sent to live in foster care. Brenda may have been frustrated and angry with her daughter, but she knew deep down that she wanted to make things right again.

At Pressley Ridge, we helped Brenda set and meet the goals needed to get her children back. First, Brenda underwent substance abuse and mental health evaluations.
Then, she moved into a safe house for domestic violence and took parenting classes. Finally, she found a job.

In a short time, Brenda showed tremendous progress. During weekly visitations with her children, she was always ready to try out newly learned parenting skills. When there was not a scheduled visit, Brenda called the foster parents to check in.

According to one of her treatment coordinators, Brenda is known as one of Pressley Ridge’s most responsive parents. “The steps for reunification can be really daunting for parents, but this mom took it in stride. There were three sets of foster parents involved, and Brenda has good relationships with all of them. They are willing to help her whenever she needs it.”

It took eight months, but Brenda and her children are back together. They live in a four-bedroom townhouse, and Brenda works part time at a fast food restaurant. She is utilizing daycare and after school services for her children, so she can work without issue and even take some time for herself. She is so committed to making the best life for her family that she is voluntarily participating in our Nurturing Parenting Curriculum, a program that provides parents with the necessary resources to build upon their parenting strengths.

As the family’s reunification day approached, Brenda wrote a note to Pressley Ridge. Here are some of the things she shared: “[Pressley Ridge] showed me how to live and how not to live … what I am and what I am not … This has been a journey for me and still will be. I just want to say thanks again for standing by me and believing in me.”

What we have learned about Brenda is that she has the determination to go the distance, and we are so glad we started this journey with her.

During weekly visitations with her children, Brenda was always ready to try out newly learned parenting skills.
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
welcome kids into schools that start with their strengths — places of joy, belonging, confidence and contribution.

Being Their Difference
formally published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in December 2013

“The school at the top of the hill turns its back on no one.” That’s how Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reporter J. Brady McCollough, introduced the Pressley Ridge Day School Pittsburgh in a four-part series he wrote about the daily challenges faced by the children who attend our school. McCollough followed three students, Kurtis Haddock (12), Dante Yobst (14), and Sha’Ron Williams (17)* for 11 months, learning about their distinctive challenges and just what it means to be a “Pressley Ridge kid.”

Diagnosed with mental health disorders ranging from depression, hyperactivity, bipolar disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, the three young men also faced difficult circumstances at home: Kurtis’s two older brothers suffered tragic fates — one is in prison, the other dead — Dante’s rarely had a male presence in his life, and Sha’Ron started living the street life at 14. All of them had violent outbursts at their neighborhood schools, where administrators were sure they couldn’t learn to control their behavior. When all hope seemed to be lost, these young men and their families turned to Pressley Ridge, where we promised them a path to recovery.

It didn’t take long for us to recognize what it would take to help these students manage their anger, cope with their emotions, and thrive day-to-day. All of them had one thing in common: their love for basketball. At Pressley Ridge, we take our Re-Education Principles to heart. When it was clear that playing basketball would help these students know joy each day, we made shooting hoops a priority for them.
Our individualized treatment plans do more than meet each child’s medical and psychological needs; they also aim to teach life lessons by encouraging children to develop their personal interests. When our children are engaged in a favorite sport, craft, or lesson, our staff can nurture their ability to learn by process, to understand the importance of asking for help, and to cope when life is stressful.

Because our staff is committed to focusing on the whole child, our children go on to lead whole lives. At school, they join clubs, become active members of athletic teams, and make honor roll. Later, they apply to college and find jobs in their communities. Being a “Pressley Ridge kid” means seeing who you can become in this world and allowing that person to manifest. Like all of our children, Kurtis, Dante, and Sha’Ron are making strides in developing their unique skills and becoming productive members of their communities.

Without Pressley Ridge, the fates of these three young men were uncertain. Now, thanks to our treatment and nurturing, Kurtis, Dante, Sha’Ron, and their families have learned how to look ahead, to believe in each other, and most importantly, how to overcome.
RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS
create supportive places to practice new possibilities and life contributions.

Being Their Confidence

A fulfilling, inclusive life is what everyone wants. An intellectual disability might make this more difficult to achieve, especially with multiple diagnoses, but that isn’t deterring Mikey. Since birth, Mikey has had to depend upon his family and other life supports, but he flourishes with that assistance. In particular, Pressley Ridge’s Life Sharing program has helped him live a meaningful, purposeful and active life. The program matches those with disabilities with supportive families or individuals who choose to open their homes and hearts and share life experiences.

