



KHAIR

Taking care of kids ~ One head at a time.

A Partnership between Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. & Clifford Beers Clinic

KHAIR Mission Statement

KHAIR is a special partnership between Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. and the Clifford Beers Clinic. KHAIR aims to serve at-risk children through a unique program in which children are paired with hair stylists or barbers who will commit to monthly appointments for one year. The participating salon will also provide free product and direction for routine hair maintenance. KHAIR strives to provide these children with the dignity and respect they deserve, and enhance their levels of confidence through “KHAIR” that they might not otherwise receive.

How does it work?

The KHAIR KIDS are matched to a salon or barber that will suit their hair-specific needs. The salons and barbershops will be selected based on their commitment to community service and willingness to contribute to the well being of the adolescents in the program.

Who is involved?

KHAIR KID—A youth participant in the KHAIR program.

KHAIR Coordinators—Employees of CHNCT & Clifford Beers Clinic and those who transport and care for the KHAIR KIDS.

KHAIR Stylists—the select group of stylists and barbers.

KHAIR Captains—the mentor or chosen individual who accompanies the youth to their hair appointment.

Community Health Network of CT, Inc.—“The One with the Sun!”, located in Wallingford, CT is a not-for-profit community health plan that provides free or low cost health insurance to children and families in CT who qualify for the HUSKY program --HUSKY is a Healthcare for Uninsured Kids and Youth in CT. .

Clifford Beers Clinic of New Haven—Clifford Beers strives to provide accessible community-based mental health services and advocacy that promotes healthy and resilient lives for children and families. Established in 1913, the Clifford Beers Clinic is the oldest community-based non-profit outpatient mental health clinic in the country.

Wednesday’s Child—For more than two decades, News Channel 8/MY TV 9 has partnered with The Department of Children and Families to find adoptive homes for children who have suffered abuse or neglect, through the “Wednesday’s Child” feature. Each week at Noon and 5:30 pm, News Channel 8’s Veronica Douglas gives a voice to the voiceless children of Connecticut waiting for their forever family.



KHAIR TIP SHEET ~ FOR KHAIR STYLISTS

What is Self Esteem and why is it important?:

Feeling good about your self, that is, taking care of your appearance, helps you take better care of the other important things in life, like doing well in school, having friends, and feeling valued and loved.

Violence, poverty, racism, poor education and many other things we don't like to think about affect many of our children in the community. There are thousands of children in Connecticut who are not living with their parents or relatives. These children have often experienced hard times in their short life. These events affect the way children feel about themselves and how they see their place in the world.

That is where KHAIR comes in. We believe all children deserve to be cared for and to experience joy. We believe it is important for every child to feel good about themselves.

We want to provide children who may not have that special person who cares about their appearance or who supports their self-esteem to have the opportunity to be treated special and encouraged to be the best that they can be.

It is a lot of fun for a youth to go to a salon and have their hair done and be taught ways to maintain their hair between visits. KHAIR invites you to be that special person in a child's life.

What do I Need to Do? The most important thing for you to do as a KHAIR stylist is to CARE! Our KHAIR representative will call you to make an appointment for the child or youth. Transportation will be arranged, and the child will be at your appointment on time and ready for a session. It is important to treat the child like any of your customers, for example, don't ask too many personal questions. It is important to remember that the child's identify and personal information are confidential, and that no one else needs to know which of your customers is a KHAIR KID.

Offer the child tips on taking care of their hair between sessions, and if you can offer them products, brushes, combs that will help them take care between visits.

Caring for our children, passing on self-esteem and pride is KHAIR's number one priority! Thanks for your commitment to Connecticut's Future, our children!