

## We Are Here for You

Allegheny County has a long-standing commitment to young children and their families. We believe that all children, who have or are at risk for developmental delays, and their families should have easy access to appropriate, high-quality intervention services at no cost. This commitment is shared by many and was enacted into state (ACT 212 of Pennsylvania) and federal (IDIEA) laws.

## Additional Information

If you live outside Allegheny County or move outside Allegheny County, please call the Connect Helpline at 1-800-692-7288 for information about EI services anywhere in Pennsylvania.



## Purpose Statement

The Allegheny County DHS OBH Bureau of Mental Health Services works closely with providers and other stakeholders to deliver culturally competent, quality services and supports built upon the principles of resiliency and recovery. The bureau supports each person's right to choose services that meet their unique needs.

## DHS IS

responsible for providing and administering publicly funded services to Allegheny County residents.

## DHS PRINCIPLES

All services will be

- high quality, comprehensive, and accessible.
- individualized and designed to be respectful of the unique cultural characteristics of each individual and/or community
- integrated and offered through a team approach that recognizes the capacity of individuals and families to identify their own strengths, needs, and goals; create relationships with natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals.



## Office of Behavioral Health

**Rich Fitzgerald**  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**Erin Dalton**  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Phone: 412-350-4456

Fax: 412-350-3880

[www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/obh](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/obh)

**Human Services Building**  
**One Smithfield Street, Suite 300**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2221**

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of a protected class including: race; color; religion; national origin; ancestry or place of birth; sex; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; disability; marital status; familial status; age (40 and older); use of guide or support animal because of blindness, deafness, or physical disability.

*DHS funding information is available at [www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/funding.aspx](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/funding.aspx)  
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## Early Intervention Services



Office of Behavioral Health



**Ensuring that every child in Allegheny County gets off to a great start**

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**HUMAN SERVICES**

[alleghenycounty.us/dhs](http://alleghenycounty.us/dhs)



## Your Baby's Growing

You know your baby best. You are watching all the amazing things baby is doing every day. You can visit the PA Promise for Children website at [www.connectpa.net](http://www.connectpa.net) to see what to expect now and in the future as your baby learns more about the world and how to respond to it.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is committed to making sure that eligible newborns and young children, up to age five years, have the support they need to reach their developmental milestones.

In Allegheny County, we do this by working with the child and their caregiver(s) early in the child's life.

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) contracts with The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers to provide assessments and evaluations and developmental monitoring of infants and toddlers up to three years of age.

## Early Intervention

Early intervention (EI) services are provided to infants and children up to three years of age who

- › have a delay in one or more areas of development such as: how they crawl, walk or stand, how they reach and play with toys and other objects, how they let you know what they need and how they interact with others.
- › have a diagnosis or condition that is very likely to lead to a developmental delay
- › are determined to be eligible based on the professional opinion of a trained clinician

EI services are provided by trained professionals and take place most often in the child's natural environment and involve the young child and the caregiver(s). Services are customized for each child and build on the child's strengths; always working toward improvement.

## Developmental Monitoring

Infants and young children who are at *risk* for developmental delay are eligible for developmental monitoring, also known as At-Risk Tracking. They include

- › children who weighed under 3 lbs. 5 oz. at birth (1500 grams);
- › children who were cared for in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit following birth;
- › children who were born to a chemically dependent mother;
- › children who are involved with the Office of Children, Youth and Families; (CYF) due to serious abuse or neglect
- › confirmed dangerous levels of lead poisoning as set by the Department of Health;
- › children who are experiencing homelessness;

## How to Find Out If Your Child Qualifies

All young children who live in Allegheny County qualify for a multi-disciplinary evaluation even if they do not fall into any of the categories mentioned earlier.

If you believe your young child, under three years of age, may be eligible for early intervention or developmental monitoring, simply call The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers at 412-885-6000 to make an appointment to have your child evaluated.

## EI Services for Children Three to Five Years of Age

Your preschooler may be eligible for early intervention preschool services, whether or not they received EI services before the age of three years.

These services are most often provided in a pre-Kindergarten classroom or other community setting.

If you live within the City of Pittsburgh, please call Pittsburgh Public School District at 412-529-4000 to schedule a screening for your child.

If you live within Allegheny County but outside the City of Pittsburgh, please call the Allegheny Intermediate Unit at 412-394-5904 to schedule a screening for your child.

