



STORIES OF HOPE Radio Show (HopeForOurKids.com)

HOPE is a future.

HEALING is the restoration of God-given dignity.

HOME is finding a child's forever family.



Mission and Impact:

LYDIA Association (LYDIA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit child welfare organization with the following mission: Strengthening families to care for children and caring for children when families cannot. LYDIA addresses the needs of children from backgrounds of trauma who do not fit into other therapeutic models or provisions. Most of the children at LYDIA have faced trauma that is difficult for many like us to imagine: neglect, abuse, the knowledge that their parent is not able to care for them and may not want them.

LYDIA serves at-risk families and children with backgrounds of trauma by providing a continuum of services with the aim of improving children's lives and restoring families. Most of us have been deeply and positively shaped by our homelife, our family.

LYDIA exists to give youth a safe home and a loving, engaged family. When children heal, they can move beyond their broken past and become members of society who can contribute and flourish.



Welcome to Lydia video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Nht7gwh74fE>

LYDIA has existed for more than 100 years to ensure love, value, and empowerment are given to the most challenging children whom everyone else has given up on. These children very well may not make it in life if they do not have interventions, support, and trusted people in their lives who believe in them. LYDIA is on the front lines of ensuring marginalized children have a chance to heal and become healthy adults.

Lydia 100th Anniversary Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0k4aOWg-V00&t=2s>

LYDIA benefits the local community by being a leader in the foster care ecosystem. Through training and support for local foster parents serving children in need, the community rallies together to ensure equity and a future for all its members. The city of Chicago has deeply ingrained racial inequities within the foster care system that are being addressed at LYDIA. The foster care system is comprised of 38.6% black people, 37.9% white people, and 19.6% Hispanic people, the population of the Illinois foster care system is disproportionately black. Black children make up 33% of children in foster care nationwide, with more than half of the children in foster care in Chicago being black.

LYDIA strives to be a voice of transformation and the hands and feet of healing within the foster care community throughout Chicagoland, supporting the more than 5,000 children in the foster care system and their families and support networks and caring for children beyond the walls of LYDIA who do not have a safe family or home environment to grow up in.

“Rising Tide” Video (Empowering Children at Scale):

<https://youtu.be/xFyhM3ZhU4>

Who We Help ----- *Lydia Home goes a Step Further*

Children who come from abuse

Children who come from trauma

Children who come from a home not able to care for them

Stories of Hope: Tavaris' Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDYNxIR4x9U>

Tavaris shares his story of how his foster parents and his mentor have impacted his life.

How We Help ----- *Lydia's Pillar Programs*

