

Program Objectives

Families may find themselves in need of outside services and supports during periods of difficulty. This community-based case management program offers families the ability to access services designed to identify supports needed and to help empower youth and families to return to a path of success and accomplishment.

These services support families in the following ways:

- Provide **individualized services** to meet the specific needs of each youth and family, in a **family-driven** way;
- Ensures services are **family-based** so that families understand the need to participate in the planning and treatment process;
- Engagement and partnerships with a variety of **community-based** services to maximize the family's success;
- Provision of **culturally competent** services which meet language needs and express sensitivity to culture and ethnicity;
- Provision of **Family Advocacy and Support Services** which provide a sensitivity for family needs and experiences;
- Programming which promotes a **strength-based, family driven, youth guided and trauma informed** approach to care.

Referral Process

The Niagara County Probation Department will refer youth, age 10-17, to the PINS Diversion Intensive Case Management Program. Priorities will be given for youth who are located in the Niagara Falls area, with secondary priority for Lockport. A Mental Health Assessment and Family Assessment will then be completed by program staff, which will identify preliminary service goals and provide an outline for additional supports which may be needed.

Services Provided

Youth and Families will receive a 90 day intensive program that incorporates the following potential services:

- Individual Mental Health Evaluation
- MAYSI-2 Assessment
- Child Trafficking Screening
- Runaway and Homeless Youth Linkage
- Respite Service Linkage
- Individual Case Management
- Referral to Individual and Family Therapy
- Group Skill Building
- Family Peer Support
- Family Solutions Therapy
- Common Sense Parenting Education
- Girls Circle Programming
- Boys Council Programming
- Aggression Replacement Training
- Truancy Intervention
- Substance Misuse Evaluation
- Linkage to Crisis Management Services
- Restorative Justice Work

Trauma Informed Care

Most of the youth and families in the Youth Services Division programs have some degree of trauma in their backgrounds. Traumatic events can range from a one-time event, such as a sexual assault, witnessing a crime or the death of a loved one, to a more complex trauma such as ongoing childhood sexual and/or physical abuse, neglect and emotional abuse over a long period of time, or many deaths and losses over time.

We recognize that traumatic events and histories affect how youth and families think, feel and behave. The professionals who work with the Program's youth and families strive to understand how each youth and family are affected by their pasts, and know how important it is to ask "What happened to this youth?" instead of "What is wrong with this youth?"

Common Sense Parenting®

Common Sense Parenting® (CSP) is a practical, skill-based program that provides easy-to-learn techniques to help you with today's parenting challenges. These classes incorporate proven methods that were researched and developed at Boys Town.

Common Sense Parenting® offers training for parents who want to build on their existing skills or learn new ways of dealing with their children's behaviors. Professional parent trainers teach the course.

Family Support Services

Families will be afforded the opportunity to participate in our **Family Solutions Program**. FSP is a short-term, evidence-based, family program that is designed to improve children and adolescent behavior, as well as improve overall family functioning, interactions, and relationships among family members.

Each family will also receive support services from the **Family Peer Advocate** (FPA) assigned to each case in the PINSD program. The FPA will provide emotional support and advocacy to families with special emphasis on parent support and communication. PINSD families will also be invited to participate in **Family Peer Support Meetings** held in Lockport and Niagara Falls.

School Attendance and Intervention

Truancy is believed to be a strong correlation to juvenile crime. In CMI's experience with juvenile justice populations in Out-of-Home placement settings, truancy is also linked with poor academic performance. Not attending school leads to boredom, and once mixed with poor decision-making, is a recipe for juvenile crime. Without strong intervention and accountability, patterns of recidivism will additionally be hard to break. Work with families in addition to the youth themselves is an integrated approach which is pivotal in the successful outcome of the programming.

The PINSD programming has built-in incentives to address and support school attendance for youth. In an effort to slowly increase attendance and participation for chronically truant youth, we have a specific schedule for **monetary incentives** and **rewards** that are established throughout the twelve (12) week PINSD programming period.

For more information about the
PINS Diversion
Intensive Case Management Program
Please Contact:

Carly R. Lapp
PINSD Case Manager
1570 Buffalo Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Telephone:
(716) 990-8156

Fax:
(716) 285-4657

Email:
clapp@communitymissions.org

Program Goals

The goal of the PINS Diversion Intensive Case Management Program is to divert youth from any further involvement with the juvenile justice system, reducing the need to place youth outside their home communities. This will be achieved by providing intensive case management to youth and families utilizing several evidence based models for intervention, in a 90 day time frame.

This program is Voluntary in nature, and works best when everyone understands that mutual cooperation and participation can accomplish great things!



Niagara Falls PINS Diversion Intensive Case Management Program



YOUTH SERVICES DIVISIONAL OFFICES

1590 Buffalo Avenue
Niagara Falls, New York 14303

Telephone: (716) 285-3403 Ext. 2231
Fax : (716) 285-4657