

# Community Program Directory

## DCF's Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships

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**Family Support Services**

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**Domestic Violence Services**

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**Early Childhood Services**

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**School-Linked Services**

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**County Welfare Agencies**



New Jersey Department of Children and Families

This directory is frequently updated and available online at [www.nj.gov/dcf](http://www.nj.gov/dcf)

June 30, 2009

*A man visiting a small town notices a lot of activity on the street. He goes over to the stream that runs through town to find scores of people working furiously. Babies are floating downstream and the townspeople are pulling them out of the water. The stranger learns that the townspeople have been at this process day and night. He is asked to join them but refuses, and the townspeople become indignant.*

*“How can you not help us in this crisis?” they ask. “Don’t you have any compassion? Don’t you care?”*

*The stranger answers quietly, but emphatically. “You can continue to pick up these babies all you like. But it strikes me that your efforts are ultimately inadequate. Obviously, somebody keeps putting these babies in the stream. I’m going to go upstream, find the source, and put an end to it once and for all.”*

This Community Program Directory represents an ongoing commitment by Governor Jon S. Corzine and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) to increase access to resources that are designed to strengthen families and prevent child abuse or neglect. The services identified in this Directory are funded by DCF's Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships (DPCP), a grant-making and best practices team committed to strengthening New Jersey's families.

The work of New Jersey's child protective and permanency services through the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) remains ever important to ensuring New Jersey's children are safe and supported. DCF also has a responsibility to invest in programs that prevent abuse and strengthen families in our communities. DPCP has significantly expanded services for children, youth and families in the last several years. This Directory will be continuously updated online at [www.nj.gov/dcf](http://www.nj.gov/dcf) as additional resources for families become available.

DPCP is committed to provide the resources and technical assistance needed to grow a robust network of public/private partnerships and programs. Schools and community-based organizations are two prime locations for prevention and intervention services, as you will see throughout this Directory.

The DPCP's goal is to build a continuum of child abuse prevention and intervention programs that are culturally competent, strength-based and family-centered, with a strong emphasis on primary child abuse prevention.

# Family Support Services

## Family Success Centers

New Jersey now has one of the country's only statewide systems of publicly supported Family Success Centers. These centers are neighborhood-based gathering places where any community resident can find family support, information and services. The purpose of the Family Success Center is to enrich the lives of children by making families and neighborhoods stronger. There is no cost to access services provided by Family Success Centers. Some of the services include: employment, information and referral, parent education, health care, parent-child activities, home visiting, life skills training, advocacy and housing.

## Outreach to At-Risk Youth

Outreach to At-Risk Youth is a new initiative that is part of Governor Jon Corzine's crime prevention plan. It is designed to prevent crime and deter gang involvement by providing enhanced recreational, vocational, educational, outreach or supportive services to youth, ages 13 to 18, with the option to serve youth until age 21. Programs are located in communities with demonstrated high crime and gang violence.

# Domestic Violence Services

## Domestic Violence: Sanctuary and Advocacy

DPCP is a primary funding source and oversight agency for 24 domestic violence programs and the New Jersey Coalition of Battered Women. There is at least one DCF designated lead domestic violence program in each county, including a shelter with a 24-hour hotline and response. Programs offer information and referral, counseling, support groups, financial, legal services, housing and general advocacy, children's services and community education.

## PALS Programs (PEACE: A Learned Solution)

DPCP oversees PALS programs in counties for children who have witnessed domestic violence. PALS is an intensive program that provides counseling and creative arts therapy for children who have witnessed domestic violence. The program serves children primarily aged four to twelve.

# Statewide Youth Helpline 1-888-222-2228

The NJ Statewide youth helpline, 2NDFLOOR, is available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week to children and young adults ages 10-24. Youth can either call the helpline, 1-888-222-2228, or access the interactive Web site [www.2NDFLOOR.org](http://www.2NDFLOOR.org). Calls to the 2NDFLOOR youth helpline are anonymous and confidential except in life-threatening situations.

# Early Childhood Services

## Home Visitation Program

The Home Visitation Program provides services to families challenged by complex health-related and/or social problems. This program focuses on young families who are at risk for abuse and neglect with primary prevention and early intervention services for pregnant women and children up to age five.

## Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education

The Strengthening Families Initiative (NJ SFI) is an approach to preventing child abuse and neglect by strengthening families through early care and education. The Center for the Study of Social Policy developed the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education Framework. The fundamental principle is that certain protective factors contribute towards family resiliency and strength. Early Care and Education Centers play a prominent role in building these protective factors among the families they serve. Through seven key strategies, centers become well positioned to help families build these protective factors that have proven to be effective in preventing child abuse and neglect.

## Children's Trust Fund

The Children's Trust Fund supports various child abuse prevention programs throughout New Jersey. Examples of such programs include parenting education for fathers and teens, culturally specific prevention education for the Latino and Haitian communities and training for teachers on identifying and referring families for assistance.

Funding for the Children's Trust Fund comes from a variety of sources, including voluntary state income tax check-off contributions; surcharges on birth, divorce, or death certificates; line item state appropriations; interest from the Trust Fund; corporations and private foundations; and individual contributions.

