

BERKSHIRE CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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berkshirechildren.org

MISSION

Berkshire Children & Families helps families to recognize and build on their strengths to address challenges.

Our work is concentrated in four key areas: early education and care; child and family well-being; intensive foster care and adoption; and Kids 4 Harmony, an intensive classical music program for social change. BCF's goals are to provide services and supports that transform the lives of children, families and communities by creating opportunities that inspire hope, promote possibilities, and fulfill dreams.

HUMANITIES EXPERTISE

BCF fosters partnership and collaboration at all levels of work inside and outside of the agency, among BCF colleagues and programs, with other systems and service providers, and through entrepreneurship and advocacy on behalf of the children and families they serve. BCF's practice is reflective and creative. It is part of a culture of shared learning, of questions and discussions, of continuous professional development and ongoing improvement in the ways they serve their communities.

CONTACT

info@berkshirechildren.org

HUMANITIES RESOURCES & PROJECTS

PROGRAMS

Year-round programming reflects BCF's belief in connecting families with community resources can help them meet the challenges of everyday life. Programs include but are not limited to:

- <u>Kids 4 Harmony</u>: A free after-school music program that meets each day at Morningside Community School in Pittsfield and Brayton Elementary School in North Adams, MA. As a youth development program, Kids 4 Harmony's frequency, intensity, and expert music instruction encourage students to learn and work together as well as help students develop work ethics, social and collective responsibility, discipline, and high self-esteem. These are tools that lead children to success not only in music, but in anything else they may aspire to do.
- Child & Family Well-Being Programming: This array of programs is designed to strengthen all families to develop the skills they need to keep their children safe and build a strong family of support.
- o <u>Berkshire Mentoring Network</u>: The Network is a collective of mentoring programs in the Berkshires, which uses different approaches to mentoring, but our shared belief that mentoring can is a difference maker to young people in our community the Mentoring Network together. We come together to keep connected, inclusive, and informed. By supporting each other, in this vision, we can maximize our impact in the Berkshires and our own programs.

EVENTS

Seasonal events are listed <u>online</u>. Categories of events include <u>Arts</u> <u>and Crafts</u>, <u>Family Fun</u>, <u>Kids 4 Harmony Performance</u>, <u>Learning</u>, <u>Meetings</u>, <u>PlayGroup</u>, <u>Special Events</u>, and <u>Support Group</u>.

RESOURCES

Family Resource Center: Families and youth looking for support services can find it at the Family Resource Center, 480 West Street, Pittsfield. Services are available to anyone regardless of income, insurance or resident status. The FRC works with youth, families and the community to help with school challenges, provide parenting support, create opportunities for new experiences and learning, connect families and children to community resources, offer fun activities for all ages.