‘r kids information

‘r kids serves at risk children and children in the foster care system to achieve lifelong, stable family permanency by providing safe and nurturing educational, individual or group services. ‘r kids is now in its 21st year, with ‘r kids playing a pivotal role in the Dixwell community. ‘r kids works with children and families in greater New Haven who are experiencing out of home care for more than 90 days to receive fully intensive family reunification programs that focus on the multiple external challenges facing them each and every day.

With a predominantly master's level staff focused on cultural competency and respect for its clients, ‘r kids have served over 2000 children and families and 800 foster families since its founding. The ‘r kids team works tirelessly at delivering respectful strength-based programming and multi-dimensional wraparound services to promote stabilization and permanency for children. Programs include reunification assessments, parent coaching, advocacy and engagement.

Last year ‘r kids reunified 90% of our families’ children and helped these families achieve stability through their challenging situations. ‘r kids continue to outperform national (51%) and state (62%) reunification rates.

‘r kids’ specialty lies in its ability to successfully engage and support all parts of the family system – particularly the fathers, the children, the birth parents, foster and adoptive parents – each as an important part of the family’s ongoing community. Our purpose is not to dismiss birth parents who have struggled with multiple barriers and hardships – it is to support them while they develop their own dignity and pride and cultivate bonds with their children and create a safety net support systems that builds a strong future for their children.

Social Innovation Project – Every person in entitled to respect and dignity. This is what ‘r kids Family Center believes and makes ‘r kids special in reunifying families. ‘r kids needs to advocate to dispel the mythology that parents whose children have been removed are bad people. Everyone has a quality in themselves that is open to nurturing. This is the social impact piece we are seeking to inform the public of the work we do to help our families.

We are requesting a marketing/social media project that focuses on dispelling the negative myths about foster care and reunification while communicating the methods ‘r kids uses to reunifying families and find permanent homes for children. We need to use research to share on twitter as well as our utilizing our facebook platform more efficiently for people to understand our mission. We also are requesting the design and writing of a printed piece to use on all platforms and to use for public speaking events.

This is an opportunity to change ideas and opinions of how people view the worlds of adoption, the foster care system and the reunification of families and support the families that need us the most.
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