

Family Support Program Guidelines

The Division of Behavioral Health

Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JJRI)

The Family Support Program through the JJRI is designed to assist in meeting the unique challenges of children, youth and their families who are involved or at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system.

The program will assist by financially supporting efforts needed to improve the child, youth and family's overall mental well-being, decrease the risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system and aid in other related needs as identified.

The systems of care coordinator or mental health clinician shall assess requests to ensure each is tied to the client's service and/or treatment plan and will improve the child, youth and family's overall mental well-being, decrease the risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system and aid in other related needs as identified.

Project Advancing Wellness and Resilience Education State Education Agency Grant (Project AWARE-SEA)

The Family Support Program through the Project AWARE-SEA grant is designed to support school-aged children and youth, including their families in addressing the challenges related their child or youth's mental health disorder.

The program will assist by financially supporting efforts needed to improve the child/youth and family's overall mental well-being and development, decrease youth violence, and aid in other related needs as identified.

The systems of care coordinator shall assess requests to ensure each is tied to the child/youth's treatment plan and will promote the child/youth's mental health and family's overall well-being and decrease youth violence.

Eligibility Criteria

The Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) establishes eligibility for the program through an application form. The application is completed by either a systems of care coordinator or mental health clinician who oversees services.

Eligibility criteria is as follows:

- Resident of South Dakota;
- Meet financial eligibility requirements; and
- Be receiving the following services:

1. Children Youth and Family Services (CYF)
2. Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
3. Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART)
4. Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)

OR been identified through:

5. JJRI Systems of Care (SOC)
6. Project AWARE-SEA (SOC)

Funding Limit

Project AWARE-SEA SOC model has established a funding limit of \$255.00 per student.

Funding of Last Resort

All other sources of payment shall be exhausted before financial assistance is requested, including other community resources. The care coordinator or clinician will need to submit documentation that no other funding sources are available as part of the request.

Approval of Supports/Services

Purchases cannot be made prior to the approval.

Upon approval, the DBH will provide written notice to the systems of care coordinator or clinician. The systems of care coordinator or clinician is responsible for notifying the client/family of the decision. Once approved, the request and/or total cannot be modified.

The systems of care coordinator or clinician will work with the client/family to coordinate the purchase of the approved services and/or supports within 45 days. If the purchase of services and/or supports does not occur within 45 days of the notice of approval, those dollars will be reallocated to other individuals in need.

The mental health provider will submit to the designated service coordinator itemized receipts for all approved services/supports within 45 days of the notice of approval. Reimbursement will not be directly paid to the client/family.

Survey Information

The DBH will be requesting the completion of surveys by the clinician or systems of care coordinator to gather outcomes data on all approved services/supports.

Examples of Supports/Services

If no other funding sources are available, some examples of things that may be supported include:

- Sensory integration equipment – i.e. weighted blankets
- STEM learning toys
- Transit tickets/gas cards
- Tracfone/prepaid minute cards
- Rent/rental deposit and/or utilities
- Client and family wellness opportunities
- Vehicle repairs – repairs must be less than what the vehicle is worth and guarantee no other major repairs are needed. Also dependent upon the rurality and need of client.
- Dental work – related to psychotropic medications, beyond coverage through Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance.
- Eye exam and/or glasses
- After school programs
- Clothing and shoes
- Other basic needs

Some examples of things not supported include:

- Personal vacations
- Purchase of vehicles
- Laptops/computers and iPads/iPods
- Televisions and gaming systems i.e. Wii, X-box, PS3 Player
- Legal fees – i.e. consultation fees, outstanding warrants, past due fines, garnishment of wages.
- Loan debt – i.e. payday loans, bank loans, or loans from friends/family

The DBH will evaluate requests to assure funding is evenly accessed across the state and that clients across the state are afforded the opportunity to access the program.