

Directory of Youth Services in Putnam County



By: Sheila Pawelski

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CCSI (Coordinated Children's Service Initiative of Putnam County)

This program is a partnership between family members and service providers designed to assist families whose children have mental health needs. Their goal is to empower families by building upon strengths to create an individualized plan to meet their specific needs.

They are:

- Voluntary, confidential, and free
- Family-friendly and family-driven
- Strength-based and goal-focused
- Combines multiple needs and services into one coordinated plan
- Offers extensive treatment options
- Encourages creative and non-traditional solutions
- Involves each family in creating their unique plan through a "Family Connections" meeting
- Families are treated with respect!
- Also provides you with opportunities to connect with other families in similar situations



A Family Connections Meeting:

- It is a forum for family members, friends, relatives, clergy, and service providers to come together in a relaxed and informal setting to create an individualized "wraparound" plan.
- During the meeting, the family and others identify what the family members' strengths and concerns are, and a plan is developed.
- Family members, children, and adolescents are encouraged to involve friends, relatives, or mentors in their plan.

Service Providers:

- School: guidance staff, teachers, and social workers
- Mental Health Agencies
- Human Service Agencies
- Family Advocate Groups
- Alcohol and Substance Abuse Agencies

- Juvenile Justice Agencies
- Religious Organizations
- Psychiatric Hospitals

SPOA: Single Point of Access:

- Identifies children and adolescents with the highest risk of placement in out-of-home settings and develops strategies to manage these youth in their home communities, using an individualized, strength-based approach.
- Handles initial screening, development of a comprehensive functional assessment, individualized service plan, and management of access to high-intensity services, i.e. Intensive Case Management, Supportive Case Management, Home and Community Based Services Waiver, Family-Based Treatment, Community Residence, Teaching Family Home, and Residential Treatment Facilities.

Address/Contact Information:

Dawn Mullins (SPOA/CCSI Coordinator): (845) 808-1600 x 46139

Fax: (845) 808-1931

Address: 110 Old Route Six Building Three Carmel, N.Y. 10512

Email: Dawn.Mullins@PutnamCountyNY.Gov

Brandon Lillard CCSI Team Coordinator: (845) 225-2700 x 257

CoveCare Address: 1808 U S 6, Carmel Hamlet, NY 10512



The Putnam County Youth Bureau

Is responsible to the County Executive for coordinating and supplementing the activities of public, private and religious agencies devoted in whole or in part to the welfare, development, and protection of youth. Through the Integrated County Planning process, the Youth Bureau coordinates the allocation of resources to meet those needs. The Youth Bureau has the primary responsibility of advocating for the youth of Putnam County. The Youth Bureau promotes positive youth development based upon the belief that families and extended families are the fundamental sources of care, support, and guidance for

children and youth. Our schools and other community-based services, both formal and informal, are appropriate and effective complements to this foundation.

Putnam County Youth Bureau Programs:

- ❖ **Pegasus:** provides education and support to children ages 6 to 14 and their parent(s) or guardian(s) who have a loved one suffering from alcohol or other drug dependencies. Child, teen, and parent/caregiver support groups are staffed by master-level counselors. These groups provide a safe and confidential environment to learn, express feelings, develop positive coping skills, and have fun.
- ❖ **Youth Awards:** is an annual recognition and celebration of outstanding youth volunteers of Putnam County. Members of the community can nominate youth in grades 9 through 12 who then must go through an application process demonstrating their exceptional volunteer work in the county. Recipients are chosen by the Putnam County Youth Board and recognized at the annual Youth Awards Dinner in the Spring.
- ❖ **Communities That Care:** is a five-step comprehensive prevention approach that provides research-based tools to help communities identify and address risk and protective factors associated with substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school dropout, and violence.
- ❖ **Mentoring Program:** matches elementary-age students with older adolescents as their mentors. Mentoring creates an opportunity for growth in areas of personal development, educational success, socialization, and recreation.
- ❖ **Simulated Impaired Driving Experience:** is a behind the wheel driving experience that makes the dangers of distracted and impaired driving real and personal. Drivers and passengers can safely experience a simulation of what happens when they attempt to operate a vehicle while impaired or distracted.
- ❖ **Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Coordination:** assists the Youth Bureau in developing and implementing the county plan to coordinate and improve services to runaway and homeless youth and their families. Ensure 24 hours/ 7 days access to emergency shelter services for youth ages 12 to 17 as well as case management services for youth under the age of 21.



- ❖ **Sheriff's Camp:** is held at the end of June and is sponsored by the New York State Sheriff's Association for Putnam Youth ages 9-12 years old. Camp Iroquois is located in Penn Yan, NY on Keuka Lake in the Finger Lakes Region. This camp builds self-esteem and reinforces positive behaviors. Campers will have the opportunity to swim, bike, hike, sail, canoe, and participate in various sports and activities. Campers attend for free!
- ❖ **PCYB Adventure Camp:** it is for youth ages 9-15 years old. The program will run at Camp Herrlich. These youth will build leadership skills through various activities including team-building exercises and outdoor adventures. Staff members will oversee the programming and safety of approximately 20 youth in attendance. Campers attend for free!
- ❖ **Youth Court:** is a family court diversion program aimed at reducing juvenile delinquency in the county. Youth Court volunteers' members range in ages 12-19 and come from various communities and school districts in Putnam. Members must complete a 10-week training program. Youth Court members hear cases of first-time offenders between ages 7 and 16. This program offers these youth an opportunity to constructively assume responsibility for their actions and a chance to learn about the justice system.

Address/Contact Information:

Donald. B. Smith County Government Campus
110 Old Route 6, Bldg. 3
Carmel, NY 10512

Phone: 845-808-1600

Fax: 845-808-1907

Staff:

Joseph A. DeMarzo

Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health & Youth Bureau

Janeen Cunningham

Executive Director- ext.46120

Christine Andrews

Secretary- ext.46113

Pamela Phillips-Zeller



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Youth Services Specialist- ext.46116

[Casandra Barcavage](#)

Youth Court/Mentoring/Adventure Camp Coordinator- ext.46123

[Dana Foley](#)

Mentoring/Adventure Camp Coordinator – ext.46118

[Stephanie Nocera](#)

Pegasus Coordinator- ext.46126

[Dawn Mullins](#)

CCSI, SPOA, & Children's Mental Health Services- ext.46139

[General Information](#)

The Putnam County Youth Bureau is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
During the summer, the office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Putnam County DSS



110 OLD ROUTE 6 CARMEL, NY 10512
BUILDING 2: (845) 808-1500
BUILDING 3: (845) 808-1651

PUTNAM COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

[Social Services Hours of Operation:](#)

- [Winter Hours:](#) 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

- **Summer Hours (mid-June to mid-September):** 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Mission Statement

The mission of the Putnam County Department of Social Services is to provide for financial and Social Services to eligible residents of Putnam County in accordance with applicable Federal State and County Laws, toward enhancing family functioning, reducing dependency, preventing deterioration and maintaining adults and children in the community where possible. This should be accomplished responsively in a compassionate and helpful manner, within reasonable time periods, in a dignified and pleasant environment, and responsibly with the utmost efficiency and cost effectiveness, with full appropriate accountability to the agency's clients, the County administration, appropriate State and Federal agencies and the public at large.

