

Early Childhood and Statewide Resources

Accessing Appropriate Statewide Resources and Services

Families/caregivers with very young children and/or children who require extensive personal care should be aware there are resources outside of the Children's System of Care (CSOC) that may be better able to meet their needs. If you have not already done so, please explore the enclosed resources to determine if any of them would be better for your child and family either as an alternative, or in addition, to the services available through the Children's System of Care. Please note, there may be restrictions on an individual's ability to receive services through the Children's System of Care and another agency at the same time.

Whether or not a family/caregiver chooses to explore resources outside of the Children's System of Care, at any time prior to a child's 18th birthday, families/caregivers may apply for eligibility to receive developmental disability services through the Children's System of Care. Applications on behalf of individuals who have turned 18 years old or older must be submitted to the Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). CSOC will honor determinations of eligibility made by DDD and provide developmental disability services to individuals between the ages of 18 and 21.

Please be advised that the below resources are independent of the Children's System of Care, therefore, families/caregivers must contact the applicable agency directly for more information including how to access a particular resource.

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF)
CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE (CSOC)
1-877-652-7624**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS)
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DDD)
1-800-832-9173**

Early Childhood and Statewide Resources

NJ Department of Health

<http://www.nj.gov/health/>

Special Child Health and Early Intervention Services

Web: <http://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/sch/>

Early Intervention System

Phone: 888-653-4463

Web: www.nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/

Assists children, up to their third birthday, who have developmental delays. Services available through EIS include: assistive technology, audiology services, health services, diagnostic/evaluation services by a licensed physician, nursing services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech/language pathology, and vision services.

Family Centered Care Services (FCCS)

Phone: 609-777-7778

Web: <http://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/specialneeds/>

Available to individuals from birth to age 21, FCCS promotes access to care through early identification and referral to community-based services. Services and supports provided through FCCS include: Special Child Health Services, Specialized Pediatric Services and the Family Centered HIV Care Network.

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NJ Department of Human Services

Web: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/>

Child Evaluation Centers

Phone: 609-777-7778

Web: <https://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/specialpediatrics/child-evaluation/>

Offer comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluations of children with congenital or acquired neurodevelopmental and behavioral disorders.

Division of Developmental Disabilities' Office on Autism

Phone: 888-285-3036

Web: <https://nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/individuals/autism/>

Provides resources and information to address issues associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS)

Phone: 888-285-3036

Web: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/home/mltss.html>

Coordinated through New Jersey Medicaid's NJ FamilyCare managed care program, MLTSS delivers comprehensive, long-term services and supports to individuals either in the home, in an assisted living facility, in community residential services, or in a nursing home. MLTSS include: personal care, respite, care management, home and vehicle modifications, home delivered meals, personal emergency response systems, mental health and addiction services, assisted living, community residential services, and nursing home care.

Personal Preference Program (PPP)

Phone: 888-285-3036

Web: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/clients/njppp.html>

For individuals eligible for NJ FamilyCare, PPP provides an alternate way to receive Personal Care Assistant (PCA) services, giving individuals more choice.

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NJ Department of Education

Web: <http://www.nj.gov/education/>

Division of Early Childhood Education

Phone: 609-777-2074

Web: <http://www.nj.gov/education/ece/>

Focuses on enhancing social, emotional, physical, and academic development of New Jersey's children, preschool through third grade.

Special Education Ombudsman

Email: specedombudsman@doe.state.nj.us

Phone: 609-292-0147

Fax: 609-984-8422

The role of the Special Education Ombudsman is to serve as a resource to provide information and support to parents, students, and educators regarding special education rights and services.

Early Childhood and Statewide Resources

NJ Help and Hotlines

<http://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/hotlines/>

<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/staff/hotlines/>

Community Resources

<http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/resources/>

NJ Parent Link

Web: <http://www.njparentlink.nj.gov/njparentlink/>

Provides information and resources to expectant parents, families with young children (newborns to children entering kindergarten) and professional stakeholders vested in the health & well-being of New Jersey's children & families.

DCF Hotlines for Families

Family Helpline

1-800-THE-KIDS (843-5437)

24 hours a day - 7 days a week

If you're feeling stressed out, call the Family Helpline and work through your frustrations before a crisis occurs. You'll speak to sensitive, trained volunteers of Parents Anonymous who provide empathic listening about parenting and refer you to resources in your community.

2nd Floor Youth Helpline

1-888-222-2228

www.2ndfloor.org

24 hours a day - 7 days a week

This is a youth helpline serving all youth and young adults in New Jersey. Youth who call are assisted with their daily life challenges by professional staff and trained volunteers. Anonymity and confidentiality are assured except in life-threatening situations. Youth that would rather type than talk can also get support via 2NDFLOOR's anonymous message board service.

DCF Info Line

1-855-INFO-DCF (1-855-463-6323)

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

This helpline provides callers with general information about DCF programs and services.

DCF Office of Advocacy

1-877-543-7864

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

This helpline provides a timely response to issues and concerns regarding programs and services provided by DCF.

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Other Important Hotlines for Families

NJ 2-1-1

2-1-1 or www.nj211.org

This number can connect you with various social services in your community.

Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund

1-800-335-FUND

(1-800-335-3863)

Commission For The Blind & Visually Impaired (CBVI) Hotline

1-877-685-8878

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

1-800-832-9173

Division of Disability Services (DDS)

1-888-285-3036

1-609-292-1210 TTY

Division of Mental Health And Addiction Services (DMHAS)

1-800-382-6717

NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

1-800-687-9512

NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid Call Center

1-800-356-1561

NJ FamilyCare

1-800-701-0710

1-800-701-0720 TTY