

# Wraparound Program

## Wraparound is...

Wraparound is an innovative program designed to maintain children in their homes and avoid placement in institutions or more restrictive settings. It includes an intensive, voluntary planning and implementation process, aimed at providing comprehensive supports and services.

In Wraparound, family voice and choice are crucial to defining needs. Together, the Wraparound team creates strategies that build on family strengths to address these needs. Each plan is individualized and provides linkages to key resources within the family's own community.

Wraparound values diversity. The goal of the Wraparound process is family empowerment and, ultimately, self-sufficiency.



## How do I receive Wraparound?

### Children with an open DCFS case can be referred to Wraparound through:

- The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)
- The Department of Probation
- A child's teacher or therapist

Founded in 1975, The Help Group is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States serving children with special needs related to autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, ADHD, developmental delays, abuse and emotional problems.

The Help Group is widely regarded for its high standards of excellence, unique scope and breadth of services. Through its public awareness,

professional training and parent education programs and efforts at the state and national levels, The Help Group touches the lives of children with special needs across the country and in other parts of the world.

At the heart of its efforts is the commitment to helping young people fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives.

## Who will be on the team?

### In addition to your child and your family, Wraparound team members will include:

- **Facilitator:** leads team meetings and coordinates services with all providers.
- **Child and Family Specialist (CFS):** acts as an advocate for your child's needs and interacts with him or her on a one-to-one basis during regular outings.
- **Parent Partner:** acts as an advocate for you and meets with you on a regular basis.

### Other possible team members include:

- A representative from the agency that referred your child (social worker or probation officer)
- Family friends
- School personnel
- Community members (church, neighbors, YMCA personnel)
- Anyone else you would like to have on the team

## How does the program work?

You will meet on a regular basis with your team. Meetings run approximately an hour and a half and take place in your home, our office, or another location of your choice. Parent Partner visits and Child Family Specialist outings take place regularly with you and your child as well. All meetings, visits and outings focus on assisting you and your family in acquiring the skills and resources needed to maintain a safe, healthy and nurturing home.