



# Child Welfare Resource Guide

## Table of Contents

Service Type:	Page
Neglect/Abuse	1
Behavioral Health Facilitation and Coordination	3
Emergency and Crisis Interventions	5
Community Resources	7

## **Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS)**

**Responsibility:** The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) is New Jersey's child protection and child welfare agency within the Department of Children and Families. Its mission is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children and to support families. DYFS is responsible for assessing and investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect, and if necessary arranging for the child's protection and the family's treatment. DCYF works collaboratively with the county court to place the child in foster care. If a child has been harmed or is a risk of harm, DYFS may recommend to the county courts to place the child with a relative or in foster care, if safety can not be ensured.

DYFS contracts with many community-based agencies throughout the state to provide services to children and families. Such services include counseling, parenting skills and classes, substance abuse treatment, in-home services, foster care and residential placement. DYFS also recruits and licenses foster and adoptive homes for children placed in their care and custody by the county courts.

**The Child Abuse Hotline (State Central Registry) receives all the reports of suspected abuse and neglect 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Reporting requiring a field response is forwarded to the DYFS Local Office who investigates.**

**After normal business hours, the hotline is linked with a statewide network of Special Resource Units (SPUR) charged with the responsibility of responding to reports.**

**Report of suspected abuse or neglect:  
1-800-NJ-ABUSE (1-800-652-2873)  
Additional information regarding DYFS, contact the Salem  
Local Office at 1-800-531-1263**

## **Differential Response**

**Responsibility: Case Management Services for Non-Abuse & Neglect** – Differential Response is a voluntary service for Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem County families who are not active with DYFS and have no identified safety, abuse and neglect issues. Case management services are provided to assist families with children, ages 0 to 17, who are experiencing challenges, or who have needs that threaten their stability. Examples include homelessness, unemployment, financial burdens and parent child issues. Families must be directly referred by the Statewide Central Registry (or the New Jersey Abuse Hotline) initiated by a parent/caregiver, a youth, an immediate household member, or from a helping professional requesting DR services.

**Referral Contact: 1-877-652-2873 available 24 hours,  
7 days a week**

## **Value Options**

**Responsibility: Contracted Systems Administrator (CSA)** – As the CSA, Value Options, provides DCBHS behavioral health service authorization. If a child is in need of mental/behavioral health services the family must call Value Options and speak with a clinician. A clinical assessment is necessary for the CSA to determine appropriate DCBHS behavioral health service provisions. The clinical assessment can be appropriated by a licensed clinician within six months of the service request or the CSA may authorize a DCBHS assessment which is completed within 21 days of authorized request. The clinical assessment is forwarded to the CSA and a service disposition is rendered within five business days of receipt.

**Toll-Free Access Line 1-877-652-7624 (24 hours-a-day, 7 days a week).**

[www.vonewjersey.com](http://www.vonewjersey.com)

## **Youth Case Management (YCM)**

**Responsibility: Facilitation and Coordination of in home and in community services** – The YCM offers locally based moderate level Case Management Services. YCM services are accessed through Value Options (VO) the Contacted Systems Administrator (CSA) for the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services (DCBHS). The YCM works in partnership with families to build Child / Family teams comprised of formal and informal supports. Therapists, Behavioral Assistants, Friends, Teachers, Family Members, and Probation Officers can all be members of a Child Family Team. Children between the ages of 5-17 are eligible for YCM support. If a child turns eighteen while enrolled, they may remain until they are twenty-one.

**Referral Contact: Value Options at 1-877-652-7624**

**Local Office for Additional Information Only: (856) 299-3200**

## **Care Management Organization (CMO) – Also known as CGS Family Partnership**

**Responsibility: Facilitation and Coordination of intensive in home and in community services** – The CMO offers locally based intensive level Care Management Services. CMO services are accessed through Value Options (VO) the Contacted Systems Administrator (CSA) for the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services (DCBHS). The CMO works in partnership with families to build Child / Family teams comprised of formal and informal supports. Therapists, Behavioral Assistants, Friends, Teachers, Family Members, and Probation Officers can all be members of a Child Family Team. Children between the ages of 5-17 are eligible for CMO support. If a child turns eighteen while enrolled, they may remain until they are twenty-one.

