Hogares Teresa Toda is a nonprofit organization in Loíza, Puerto Rico with a mission to provide young girls ages 6 to 17 victims of abuse, neglect or abandonment, a foster home where family love and sensitive care are permeated throughout daily life and activities. As much as is possible, we seek to re-establish healthy links and livelihood between the child and her parents or legal custodians.
**Brief History**

Hogares Teresa Toda was built and founded in 1993 by the Congregation of Hermanas Carmelitas Teresas de San José, Inc. from Barcelona, Spain. The original residence accommodates up to 14 girls. As part of a capacity building project, in 2002 we began construction of a two story residential facility with two separate dorm units with 14 private bedrooms each and joined by common dinning, restrooms, library, lobby and terrace. One unit houses teens ages 13 to 17 and the other houses young women 18 and older as independent residents. In an effort to prevent child abuse, a separate building was also constructed and opened its doors in 2005. The new center named “Politecnico Teresiano” as an educational and community multipurpose service center. This center offers vulnerable individuals, youth and families opportunities to propel out of cycles of economic hardship, violence, and substance abuse.

**Our Services**

We offer our clients medical, dental and mental health care along with on site social worker, formal education and tutoring, supervised studies, transportation, recreation, cultural development including, performing and visual arts. The families we serve are torn by dysfunction with a history of domestic violence, child abuse, abandonment and/or neglect. Most of our clients are removed from their homes by the state agency of child welfare and referred to us for permanent institutional foster home services. Others are referred directly by their families or community members.