



VogelAlcove



THE PROBLEM

more than 3,000 children in Dallas
go to sleep each night without a
home of their own.



WE'RE ON A MISSION

to help children recover from the effects of homelessness—and the clock is ticking. 90% of brain development happens by the age of five. Without intervention at this critical time, homeless children may suffer lifelong social, emotional and educational deficits.

That's where we come in. Vogel Alcove provides free, comprehensive services for homeless children ages six weeks to 12 years old and their families. Our programs include early childhood education, school-age services and family support as well as health and wellness services.

Vogel Alcove serves as many as 200 children each day, allowing them to learn, grow and thrive in a place free from hunger or trauma.

Vogel Alcove's early childhood program is accredited by the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**, a distinction that only 8% of child care providers have received. Our highly-qualified teachers use a research-based curriculum that includes academic instruction as well as social/emotional skill-building and enrichment opportunities like art, music and physical development. Our children also benefit from our Nature Explore-certified outdoor classroom and therapeutic gardens.

Homelessness affects children's physical well-being in fundamental ways, leaving them hungry, tired and susceptible to illness. We offer a USDA-sponsored food service program that provides a healthy breakfast, lunch and snack for each child, each day. We also have daily nap and rest times, which are crucial for children who often don't get quality sleep at night.



Children experiencing homelessness are **four times more likely** than their peers to show delayed development, and **one in six** homeless children has emotional disturbances. To address these issues, we perform developmental screenings on all of the children we serve. For those who are assessed with delays, we provide onsite speech, occupational and/or physical therapy.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Unfortunately, the trauma of homelessness doesn't dissipate when children enter kindergarten. Homeless kids are two times more likely than their peers to be suspended from school, and 50% of school-age homeless children exhibit depression, anxiety and /or aggression.

Therefore, we offer comprehensive, school-age programming for children in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade. Our services for school-age children include Gap Camp, Kinder Camp and Summer Day Camp.

During school holidays, we offer Gap Camp—child care provided when Dallas ISD schools are closed. Gap Camp provides a safe, nurturing environment for children who might not have an appropriate place to gather outside of school. In addition to fun activities, exercise and intellectual stimulation, the children attending Gap Camp also receive a healthy breakfast, lunch and a snack.

For children who have been through traumatic experiences (such as homelessness), big changes are especially challenging. In our Kinder Camp program, preschoolers learn all about “big school” and get to practice activities that might be new to them, like going through a cafeteria lunch line or carrying a backpack. Our teachers ensure the kids are academically prepared for their first day of Kindergarten.

Camp Vogel, our summer day camp, offers enrichment and sports activities, arts and crafts, technology and science lessons, social/emotional skill building and field trips. Camp Vogel gives our children the chance to overlay positive memories upon negative ones and just be kids.

SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAM

FAMILY SUPPORT

We know that we cannot impact a child's life without helping his or her whole family. 95% of the children we serve belong to families headed by a single female. Most of our mothers are young (in their 20s) with more than one child younger than six.

Our moms may have difficulty finding employment due to factors such as educational barriers, past history, personal mental health issues or lack of accessible or affordable child care. They also may experience higher-than-average rates of depressive disorders, post-traumatic responses and anxiety disorders, all of which affect their parenting abilities.

We help to build a support system under these families, consisting of services such as:

- 1:1 case management to work on personal goals and challenges
- Mental health support and referrals
- Access to resources for their children – clothes, diapers, shoes, toys, etc.
- 1:1 employment and/or education assistance
- Support in navigating the process of securing housing in Dallas
- Crisis intervention and problem solving
- Parenting support and training
- Referrals to outside resources and community partners



DEVELOPMENT

As a nonprofit organization, we have to raise the money to fund our programming. Our Development team engages in fundraising through corporate partnerships, gifts from individuals and grants from foundations. Developing strong relationships with corporate partners increases awareness of our mission and generates donations to support it. These partnerships often consist of companies serving as sponsors for our events. We also work with companies that create their own fundraisers, with Vogel Alcove as the beneficiary.

Every donation given to Vogel Alcove truly is a gift. We could not sustain our operations without the generosity of individual donors. These gifts may be one-time, recurring or planned donations of any size. Gifts may be given in memoriam or honorarium of a loved one, or in support of specific events or programs.

Grants from charitable foundations provide the remainder of Vogel Alcove's funding. These grants may apply to specific programs, such as early childhood or school-age services, or may be applicable to any program.





Vogel Alcove has helped 15,000 children and their families since 1987.

Our services give back to children what homelessness has taken from them:

- Safety
- Privacy
- Respect
- Comfort
- Friendships
- Resources
- Routines
- Community
- A chance to learn and grow
- A chance to be a kid

Homeless children are the most invisible and neglected members of our community. But Vogel Alcove is devoted to helping these children cope with the physical, emotional and mental trauma they are experiencing so that they can succeed in life despite their circumstances.

OUR IMPACT



OUR VISION

Our vision is that every child in our community has a home, a self-sufficient family, and a pathway to success in school.

We know the need is great, and we see the poor outcomes that result when children do not receive our services. Homeless children are twice as likely as their peers to be hungry, to get sick and to have learning delays. 25% of homeless preschoolers and 40% of homeless school-age children have mental health problems that require clinical evaluation.

It is only with generous community support that we can continue to help children recover from the effects of homelessness and plan for future needs.

CONNECT WITH US!



VogelAlcove

214.368.8686 • VogelAlcove.org

PO BOX 150948 • Dallas, TX 75315

DONATE TO VOGELALCOVE TODAY

Please visit VogelAlcove.org now to make your tax-deductible donation, of any amount. Your gift will truly impact the lives of the homeless children we serve every day.