ITALIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN
RESIDENTIAL/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

1125 Centre Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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Website: www.italianhome.org

Populations Served
Attention Deficit Disorder, Behaviorally Disordered,
Emotionally Disturbed, Learning Disabled

School Profile
Gender: M/F
Age Range Served: 5 - 13
Age at Admission: 5 - 12
Program: Day School/Afterschool/Res-Ed
Staff/Pupil Ratio: 1 : 4
# of Months Open: 12
# of Days Open: 365 Res/220 Day
Current Enrollment: 36 Day Students/12 Residential Students

Admissions Procedure
Admissions are open throughout the year on an availability basis. Children referred for admission are screened by the intake team (Directors of Group Care, Social Services, and Education) as to appropriateness and ability to benefit from treatment modalities offered. Reps. from the LEA, DCF, DMH, along with parents, child and other pertinent parties are asked to attend an intake interview. The Intake team makes a decision based on the needs of the child.

Approval/Licensing/Accreditation
766 Approved by DESE (502.5 Day, 502.5 C/S, 502.6). Licensed by DEEC.

Affiliations/Membership
Member of maaps, NEN, GBAAPS, CWLA. COA Accredited.

Programs and Services
The Italian Home for Children is a residential and day treatment facility for emotionally disturbed and learning disabled children. The day students are involved in a 9-4:45 program (Mon-Thurs) and 9-Noon (Fri). The program offers an interdisciplinary team approach. The Therapeutic After-School Program and the School Vacation/Summer Camp program provide out-of-school time for 12 students who are in danger of disrupting from their educational placements or home or are returning from out-of-home placements. The After-School and Summer Camp programs support children in building their capacity to utilize community resources and supports. Special services include:

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Special Needs Teachers provide behaviorally based classroom management and teach all elementary subject areas. All instruction is provided 1:1 or in a small group setting; Speech/Language Therapist and Occupational Therapist provides 1:1 and/or small group instruction to students as needed. Reading Specialist conducts diagnostic evaluations and provides 1:1 remediation as needed.

CLINICAL: Staff social workers, expressive therapist and a consulting psychologist provide clinical and diagnostic services on a group and individual basis as well as outreach interventions with multi-problem families.

MEDICAL: A staff nurse oversees and coordinates medical services, most of which are provided by other vendors on an out-patient basis.

Location and Facilities
Italian Home is located at 1125 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain. Although situated in the city of Boston, it is located on a large campus and provides a "suburban-like" surrounding. The children reside in one of 6 dormitories on campus which offer a home-like atmosphere. The school is located in a newly constructed "state of the art" building on the campus. A separate building houses the Admin. Offices. Other facilities include: swimming pool, ball field and playground.

History and Philosophy
Italian Home for Children (originally named The Home for Italian Children) was founded in 1919 as an orphanage for Italian children who had lost their parents. As the type of child referred (children with emotional/behavioral problems) began to change, the program shifted the nature of its services. Italian Home's family-oriented service delivery system is anchored by a belief that all children should be returned to family living at the earliest possible time and that they be educated in the least restrictive program appropriate to their needs.