

Nurturing Parenting Program®

Nationally recognized outcomes and evidence-based

To make a phone referral contact:

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Funded by the State of Michigan



Family & Children Services is a private, nonprofit, nonsectarian, human service organization begun in 1903. Its mission has remained constant “...To support, strengthen and preserve the safety, well being and dignity of children, individuals and families”.

The Agency receives funding through contracts with Community Mental Health programs and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, insurance reimbursements, fees for service and contributions. We are accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children. The Agency is licensed by the State of Michigan as a Child Placing Agency, Child Caring Institution (Children’s Therapeutic Group Home), and Substance Abuse Program.

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Foster Care Supportive Visitation

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Family & Children Services’ facilities are barrier-free.



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Foster Care Supportive Visitation



Foster Care Supportive Visitation/In-Home Parent Education Program (FCSV) provides intensive individualized parent/child visits centered on the child. Each family and their Visit Coach designs a plan for 12 weekly visits with specific goals set for each week. The Visit Coach joins with parents to support planning before and after each visit and assists in achievement of reunification in a timely manner using the Bavolek evidence-based parenting education model designed for prevention/treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Supportive Visitation Goals

- Provide parent(s) with increased support in the first 8 months of out-of-home placement
- Assist parent(s) in achieving the goal of reunification in a timely manner
- Support parent(s) practicing new, healthier thought/behavior patterns, replacing what has not been successful
- Effectively introduce parent(s) to 12-weeks increased parenting education using Bavolek Nurturing Parenting Model proven/established evidence-based techniques to build and improve parenting skills
- Offer parents flexibility and availability, conducting visits during evening/weekend hours to meet family needs

Visit Coaches Provide Families:

- Joint development of visit plan, service agreement goals, Adult-Adolescent parenting inventory with parent(s)
- Pre-Visit planning time – 15 to 30 minutes prior to parent visit with each parent
- Coaching during the 60-minute parent/child visit
- Post-visit debriefing for 30 minutes immediately following visits to offer parent(s) feedback/education
- Specific parenting education and skills development: life/home management skills, parent/child interaction skills using demonstration, videos, role-playing,

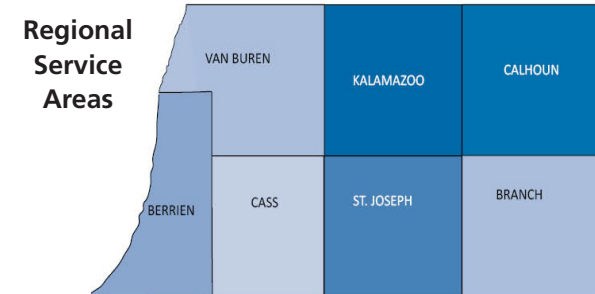
Visit Coaches Provide DHS Referring Workers:

- Initial assessment, service goals, weekly reports, and termination reports
- Weekly communication
- Capability/availability to attend Family Team Meetings and court hearings if requested



Who Is Eligible?

- All families with open DHHS Foster Care cases in Berrien, Branch, Cass, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties (DHHS and PAFC)
- Families whose children have been in out-of-home placement for 8 months or less and whose current goal is reunification
- Parents willing and able to participate in weekly services to improve parenting skills
- Parents willing and able to take charge of setting their own service priorities



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