Isabel’s House is a 24/7-hour residential Crisis Nursery that provides the community’s most vulnerable children with care while a family is in crisis.

Background of Organization:

ASQ’s are used to identify children at-risk for developmental delays.

- Communication Skills
- Fine Motor Skills
- Gross Motor Skills
- Problem-Solving Skills
- Personal-Social Skills

Objective:

Conduct Ages and Stages Questionnaire for all children 4-60 months (5 years) old and improve emotional management and behavior in children by promoting the use of Conscious Discipline with children at Isabel’s House.

Conscious Discipline (1996):

Becky A Bailey Ph.D.

Trauma informed approach to discipline that provides an array of behavioral management skills used to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities.

“Discipline is not something you do to a child, it is something we develop within them.”

Career Goals:

UMKC MSW Program
Child Welfare Traineeship
My Girls Circle Experience
“Circle for Girls”

Freshelle Asberry                   Center for Dispute Resolution                     Department of Sociology
Missouri State University

Mission Statement
The Girls Circle Association seeks to encourage the development of strength, courage, confidence, honesty, and communication skills for girls. The goal is to enhance girls’ abilities so they are able to take full advantage of their talents, academic interests, career pursuits, and potential for healthy relationships.

So, What is Girls Circle?
Girls Circle is a model of structured support groups for girls from 9 to 18 years old. It’s designed to foster self-esteem, help girls maintain authentic connection with peers and adult women in their community, counter trends of self-doubt, and allow genuine self-expression through verbal sharing and creative activity.

Career Connections
I gained field experience within the realm of adolescent development through working with teen girls on their socioemotional development. My internship also strengthened my desire to build a career for myself in social work pertaining mostly to children and families.

Sociological Relevance
Throughout my experience I noticed how societal trends and attitudes were manifested within the discussions. The girls often held discussions with one another which aligned with the evolving values and beliefs of our society (LGBTQ+, gender fluidity, Feminism). I also worked with teenage girls on their socioemotional development within a school setting through affiliation of a nonprofit organization. These connections highlight the linkages which exist within our society that often interact with one another, resulting in influences on the individual.

Internship Tasks
- Coordinate with your co-facilitator regarding the lesson plans and needed supplies.
- Contact school counselors to introduce yourselves and build a relationship.
- Collect any needed supplies, including weekly snacks for the girls.
- Interact, mentor, support, and be accepting of the girls within your Circle.
- Be knowledge of weekly objectives and curriculum.
- Respond, reaffirm, and incite deeper conversations within the journals.
- Update notes and complete weekly reports.
- Administer Girl Circles surveys.
- Facilitate Girl Circle sessions.
- Report abuse and neglect.
TO ENABLE ALL YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED US MOST, TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL AS PRODUCTIVE, CARING, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS.

THIS INTERNSHIP IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO MY CAREER BECAUSE I WANT TO OPEN A NON-PROFIT CHILDRENS ORGANIZATION FOR AT RISK YOUTH. AS A SOCIOLOGY MAJOR WITH A MINOR IN AAS, MY GOAL IS TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE, AS WELL AS KNOW HOW TO SERVICE THOSE EXACT NEEDS. MY GOAL IS FOR THE FOUNDATION TO OFFER COUNSELING, SERVE MEALS, HAVE A PLACE TO STAY, AS WELL AS HAVE ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION.

MY MAIN OBJECTIVE OF MY INTERNSHIP WAS TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS MISSING FROM THE CENTER, AND FROM THE CHILDREN AND BE THE ONE TO PROVIDE THEM WITH THAT. I BECAME AN ASSET TO THE TEAM, AND WAS ABLE TO PIN POINT WHAT CREATES A GOOD NONPROFIT AND USE THAT IN MY PERSONAL INDEVERSE.

DURING MY INTERNSHIP I WORKED HANDS ON WITH THE CHILDREN, BEING AS AN ADDITION STAFF MEMBER. I HELPED WITH HOMEWORK, ART PROJECTS, CONFLICT RESOLUTION, BEING A FRIENDLY AND CONSISTENT FACE AND CLEAN UP. THE KIDS NEED THE EXTRA ATTENTION AND THE STAFF NEEDS THE SUPPORT.
### Shelter Background
- Operates out of Pathways United Methodist Church
- 25-50 women each night
- Over 2,200 women served
- 4-6 women placed in permanent housing each month
- Provides with bus passes, taxi vouchers, regular social work meetings, and rides

---

### Personal Takeaways
- Deepened my desire to help those around me
- Leadership
- Authority
- Communication
- Responsibility
- Challenged stereotypes about homeless community

---

### A Night at the Shelter
- Set up gym
- Answer door throughout the night
- Ensure guests have been assessed
- Change out laundry
- Provide toiletries/ sanitary items & medicine
- Set out breakfast and cleaning supplies
- Help everyone to stay on schedule

---

### Why YOU Should Get Involved
- Volunteers always needed
- Works great with a college sleeping schedule
- Time to catch up on homework and read
- Better understand the needs of the Springfield community and how to give back

---

**Savannah Spencer**  
Missouri State University  
Department of Sociology

---

An overnight shelter whose goal is to “provide women with a safe, emergency overnight shelter and facilitate access to supportive services in an atmosphere of dignity, harmony, and compassion.”