Mikey
Mikey shows us how important and beneficial community involvement is to children and youth.

With a variety of residential options, Mikey has experienced a continuum of care in several programs like Life Sharing, enabling him to work in his community for the past eight years. And Mikey loves his work. With job and community habilitation aid, he currently holds down three jobs: bagging at a local grocery store, delivering morning newspapers and managing mailroom duties. Far greater than his work ethic is Mikey's joy for life. His smiling face shows his love and dedication to his work.

Recently, the community recognized Mikey's outstanding efforts and celebrated his success being named a Richard C. Frech “Celebration of Success” honoree. The “Celebration of Success” honors the many positive aspects and accomplishments of individuals who live and work in the community. The namesake of the award worked and advocated for persons with intellectual disabilities to lead fulfilling, inclusive lives within their communities.

A true embodiment of that award, Mikey stands as a shining example with no intention of slowing down. Mikey shows us how important and beneficial community involvement is to children and youth, but in this instance, the community is showing Mikey just how important he is to its success.
Our History of Helping

1832
Protestant Orphan Asylum is founded.

1900s
Protestant Orphan Asylum becomes Protestant Orphan Home.

1950
Protestant Orphan Home becomes Protestant Home for Children.

Originated in Pittsburgh from two of its oldest orphanages west of the Alleghenies

1861
Pittsburgh and Allegheny Home for the Friendless becomes Pressley House.

1950
Dr. Benjamin Spock becomes first male member of the Pressley House board.

1952
Pressley House opens Marshall Avenue Residential Program.

1959
Pressley Ridge board member John Gorsuch brings Re-ED creator Nicholas Hobbs to Pittsburgh to talk to the board at Pressley House about new ideas and programs.

1960
1965
Pressley House Day School begins construction.
ALL CHILDREN. ALWAYS.

1957
Protestant Home for Children opens modern dorm on Perryville Avenue.

1967
DaySchool opens on grounds of School for the Residential Program in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with Re-ED personnel from Nashville as interim and later permanent heads.

1969
Protestant Home for Children and Pressley House merge to become Pressley Ridge School.

1969
Complete administration and DaySchool facility in Pittsburgh. DaySchool begins accepting children from other schools.

1974
Chiropody Therapeutic Wilderness Camp opens utilizing Re-Education principles.

1978
First formal study for Pressley Ridge School in Pittsburgh and the Wilderness Camp program.

Follow our progress over the decades >
Other Locations Outside of Pennsylvania


1984 First Treatment Foster Care program outside Pittsburgh opens in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

1985 Pressley Ridge School becomes Pressley Ridge Schools because of the multiplicity of programs and expansion into West Virginia.

1987 Treatment Foster Care program opens in Baltimore, Maryland.

1990 Grant Gardens Residential Treatment in West Virginia opens.

1981 Therapeutic foster care opens, serves as the catalyst for growth and evolves into a nationally recognized Treatment Foster Care model.

1986 Residential Program at Marshall Avenue closed.

1994 In-Home Services in Pennsylvania begin.


1996 In partnership with the University of Pittsburgh, the International Center for Family Institute, Pressley Ridge Deaf opens, Pennsylvania.

1974 Ohiople Therapeutic Wilderness Camp opens utilizing Re-Education principles.

1978 First formal evaluation study for both the DaySchool in Pittsburgh and the Wilderness Camping program.
1991  Family Preservation Services begin in Baltimore.

1992  Treatment Foster Care begins in Cincinnati, Ohio.

1995  Child & Family Enrichment Service (CAFE) begins mental health services in Maryland. Family-based Services begin in Ohio.

1996  West Virginia opens: Community and Family Support and Alternative Family Care Services.

1997  Odyssey Home Residential Program opens in West Virginia as a result of a merger. West Virginia opens White Oak Residential Program.
**Other Locations Outside of Pennsylvania**

- **1998**: Pressley Ridge develops partnership with the University of Lusofona in Lisbon, Portugal for training child care professionals. Odyssey Group Home for Girls opens in West Virginia.

- **1999**: Richwood House opens in West Virginia.

- **2001**: Office opens in Lisbon, Portugal.