***County Crisis Hotline Number*:** (845) 225-1222

- **Putnam Housing Corp. – Having Financial Problems with your house? We are here to help!**
- **HEAP** interviews, when required, are 9:00 am to 10:30 am, Monday through Thursday.
- **SNAP** interviews, when required, are 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, Monday through Thursday.
- **Temporary Assistance** (which is a two-day process) 9:00 am to 10:30 am, Monday through Thursday.
- **Medicaid:** Persons applying for Medicaid are not required to be personally interviewed. However, an interview may be requested.
- **In the event of a specific emergency you can call:**
CPS Registry—To report a case of possible child abuse, please call 800

342 3720

Domestic Violence Hotline 845 628 2166

Or, you can always call 911 in any emergency

- **Additional telephone numbers:**
United Way's 2-1-1 Help Line: 211 (among other things, for information about becoming a foster parent)
- **New York State Websites:**
<https://www.MyBenefits.ny.gov> (to apply on-line for SNAP and HEAP benefits and to get information on Temporary Assistance, WIC, and other programs)

Programs & Offices List

Alphabetical list of offices, units, and programs with locations, telephone numbers, and relevant websites:

- **Adult Protective Services**, Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45293
Dial 1-844-697-3505 to reach a helpline for the Bureau of Adult Services to obtain information about available adult services. The helpline can also take information to be sent to local APS units regarding abuse, neglect, or exploitation of adults. The phone lines are open Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **If someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 911.**
- **Child Advocacy Center (CAC)**, 123 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509 – 845 808 1400
See the website at <https://www.putnamcountyny.com/child-advocacy-center/>
- **Child Protective Services**, Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45293 See the website at <https://www.putnamcountyny.com/child-advocacy-center/>
- **Children's Services** (also known as Children's Welfare Services), Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45293
- **Child Support Collection**, Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45305
For more information you can call the **NYS Child Support Hotline at 888-208-4485**; or you can visit the **NYS Child Support website at:**
<https://www.childsupport.ny.gov/dcse/home.html>
- **Drinking Driver Program**, Building #3 – 845 808 1641 ext. 46018
- **Employment and Training**, Building #3 – 845 808 1651 ext. 46605

- **Fiscal Unit**, Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45280
- **HEAP** (Home Energy Assistance Program), Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45233
Can apply on-line at <https://www.MyBenefits.ny.gov> or in person
- **Legal Services**, Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45312
- **Medicaid** (MA), Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45251
<https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/>
- **Mental Health Services**
- **Office for People with Disabilities**, Building #3 – 845 808 1641 ext. 46019
- **SNAP** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45233 Can apply on-line at <https://www.MyBenefits.ny.gov> or in person
- **SNAP USDA Nondiscrimination Statement:**
<http://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/>
- **Temporary Assistance** (includes Family Assistance and Safety Net), Building #2 – 845 808 1500 ext. 45233
- **WIOA** (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), Building #3 – 845 808 1651 ext. 46600
- <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/> for Medicaid

Putnam County Office for People with Disabilities

Donald. B. Smith County Government Campus

110 Old Route 6, Building 3 Carmel, NY 10512

José E. De Jesús, MPA, BCPA
Coordinator

jose.dejesus@putnamcountyny.com
(845) 808-1641

The **PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES** provides information, referral, and advocacy for Putnam County residents with disabilities and their families, including developmental disabilities. We welcome your inquiries and input regarding issues and priorities for our residents with disabilities.

The Office administers the **CENTRAL REGISTRY**, a voluntary registry of people with disabilities residing in Putnam County. The Central Registry is a confidential database created and maintained for the purpose of planning for adequate and appropriate services for Putnam County residents with disabilities. We work cooperatively with the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services, as well as with other County departments to plan for people with special needs in the event of an evacuation or other emergency. You can find the *Special Assistance Notification Form* and the *Central Registry Form* on our website: <https://putnamcountyny.com/office-for-people-with-disabilities>.

Our office also serves as a central point of information and referral for developmental disabilities services, including helping with the NYS Office of People with Developmental Disabilities eligibility determination process.

PINS Prevention Program

Through a contract with the Putnam County Department of Social Services, in conjunction with the Putnam County Probation Department, Green Chimneys provides intervention and prevention services to youth who are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.



Helping Youth Avoid the Juvenile Justice System

When a Person in Need of Supervision (PINS) complaint is filed by a parent or school official, the child and family are referred to the Green Chimneys PINS Prevention program. A licensed social worker works with the child and family to develop an

individualized service plan, which includes individual and family goals to address identified risk factors. A contract with the youth and family members supports the goal of avoiding further involvement with the juvenile justice system/probation department. Preliminary mental health and substance abuse evaluations are completed and youth and families are provided with, or referred to, any needed services. Initial intake appointments for the PINS Prevention Program typically take place after 2:00 pm to ensure your child is not missing school.

SERVICES THAT MAY BE PROVIDED TO FAMILIES:

- Individual and family therapy
- Referral for after-school programming
- Intensive in-home therapy services
- Psycho-educational groups
- Parent groups
- Short-term case management/coordination
- 24-hour crisis intervention
- Referrals
- Advocacy
- Respite services

Contact:

April Lathrop, Sr. Intake Worker (Coordinator)

Phone: 845-808-1111

Fax: 845-808-1941

Email: april.lathrop@putnamcountyny.gov

Putnam County Website: www.putnamcountyny.gov

CoveCare Center (Counseling That Empowers Change):

1808 Route Six, Carmel, NY 10512

(845) 225-2700

www.CoveCareCenter.org

info@CoveCareCenter.org



Their mission is to partner with individuals, families, and the community to foster hope, wellness, and recovery, and to restore the quality of life by addressing mental health needs, substance use, and social and emotional issues.

Vision: Cove Care Center imagines a strong, united community where all people are valued, accepted, and empowered to live healthy lives.

