**CHILDREN’S PUBLICLY-FUNDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Call the Crisis Intervention hotline if you feel that a child/adolescent is an imminent danger to themselves or others due to mental health issues

(**610) 280-3270 or 1-877-918-2100**.

This is a 24-hour a day, 7 days a week service.

If ever in doubt about personal safety, call 911 and ask for the police.

**Children’s Core Provider System**

Access to comprehensive services is through the core provider system.

To receive any of the following services, the child/adolescent must have a mental health diagnosis and a doctor (psychiatrist) must prescribe that services are medically necessary.

Eligible children (see below) can register for services with one of the county’s Child Core Provider agencies (Creative Health Services, Devereux Community Services, Child Guidance Resource Centers, and Holcomb Behavioral Health Services).

All children with a mental health diagnoses qualify for Medical Assistance regardless of parent income. Documentation of income must be provided to determine if the child and family qualify for any additional benefits. Core Provider agencies assist families to apply for MA.

If a child is already receiving MA and needs a mental health assessment, contact Community Care Behavioral Health (1-866-622-4228) to be referred to an assessment site. If you have private insurance it must be exhausted first; however, if you are requesting a level-of-care assessment to qualify for Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS), private insurance does not have to be accessed first. *You must specify that this is the reason for the assessment.*

**Treatment Services**

All mental health services are voluntary with the exception of when someone presents as a danger to self or others.

At the age of 14 a child is able to consent to their own treatment. Parents may also consent for them. Adolescents are also responsible for release of any records. This is outlined in Act 147 (Minors’ Consent Act, as Amended.)

**Outpatient** – Counseling services for children, adolescents, and families provided at an agency. Psychiatric, psychological and medication monitoring can also be provided.

**Partial Hospital** - A program operated during the daytime hours, which provides individual and group counseling as well as medication monitoring. Education is also provided at these programs via the Intermediate unit.

**Family-Based Mental Health Services** - Intensive in-home services that usually include several hours per week for up to 32 weeks. The number of hours is tailored to the needs of the family and is family therapy focused. This program is used to divert children from a higher level of treatment or to assist them in adjusting when leaving a higher level of treatment.

**Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services** (BHRS) – (Also referred to as “wrap around”). This program provides services to children in their own home and community with a strong emphasis on natural supports. There are three services funded under BHRS as described below. Other specialized programs also can be developed.

**Therapeutic Staff Support** **(TSS)** - TSS staff assists family in applying behavioral techniques to work with their child in various situations.

**Mobile Therapist (MT)** - Provides counseling to the child and family in the home and community and supervises the TSS/TSSA. MT staff can write up behavior programs.

**Behavior Specialist Consultant (BSC)** - Develops behavior plans. They can be experts in specific areas of treatment.

**Summer Therapeutic Activities Program (STAP)** – Camp-like program with an emphasis on psychosocial rehabilitation.

**Functional Family Therapy (FFT) -** Intensive evidenced based family treatment. FFT consists of 12-16 sessions. 24 hour on call is not part of the service. Other clinical services are not recommended to be provided at the same time. This service works extremely well with those also involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Multisystemic Therapy (MST) -** Over a period of 4 - 6 months, MST is delivered in homes, neighborhoods, schools and communities by master’s level professionals or experienced bacholer’s level professionals with low case loads. A crucial aspect of MST is its emphasis on promoting behavioral change in the youth’s natural environment.

**Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)** is a short term, evidence based therapy that works with families to increase the child’s pro-social behaviors and increase the parent’s behavior management skills while improving the quality of the parent/child relationship. This model targets children ages 2-7 who are exhibiting externalized disruptive behaviors (i.e. verbal and physical aggression, noncompliance, defiance, temper tantrums, and ADHD symptoms).

**Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)** is a research-based therapy model that supports children and their families in trauma related challenges. The goal of TF-CBT is to help address the bio-psychosocial needs of children with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or other problems related to traumatic life experiences. TF-CBT is a model of psychotherapy that combines trauma-sensitive interventions with cognitive behavioral therapy. Children and parents are provided knowledge and skills related to processing the trauma; managing distressing thoughts, feelings, and behaviors; and enhancing safety, parenting skills, and family communication.

**Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)** is an evidence-based behavior therapy that teaches how to better manage powerful emotions, urges, and thoughts that seem to be too difficult for the person to control under their regular ways of coping and dealing with day-to-day life. It is not a “process” based therapy in which change occurs through exploring feelings and thoughts leading to insight, but rather it is a skills-based therapy in which skills are taught, learned, practiced and measured leading to changes in behavior.

**Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC)** A specially trained foster care home with 24-hour supervision for children and adolescents with serious MH needs.

**Residential Treatment Facility (RTF)** – Residential program that provides individual, group, family and milieu therapies.

**Inpatient** - Psychiatric hospital stays for the acute stage of mental illness or behavioral difficulties. Inpatient stays are very short term, usually no longer than 10 days.