- **2002**: Grant Gardens expands program capacity. Supported Transitional Living Program established in Ohio. Treatment Foster Care program opens in Lorain, Ohio. Treatment Foster Care program opens in Tazewell, Virginia.
2008

- Staff and Children Services of Central PA merges with Pressley Ridge.
- Pressley Ridge finishes the state-of-the-art expansion of the School for Autism program in Emsworth, Community Residential Rehabilitation (CRR) Program begins in Central Pennsylvania.

2009

- Day School Johnstown opens its doors.

2011

- Pressley Ridge updates the mission and value statements.
- Day School Greensburg moves to a new school at Bovard Elementary.
- Autism Private Pay services begin.

2013

- Delaware Individualized Residential Treatment Program (IRT) opens.
- Delaware Therapeutic Respite Program opens. Delaware Intensive Outpatient Program opens. Master’s course started at the University of Minho in Braga, Portugal. Laurel Park Residential Program in West Virginia doubles in capacity. Portugal NGO (Non-Government Organization) established.
- Central European Office opens in Budapest, Hungary. Signed letter of agreement with the Ferencvaros District Council of Budapest.
- Acquires and opens the Parent Child Foster Care program in Baltimore, Maryland.
For more than 180 years, Pressley Ridge has been an innovator in outcomes research and we utilize this research in the continual improvement of our interventions. These outcomes are the ultimate validation of the effectiveness of the programs and services at Pressley Ridge and the impact made with our children and families.

**Upon completion (Measure of Impact Achieved)**
- 91% of individuals and 88% of parents reported feeling satisfied with services received
- 88% of both individuals and parents felt that there was an improvement in functioning
- 81% of individuals were living independently or with family

**At 6 Month Follow-Up (Measure of Impact Sustained)**
- 87% of individuals were living with family or independently
- 100% of individuals were free from abuse or neglect
- 88% of individuals showed positive change and growth
- 92% of individuals avoided the juvenile justice system
- 94% of youth either graduated or are attending school
5,278

Individuals who received direct services in one of our four service lines

**AGE AT ENTRY FOR YOUTH PROGRAM**

- 6 and younger: 9%
- 7 – 12: 24%
- 13 – 17: 36%
- 18 & older: 31%

**LENGTH OF STAY**

- < 3 months: 19%
- 3 – 6 months: 29%
- 7 – 9 months: 22%
- > 9 months: 30%

**GENDER**

- Male: 51%
- Female: 49%

**RACE**

- African American: 23%
- Bi-racial/Multiracial: 7%
- Caucasian: 56%
- Hispanic: 7%
- Not Known: 2%
- Other: 5%

*Some individuals are served by more than one Pressley Ridge program.

**NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED IN ALL PROGRAMS**

- Treatment Foster Care: 937 (16.6%)
- Community-Based: 3,922 (69.6%)
- Residential: 500 (8.9%)
- Education: 280 (4.9%)
- Total Served: 5,639*

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

**FY2013 BY STATE**

- Pennsylvania: $37.0........54%
- West Virginia: $16.8........25%
- Ohio: $5.4........8%
- Maryland: $3.9........6%
- Delaware: $2.5........4%
- Virginia: $0.8........1%
- Foundation & Institute: $1.3........2%
- Total: $67.7

**FY2013 BY PROGRAM**

- Residential: $20.8........31%
- Treatment Foster Care: $18.3........27%
- Education: $13.3........19%
- Community-Based: $14.0........21%
- Foundation & Institute: $1.3........2%
- Total: $67.7
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*Deceased
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July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

Thank you to the following individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations who supported our work with children and families. Every effort has been made to be accurate in listing the name of each donor. If your name is misspelled, omitted, or listed incorrectly, we sincerely apologize and please bring this to our attention so that we may correct our records.

Pressley Ridge Operations Center, 5500 Corporate Drive, Suite 400, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 | 412.872.9400

Nicholas Hobbs was a visionary leader. As the architect of Re-Education, he is recognized as a pioneer in the treatment of troubled kids and families. At Pressley Ridge, his vision continues to give meaning to our work just as Re-ED continues to be our foundation for excellence.

THE HOBBS SOCIETY has been established to recognize the Pressley Ridge employees who make a gift of 1% or more of their salary in the annual employee giving campaign.

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