Mental Health Counseling & Treatment:

Licensed therapists provide individual, group and family therapy, as well as therapy for children. As a supplement to counseling, psychiatrists prescribe and manage medications when needed, and trained peer specialists provide guidance and support based on lived experience.

For Information or Appointment:

Intake Specialist

(845) 225-2700 x102

info@CoveCareCenter.org

Alcohol & Substance Use Treatment & Prevention:

Alcohol & Substance Use Treatment: At Cove Care Center, we believe that substance use disorder is a treatable disease that can be managed so that individuals can live substance-free, productive and satisfying lives. We provide individual, group and family counseling to people experiencing life problems related to substance use or dependence, and to family members affected by a loved one's addiction. We provide a safe place for individuals to learn about their relationship with drugs and alcohol, and to build a framework for ongoing recovery. Our caring staff will help you identify your needs and goals, and work with you to create a customized recovery plan. You can choose from the following:

- **Individual and family counseling:** These sessions provide an important foundation for successful recovery.
- **Groups:** We offer groups tailored for women, men, people with mental health conditions, and those who have received DWIs. Other groups focus on relapse prevention, medication management, health and wellness, and more.
- **Evaluations and Medications:** Our board-certified psychiatrists offer evaluations and will prescribe medication as needed, including treatment for opioid use.

****To schedule an appointment for the clinic the contact information is 845-225-2700 ext. 110****

School-Based Prevention Education: Cove Care Center provides prevention education in Putnam County schools, raises awareness about substance use issues, and informs the public about local resources.

Community Education & Outreach: The goal of Community Education and Outreach is to raise awareness about substances such as alcohol, prescription and illegal drugs, heroin and other opiates, and inhalants, including their effects, and what local resources and treatment options are available to prevent and treat their use and abuse.

Family Support Navigator System: Cove Care Center's trained staff assists families and individuals struggling with Substance Use Disorder (addiction) by providing information on available resources that are vital to recovery. This program provides free confidential services at a location of your choice. Our staff will help you understand the progression of addiction and its impact on families and will provide information on existing and emerging supportive and recovery-oriented services.

For Information or Appointment:

Melissa LaChapelle, Supervisor

(845) 225-2700 x236

mlachapelle@CoveCareCenter.org

Susan Salamone oversees the Family Navigator program

(845) 225-2700 x245

ssalomone@CoveCareCenter.org

Community-Based Services:

Family & Children Services:

- **Care Management for Children:** assistance for children who have multiple health, mental health, and/or substance use issues plus advocacy in schools, assistance with issues related to custody and court issues and connection to resources that will help strengthen the family.

**Contact Mariel Roth for children's care management 225-2700 ext. 220
mroth@covecarecenter.org**

- **Coordinated Children's Services Initiative (CCSI):** for families, whose children have mental health needs and who are at high risk for placement outside the home, CCSI provides a single point of access for supportive services.

- **Family Peer Support and Advocacy:** Cove Care advocates with personal family experience and helps families navigate issues with mental health, substance use, school, and court and probation systems. We also offer curriculum-based classes for strengthening parenting skills.

For Information or Appointment:

Christina McGuigan, LMHC Director

(845) 225-2700 x235

cmcguigan@CoveCareCenter.org

Personalized Recovery-Oriented Services (PROS):

PROS helps people with serious mental health issues to recover, heal, and gain their independence. Services include goal-oriented counseling, a choice of more than 50 classes

each week, individual counseling, medication management, and vocational counseling. PRO's is for a person 18 and older.

For Information or Appointment:

Melissa Marino, LMHC director

(845) 225-2700 x221

mmarino@CoveCareCenter.org

Children and Family Treatment & Support Services (CFTSS) is offered to any child/youth under the age of 21 and Medicaid enrolled. Child must meet medical necessity, signed off by a Licensed Practitioner in order to qualify for the service. The only service in which medical necessity is not needed prior to referral is OLP. Services include:

- **Other Licensed Practitioner (OLP)**
- **Community Psychiatric Support and Treatment (CPST)**
- **Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR)**
- **Family Peer Support & Services (FPSS)**
- **Youth Peer Support & Training (YPST)**

Here are some Family Support Programs at CoveCare Center:

***Contact Wanda Crowley for more info: 845-225-2700 ext. 224 ***

Putnam Family & Community Services, Inc.

Family Connections

& Relatives As Parents Program

Family-to-family support for parents and caregivers of children and teens facing today's challenges

1st and 3rd Thursday of the month
6:00pm to 7:30pm
at Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc.
1808 Route 6, Carmel

For more information
call Wanda Crowley at 845-225-2700, ext. 224

Free and confidential, childcare available upon request

Share experiences, support, and resources
Connect with families like yours

Putnam Family & Community Services, Inc. • 1808 Route Six • Carmel, New York 10512 • (845) 225-2700 • www.PFCSinc.org


Putnam Family and Community Services presents

SYSTEMATIC TRAINING for EFFECTIVE PARENTING

Seven two-hour training sessions.

Videos ♥ Role Playing ♥ Practicing New Skills in Class ♥ Home Assignments
Review Questions Commonly Asked by Parents ♥ Certificate of Completion

STEP



The STEP program teaches a variety of parenting skills and strategies, including:

- Understanding yourself and your child
- Understanding beliefs and feelings
- Encouraging your child and yourself
- Listening and talking to your child
- Helping children cooperate
- Discipline that makes sense
- Choosing your approach

The STEP program teaches extremely positive approaches to understanding and raising children. The approach includes appreciating that children's behaviors are motivated by a variety of goals, that encouragement for children becoming the best that they can be is extremely important, and that family councils for making decisions for and with children is highly valued.

Putnam Family & Community Services

1808 Route Six, Carmel, NY 10512
www.PFCSinc.org

Classes are held on Tues. evenings from 6:00 - 8:00pm
\$325 includes one parent workbook per family
Classes are confidential
Childcare available upon request

For more information
Call Wanda Crowley at (845) 225-2700 x224



Green Chimneys:
Community-Based Services
Family-centered support and resources for youth

Green Chimneys provides comprehensive supportive services for at-risk, runaway, homeless, and foster care youth, as well as youth with mental health struggles, and typically developing youth and their families across Putnam County and the surrounding areas. From fun and constructive activity programs at the Community Outreach Center to the Arbor House youth shelter to individual care management, Green Chimneys offers a wide range of support services for youth up to 21 years old. Their services are designed to keep children in their community and with their families, avoiding residential placement whenever possible. Family resources include access to assessments, social supports, and service coordination to help families provide the best care for their children. Services are available throughout the year with special programming offered during summer months and school vacations.

Young people need to connect with peers and adults who can help them feel supported, find a safe and productive way to spend free time, and/or access necessary therapeutic services.

