

The Little Flower Union Free School District at Wading River is the only Special Act public school district on Long Island. Providing both residential and day placements for children in grade 3 to age 21, the school serves up to 120 students with disabilities in highly supportive environments.



Little Flower Graduates Of The Class Of '22

Our academic programs include Regents and Local Diploma, Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential and the Career Development Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. Students are referred to Little Flower by other local schools in New York State through their Committee on Special Education (CSE). Both 10- and 12-month programming is available. Primary disabilities served are AU, ED, ID, LD, MD and OHI, and related services include speech therapy, counseling, occupational therapy and physical therapy.

Certified faculty and staff are specially trained to meet the unique educational, behavioral, mental hygiene, social and emotional needs of our students. With class sizes not exceeding eight students, our staff is able to provide a level of attention and support that enhances students' academic success. Little Flower offers a variety of distinctive programs and strategies that provide students with enhanced supports and resources to achieve success when they have faced difficulties in their home districts or private school programs.



"Being at the school and cottage made me confident and feel welcomed, and that's something I've never felt before." –former student

OUR CAMPUS

Located on the North Shore on 117 acres along the shore of Long Island Sound, geographically centered between NYC and Montauk, the grounds feature true East End nature, providing a sense of serenity and natural beauty conducive to a therapeutic learning environment. The campus boasts an onsite school, well-appointed cottages, a full medical and wellness center, a gymnasium, recreational areas, a vegetable garden and culinary arts vocational program, and an outdoor swimming pool.

OUR RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York is a nonprofit organization serving individuals and families across New York City and Long Island. Since 1930, Little Flower has been committed to improving the well-being of children, youth, adults with developmental disabilities, and families by building on their strengths and supporting their success.

Little Flower's Residential Treatment Center (RTC) is located on the Wading River campus alongside the Little Flower UFSD. The RTC provides a range of individualized and comprehensive clinical, psychological and special educational services for children and youth ages eight to 21 who reside on campus. Residents are primarily referred from Nassau and Suffolk Counties on Long Island, as well as New York City. Young people reside in seven modern cottages in living groups based on their age, gender, developmental needs and individualized treatment goals. Each cottage features individual bedrooms, spacious common areas, a large family-style dining room and a kitchen. The RTC is accredited by the Council on Accreditation, meeting the most rigorous practice standards.



A bountiful harvest collected by the Little Flower Garden Club.

OUR THERAPEUTIC APPROACH

The RTC is designed as a therapeutic community based on the belief that the devastating effects of trauma, poverty, racism, substance abuse, violence and lack of opportunity—particularly on children and families—can be healed through the use of proven, effective mental health, medical and support services.

The integrated and interdisciplinary treatment team, consisting of Board-certified psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed social workers, childcare staff, educators, medical professionals and a recreation therapist, formulates individualized treatment plans that address the specific strengths and needs of each youth.



The Sanctuary® Model, at its core, promotes safety and recovery.

Little Flower is a Sanctuary organization. The agency became certified in the trauma-responsive model of care in 2018 and upholds the seven commitments of nonviolence, emotional

intelligence, social learning, democracy, open communication, social responsibility, and growth and change. Sanctuary aligns with Little Flower's "heart-first" approach to provide care and healing as foundations for enriching lives.



"The staff here show they care about you by the way they treat you and speak to you—like it's not just their job." - former student

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMMING

Inner Lights Program

The Inner Lights Program is a Specialized Residential Treatment Program developed to respond to the special needs of hard-to-place youth with medical and behavioral challenges, including children who have an autism spectrum disorder, Tourette's disorder, a neurological impairment, severe behavior disorders, severe learning disorders or developmental disabilities with a minimum IQ of 50 or the functional equivalent. With the advantage of an on-the-grounds school, children participate in classroom-based special education and enjoy full community integration with all youth who reside on campus. For many children, when they come to Little Flower, it is the first time they are able to attend school consistently. OPWDD-approved students who age out of school are eligible to be housed at Little Flower until appropriate housing is secured.



There are a variety of educational, vocational, and therapeutic programs to ensure that students can thrive.

LIVESS Program

Living Independently, Vocational Enrichment and Social Skills (LIVESS) Program is offered to high school students participating in the NYS Alternate Assessment and who are on the autism spectrum or developmentally delayed. Curriculum may include: meal preparation; Servsafe Certification; consumer, personal and employment communication; computer skills; laundry skills; healthy living; social planning; self-advocacy; money management; resume building; and medication management.

- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS)
- Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Neurofeedback
- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)
- Behavior Management Through Adventure
- Restorative Practices
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI)
- State-of-the-Art Sensory Room
- Music and Creative Arts Programs
- Garden Club
- Culinary Arts Program
- Campus Café
- Vocational Training and Internships
- Daily Afterschool Academic and Enrichment Programming
- Work-Based Learning Experiences
- SCRAMBLES - Takeout Café

Little Flower

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Little Flower

Union Free School District & Residential Treatment Center



DEDICATED TO THE
EDUCATION OF ALL STUDENTS