

Six-month-old Molly was clearly not doing well when she came to Kids in Crisis. Her young parents were neglectful and Molly was making many trips to the Emergency Room to treat a wide range of physical issues. When state officials brought Molly to Kids in Crisis, Angela, our Nurse Practitioner, spent hours pouring over her spotty medical history and additional time providing an extensive exam to analyze Molly's many medical needs. A dangerous, chronic form of asthma and numerous allergies were discovered and medication was immediately prescribed; working with an area Pulmonologist, Molly's treatment plan was expanded. Ongoing urinary tract infections were traced to poor hygiene, and the infections soon disappeared. Angela spent many sessions with family members, teaching proper nutrition, medical care, and personal hygiene before Molly returned home five weeks later – and four pounds closer to her ideal weight.

The TLC Health Center

Experts hear and heal the pain. Part of the distinctive care provided by Kids in Crisis can be found behind the doors of the TLC Health Center. Located inside the Crisis Nursery, the TLC Health Center helps heal the whole child by providing complete medical care from a full-time Nurse Practitioner, support from a consulting Psychiatrist and a Psychologist, and help from other area specialists who provide additional medical care.

Children begin their stay at Kids in Crisis with an in-depth physical examination, including required immunizations. Many times, undiagnosed medical issues, including hearing and vision problems, are first identified at the TLC Health Center, operated in connection with Stamford-based HealthCare Connection, Inc. The on-site Nurse Practitioner also gives parents and caregivers educational instruction on medical and nutritional care. When children leave Kids in Crisis, each takes a detailed medical dossier providing insight on individual needs.

This year, 99 children received extensive physicals at Kids in Crisis; 33 required immunizations and another 60 received in-depth health education services. ■

*“When I came here, I saw the nurse.
She asked me a lot of questions
and checked my eyes. She said I needed glasses.
Now school and stuff are a lot easier.”*

—FORMER RESIDENT