Green Chimneys Community-Based Services provides youth and their families with a full spectrum of programs and supports to meet those needs.

Their goal is to encourage conflict resolution and strengthen family communication and optimal functioning through comprehensive prevention and intervention services. **All services are free and confidential!** Bilingual staff is available.

Recreational Opportunities & Supportive Services:

- Drop-in center for after school, evening, weekend and summer programming
- Runaway & homeless youth shelter services
- Day and overnight respite
- Temporary housing (transitional living) for youth ages 16-21
- Individualized life skills assessment and development

Therapeutic Counseling & Services:

- Mental/behavioral health screening and assessments
- Individual and family counseling/therapy
- Youth and family conflict resolution
- Substance use/abuse assessments

→ Care coordination of health/mental health services for youth

Children and Family Treatment and Support Services

This community-based service provides supports to youth up to 21 years of age and their families with eligible NYS Children's Medicaid. These services are utilized to give children/youth (under 21) and their families the power to improve their health, well-being and quality of life. Services include assessments to determine functional impairments and needs, individual and family therapy, rehabilitation services, skill building, crisis intervention and linking family members with other community based services/programs. Services are provided at home or in the community setting.

Therapeutic Support

Other Licensed Practitioner

- Receive assessments for mental health and/or substance use needs
- Identify strengths and skills through individual and group therapies
- Receive individual, group or family therapy where you are most comfortable

Rehabilitation Services

Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Psychiatric Supports & Treatment

- Incorporate therapy goals into everyday life
- Receive support and information in managing medication
- Build relationships and communicate better with family, friends and others
- Learn self-care, and use coping skills to manage emotions.

To find out more about Children and Family Treatment and Support Services please contact:

Green Chimneys Community Based Services
845.279.2995 ext. 701
cbs@greenchimneys.org

Home and Community Based Services

This community-based service program provides support to youth up to 21 years of age and their families who meet HCBS eligibility. This program is designed to offer supports that enable children to remain at home and in the community. HCBS services are utilized to support youth in working towards identified goals and achievements. HCBS provides a family-driven, youth guided, culturally and linguistically appropriate system of care. These Services are offered at home or in the community setting.

Caregiver Family Support & Services

- Education and advocacy

- Strengthen and maintain functioning in home & community
- Connections to new resources

Community Self Advocacy Training & Support

- Support services for families and caregivers to understand and address challenges
- Crisis Management
- Psychoeducation

Prevocational Services

- Preparatory services for success in a work environment
- Career planning
- Problem solving and strategizing
- Travel training

Respite Services

- Crisis- Alleviate risk and escalation
- Planned- short term or overnight to provide relief for child or family

To find out more about Home and Community Based Services contact:

Green Chimneys Community Based Services
845.279.2995 ext. 701
cbs@greenchimneys.org

Health Home Care Management:

The Green Chimneys Care Management team will provide a care manager to eligible families, children, and youth to provide access to services ensuring they have everything necessary to stay healthy, out of the emergency room and out of the hospital. The Care Manager supports services that a family may already be receiving and will help families get new ones if necessary. Our Care Management team serves youth from birth to age 21. While in these services youth and families will receive the following services:

- Comprehensive Care Management
- Care Coordination and Health Promotion
- Comprehensive Transitional Care
- Individual and Family Support
- Referral to Community and Social Support Services

To find out more information and if your child is eligible please contact:

Green Chimneys Community Based Services
845-279-2995 ext. 707
elemon@greenchimneys.org

Services Where You Need Them:

These services can be delivered at home, at our offices or in the community-whenever is most accessible and comfortable for the child and his/her family.

Immediate Help:

Crisis support can be accessed through a case manager or by calling their 24-hour hotline:
(845) 279-2588

Our Team:

An experienced staff of certified social workers/mental health counselors, case managers, program managers, administrators and interns work closely with youth and families to provide individualized services, skill-building tools and resources to support positive individual and familial development, self-reliance and healthy communication.

Where to Find Green Chimneys:

They are located in Brewster, NY and staff travel across Putnam County to reach youth and families through schools, social services agencies, and community events.

Prevention/Intervention Services Office:

Counseling and resources for at-risk youth; foster family support; mental health services
1689 Route 22
Brewster, NY 10509
(845) 279-2378



Community Outreach Center:

After school and weekend programs; social activities; homework help; counseling
→ Putnam County youth benefit from therapeutic & recreational programs that help them engage.
→ Organizes day trips and other social activities, such as visits to the Green Chimneys Farm & Wildlife Center.
→ Operates psychoeducational groups five days a week to help youth build relationships, positive connections, and communication skills.

Address:

965 Route 22
Brewster, NY 10509
(845) 279-1467

Arbor House Youth Shelter:

Temporary shelter and respite services; case management

- ★ All services are free and confidential and are accessible
24 hours a day

400 Doansburg Rd, Brewster, NY 10509



Residential Services:

A temporary safe home for youth who have either ran away, been displaced from their home, are homeless, need a break due to family conflict, or who cannot be home for other reasons. Youth receive counseling and guidance to assist them in identifying areas of conflict and setting goals that work toward improving their living environment and family communication while promoting positive interpersonal growth.

The youth shelter is a voluntary program, which makes it necessary that youth are in agreement with entering the shelter and the rules of the program. Arbor House serves youth, ages 12-17. The maximum stay at Arbor House is 30 days, but with the aim of reunification it is our goal to get youth home before the 30th day. For our respite services a stay is usually between 3-7 days to give youth and their family a short cooling off period.

During youth's stay, youth will receive an array of services including individual and family counseling, case management services, referral assistance and life skills training. Youth will participate in recreational activities and group meetings that enhance social skills and positive peer interaction. During the youth's stay at Arbor House, they will be maintained in their current school program.

Transitional Living Program Services:

The Green Chimneys Transitional Living Program provides a supported independent apartment for four youth between the ages of 16-21. Staff support youth in learning healthy connections, life skills and independent skills to support the youth to transition to independence. Youth can stay in the program for 18 months or until their 21 st birthday (whichever one comes first). Staff and youth work together to create a plan that will best support the youth to transition themselves to independence at the end of their stay in the program. A full time social worker and our life skills coordinator meets with the youth weekly to ensure that youth are meeting the goals of their individualized program and supporting youth with any barriers and successes that they come across. Staff are available to youth 24/7.

Non-Residential Services:

Arbor House also offers a Case Management program providing individual and family counseling and intervention services to youth up to 21 years, who are experiencing conflict within the home, have run away or are thinking of running away, or who have been displaced from their homes.

