

COUNSELING SERVICES

Quality care and innovative programming

About the Program

Many of our services are focused on helping people deal with life transitions while others meet the needs of persons with specific issues such as alcohol and drug abuse, physical and sexual abuse, or depression. Services include:

- Individual and group counseling
- Couple and family counseling
- Chemical dependency treatment
- Psychiatric evaluations
- Community support programs
- Prevention services

ADVANCED AIMS PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

ADVANCED AIMS is a collaboration of three ADAM-H (Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health) providers: Concord Counseling, Directions for Youth and Families, and Dublin Counseling Center. The program provides intensive case management services to TANF recipients, or those eligible, with Mental Health and/or Alcohol or Other Drug (AOD) issues. Services are personalized to meet the client's individual needs and include but are not limited to advocacy, referrals, linkages and resources. The program's goal is to move clients towards self-sufficiency and off of public assistance. The program is set-up to be a short term CPS program (6 months to 1 year), but there are exceptions that are accommodated with the ultimate goal being self-sufficiency. We have eight years of experience working with this population of TANF recipients, helping clients reduce barriers to better enable them to move towards job readiness or actual employment.

WHAT WE PROVIDE:

- Case Management
- Advocacy
- Referrals and Linkages

CRITERIA:

- TANF Recipient (or TANF eligible)
- Mental Health and/or Alcohol or Other Drug (AOD) issues
- Willingness to Move Towards Self Sufficiency

WHO REFERS:

Referrals are obtained from numerous agencies and social service providers. Referrals come from organizations such as: Netcare, Catholic Social Services, Children's Hospital, Social Workers from area hospitals, Godman Guild, area shelters and our own agencies. The program coordinator meets with area agencies and programs to do in-services in regards to the ADVANCED AIMS program, who we are, program criteria, and the referral process.

REFERRAL PROCESS:

The referrals are made to the program coordinator located at Dublin Counseling Center (DCC). A referral form, which has been distributed to referring and potentially referring agencies throughout the county, is mailed or faxed to DCC. Once received, the program coordinator then begins the process of engaging the client for CPS services. This is done through phone contact, letters or coordination with the referring agency. Although the process begins immediately upon receipt of the referral, the entire process may take a month or more depending on follow-through and availability of client. Once contact is made, the initial appointment is set. If the referral is made with a recent assessment (i.e. Netcare referral) client will be scheduled to do a mini intake with the program coordinator in the client's home or location agreed upon by both parties. If no assessment has recently been completed, a licensed staff person is sent out to client's home or mutually agreed upon location to do the intake as well as an assessment. The intake process cuts down on the non-productive time invested by a Case Manager in tracking down a prospective client. Initial contact, eligibility, paperwork and client commitment to program will be established prior to case being assigned to a Case Manager. If client is at any point determined in-eligible, chooses not to participate in program, or there is no initial contact made, the program coordinator notifies referring agency or program and closes the case. Each referral and circumstance is looked at individually and special considerations can be made if determined by program coordinator. If case is not open for any reason, the program coordinator offers resources, linkages and suggestions to client and or referring agency.

CASE ASSIGNMENT:

- Cases are assigned, by the program coordinator, at bi-monthly staff meetings, or more frequently if a case is determined to be high priority.
- When possible or if necessary, cases will be assigned according to a Case Manager's expertise.
- Team caseloads vary from 20 to 35 clients depending on intensity of client. A staff person with many intense, high need clients may carry a smaller caseload. Each staff person has the responsibility of reporting to the coordinator their availability of slots to absorb new clients. The team is also very accommodating when a special request is made.
- There has been no waitlist to date and referrals remain steady.
- Cases are closed at the discretion of each case manager. Typically though, there is a discussion with a supervisor or the program coordinator.

ADVANCED AIMS strives to help TANF recipients attain freedom from public assistance by encouraging them to explore individual and family strengths while building on natural and community supports to meet their employment goals.