**Referral Contact: Value Options at 1-877-652-7624**

**Local Office for Additional Information Only: (856) 716-2100**

### **Mobile Response & Family Crisis Intervention Unit**

**Responsibility: Pre Crisis Intervention** - Children's Mobile Response and Stabilization (CMRSS) - A face to face intervention program for children and youth experiencing a behavioral/emotional health crisis. A Mobile response worker responds to homes, schools, police stations, and other settings to help de-escalate a situation and develop a plan to keep the child in the community. CMRSS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is accessed through Value Options. This program is voluntary unless police requested or court ordered.

**Referral Contact: Value Options at 1-877-652-7624**

**Local Office for Additional Information Only: (856) 881-8689**

### **Crisis Screening – Healthcare Commons**

**Responsibility: Mental Health Crisis Intervention**

The Emergency Services Department provides 24-hour mental health crisis intervention to individuals within Salem County. Services are offered at Memorial Hospital of Salem County 24 hours a day, and at Healthcare Commons Carneys Point Office during normal business hours, usually 8:30am-9:00pm. Outreach services are available to individuals who are presenting as a danger to self, others, or property, and are unwilling or unable to come to the screening center. Screening is available to all individuals regardless of ability to pay, or involvement in ongoing mental health services. **Crisis services may be accessed by calling 856-299-3001 (24 hours), or 856-299-3200.**

### **Local Police**

**Responsibility:** Provide direct response to acts of violence, aggression, or criminal activity and behaviors.

**Contact: 911**

### **Local Hospitals – Salem Memorial**

**Responsibility:** Provide direct medical attention for emergent medical or crisis needs.

**Contact: (856) 299-3001**

## **Family Support Organization (FSO)**

### **Responsibility: Education, Empowerment, and System**

**Navigation** - The FSO partners directly with the CMO but is available to the entire community as well. The FSO is devoted to ensuring that families of children with special emotional, mental, and behavioral health challenges are provided with compassionate, community based and culturally sensitive care. They are dedicated to providing families with youth guided support, resources, education and advocacy. The role of the FSO is to educate parents and families on the system of care for children and empower them to successfully navigate that system on their own.

**Contact: (856) 507-9400**

## **Parents Anonymous**

**Responsibility:** - Parents Anonymous is a group where parents can freely share their questions, concerns, problems, and solutions about parenting in a safe and supportive atmosphere. The group is free and there is no limit to how long you can attend.

**Contact for Additional Information: (856) 935-8319**

## **Healthcare Commons, Inc.**

500 S. Pennsville-Auburn Rd.  
Carneys Point, NJ 08069

**856-299-3200**

**856-299-3001 (24 hour crisis)**

**856-299-7183 (fax)**

[www.hcommons.com](http://www.hcommons.com)

### **Children's Outpatient:**

The team consists of a board certified psychiatrist, Clinical Advanced Practice nurse, and master level therapists and may include licensed clinical social workers and licensed professional counselors. The services offered in this department include psychiatric evaluation, medication monitoring, individual, group, and family counseling. Contact Healthcare Commons directly at 856-299-3200 to schedule an appointment.

### **Children's Partial Care (CPC):**

The CPC program targets those youth with emotional and behavioral problems in our service area. Psychiatric evaluations and clinical oversight is provided by a Board Certified Psychiatrist and supervision is by a Master's Level children's partial care coordinator. The program consists of coping and social skills development, intensive group therapy and use of adjunctive therapies, such as creative arts, movement therapies, dance, and drama. The partial care program is designed as an acute care psychiatric intervention that works in conjunction with educational placements to ensure a continuum of care. Transportation to and from the program is provided. Services may be accessed by contacting Healthcare Commons directly at 856-299-3200.

**Traumatic Loss Coalition (TLC):**

Traumatic Loss Coalitions for youth are dedicated to excellence in suicide prevention and in providing a collaborative and coordinated mental health response to a global or community crisis affecting our school-aged youth. The TLC supports countywide coalitions bringing together mental health providers, law enforcement, members of community agencies and faith-based organizations to share ideas and experiences. **For more information, contact: (856) 299-3200.**

**A Step Ahead****Child & Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program**

**Responsibility:** A Step Ahead is an acute partial hospitalization program for children ages 5 to 17 who are suffering from emotional and behavioral difficulties and whose treatment cannot be managed through outpatient care alone. The program is offered year round, Monday through Friday. Door to door transportation is available. Program hours are 9AM to 3:30PM during the school year and 9AM to 2:30PM during the summer months.

