



Oblong Children's Christian Home

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Frequently Asked Questions

- ⤴ Who can come to the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - Children who are 5 to 16 years of age.
 - Children who are at-risk, neglected, or abused.
 - Children whose behaviors are appropriate for a family setting.
 - Children who are willing to cooperate with our program.

- ⤴ What kind of facility is the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - Our campus includes three family-style group homes and one relief home.
 - Full-time Christian houseparents model Christian values, teach biblical truths, and provide loving discipline.
 - Approximately 6-7 children may reside in each home.
 - We are based in a rural country setting.
 - The Illinois Department of Child and Family Services licenses our facility.

- ⤴ How much does it cost to place a child at the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - We never turn away children based on a family's income or ability to pay.
 - A placement fee and monthly board charges are based on a sliding scale.

- ⤴ Do the parents give up any rights when placing a child at the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - No! No parental rights or guardianship is given up when parents place their child.
 - Children are voluntarily placed by their parents and/or legal guardians.

- ⤴ How long does a child stay at the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - Children stay not less than one school year.
 - Time is allowed for the child and family to make significant progress on their goals towards successful family reunification.
 - Some children stay through high school graduation or beyond.

- ⤴ How is the family involved with the Oblong Children's Christian Home?
 - Weekly phone calls to the child after an initial two-week "settling-in" period.
 - Monthly participation in our monthly progress meetings via telephone or Zoom calls.
 - Monthly visitation, based on the needs of the child and their family.

- ⤴ What are day-to-day activities like for the children?
 - Children attend one of the schools in the community or our on-campus high school.
 - Children practice skills of living in a family setting: chores, gardening, playing, and participating in community and church events, as well as other normal family activities.
 - Members of each group home attend a local Christian Church/Church of Christ as a family and are also involved in youth groups, Christian summer camps, etc.