Baptist Children’s Homes of North Carolina (BCH) provides residential services for children in eastern North Carolina at Kennedy Home in Kinston.

Kennedy Home was once a large plantation owned by William Lafayette Kennedy. The 1400-acre facility is located eight miles west of Kinston. Unique to BCH facilities, it includes a fifty-acre residential campus, farmland, woodlands, wetlands, and creeks. The Neuse River runs through the property. On the property there are outdoor camping sites as well as indoor and outdoor recreational facilities.

At Kennedy Home, school-age children are given an opportunity to overcome personal and family problems while staff works to preserve or reunify families. Length of placement is determined by the time necessary for the resident and his/her family to achieve their goals. Every effort will be made to admit a child as soon as possible according to their needs.

Model of Care: Baptist Children’s Homes uses the CARE Model developed by Cornell University. Children And Residential Experiences (CARE): Creating Conditions for Change is designed to support safe environments, strong programmatic elements and a wide-variety of treatment programs and interventions that are trauma-sensitive and developmentally appropriate. It is designed with the child’s best interests in mind.

CARE is based on the following six principles:
1) Developmentally focused
2) Family involved
3) Relationship based
4) Competence centered
5) Trauma informed
6) Ecologically oriented

Service Area: BCH’s Eastern Area Family Services provides these residential and placement services: residential care, family care, transitional living for boys, after care and foster care services. The Kinston Area serves the following North Carolina counties: Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson. Other counties will be considered based on need.

Residential Care: Caring staff members help families to understand and define their immediate relationships enabling them to make decisions concerning their futures. Children and their families learn communication and problem-solving skills. Based on a young person’s age, maturity and projected plan following residential service, preparation for adult living is incorporated in the plan of service.

Family Care: We offer a Family Care cottage for single mothers and their children. The transitional program provides a goal-focused living environment within a cottage setting. Family Care is specifically structured to help mothers transition to a successful, independent living situation.
Transitional Living Program: Kennedy Home offers a transitional residential program to help boys age 17-21 become prepared for independence. The transitional living program is designed to assist youth as they transition from dependent, out-of-home care to self-sufficient independence. Strategies to accomplish these goals will be clear and measurable. The length of placement is determined by the time it takes the young person to accomplish his goals.

After Care: After care is offered to the child and custodian following each residential service placement.

Foster Care: We are a licensed foster care provider. Foster Care is a service providing substitute residential care for a child over a planned period when his/her family or legal custodian cannot provide care. A family foster home is a facility licensed for care and a place of residence for a family who receives as many as one, but no more than five children, for 24-hour care. Visit www.bchfostercare.org

Campus Enrichment: Children are provided enrichment opportunities through a Spiritual Development Program, and Therapeutic Recreational Program. Enrichment provides opportunities for children to grow and develop mind, spirit, and body.

Kennedy Home offers a GED program in partnership with the Lenoir County Community College system and is dedicated to the educational needs and challenges of all residents. The children in care attend schools in the community.

The Spiritual Development Program consists of daily devotions, weekly vespers, discipleship classes, and Sunday worship services. Each of Kennedy Homes cottages attend worship services at local community churches. Kennedy Home offers a Christian environment and encourages families to worship and pray together.

The Therapeutic Recreational Program, through its variety of on-campus facilities including a gym, pool, camping areas, and outdoor fields, provide for the development of the child’s own physical body. There are opportunities to gain self-esteem while learning self-reliance, teamwork, and a sense of fair play.

Campus Support Services: The Kennedy Home Work Program helps youth experience a variety of vocational positions such as painting, landscaping, food services, carpentry, and recreational support. The campus farm land and landscaping projects offer children experiences in horticulture.

Cost of Services
Cost of service is based on a sliding fee scale for parent or relative custodians. DSS and other social service custodians will pay based on a pre-established purchase of service charge.

Information and Referrals
To inquire about admission, call the intake case manager during business hours at 252-522-0811 or after hours 252.361.5671. You can also visit www.bchfamily.org/referral Fax: 252-527-4422 Email: infokennedyhome@bchfamily.org Website: www.kennedyhome.org

Correspond by Mail
Kennedy Home/Kinston Area Family Services 2557 Cedar Dell Lane, Kinston, NC 28504 Brian Baltzell, Director

“I cannot think of a better reason to be at Kennedy Home than to grow spiritually, mentally and physically.” ~ Nicolya

Accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children & Family Services, in 2011. Baptist Children’s Homes of North Carolina received a perfect review scoring the highest possible rating on all 667 standards.