

- If you do not have private insurance benefits for the recommended level of care and your child has PA Medical Assistance (MA), the provider should contact LC Integrated Services for a CASSP meeting.
- The CASSP Coordinator will contact your PA MA Managed Care Organization (MCO), Magellan Behavioral Health Care and request a meeting.
- The CASSP Coordinator will contact you and all parties involved in the child's life including, but not limited to; your child and family, involved child serving systems and school.
- The CASSP Coordinator will facilitate a meeting to discuss your child's treatment history, diagnosis, medications, behaviors and treatment goals.
- The CASSP Coordinator will ensure that the CASSP team adheres to the CASSP principles.
- The CASSP Coordinator will submit the documentation to Magellan to request funding for the mental health placement.
- If the level of care is approved, Magellan will reach out to their providers who will contact you and your child for an interview.

- After you choose a provider an admission date will be identified.
- If Magellan denies this level of care, an alternate treatment recommendation will be made by their psychiatrist.
- The alternative treatment recommendation will be coordinated in lieu of a mental health placement by the recommending provider.
- If Magellan denies this level of care, you or your child, if over the age of 14, can request an appeal/grievance hearing in lieu of the alternative treatment recommendations.
- The LC CASSP coordinator will oversee this process and ensure there is effective communication among the CASSP team.

CASSP Principles:

- Child-Centered
- Family-Focused
- Community-Based
- Culturally Competent
- Multisystem
- Least Restrictive/Least Intrusive

Referrals for CASSP meetings can be made to Lehigh County Integrated Services at 610-782-3376.

LEHIGH COUNTY CHILDREN & ADOLSCENT SERVICE SYSTEM PROGRAM (CASSP) MENTAL HEALTH PLACEMENT AUTHORIZATION MEETINGS



CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH PLACEMENTS

Community Rehabilitative Residences (CRR) Host Homes –

This level of care is provided in private family homes licensed by the PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. This family will offer your child a safe and supportive structured living arrangement while your child addresses his/her psychosocial and psychiatric rehabilitation.

Services focus on identified treatment goals as well as connect your child to community resources and supports. These families may have one to two children in their care as well as their own biological children.

Your child's therapy is provided in the host home while psychiatric and medical appointments visits are scheduled as needed with your child's identified doctor.

This level of care is a less restrictive alternative for children at risk of needing a Residential Treatment Facility and needs to be recommended by a licensed child psychologist or psychiatrist.

Residential Treatment Facility

This level of care is a 24-hour/day site-based facility which provides comprehensive mental health treatment and medication management to children and adolescents whom alternative less restrictive forms of treatment have not been unsuccessful. An accredited licensed school is typically on grounds to meet the child's educational needs. An average length of stay is 6 months to a year.

Intakes and assessments are completed upon admission and you and your child will be involved in all treatment and discharge planning decisions.

Treatment goals will address the expected changes in your child's behaviors as well as daily living skills, education and job preparation. You will be expected to participate in family therapy sessions as well as visit your child on site, in the community as well as provide overnight home passes.

Services provided in this level of care are built on you and your child's strengths and abilities while addressing specific needs such as culture, treatment history, family relationships, etc., Therefore family involvement is strongly encouraged.

This level of care needs to be recommended by a licensed child psychiatrist.

Short Term Intensive Residential Treatment Facility

This 24-hour level of care will assess, diagnosis and provide appropriate clinical and behavioral treatment which include individual, group and family therapy for your child.

Therapies occur more frequently within a given week than in a traditional RTF setting so the CASSP team must feel your child is able to handle intense treatment services.

Family therapy is typically conducted in your home and your child's education is provided on site. An average length of stay is from four to six months.

This level of care needs to be recommended by a licensed child psychiatrist.

What is the process if my child has been recommended for a mental health placement?

- The agency in which the doctor recommended a mental health placement should explore your private insurance policy to see if there is coverage for these levels of care. If your private insurance has such a benefit the provider should assist you in finding a mental health facility within your private insurance's network.