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### **Crossroads for Youth—ensuring every child deserves a chance**

**OXFORD**, Mich.—Crossroads for Youth in rural, northern Oakland County provides at-risk children ages 7-17 a safe environment for them to receive counseling, therapy, educational aid and support.

Fondly remembered as Camp Oakland, the facility has been a part of the Oxford community for more than 65 years. Crossroads for Youth maintains 320 acres, which the nonprofit utilizes in emotional and psychological healing programs for their residents, many of whom are affected by neglect and/or abuse.

The goal of Crossroads for Youth is to empower at-risk youth to evaluate their own behavior and actions and make thoughtful decisions throughout their lives. Abused and troubled youth come to Crossroads for Youth through referrals from the Department of Health and Human Services and the juvenile justice program. Children come from all across the state and stay for various lengths of time, depending on individual situations. In 2015, 197 at-risk children came to Crossroads for Youth.

Crossroads for Youth maintains separate lodging for boys and girls and has dedicated facilities to accommodate specialized directives including a Learning Center, the Achievement Center Program, Boys Center, Summit House and the Oxford Crossroads Alternative School.

“For many of these kids, it just takes one person to believe in them for them to believe in themselves,” said Chris Veihl, clinical director for Crossroads for Youth. Veihl supervises all clinical operations of the facility, develops programs in response to specific needs and oversees a staff of five therapists. He estimates he has worked with more than 5,500 youth since coming to Crossroads for Youth in 1996.

“It’s an honor and privilege to be in these people’s lives when they need us most,” said Veihl.

Crossroads for Youth is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) treatment agency that serves at-risk children and youth ages 7-17. Crossroads for Youth believes that every child deserves a chance and as such, works to strengthen families and youth with skills and tools so they become valuable contributors in their communities. For more information on Crossroads for Youth, or to make a donation, visit [www.crossroadsforyouth.org](http://www.crossroadsforyouth.org) or call 248-628-2561.

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