Case management assists with achieving goals and maintaining a safe living environment. Services provided from other service providers will be coordinated by the case manager in order to ensure the best provision of services for youth and families. Case Managers can also provide referral assistance, legal and educational advocacy and basic need assistance.

24 Hour Hotline:

Crisis Intervention can be accessed through a case manager or through our 24-hour crisis hotline to provide immediate intervention for youth and families.

24 Hour Youth Hotline: (845) 279-2588

24 Hour Youth Text line: (845) 661-9749

For more information go to :

www.greenchimneys.org/preventative-services

Mental Health Association

The mission of the Mental Health Association in Putnam County is to promote a vision of wellness and recovery for individuals and their family members coping with mental health issues. To accomplish our goals the MHA provides advocacy for people with mental illnesses to overcome discrimination, provides education to enhance the understanding of mental health issues to the community at large, and provides resources to assist residents locate and acquire needed support and services.



Core Values

Respect: We believe in the inherent worth and dignity of each individual.

Empowerment: We believe that it is essential to support people to make their own life choices. We support people by providing them with the tools that they need to become self-sufficient and by providing a non-judgmental, caring environment.

Professionalism: We believe in a high standard of excellence in our service provision and, to that end, provide our staff with support and opportunities for growth and development.

Hope: We believe that hope is the key to recovery.

Acceptance: We believe in promoting understanding and compassion as the means to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness, with the goal of equality for all.

We are Advocates and Educators for the community at large.

Family Support Groups

MHA offers Family Support groups for children and adults who have a family member that may be struggling with their mental health. We offer individual connections as well, from one of our Certified Peer Specialists who can offer support as someone with both education and lived experience.

Our Staff

Phone: (845) 278-7600

Youth Family Support contact Amanda Boccardi

(845) 278-7600 x205

Adult Group Family Support contact Bill Crowley

(845) 278-7600 x240

Adult Individual Family Support contact Bonnie Soldano

(845) 278-7600 x231

MHA in Putnam Remote Programs for the week of 5/11/2020 May is Mental Health Month!

Tuesday, May 12th And Still I Rise...Women's Group Call In with Bonnie Tue, May 12, 2020 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/891195381>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 891-195-381

Junior Warriors (youth ages 8-12) Time: 3:00pm - 3:45pm Platform: Slack **Group will be held through a messaging chat platform.

Members must be invited by the host (Amanda) through an email invite.

If your child is interested in attending this group, please contact Amanda Boccardi (845) 745-0427.

Warriors (youth ages 13-17) Time: 4:00pm - 4:45pm Platform: Slack **Group will be held through a messaging chat platform.

Members must be invited by the host (Amanda) through an email invite. If your child is interested in attending this group, please contact Amanda Boccardi (845) 745-0427.

Wednesday, May 13th "Tools2Thrive"-Stress Management & Resiliency Call-In Group with Liz Wed, May 13, 2020 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/762677437>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 762-677-437

Dwyer Vet2Vet “Open Mic”-Call in Chat for Veterans Wed, May 13, 2020 6:00 PM -

8:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/281402037>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073

Access Code: 281-402-037

Family Support Group Call-In with Bill for those that have a loved one with
mental health issues Wed, May 13, 2020 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/389339029>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 389-339-029

Thursday, May 14th Drop In Call-In Chat with Angela and the Gang! Thu, May 14,

2020 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/521597997>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073

Access Code: 521-597-997

Peer Café Support for Transitional Aged Youth (ages 18-24)

Call In Chat with Amanda Thu, May 14, 2020 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (EDT)

***Platform: Zoom (please note this is a change)**

Members must be invited by the host (Amanda) through an email invite.

Please contact Amanda Boccardi (845) 745-0427.

Friday, May 15th Coffee Time-Call In Chat with Tamara Coffee Time-Call In Group

with Tamara Fri, May 15, 2020 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/871525637>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 877 568 4106

Access Code: 871-525-637

Friday, May 15th Dwyer Vet2Vet - "Pop Smoke" Call In Chat Fri, May 15, 2020 6:00

PM - 8:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/265440469>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 265-440-469

Karaoke Call in with Rich! Fri, May 15, 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (EDT) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/237973653>


You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 237-973-653


Our Recovery Coaches are available to offer Peer Support Monday through Thursday 10am-3pm Fridays 10am-1pm (845) 278-7600

This is a stressful time for everyone...reach out and connect!

You are not alone...peer support means that we have been there, and we care.



Children's Mental Health Matters!



Youth Programs of The Mental Health Association in Putnam County, Inc.
2505 Carmel Avenue, Suite 212, Brewster, NY 10509
(Note: These programs will begin the week of Oct.7, 2019).

These programs include:

A small network of youth in Putnam County who have been "labeled" and are seeking a healthy change, as well as those who have family members struggling with mental illness.

Through these programs, youth are empowered by gaining knowledge and experience through group activities and peer support.

Youth are encouraged to see the value of living a purposeful life, as well as supported in developing positive group norms and making healthy decisions.

For more information on these programs, please contact:

For more information please contact:
Amanda Boccardi
Director of Family Support & Outreach Services
(845) 278-7600 ext. 205 - aboccardi@mhaputnam.org

845-278-7600 www.mhaputnam.org Fax: 845-278-0800

All of our Services are available at No Charge.

**MHA Is Located at 2505 Carmel Avenue, Suite 212, Brewster, New York
10509**

Phone: (845) 278-7600 - Fax: (845) 278-0600

Free Support Groups:

Junior Warriors (youth ages 8-12)

Time: 3:00pm - 3:45pm Platform: Slack **Group will be held through a messaging chat platform. Members must be invited by the host (Amanda) through an email invite. If your child is interested in attending this group, please contact Amanda Boccardi for more information (845) 745-0427.



Warriors (youth ages 13-17)

Time: 4:00pm - 4:45pm Platform: Slack **Group will be held through a messaging chat platform. Members must be invited by the host (Amanda) through an email invite. If your child is interested in

**attending this group, please contact Amanda Boccardi for more
information (845) 745-0427.**

For Peer Support Groups information

Contact Bonnie Soldano: (845) 278-7600 ext. 231



Get help with your long-term services and supports needs

For people of all ages, any disability, and caregivers. NY Connects can work with anyone who needs information on long term services and supports-children or adults with disabilities, older adults, family members and caregivers, friends or neighbors, veterans, and helping professionals.

NY Connects can help you...

