



PEP Connections

PEP Connections exists to support young people whose mental health issues impact their ability to manage daily life within the school, home and community environments.

Youth served by PEP Connections are typically on track for deeper system involvement, often including residential treatment, psychiatric hospitalization, juvenile court placement and the like. Using a strength-based and trauma-informed approach, PEP Connections' experienced care managers help children and their families reach the highest quality of life possible.

PEP Connections emphasizes supports and services provided in the neighborhoods where the children and families reside. Youth eligible for PEP Connections services will receive either **INTENSIVE CARE COORDINATION/HIGH-FIDELITY WRAPAROUND** or **INTENSIVE HOME-BASED TREATMENT (IHBT)**. At the point of referral and assessment, the determination is made as to which approach will best support the child and family.



99% of parents of **PEP Connections** clients feel that they are treated as a full partner in the process.



ELIGIBILITY: PEP Connections serves youth ages 3 – 17* who:

- Have multiple problems and needs resulting from their mental health issues;
- Are involved with multiple systems or at risk of deeper system involvement; and/or
- Are at risk of out-of-home placement or are returning to their families/community from out-of-home placement.

*Services can continue for young adults up to age 22 if they are enrolled by age 17.

TYPES OF SERVICE: Youth eligible for PEP Connections services receive either:

Intensive Care Coordination/High-Fidelity Wraparound

is a service that coordinates the efforts and services of multiple community resources designed to support the child and his/her family. The assigned PEP care manager also provides intensive mental health supports. The process often entails contact with school personnel and other professionals as well as regular home visits to meet with parents or guardians. PEP care managers are on call 24/7 to address crises as needed.

Intensive Home-Based Treatment (IHBT)

is an intensive home-based family therapy service designed for youth who have certain diagnoses. The IHBT therapist will engage the whole family in therapy sessions, which occur twice a week for a total of three to six hours. This is a time-limited service, which lasts for three to six months. IHBT helps stabilize the household by helping create a safe environment for the entire family. Therapy focuses heavily on helping youth develop skills to manage troubling behaviors that have resulted from severe mental health challenges.

To make a referral, please visit www.PEPConnRef.org or call 216-361-2441.

“The investment **PEP Connections** has in families and family systems is unprecedented. They come to appointments with families and they are responsive 24/7. When I need a partner, PEP Connections is my first call as I can count on their vast expertise, accessibility and creativity.”

Dr. Molly Wimbiscus, child and adolescent psychiatrist, Cleveland Clinic

“**PEP Connections** is a critically important partner when we encounter children with mental health issues who are involved with multiple systems. They are skilled in leveraging all voices – the child, the family, the systems. They create plans and solutions that prevent these kids from getting more deeply engaged with the juvenile justice system and instead moving on a more productive path that leads to far more positive life and community outcomes.”

Timothy McDevitt, deputy court administrator, Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court

“We value our partnership with **PEP Connections**, as we look at children through a shared lens. They are exceptional collaborators and we have complete trust in their clinical perspective. Through a trauma-informed lens, they embrace and provide care for those kids who are deeply involved in multiple systems, supporting these young people in achieving positive life outcomes.”

Jane Granzier, associate director of crisis services, FrontLine Service