



Meet Miranda.

Miranda's grades are slipping.

Withdrawn and anxious, she hasn't turned in class assignments in weeks. She has skipped school 11 days this month. She isn't eating or sleeping regularly. She gets into a fight with her best friend.

After school she goes directly home and into her room to avoid her parents. She doesn't want them to see the cuts up and down her arms, in various stages of healing. When asked about school or her friends, she lashes out and storms back into her room.

Text messages from friends are ignored. She skips activities that she previously enjoyed.

Miranda feels overwhelmed and can't seem to put her pain into words. Cutting is the only way she feels relief. But even this relief is temporary.

Thoughts of hurting herself are becoming more frequent and her attempts to hide them even more frantic. She thinks about how to end her life and what that would feel like.

Miranda's history of depression and the current 'pile up' of challenges with school and friends have created a crisis. She hasn't been in therapy or on medication since her freshman year. Back then, she saw a therapist a few times and got medication from a psychiatrist to cope with her mood. But it has never felt this bad before.

Miranda's parents discover her cutting and call her former therapist – who urges them to bring Miranda to the ER. Miranda admits to the ER doctor that her cutting has become more frequent and dangerous and that she has started to have suicidal thoughts.

She is referred for stabilization period of 3-5 days at Bellefaire JCB's Pediatric Psychiatric Unit.

Here, Miranda's crisis will stabilize and she will get the ongoing supports – a full diagnostic assessment, psychological testing, therapy, medication management and family counseling – needed to return to home, school and her life.

Here Now Always

our campaign for children

Pediatric Psychiatric Unit | Client Story

Bellefaire JCB is launching a Pediatric Psychiatric Unit to provide comprehensive care for children in psychiatric crisis.

Located on our 32-acre campus in Shaker Heights/University Heights, the new facility will be accredited by The Joint Commission and licensed by the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

This facility will expand Bellefaire's capacity to serve families of our region, the State of Ohio and from across the nation.

THE NEW FACILITY WILL INCLUDE:

- Crisis care for children ages 6 – 22
- 12 inpatient beds to serve an anticipated 1,500 youth per year – a 50% increase in the number of beds for this type of service in Cuyahoga County
- Specialized capacity to serve youth on the autism spectrum – where none currently exists
- Diagnostic evaluation
- Full range of medication management
- Individual and group therapy
- Education program to facilitate uninterrupted academic progress
- Multidisciplinary treatment teams consisting of psychiatric nurses, social workers, mentalhealth technicians, nutritionist and activity therapists for therapeutic art and recreation
- Seamless transition to appropriate next levels of care
- A vital resource for Bellefaire's own client population and a partner to other social service agencies, referring physicians, hospitals and emergency rooms, schools, juvenile court and law enforcement

This is a tremendous opportunity to help at-risk children and families in our community. Bellefaire is uniquely positioned to provide the stabilization and continuing care that helps gets children back on track. **But we can only do this with your partnership today.**