- Find care and support**
- Remain independent**
- Understand care options**
- Find transportation**
- Learn about supports in caregiving**
- Find supported employment programs**
- Get answers about Medicare**
- Apply for Medicaid and other benefits**

Community Long Term Services and Supports are designed to help people remain healthy and independent:

Personal Care Services

- Preparing meals
- Housekeeping
- Bathing
- Transportation
- Home safety and accessibility
- Household finances

Education and Counseling

- Independent living skills
- Supported employment
- Adult education
- Building occupational skills

Behavioral health/developmental supports and services

- Intellectual/developmental disability supports and services
- Mental health services
- Substance use disorder services

Health and Wellness

- Abuse prevention and protection
- Managing chronic conditions
- Building community relationships

Connect to long term services and supports in your community:

- Personal care services
- Education and counseling
- Health and wellness
- Behavioral health supports and services
- Intellectual/developmental disability supports and services
- Social supports

Three ways to reach NY Connects:

By phone: 1-866-329-9330

Call 1-800-342-9871

Interpretation and translation services are free. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can use NY Relay System 7-1-1.

Visit our website:

www.nyconnects.ny.gov

In-person.

To find the NY Connects office near you, call our toll-free number, visit our website, or see the address below.

Your local NY Connects office:

Westchester Independent Living Center Serving: Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster and Sullivan Counties (866) 329-9330

Putnam Independent Living:

PILS (Putnam Independent Living Services) is the Putnam County office of WILC (Westchester Independent Living Center). We are a not-for-profit, community-based, cross-disability resource, advocacy, and training center dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities.



WHO WE SERVE?

We provide information, services, advocacy, technical assistance, and training in the Lower Hudson Valley. We serve persons of all ages and with disabilities that fall into all five disability categories, physical, sensory, cognitive, mental health, and multiple disabilities; families of persons with disabilities; and professionals who work with persons with disabilities.

In the future, we will continue to provide a wide spectrum of non-residential and non-medical services throughout the Lower Hudson Valley Region. We will continue to serve persons of all ages with all disabilities, diverse and/or underserved

populations. In all services provided, we will continue to promote personal awareness, personal responsibility, self-reliance, recovery, self-advocacy, positive self-image, and self-determination and self-sufficiency. We will continue to provide services in a culturally appropriate manner.

PUTNAM INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES, Brewster NY

In 2002, WILC established a satellite office, Putnam Independent Living Services (PILS). PILS not only provides services in Putnam County, but it also facilitates WILC in servicing the northern part of WILC's catchment area, i.e., northern Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES Planning to help you achieve your goals and objectives Our Independent Living Team can work with you to mutually explore your independent living needs and develop a plan to help you achieve your goals and objectives including: budgeting and financial services, housing information and advocacy and peer-to-peer support. The Independent Living Team assists consumers in all areas of benefits, such as Social Security Disability Benefits (SSI, SSDI) DSS Benefits, SNAP, HEAP, Temporary (cash) Assistance, and Medicaid or Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities. Guidance is available if you are receiving Unemployment Benefits, Workman's Compensation, ACCES-VR services, ParaTransit transportation, Medicaid transportation, home health aide services and Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program. Services are provided one-on-one.

→ The Educational Advocacy Program

Resources and support for families making informed educational decisions

The Educational Advocacy Program is a program of WILC and its satellite office, Putnam Independent Living Services (PILS). Its purpose is to reach out to families

of children (ages birth-21) with special needs to aid in the advancement of their development and security of the future. It assists parents of children with special needs to make informed decisions about educational rights, choices, responsibilities, and long-term outcomes; provides on-going support navigating the Special Education system; and identifies and links parents with appropriate community resources.

❖ Offer technical assistance, information and referral via phone, email or in-person throughout Hudson Valley

→ Answer questions re: special education, Section 504, State regulations, and IDEA

→ Refer parents to community organizations

→ Connect families to resources and support groups

❖ Offer 1:1 case advocacy in Upper Westchester, Lower Dutchess and Putnam Counties. In-depth 1:1 case advocacy includes:

→ Empowering parents to successfully advocate for their children

→ Attending EI, CPSE, CSE, and 504 meeting

→ Transition planning

→ Peer Support

→ Community Outreach

❖ Prior to attending a meeting, we will:

- Meet parents and inform them of their rights
- Review records, strategize and assist parents in the development of goals and objectives
- Assist with effective communication skills

Also conduct outreach and collaborate with agencies, Special Ed PTAS and PTOS and school districts throughout the region.

Intakes-All intakes should go to Jessica Baumann, Director, Educational Advocacy Program, for distribution to staff members.

Contact:

Jessica Baumann (Director, Educational Advocacy Services)

Address: 1441 Route 22, Suite 204, Brewster, NY 10509

Phone: 845-228-7457 ext. 1108 (Voice)

914-259-8036 (VP/TTY)

845-228-7460 (Fax)

Email: jbaumann@putnammils.org

Website: www.putnammils.org

- **Transportation**
Available accessible transportation

PILS does not provide transportation. Our IL Team can help you explore options in Putnam. Putnam County has the PART bus system and Paratransit. Putnam Paratransit is a shared ride service.

Appointments must be made one day in advance. Paratransit operates at the same time and the same

Contact Margaret Valenzuela, Director Independent Living and Benefits Specialist, mvalenzuela@wilc.org or call 845-228-7457 (voice), VP 914.259.8036 (VP).

→ Peer Advisement

Guidance, support and practical advice on disability-related issues

Contact Margaret Valenzuela, Director Independent Living and Benefits Specialist, mvalenzuela@wilc.org or call 845-228-7457 (voice), 914.259.8036 (VP)

Our peer advisors are trained individuals, with a disability, who will meet with you to explore issues of importance to you and to provide you with information you can use when making life decisions.

Peer Advisors can serve as a guide and offer emotional support and practical advice on disability-related issues and concerns while you make the decisions on your goals.

→ Information and Referral

Resources and options that can assist you in making informed choices

Have questions on disability related issues? Ask us and we will provide you with resources and options that can assist you in making informed choices about living, learning, and working independently. If we don't have the answer, we will work with you to find one.

The following are examples of issues on which we provide information for individuals with disabilities, their family members and agencies:

- **Benefits and entitlements (Social Services, Social Security, Medicaid and more)
Long Description**

- Independent Living Team
- Housing
- Transportation
- Mental health/health care supports and services
- Senior services
- Assistive Technology
- Legal services

Benefits and Entitlements Advisement

Assistance and information regarding benefits

Our Advocates and Peer Advocates are certified Benefits and Work Incentives Practitioners who can answer your questions about eligibility requirements, procedures and available benefits.

We can assist you when you are applying for benefits or appealing a denial of benefits.

