

PREVENTION PROGRAMS



Berkshire provides specialized prevention services to various counties in New York State and will work with these counties to best meet the needs of children and families.

TURNABOUT

This year-round, intensive school and home-based prevention program works with middle school students and their families who have been identified with a truancy issue. The Family Specialist, located in the school, provides counseling, crisis intervention, group work, and incentive-based activities. The Family Specialist also works directly with the parents/guardians and siblings. Each program partners with the school, probation, and the Dept. of Social Services to provide seamless treatment and empower the parent/guardian to become more involved in their child's education.

HOME RUN

This year-round school- and home-based prevention program works with elementary students (K-5) and their families identified by school officials to need intensive, prevention services for any identifying reason. The Family Specialist is located in the school and becomes part of the school culture. The program provides family counseling and empowers families to get involved with school, community, and family.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

This short-term (30-60 days), intensive, home- and community-based family prevention program is designed to avert out-of-home placement of children at imminent risk due to juvenile delinquency, status offense, child abuse, or neglect. The Family Specialist stabilizes these families, helps them with housing and budgeting, and links them to available community resources.

FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY (FFT)

This evidence-based, highly effective therapeutic system of care keeps families together and avoids out-of-home placements by using interventions and preventive services with the entire family of at-risk youth rather than just the youth. It builds skills that address issues such

as defiance of rules at home and school, conflicts between parent and child, drug and alcohol use, and verbal and physical aggression. The goal is to improve family communication, determine and adopt positive solutions to a family's problems.

STEPPING STONES

This intensive, home-based program is based on the new PINS Reform Legislation Law and is designed to reduce or eliminate detention remands and provide a 30-60-day family assessment in the home. It provides intensive, ongoing services to families at risk of further court involvement. Youth who would otherwise have been remanded to detention are provided with three in-home contacts and two additional phone contacts per week.

TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

This intensive home- and community-based program targets youths already placed in congregate care who can be reunified with their parent/guardian sooner than the court order. The program reduces the length of stay in placement and returns the youth to his/her home community to ensure a successful reunification. After discharge, the Family Specialist continues to provide service for the duration of the court order and/or when the Department closes the family's case, saving costs.

PATHWAYS

This is a home and community-based prevention program for children and families who have been referred through the Department of Social Services. The Program is designed to reduce incidents of child abuse or neglect and to prevent the placement of children into foster care. Pathways services are specifically designed to help families and the program achieve desired outcomes.

More programs and regional office locations on reverse . . .



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VISIONS

This school- and home-based placement-prevention program maximizes family connections, develops resiliency areas and the skills needed for family stability and harmony, and prepares youth and families to be self sufficient and contributing members of their communities.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

This program is offered in Orange County, providing foster youth with independent living services.

RESPIRE

This voluntary, short-term, out-of-home care program is for children who reside in the custody of their parents but need a certified Respite Home for up to 21 days. The youth and family must agree to enter the program but may leave at any time. This program helps to prevent court involvement and reduce placement and child abuse hotline calls.

POWER PROJECT

This after-school support program is for adolescents (12-18 years) living in the Bronx who have both a substance abuse and psychiatric diagnosis. Referrals come from Family Court, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Legal Aid, various psychiatric hospitals, in-patient and emergency rooms, schools, and self referrals. Clients have histories of criminal activities, violence, sexual abuse, psychosis, and attempted suicide. Staff-to-client ratio averages 1:4.

The mission of Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth is **“to strengthen children and families so they can live safely, independently, and productively within their home communities.”**

www.berkshirefarm.org



**BERKSHIRE FARM CENTER
& SERVICES FOR YOUTH**
Serving children and families since 1886!

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Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth is a statewide nonprofit child welfare agency with a distinguished history of strengthening children and families for more than 127 years.

Helping children and families become healthier and stronger has been Berkshire’s mission since its founding in 1886. We continue to deepen our focus on serving children where they heal and grow best with their families in their home communities.

By forming strong community partnerships and collaborating with other service agencies and educational organizations, we empower children and families while building healthier and stronger communities.