



Morrison's Miracles

Jacob* is one such miracle. He arrived at Morrison's Hand in Hand Day Treatment Center as a nine year old with a perpetual scowl on his face and a worn out backpack bursting with toys. It was several weeks before he would communicate enough to share that he did not feel that the toys were safe at home and did not know if he would need to pick up and move quickly. According to Jacob, no one cared about him and he did not care about anyone. He found his school work to be "stupid" and would often run away from difficult situations, damage his surroundings or even steal things. With the support of the Hand in Hand staff, Jacob started to build cooperative and self-directed skills to cope with his emotions and to develop esteem for himself and respect for the world around him. He began to greet staff by name each morning and beamed when they responded to him in a warm and positive manner.

After several months, Jacob became engaged and responsible for his school work and for the way he responded to situations. He stopped destroying property. The anger and hopelessness Jacob brought with him to the program were replaced by the skills needed to connect with people and to succeed in school. As his graduation out of Hand in Hand and back into his area school neared, Jacob approached every adult he knew at Morrison and invited them to celebrate his achievement with him. A child with no confidence in the world has been transformed into a child confident that others will celebrate his achievements. We at Morrison are proud of Jacob and his accomplishments and the miracle he represents.