

***More than Just Numbers on a Page:  
State Programs Helping Kentuckians***



*Services for At-Risk Children*

**Individual:** Kaye Templin, CEO

**Organization:** Gateway Children's Services

**Location:** Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

**Services:** Gateway Children's Services began providing 24 hour/day, year round emergency shelter services in 1981 in response to the federal government's mandate that children could no longer be held in adult prisons. While an adult prison is not the place for a child who commits a status offense, (age-related acts such as truancy, running away, or being beyond control of authority), neither is a juvenile detention center. Gateway's crisis stabilization and emergency shelter care services take in at-risk children that are neglected or who have gotten in trouble and provide: education, recreation, individual and family counseling, and treatment.

Gateway has averaged between 250 and 275 children per year for 26 years – totaling approximately 105,000 days of care.

**Cost:** The services provided by Gateway often reunify families and prevent long-term out-of-home placement. This saves children and families from the trauma of separation and the state from excessive spending on secure detention and other out-of-home placement services. According to Templin, thirty days of providing care costs Gateway an average of \$115 per day, compared to \$211 per day at a juvenile detention center.

**The governor and legislators must prevent cuts to programs that help at-risk youth transition successfully into adulthood and save the state money in the long run.**

To view a 2-minute video about Gateway Children's Services and how budget cuts could affect future services, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGPgiT2dGHA>. To view other videos about how budget cuts impact Kentucky residents visit [www.youtube.com/kyyouthadvocates](http://www.youtube.com/kyyouthadvocates).