Our advocates know what resources are available and can assist you in making informed choices. We provide assistance in understanding and accessing available resources, such as:

- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- PASS PLAN (to return to work while retaining your benefits)
- Long Description
- Independent Living Team
- Social Security Work Incentive Program
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Medicaid benefits for the working disabled (Medicaid Buy-In)
- Public assistance
- Food stamps, SNAP Program
- Emergency food sources

- Section 8, Housing Choice Voucher Programs

Trainings & Workshops

The following workshops and training are offered by WILC. We welcome your suggestions and ideas for future training.

- [Visit our calendar for current workshops](#)

Advocacy

- Advocacy 101, Importance of Advocating for your Special Child
- Understanding the EI – CPSE Transition Process
- Understanding the CPSE – CSE Transition process
- Understanding the ADA & Section 504
- Understanding the Common Core
- Common Core the Latest Developments
- Overview of EI, CPSE and CSE
- Understanding the CSE Process
- Understanding & Developing an effective IEP
- Understanding 504 Plans
- How do you know if Your Child is Succeeding?
- Understanding Evaluations
- Understanding your Child's IEP
- Assistive Technology and the IEP
- Family Empowerment Advocacy Series (Formerly the Lay Advocacy Workshop Series)
- Developing Mentoring Skills to Assist Others
- Special Education 101
- Building Self Esteem for Parents of Children with Special Needs

- My Child has been declassified, what do I do now?

Special Education

- When should you refer your child to Special Education?
- NY State Special Education Rules and Regulations
- Navigating the Special Education System
- School Discipline, Suspensions & Manifestation Determination
- Know your rights if your Child is Suspended
- Independent Educational Evaluations
- Components of an IEP
- Due Process- what is it? When do you file for it?

Transition

- Diploma options: An Overview
- CDOS Credential: An overview
- SACC Credential: An overview
- Transition Planning for the College Bound Student
- Planning for the Future of Your Loved One with Special Needs – Special Needs Trusts & Guardianship, ABLE Act
- Transition planning for the Non-College Bound Student to vocational or other adult programs
- Developing a Vision/life care plan for your Child
- Person Centered Planning
- How to incorporate behavior services into a successful transition plan

Behavior Supports

- Bullying
- Eye on Bullying Toolkit

- Functional Behavior Assessments and Positive Behavior Interventions
- Positive Behavior Interventions that work at school and in the home
- Understanding difficult behaviors in Young Children
- School Avoidance
- School Avoidance and Anxiety, What Parents can do.
- Social Skills Development
- Using ABA to Teach Functional Life Skills & Job Readiness Skills
- Behavior: what it is, why it occurs and how to manage it
- Supporting your Child's social skills development

Communication & Collaboration

- Effective Communication Strategies
- Ask an Advocate
- ABCs of School Meetings
- Innovative Approaches to CPSE/CSE Meetings
- Team Building with Your school District

Medical

- Food Allergies & School
- Childhood Motor Speech Disorders & the PROMPT System
- Safety Issues and Concerns for Parents & Caregivers of Children with Special Needs
- Auditory Processing Disorders in the Classroom
- How Executive Functioning Affects Learning
- Sensory Processing Disorders and Learning

Additional

- WILC/PILS Services: An Overview

- Disability Awareness
- OPWDD Eligibility & the Front Door
- Social Security Disability Benefits (SSI/SSD)

Specialized Programs

Prevent Type 2 Diabetes

Lower the risk of developing diabetes while improving your health

Olmstead Housing Subsidy Program

High-need Medicaid beneficiary rent subsidy & transitional housing support

NY Connects, No Wrong Door

Person centered approach to community based services and supports

Nursing Home Transition and Diversion

Transition/diversion of long term care residents to the community

Traumatic Brain Injury Regional Resource Development Center

Supports transition from care facility to community living

Open Doors Transition Center

Support for transition from care facility to community living

Olmstead Housing Subsidy Program

High-need Medicaid beneficiary rent subsidy & transitional housing support

Contact Don Wiggins, Housing Specialist, Olmstead Housing Subsidy Program, dwiggins@wilc.org or call 914-682-3926 (voice), 914.259.8036 (VP).

The Olmstead Housing Subsidy (OHS) program is a statewide program to establish a rental subsidy and transitional housing support service program for high-need Medicaid beneficiaries. The program provides assistance to persons who live in a nursing home or are unstably housed with choosing, accessing, and maintaining an independent apartment.

Eligibility

1. Nursing home level of care – (for Community-Based/Homeless participants a determination will be made via the Uniform Assessment System (UAS) (score 5 or higher)
2. Homeless or unstably housed
3. Medicaid enrolled
4. Spent at least one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive days in a nursing home, over the most recent two-year period
5. Elderly (age 55 and over) or chronically disabled
6. Have the ability to live safely in the community, with the necessary supports and services

Services

The Olmstead Housing Subsidy provides the following services, as needed:

1. Apartment selection assistance, to locate safe and affordable housing that meets the needs of the participant
2. Essential furniture and household furnishing purchases
3. Rental stipend to assist with meeting rent and utility obligations
4. One-time set-up fees for service access including: electric, heat, telephone, broker's fees and mover's expenses
5. Monthly contact

6. Assistance in applying for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

The Olmstead Housing Subsidy program is a statewide program. WILC covers the entire Lower Hudson Valley which includes Ulster, Dutchess, Sullivan, Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties.

The OHS subsidy is modeled after the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) and Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) waiver subsidy programs in that the individual will be required to pay 30% of their monthly income, less allowances. There is also funding available for “community transition services” which includes security deposits, moving expenses, utility payments and household establishment purchases.

NY Connects, No Wrong Door

Person centered approach to community based services and support
Contact Aimee Parks, Program Manager for NY Connects, No Wrong Door, at aparks@wilc.org, or toll free 866-715-4700 (phone), 914-259-8036 (VP).

NY Connects can work with anyone who needs information, assistance or to explore their options regarding long term services and supports – children or adults with disabilities, older adults, family members and caregivers, friends, or neighbors, veterans, and helping professionals.

WILC’s free NY Connects information and referral line, 866-715-4700, is open for business in seven counties in the lower Hudson Valley: Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster.

NY Connects is a locally based “No Wrong Door” system that provides one stop access to free, objective, comprehensive information, and assistance for people of all ages needing long term services and supports. The program links individuals of all ages to long term services and supports regardless of payment source; whether it be private pay, public or a combination of both.

