Directions for Youth & Families

A Resiliency-Oriented/ Trauma-Informed Agency

the ability to return to being healthy & hopeful after difficult things happen in your life.

any past event, situation, or experience resulting in distress.

We believe all individuals have rights and a voice in treatment that will be met with respect and dignity.

We believe children and families thrive best in physically and emotionally safe environments.

We believe all children and families have unique strengths, abilities, and talents and that with the right supports and encouragement youth can achieve their full potential.

We know parent/caregiver involvement is critical in helping children learn to interact in a healthy way with others, manage their emotions, and communicate their feelings and needs.

DFYF is accredited by:
the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services (COA)

DFYF is certified by:
Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services Department

DFYF is a member of:
• Family Service Council of Ohio
• Ohio Council of Behavioral Healthcare Providers
• Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations

DFYF collaborations include:
• United Way of Central Ohio
• ADAMH Board of Franklin County
• Franklin County Dept of Job & Family Services
• City of Columbus
• Franklin County Juvenile Court
• Ohio Attorney General’s Office
• Columbus City Schools
• South-Western City Schools
• The Columbus Foundation
• The Ohio State University
• YMCA of Central Ohio

DFYF is 1 of 27 members of The National Crittenton Foundation family of agencies. Operating in 31 states, DFYF is the only one in Ohio.

Main Office:
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www.dfyf.org • intake@dfyf.org

• Counseling & Clinical Services •
• Kindergarten Readiness Program •
• Prevention & Parenting Services •
• After-School / Summer Programs •
Directions for Youth & Families (DFYF) is a leading resiliency-oriented/trauma-informed agency providing counseling and prevention services, including after-school and summer programs.

Since our establishment in 1899, through our predecessor Crittenton Family Services, we have been providing innovative, culturally sensitive and effective counseling and programming to the Franklin County community.

We offer a variety of counseling programs that specialize in a range of issues including school concerns, truancy, anger management, sexual abuse, substance use, exposure to violence, grief/loss, abuse/neglect, family conflict, and juvenile delinquency.

Services are provided on an outreach basis, in youth’s homes, schools, and other community settings, to reduce barriers to treatment.

School Connections Program provides school-based mental and behavioral health intervention services for select Columbus City Schools.

Individual counseling services are provided for students identified by school personnel or through parent request.

Parents/caregivers are informed that their child is being referred to the School Connections Program by the school principal, school counselor or designee. Caregivers must sign a consent for treatment or intervention/counseling services.

Student eligibility is limited to only those who participate in a financial assessment.

Weekly counseling sessions are held at school.

Typical length of counseling is 9-12 months.

DFYF clinician will meet with caregiver and student to identify needs through a mental health assessment and establish goals on an Individualized Service Plan.

Services include collaboration with the family and teachers/principal for identified students once they are enrolled in counseling.

Trauma and Resiliency based counseling services.

Limited home-based services are provided. Students will continue to receive counseling during academic breaks and summer, with caregiver permission.

Referrals are accepted from school administration, school staff or through parent request and can be submitted to the DFYF Counselor at your school. Or contact our Intake Department at 614-294-2661.