## Case Management Services Administrative Management - Short-term, office-based case management to assist in accessing needed services.

**Resource Coordination** – (Usually) office-based case management that does not include a 24-hour on-call system.

**Blended Case Management (BCM)** – Case management services that include both intensive case management level and resource coordination level of service intensity. Children/families may move between levels according to need without changing their case manager. Intensive case management level includes a 24-hour on-call service.

# Children's Review Team - This group assists with all referrals for RTF or TFC. They also provide case management for children while in placement and assistance with discharge planning. This group is located at Child and Family Focus.

# LIST of PROVIDERS

# FULL SERVICE CORE PROVIDERS

**Creative Health Services, Inc.**   
One Mennonite Road Spring City PA 19475 (610) 948-6490

Children's Intake Specialist:  (610) 948-6490 ext. 1525

**Devereux Community Services**

1041 West Bridge Street Phoenixville PA

Children’s Intake Specialist: (610) 933-8110 ext: 2841

**Holcomb Behavioral Health Services**

920 E. Baltimore Pike Kennett Square 19348

Children's Intake Specialist: (610) 388-7400

**Child Guidance Resource Centers**

744 E. Lincoln Highway Suite 420 Coatesville PA 19320

Contact: Intake Specialist: (610) 383-5635 ext 3212

**BHRS-ONLY (Wrap-Around) Providers**  
Network for Behavior Change (Exton) (610) 524-8701 ext. 160

CCIU (Downingtown) (484) 237-5241

Penn Psychiatric (Phoenixville) (610) 917-2200 for evaluations only   
 (Collegeville) (610) 489-3340

Devereux Whitlock (Berwyn) (610) 942-5900 or (610) 296-6800

TW Ponessa (Exton) (610) 363-5500

**FAMILY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES Providers**  
Child and Family Focus (Phoenixville) (610) 783-1788 ext. 225   
(includes Family-based for children with autism)

Child Guidance Resource Centers (Coatesville) (610) 383-5635

Creative Health Services, Inc. (Spring City) Contact Intake: (610) 948-6490 ext. 1521

Devereux Community Services (Phoenixville) Contact Intake: (610) 933-8110

Holcomb- (Exton & Kennett Square) Contact Intake: (610) 363-1488

Northwestern Human Services Chester County Division (Kennett Square) (610) 444-1552 Contact: Tim Sosar (215) 442-1570 ext. 11 or Pete Demeester (Family-Based

Warwick Family Services (Malvern) Contact Intake: (267) 210-6966

**PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY Providers**

Child Guidance Resource Centers: (Coatesville) Contact Intake: 610-383-5635 ext. 3212

Devereux Community Services (Phoenixville) Contact: 610-933-8110

**DIALECTICAL BEHAVIORAL THERAPY Providers**

Devereux Community Services (Phoenixville) Contact Intake: 610-933-8110

**Therapeutic Foster Care**

Child and Family Focus: (Kennett Square) Contact Intake: (484) 732-8459 ext. 40

**Functional Family Therapy**

Vision Quest East Chester County (Downingtown) Contact Intake: (610) 486-2280 ext. 3217

**Multisystemic Therapy**

Child Guidance Resource Centers – Contact : (484) 454-8700 ext.1404

## Therapeutic Summer Activities Program

Child Guidance Resource Centers: Contact Intake: (484) 484-8700 ext. 1465

**Advocates**

Child and Family Focus (Audubon) (610) 650-7750 Contact Supervisor: Paul Karaman

* Ed McKenna
* Kim Booz
* Deb Willett (JPO Children)

Education Advocate at the ARC: (610) 696-8090 ext. 220 Contact: Jodi Dill

CCIU Parent Mentor (Downingtown) (484) 237-5123 Contact: Maryann Amici

**Chester County Dept of MH/IDD: (610) 344-6265 or 1-800-692-1100 ext 6265**

**Contact Maureen Stryker (610) 344-5358 Strykerme@chesco.org**

### HOW TO APPLY FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ACCESS CARD

### Contact the Department of Public Welfare, Chester County Assistance Office at

Location: 100 James Buchanan Drive, Thorndale

Phone (610) 466-1000 or Toll Free (888) 814-4698

Fax (610) 466-1130

What to bring: Your child’s Social Security Card

Medical Evaluation (must have five axis diagnoses)

Make a copy of Social Security card and

Medical Evaluation (for the County Assistance Office to keep)

**OR** you can apply online using Compass [**www.compass.state.pa.us**](http://www.compass.state.pa.us)

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| * If you want to find out if you qualify for Pennsylvania health and human services, apply for new benefits, finish your application or check your status, you're in the right place. |
|  |
| * By using COMPASS you can apply at any time during the day or night from home, a library or any location with Internet access. |
|  |
| * COMPASS is an online application for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs. |

* You do not have to be turned down first by Social Security to apply.
* It may take 2-3 weeks to receive your ACCESS card. You will first receive an ELIGIBLE NOTICE paper then your ACCESS card will follow.