# School-Linked Services

## School Based Youth Services Program (SBYSP)

The School Based Youth Services Program (SBYSP) sites are located in each of the 21 counties in or near schools in urban, rural and suburban communities. The programs are open to all youth ages 10 -19 enrolled in the school that is home to the SBYSP, and provide services before, during and after school and throughout the summer. Major services include: mental health and family services; health services; substance abuse counseling; employment services; pregnancy prevention programs; learning support services; referrals to community based services; and recreation.

# School-Linked Services *continued*

## Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Initiative

The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Initiative uses education, counseling and health services to reduce the birth rate among teens in high school. Any youth, at-risk or not, enrolled in the school that is home to the APPI program is eligible for services. Risk factors include sexual abuse or neglect at home, low school achievement, poverty, substance abuse or living in a home where siblings or relatives gave birth during their teen years. Referrals can come from peers, family members, guidance counselors, or foster families. Students also may enroll themselves.

## Parent Linking Program

The Parent Linking Program is designed to ensure the development of life skills and graduation of teen parents. It is also a collaborative effort with Prevent Child Abuse NJ to prevent abuse and neglect of young children, providing parenting education and on-site child care for teen parents enrolled in the School Based Youth Services Program (SBYSP).

## Family Empowerment Program

The Family Empowerment Program (FEP) is a unique intervention program that targets students and families with intergenerational distress related to substance abuse. It provides a comprehensive intervention that integrates direct family system and adolescent development services with school and community resources. Related issues include substance abuse, mental health, academic performance and attendance, violence, gangs and juvenile justice involvement. The goal of the program is to maintain the student in school, while facilitating positive change that reduces risk factors in both student and family.

## Newark School-Based Health Centers

Newark School-Based Health Centers provide comprehensive health services specifically for children and youth ages 0-21. Centers are conveniently located in neighborhood schools. Services include: well baby checks; physicals, immunizations; behavior and learning concerns; mental health services; dental and vision care.

## Family Friendly Centers

Family Friendly Centers (FFC) offer a wide range of services to enhance after-school programming for elementary and middle-school students and their families. FFCs collaborate with their host schools and communities to provide services in the core areas of education, recreation, social services and enrichment. This comprehensive program stresses parental participation as well as partnerships among school and community stakeholders to meet the particular needs of the students and parents.

## NJ Child Assault Prevention Project

The New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Project, known as CAP, is a statewide prevention program. CAP trains children, parents and teachers to prevent peer assault, stranger abduction and known adult assault. CAP staff work closely with local school districts, parent/teacher associations, home school groups and other community groups. CAP has a threefold educational approach to prevention which includes staff in-service, parent programs and individual classroom workshops for children and teens.

# Mercer

## Family Support Services

### Family Success Centers

Children's Home Society of NJ/Children's Futures  
Family Success Center North Ward  
1554 Princeton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08648  
(609) 393-2980

*Managing Agency:*

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey  
635 South Clinton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08611

Children's Home Society of NJ/Children's Futures  
Family Success Center South Ward  
635 South Clinton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08611  
(609) 695-6275

*Managing Agency:*

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey  
Contact information same as above

### Outreach to At-Risk Youth

Boys & Girls Club of Trenton & Mercer County  
212 Centre Street  
Trenton, NJ 08611  
(609) 393-3191 ext. 21  
*Serves Trenton*

Isles Youth Build Institute  
354 South Broad Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
(609) 341-4736  
*Serves Trenton*

Mercer County Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.  
1457 Lower Ferry Road  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
(609) 637-0896  
*Serves Mercer County*

## Domestic Violence Services

### Domestic Violence Programs

NJ Coalition for Battered Women  
1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Road  
Trenton, NJ 08690  
(609) 584-8107

Womanspace  
1212 Stuyvesant Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
(609) 394-9000 (24 hour hotline)  
(609) 394-0136

## Early Childhood Services

### Children's Trust Fund

Helping Caring Families with Special  
Needs Children  
635 South Clinton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08611  
(609) 695-6274

*This program provides services to Ocean County parents who have special needs, or medically fragile children. Services may include respite child care, referrals, crisis intervention and parenting support groups.*

### Home Visitation

Children's Futures  
*Nurse Family Partnerships*  
28 West State Street  
Suite 305  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
(609) 989-3335

Mercer Street Friends  
*Healthy Families*  
1100 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
(609) 989-1395

# Mercer

## School Linked Services

### **Child Assault Prevention**

NJ Child Assault Prevention Network  
PEI Kids  
231 Lawrence Road  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
(609) 695-3739

### **Family Friendly Centers**

Johnson Park School  
285 Rosedale Road  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
(609) 497-9622

Littlebrook School  
39 Magnolia Lane  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
(609) 497-9622

### **Parent Linking Program**

Trenton Central High School/Daylight  
Twilight Program  
135 E. Hanover Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
(609) 656-4900 ext. 2012

### **School Based Youth Services Program**

Trenton Central High School  
400 Chambers Street  
Suite E124  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
(609) 278-7260 ext. 7575

Ewing High School  
900 Parkway Avenue  
Ewing, NJ 08618  
(609) 538-9800 ext. 2173

## County Welfare Agency

Mercer County Board of Social Services  
200 Woolverton Street  
PO Box 01450  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
(609) 989-4320