



## Press Release

For immediate release

For more information:

**Ben Cleaveland**

Program Supervisor

Bethany for Children & Families

309.736.6602

[bcleaveland@bethany-qc.org](mailto:bcleaveland@bethany-qc.org)

June 15, 2010

### **Bethany Confronts Homeless Youth Issue in the Quad Cities**

**Moline, Illinois** – Bethany for Children & Families (Bethany) announces the launch of Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth (THY) Program aimed at addressing the most pressing needs homeless youth have: a safe, stable home, income adequate to meet their basic needs, and assistance and direction in overcoming the problems that interfere with their ability to live independently. The program encourages self-sufficiency by giving young people opportunities to exercise their leadership and responsibility, build skills, and get involved in their communities.

The issue of homeless youth has been an ongoing concern within the Quad Cities community. The Scott County Continuum of Care consists of community organizations including Bethany for Children & Families, Community Health Care, DeLaCerde House, Family Resources, Inc., Humility of Mary Housing Services, Inc., Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc., The Salvation Army Family Service Center, and Vera French Housing Corporation. These agencies have come together to combat the youth homeless issue in the community. The program is designed to help the chronically homeless youth who have no other options for safe housing.

“This is a needed program in the Quad Cities. I’m glad that Bethany stepped forward and created the Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth Program,” said Ben Cleaveland, Program Supervisor for Bethany for Children & Families. “This program provides motivated youth an opportunity to enhance their life skills while learning to juggle the challenges of everyday life.”

During a one to two year period, the THY program prepares youth ages 14-21 who are homeless to transition into adulthood and live in a stable, safe, and clean environment while utilizing other community resources for future independent success. Bethany offers case management services including educational counseling, assistance with food and clothing, mentoring, money management, mental health services, family counseling, employment assistance, and many other services.

Client-youth are located in various apartments in the Quad Cities community. The apartments are furnished through donations from the community. There is on-going, random monitoring of the client-youth 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

For more information about the THY program, please visit [www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org) or call 309.797.7700. Bethany for Children & Families is a community service organization that has provided voluntary, not-for-profit services to children and families in western Illinois and eastern Iowa since 1899.

###