

# RESPITE MANAGEMENT AGENCY SERVICES

### **Our Model**

The Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. Respite Management Program uses a network of local providers to deliver quality respite services to individuals and their families. We believe that individuals should have the opportunity to receive services and supports in their own communities regardless of the complexity of their condition, severity of their disability, or challenges of their behavior. We believe that in natural community settings, the individuals we serve have the best opportunity to develop relationships and to realize their full potential.

### What are Respite Services?

We know that caring for individuals with special needs can be both emotionally and physically challenging. The Respite Program aims to give rest and relief to those caregivers of children and adults with behavioral health challenges.

### ► IN-HOME SERVICES

provided inside your own home and the community. A direct service provider will supervise and interact with your family member while you are able to take a break. You do not need to be present in the home during this time. Authorization time is 40 hours for a 6-month period.

### Who We Serve

The Respite Management Agency (YAP) is here to offer support for family members caring for individuals who require intensive care. The program has created a network of providers ready to provide respite services to children, youth, and adults in need. Once the program receives a referral, we will work with you to find the best match available.

### Who is Eligible?

Services through the Respite Management Agency are available for PerformCare members living in Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon and Perry counties. Children, adolescents and adults served by PerformCare will be accepted for services regardless of age, race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, gender or sexual preference. Eligible individuals must have a mental health.

#### Eligible individuals must:

- be medically stable
- not require detoxification from alcohol or other chemical substances at the time of respite
- not require an evaluation for behavior that presents a danger to themselves or others
- not be in foster care
- not be receiving family-based services (BHRS services such as TSS, BSC or MT are acceptable)
- be authorized for a PerformCare community-based service

Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. 1511 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17102 yapinc.org

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# **Contracted Providers**

Laurel Life

**MedStaffers** 

Pennsylvania Comprehensive Behavioral Health

**TW Ponessa** 

Youth Advocate Programs

### For more information

Marquitta Sturm Program Coordinator 717-232-3786 msturm@yapinc.org

## The Benefits

Sometimes we all need a break; time to relax and reconnect with others. Respite service gives you this break while making sure your loved one's needs are met in a safe and caring environment. It is important to remember that respites are not a substitute for shelter or housing needs and must be planned in advance. Furthermore, priority for respite services is based on the availability of appropriate respite service options and funding.

## How Do I Schedule a Respite?

The Respite Management Agency works with a network of agencies to provide both in-home and out-of-home respite services. Your referral will be sent to your provider agency of choice to identify a respite worker that would be a good match for your family member. Once a match is made, you will then be contacted by either a YAP staff member or one of our provider agencies to schedule your first respite (Please note that respites need to be scheduled at least 5 days in advance to ensure authorization and payment to your respite provider).

## After the Respite

First and foremost, the Management Agency Staff (YAP) asks that all our families complete a Respite Evaluation describing your thoughts about the respite and mail it back to our office. The form is a simple one, but very important. Please take some time to complete it. We appreciate your time and feedback as it will provide us with assistance to tailor our services to better assist the needs for our families and the communities.

### **Can I Schedule Another Respite?**

Yes. Please note that it takes the staff time to set up most respites and the more notice we have, the more options we will have to offer you in terms of respite providers. Finally, call the Management Agency Staff so we are able to gauge how your last



respite service went so we can do our best to meet your family's needs and provide the respite service in a timely manner. Note: We ask that families do not schedule future respites with the respite provider themselves. By doing so, you run the risk of the authorization for services not going through in time, which means your respite provider may not get paid for his/her time.

## **Family & Friend Providers**

If you have a family member or friend who would be interested in providing the respite for your family, we also contract with individuals to provide respite service. Please contact the office for more information and requirements. Authorization time is 40 hours for a 6-month period.