



# UNITED WE HELP CHILDREN REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL

LIVE UNITED

**R**obert struggled with behavior issues from the young age of eight. On many occasions, Robert’s mom found herself calling the police in an effort to control his outbursts. At school, Robert was repeatedly in trouble for not doing his work and mouthing off to staff.

That summer, Robert’s mother decided to enroll him in the Mayhew Program in hopes that it might make a positive impact on his behavior.

He had a challenging, yet, productive first summer on Mayhew Island. When he approached an activity with a positive attitude, he often flourished, putting in a great deal of hard work and encouraging his cabinmates. Over the next 8 summers, Robert continued to attend Mayhew and his time there was filled with encouraging growth in his thoughtfulness toward others.

As he entered his late teens, Robert continued to act out towards his mother in the form of ugly verbal arguments until he was eventually kicked out of the house.

For a time following his graduation from high school, Robert was couch surfing among friends and had few prospects for jobs and little initiative. This, despite every effort from the Mayhew staff to help guide him in some more positive directions and toward some existing community supports. While Robert seemed resistant to making any real and needed changes, he remained very interested in maintaining his contact with his Mayhew Outreach Worker after his graduation from the program.

After half a year of being out of touch with Mayhew, we heard through his mother that Robert had reconnected with her and that he had enlisted in the Army.



1,300+

young people engaged in enriching afterschool & summer programming, supporting their academic and social development.

**“ This year marks ten years that I’ve been involved with Mayhew. It really set me up for success in life. As of last month, I am now a member of the United States Army, thanks to the life skills and values Mayhew taught me as I was a camper and kitchen staff and now a Program Extension graduate. Thank you to all the staff who have encouraged me these last ten years! ”**

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

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