

**Kenosha County
Division of Children and Family Services
Prevention Services**

Kenosha County Prevention Services Network

The Kenosha County Prevention Services Network (PSN) is a community wide collaboration dedicated to strengthening families and helping them become resilient to child abuse and neglect. The Network provides an array of community based services that aim to prevent formal involvement in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

1. PSN Service Coordination

PSN Service Coordinators provide voluntary case management services to families to strengthen and enhance parental resilience. Service Coordination consists of in-home family needs assessments to identify service needs, service referrals, client advocacy, and problem solving.

- Clients served in 2015: 272 children, 142 families

2. Community Response Program

The PSN Community Response Program reaches out to families who have been referred to Child Protective Services but are screened out or closed after an investigation with no identified safety risks. This voluntary in-home program reaches out to families when they are facing stress in an effort to reduce future referrals to CPS and ultimately to prevent child abuse and neglect. Community Response consists of in-home family needs assessments to identify service needs, service referrals, client advocacy, and problem solving.

- Clients served in 2015: 110 children, 53 families

3. Teen Parent Home Visitation Program

The Teen Parent Home Visitation Program is a long-term, in-home program for adolescents 18 years of age and under that have become pregnant or have given birth. The program promotes positive parenting and child health and development in order to prevent child abuse and neglect as well as other poor childhood outcomes. The program focuses on developing life skills as well as locating and facilitating access to the community, health and other services. Also included in the program design are preventing subsequent births and sexually transmitted infections.

- Clients served in 2015: 35 children, 24 families

4. Family Support Program

Family Support is a long-term intensive program designed to engage the families in the home and improve their ability to successfully parent and nurture their children. Life skills training, household budgeting, mobilizing resources, stress management, problem solving, improved parenting skills, and vocational skills support are included in the program design. The target population includes low-income families with barriers to self-sufficiency and whose children are at risk for abuse, neglect or teen pregnancy.

- Clients served in 2015: 342 children, 130 families

5. "Nurturing Parent" Classes

The "Nurturing Parent" series is offered several times through-out the year. These parenting classes take place in a group setting for eleven weeks and are held at Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc. or the PSN Family Resource Center.

6. Intensive In-Home Services

The Intensive In-Home Services Program provides services to families at risk of child abuse, child neglect, truancy, and/or delinquency issues as well as to families in the juvenile court system due to these issues. Parent mentors, therapists, and substance abuse counselors provide intensive in-home services to families to address issues including, but not limited to mental health, alcohol/other drug abuse, parenting, and family conflict.

- Clients served in 2015: 201 children, 119 families

7. **Elementary School Truancy Reduction Program**

The Elementary School Truancy Reduction Program works with all elementary schools in the Kenosha Unified School District providing support and services to families and engaging parents in their child's education to reduce truancy and promote educational success. Staff members work with parents to identify barriers to attendance and provide individualized interventions to address the needs of each family. The program incorporates daily attendance checks, home visits, school outreach, incentives for students and families and family-based activities into the overall program structure to increase student success and prevent truancy.

- Clients served in 2015: 60 children, 60 families

8. **PSN Health Services**

The families served by the Prevention Services Network are eligible to receive health care services from a Public Health Nurse. These services include Health Checks, immunizations updates, family planning and nutrition counseling, STD testing, home safety assessments, and other health-related services. When necessary, the services can be provided in the family's home.

9. **School Liaisons (High School)**

School Liaison workers provide services that support regular school attendance and increased school achievement of targeted youth. Strategies to achieve this primary goal incorporate effective practices in strengthening the communication between home and school, using innovative individualized strategies for motivating youth with the support of their families toward school attendance and achievement, and serving as a mentor and advocate for identified youth and families while observing the norms and requirements of the school environment.

- Clients served in 2015: 106 children, 106 families

10. **School Liaisons (Middle School)**

School Liaison workers provide services that support regular school attendance and increased school achievement of targeted youth. Strategies to achieve this primary goal incorporate effective practices in strengthening the communication between home and school, using innovative individualized strategies for motivating youth with the support of their families toward school attendance and achievement, and serving as a mentor and advocate for identified youth and families while observing the norms and requirements of the school environment.

- Clients served in 2015: 88 children, 88 families

11. **Kenosha County Positive Parenting Project**

The Kenosha County Positive Parenting Project provides evidence-based and evidence-informed practices that support parents and caregivers. The services provided increase Protective Factors in parents through the Triple P parenting program and the Effective Black Parenting Program in either group or individual settings. In addition, service coordination is provided to families as needed.

- New Program

12. **PSN Family Resource Center**

The PSN Family Resource Center provides programs and services that build on family strengths through prevention, education, support and networking in collaboration with other resources in the community. Parents can drop in and talk to someone about parenting concerns and pick up information about community resources. The PSN **Spotlight Series** is a monthly program presented by PSN partners and provides tips on parenting, literacy, keeping children safe, and developing protective factors in families. The **Women's Circle** Program, with topics including listening, respect, friendship, and assertiveness, is a facilitated discussion group for women and based on the premise that talking through issues fosters resiliency. PSN works with community partners to facilitate a weekly **Parent Talk Lunch** where parents are provided information about a wide variety of topics, including health related issues, child development, community resources, and parenting skills. PSN publishes a monthly **Newsletter** with information on various topics related to strengthening families and protecting children.

**Kenosha County
Division of Children and Family Services
Programs for Children with Special Needs
(Medicaid Funded)**

Families First – Comprehensive Community Services for Youth/Wraparound Project

Families First is Kenosha County's Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program for children and youth. The program is designed to provide families of children experiencing severe emotional disturbances and other mental health or substance abuse diagnosis with supportive services which keep the family intact, prevent out-of-home placements, and improve educational opportunities for children. This program works with children and youth who have Medicaid, are determined eligible for CCS through the CCS Functional Screen and are in need of psychosocial rehabilitation services. Families First uses the Wraparound Model and believes that a team approach to developing treatment plans can best serve families. This team approach includes both formal (teachers, social workers, therapists) and informal (clergy, friends, relatives) supports, along with the parents and children as integral members of the Team. The Service Facilitator develops a plan to identify the strengths and needs of the family. The family helps to identify who they would like to include on the Team, and the family remains at the center of the Team's efforts to assist them in reaching their stated goals and outcomes. Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) provides an array of psychosocial supports with an emphasis on individual, group and family interconnections provided both in-home and in the community.

- Clients served in 2015: 175 children, 162 families

Children's Long-Term Support Waiver

The Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Medicaid funded program is available for children diagnosed with developmental disabilities, severe emotional disturbances, and physical disabilities. Case management/service coordination is provided by either the Kenosha Human Development Services (KHDS) or through the Families First Program. The assigned Service Coordinator will help identify allowable services for the child. The child must have a source of Medical Assistance (MA) and be determined eligible through the Children's Functional Screen. Contact Compass Wisconsin Threshold at 1-866-710-4054 to begin the application process. Therapy or treatment services are provided through the ForwardHealth Card, and requires a separate Prior Authorization process.

- Clients served in 2015: 206 children, 198 families