Located at two sites, Bridgeton Health Center for Cumberland County residents and Elmer Hospital for Salem County residents, A Step Ahead provides a variety of mental health, pharmacological and logistical services, including diagnosis, treatment and discharge planning services, individual psychotherapy, group therapy, family therapy, a simulated classroom experience and behavior modification systems. Referrals can be made by parents contacting the program to schedule an intake appointment.

**Contact for Cumberland County residents: (856) 575 - 4196**

**Contact for Salem County residents: (856) 363 - 1196**

**FAST - Families and Schools Together**

**Responsibility:** FAST is an eight week Family/Parent involved program designed to build relationships and protective factors that address school failure, alcohol and drug abuse, gang activity, violence, delinquency, child abuse and neglect. It empowers parents to be the primary prevention agents for their own children.

**Contact Information:** Daffonie A. Moore, Chief FAST Facilitator **(856) 935-7510 Ext. 8315**

**E-mail:** daffonie.moore@salemcountynj.gov

**Salem Family Success Center**

**Responsibility: Community Support and Resources -** The Salem Family Success Center is a community-based, family-centered neighborhood gathering place where community residents can go for family support, information & referral, as well as a variety of services and activities. Included in the services of the Salem Family Success Center is a Parents Anonymous Support Group, After School Homework Help Program, a community soup kitchen, clothing closet and food pantry.

**Contact for Additional Information: (856) 935 - 0944**

## **Cornerstone**

**Responsibility:** Cornerstone's free and confidential services include: pregnancy testing, limited OB ultrasound, pregnancy loss support and recovery for miscarriage, stillbirth, and abortion. Our 'Earn as You Learn' pregnancy and parenting program enables participants to obtain items needed for infant and toddler care. "Get Real" is our sexual integrity/abstinence program for public and private schools teaching: healthy relationships; good decision making; dangers & damages of STD's; and resisting peer pressures and media messages.

**Contact for Additional Information:** Email: [info@cornerstonewrc.org](mailto:info@cornerstonewrc.org) Phone: (856) 935-0300

## **Salem County School-Bases Youth Services**

**Responsibility:** To enrich and enhance the lives of youths in Salem County by providing services and programs which will increase the likelihood of completing their education. We help youth to develop and maintain healthy intellectual, emotional, physical and social relationships with themselves and others.

**Contact for Additional Information:**

166 Salem-Woodstown Road  
Salem, NJ 08079

**Phone: (856) 935 - 7365**

## **SHS Youth Connection**

### **Salem High School Based Youth Services**

**Responsibility:** The Salem High School, Based Youth Services Program (Youth Connection) is a collaborative effort of the New Jersey Department of Child & Family Services and the Salem City Board of Education. The program provides comprehensive services to SHS students, which include counseling, mental health and family services; substance awareness issues, health and social services, employment readiness, recreational activities to students, and referrals to community based service providers. Services are provided before, during, and after school and through the summer.

**Contact for Additional Information:**

219 Walnut Street  
Salem, NJ 08070

**Phone: (856) 935 - 3900 x 273**

## **John B. Campbell Family & Fitness Center of Salem County**

**Responsibility:** This state-of-the-art building features a gymnasium, fitness center, meeting rooms, children's space day care center, locker and shower facilities and racquetball courts. Families and individuals can purchase memberships and have access all of this as well as classes offered at the center.

**Contact for Additional Information:**

118 Walnut Street  
Salem NJ, 08070

**Phone: (856) 935 - 7789**

**\* This is the most up-to-date version of our Resource Guide. It is constantly expanding and being revised. Please visit:**

**[www.salemcountynj.gov](http://www.salemcountynj.gov)**

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**Click Resources on the left**

**Click “Child Welfare Resource Guide” in the sentence up top.**

**As the guide continues to grow the most accurate edition will be kept on this site.**

**Thank you.**