

Children's Services

Child Protective Services

The Child Protection unit investigates allegations of child abuse including physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and educational neglect. The unit coordinates with the law enforcement center as well as community professionals and para-professionals to determine if the child was abused or neglected by an action, or failure to act on the part of a caregiver or other person. The results of the assessment will determine whether child protective services are needed.

Child Welfare Case Management

Social workers assist families to develop case plans, which reduce the risk of abuse or neglect of children. These services are provided to families who have requested them, or have been referred by other agencies to participate in services that may improve family functioning. These services include in-home counseling, parent education, respite day care or foster care, minor parent assessments, and SELF (Support for Emancipation and Living Functionally).

Children's Mental Health

The Children's Mental Health program provides case management services to children experiencing emotional disturbances and their families. These services include coordinating counseling, in-patient treatment, out-of-home placement, respite, and family community support services, etc.

Child Care Assistance

The ChildCare Assistance program provides funding to help families pay for child care while they are at work or attending school. There are various programs within the ChildCare Assistance program to assist a variety of clients. These programs include Basic Sliding Fee, which provides a childcare subsidy for low income working families; MFIP (Minnesota Family Investment Program) which provides child care subsidies to assist financial assistance recipients return to work, and Transition Year, which provides one year of subsidy for clients who have left the MFIP program due to increased earnings.