

ELLIPSIS RESPITE CARE

The Ellipsis respite program provides the help and rest period kids and families need when challenges seem too difficult to conquer.



Ellipsis, established in 2021, is a “no wrong door” youth and family services provider that brings together legacy organizations Youth Homes of Mid-America and Youth Emergency Services and Shelter. Our staff work tirelessly to meet all our clients’ unique needs so that we can connect kids and families to successful futures.

On any given day, we serve nearly 600 kids and families with residential care and treatment, counseling and therapy, behavioral health intervention services, care coordination and family support. In doing so, we’re helping kids and families overcome turbulent pasts to build successful, rewarding futures.

We’re always looking to expand our services to build a complete continuum of care for those we serve. That’s where our respite program — opening April 17, 2023 — comes in.

Who benefits from respite care?

- Respite care provides short-term relief for primary caregivers and allows kids in crisis to have a safe space to recoup.
- We serve kids ages 6 to 17 who may be at risk of entering the child welfare or juvenile justice systems.
- Families dealing with a variety of challenges including mental and behavioral health concerns benefit from this program.

What does respite care entail?

- We have between five and 10 beds available for short-term stays (less than 72 hours).
- Our program is staffed by trained and qualified shelter staff at a ratio of three staff to 10 kids.
- During respite care, we assess and refer kids and families to services and support systems that provide long-term help.
- Our respite program is available 24 hours a day for 365 days a year.

How can kids and families access respite care?

- Call 515-243-3459 and dial 1 for a crisis call.
- Families can be referred by schools, law enforcement, hospitals, health providers, therapists, service providers and other families who have been served by Ellipsis.
- Kids and families can receive care by visiting 918 SE 11th St. in Des Moines. Enter on the north side of the building.
- Ellipsis staff will screen kids to determine eligibility for respite programming.

At Ellipsis, we’re true to our name. We provide a safe space for kids and families to pause, heal and determine their next chapter. Our respite program is one more way we offer that help.



We help kids and families build healthy relationships so they can write their own story.
[Learn more at Ellipsislowa.org.](https://www.ellipsislowa.org)