Community long term services and supports are designed to help people remain healthy and independent. Examples include:

- Personal Care Services
- Preparing meal
- Housekeeping
- Bathing
- Transportation
- Home safety and accessibility
- Household finances
- **Education and counseling**
 - Independent living skills
 - Supported employment
 - Adult education
 - Building occupational skills
- **Behavioral health/developmental support**
 - Intellectual and developmental disability support and services
 - Mental health services
 - Substance use disorder
- **Health and wellness**
 - Abuse prevention and protection
 - Managing chronic conditions
 - Building community relations

Traumatic Brain Injury Regional Resource Development Center

Supports transition from care facility to community living

Contact Ann Conte for TBI RRDC information in the lower Hudson Valley (Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster) at aconte@wilc.org or call 845-228-7457 (voice), 914-259-8036 (VP). For the New York City TBI Waiver Program (Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island) call 718.816.3555

This program assists Medicaid-eligible people with Traumatic Brain Injury to leave nursing homes and long-term care facilities and move into the community or to obtain services to avoid nursing home placement. We can help people through the eligibility process, to select a service coordination agency and to access other benefit programs and services in the community. WILC is the Hudson Valley Region Center providing services for the residents of Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Putnam, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties.

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program provides information and referral and services to individuals with traumatic brain injury and their families. It assists with relocating people with TBI who reside in out-of-state facilities to community-based residential and day programs. It can also help individuals currently residing in nursing homes, psychiatric facilities or in their family's homes to be re-situated into more appropriate community settings, where they can live more independent lives.

This program can identify and help to address the gaps that exist in the continuum of care for TBI, from coma to re-entry into the community.

What is a Waiver? The Federal Government “waives” certain Medicaid rules enabling New York to select a portion of the population on Medicaid to receive specialized services not available to all Medicaid recipients.

Eligibility:

- Must be a Medicaid recipient
- Diagnosed with TBI or other type of brain injury, such as stroke, anoxia, etc.
- Must be 18-64 years old with the injury occurring on or after 22nd birthday (for individuals injured before age 18, contact OPWDD at (518) 473-1890, individuals 18-22 years old can be served by DOH when OPWDD does not have available funds)
- Must be eligible for a nursing facility level of care (determined by UAS)
- Must choose to live in the community rather than in a nursing facility
- Can identify a safe living arrangement that will meet their needs

- Can be supported safely within the community with the funds and services available under the HCBS/TBI Waiver

Services:

In addition to services available through State Plan Medicaid, individuals determined eligible for the Waiver Program may also develop an individual service plan including any of the services listed below.

- **Service Coordination** – a coordinator is chosen by the Waiver participant and/or guardian to work with them in identifying and coordinating supports and services
- **Independent Living Skills Training** – provides one-to-one support to focus on increasing independence in practical skills, such as cooking, shopping, banking, etc.
- **Structured Day Program** – provides an environment focused on task oriented activities and social skill building
- **Community Integration Counseling** – counseling is provided to participant or family members to assist with issues related to community integration
- **Home and Community Support Services** – provides guidance and assistance to enable the Waiver participant to reside safely within the home and community environments
- **Substance Abuse Program** – services implemented are based on the unique challenges associated with TBI to reduce and/or eliminate substance abuse that interferes with integration into the community
- **Positive Behavioral Intensive Services (PBIS)** – provision of direct technical assistance to individuals with challenging behaviors and staff training for development of program support strategies
- **Environmental Modification** – provides adaptations to residences to promote independent and to ensure safety
- **Respite** – provides short-term relief to care-givers
- **Special Medical Equipment & Supplies** – provides durable and non-durable equipment not funded under state plan Medicaid

- **Transportation** – provides access to non-medical services in the community

Program Coordination

The NY state-wide TBI Program is divided into 12 regional centers. WILC, which is the Hudson Valley Region Center, provides services for the residents of seven lower Hudson Valley counties (Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Putnam, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties).

Open Doors Transition Center

Support for transition from care facility to community living

**Contact Tracy Marcus, Program Coordinator Regional Lead,
tmarcus@putnamils.org or call 845-228-7457 (voice) 914.259.8036 (VP).**

Open Doors is a specialized service to assist individuals living in a nursing home or Intermediate Care Facility in making decisions regarding home and community-based services. WILC's Open Doors staff meets with individuals and their families to provide information regarding services and supports available in the community. The associated Peer Program consists of people who have lived in institutional settings, moved to home and community-based settings, and receive services and support where they live, who share their experiences with residents and support people who want to move to the community.

Through the Open-Door Transition Center, program eligible individuals, their families and facility social workers receive information about available community-based programs and services, and assistance to make necessary program referrals. There is follow up with the person transitioning for a period of 12 months post transition. Eligible individuals may also apply for an Olmstead housing subsidy to assist them to secure an affordable and accessible apartment, as well as access to trained peer mentors who share personal experiences and offer support to those wanting to move back to the community.

Eligibility:

- Medicaid Eligible – must have Medicaid at least one day prior to discharge
- Transition specialists should utilize benefits advisors (or similar staff) at ILC to assist anyone who is interested in becoming Medicaid eligible. TS may continue to work with the individual to transition while Medicaid is being sought.
- Transition from qualifying institution (i.e., hospital, rehab, skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility)
- Must have been in the qualifying institution **for at least 90 days at the time of discharge (This 90 days may be combined across settings. For example, in hospital for 30 days and in NH for 60 days would count. If a person is using combined times for 90 days, make a note in the database with this information.)**

Must transition to a qualified setting (i.e., a home or apartment in the community owned or rented by the participant or their family members OR a group home with 4 or fewer unrelated individuals living together)

Services:

The Transition Center has trained Transition Specialists that help people living in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities to receive home and community-based services. This includes providing information about available services and supports where the person wants to live. There are Transition Specialists at independent living centers in counties all over New York State.

Transition Specialists assist in the creation of a plan to assist eligible individuals to successfully move into and remain in the community. Those services may include:

- **Community preparedness education – information and education about skills necessary to live in the community**
- **Identifying and assisting in the application for specific services to meet a person's individual needs**
- **Finding affordable, accessible housing to meet the individual's needs**

The Peer Program consists of people who have lived in institutional settings and then moved to home and community-based settings, and receive services and support where they live. Peers visit nursing homes and developmental centers to share their experiences with residents and support people who want to move to the community.

WILC is the regional lead agency for this program and our goal is to assist people living in nursing homes and OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) intermediate care facilities in the lower Hudson Valley Region to transition to and/or remain in the community. The lower Hudson Valley Region includes Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Sullivan, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties and works with auxiliary outreach agencies based at local independent living centers throughout its catchment area.

Contact Information:

For general information email info@putnamils.org or info@wilc.org

Putnam Independent Living Services

1441 Route 22, Suite 204

(Tompkins Mahopac Bank building)

Brewster, New York 10509

845-228-7457 (Voice)

914.259.8036 (VP)

845-228-7460 (Fax)

