

Who is Eligible for the Project?

- The child/youth must be at least age 6 and under age 18.
- The child/youth must have a high level of need for intense services. In technical terms that means the youth is experiencing significant emotional and/or functional impairments that impact his/her level of functioning at home or in the community.
- The child cannot: be eligible for Medicaid, have an open DCS case or open probation case.
- The child cannot be eligible for services through the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services.
- The family must be struggling to keep the child or those around him/her safe because the child's pattern of behavior is so risky.

"Being a parent is really the most important job in the world. These seeds we plant in our children grow. We must take care of them."
~ Anonymous



To Make a Referral for
Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh
or Warrick Counties

Call the Access Site:
812.436.4279

The Children's Mental Health Initiative

A Department of Child Services and Division of Mental Health and Addictions partnership to help youth with intensive mental health challenges and their families





Serving Youth With Intensive Needs

Some children struggle with significant mental health issues and their families have difficulty accessing services because their insurance doesn't cover the high level of service their child needs.

Indiana has several programs for children and youth with serious emotional problems that allow families to receive extra help in their homes while they continue to live in the community.

And now there is a new opportunity for families to access services through a unique partnership between the Department of Child Services and the Division of Mental Health and Addiction.

This program is called the Children's Mental Health Initiative.

How this Program Can Help

This program is designed to combine formal supports that the youth needs with the natural supports he or she has in the community. These supports are "wrapped around" the youth and family to achieve a positive outcome in their natural environment.

This will be done through an individualized planning process with the assistance of a Wraparound Facilitator. The Wraparound Facilitator will help create a child and family team that will include teachers, counselors, pastors, neighbors, friends, family and other people involved with the family.

Through the child and family team process, families will get help with the problems the youth is having, and discover ways to use his/her strengths and skills to be successful. The family and its team will develop a plan to make sure they have steps to take when there is an emergency.

Everyone on the team will meet regularly and talk about the things that are working well and what is not working well—making changes to the plan if necessary.



How to Access Services

The State of Indiana has agreements with community Access Sites around the state. The Access Site serves as a clearinghouse to determine eligibility for this program as well as a variety of other intensive mental health services.

Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare serves as the Access Site for Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties.

Community members, schools, judges, parents, prosecutors, DCS, public defenders—anyone—can refer a child to the Access Site.

The Access Site will contact the family and secure authorization to determine the youth's eligibility for this program.

If the youth qualifies, the Access Site will make arrangements for a Wraparound Facilitator to assist the family going forward.

If the youth does not qualify for this particular program, the Access Site will assist the family by making a connection with other community resources that might benefit the youth and family.

Contact Us for Referrals in
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or Warrick Counties

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