**Success Story**

Sean was eight years old when his aunt started bringing him for treatment to Edgewood’s Child and Family Treatment Collaborative, a program that provides mental health services aimed at helping children and families develop the skills necessary to have a healthy home environment. A slight African-American boy with sparkling brown eyes, Sean was bounced from relative to relative around the Bay Area while his mother battled a dependency on crack cocaine. His assigned Collaborative clinician took note of Sean’s difficulty sitting still and listening to authority figures, all expressions of his turbulent life. Sean had already attended three different schools by his second year of elementary school. Most school days ended with Sean running away or getting so frustrated he had to be restrained or taken home by the police. Meeting with a therapeutic behavior coach at Edgewood provided him with one-on-one guidance on how to manage his feelings at school. As Sean improved, it was clear that it would be helpful to have his mother involved in his treatment. Sean’s mother was able to enroll in an outpatient drug rehabilitation program and began planning her future with Sean in Edgewood family conferencing sessions. With the clarity that sobriety brought, Sean’s mother had a new drive to reunite her family. She found a job at a nearby fast food restaurant and the family’s case manager helped her secure low-income housing. Edgewood furnished the house, including a set of prized dishes on which Sean’s mother served the family’s first and subsequent dinners together. Sean was able to take the tools he learned from his coach and clinician to succeed in his community. He joined the Boys and Girls Club and started playing group sports at the YMCA. Because Sean’s behavior was so changed, Edgewood services were no longer needed and Child Protective Services restored Sean to his mother’s custody. Edgewood transformed Sean’s life by giving him back the family he deserved.