

## Programs and Services

### Early Intervention Ages 0-3

Provides infants and toddlers from birth to three years old who have developmental delays with stimulation designed to help maximize his or her development and provide family support.

For more information call the Alliance for Infants and Toddlers (AFIT) at 412-885-6000. Early Intervention Services are funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare through DHS.

### Supports Coordination Ages 3+

Each person registered for Mental Retardation services is eligible to receive Supports Coordination Services. There are three Supports Coordination Organizations (SCO) in Allegheny County to choose from:

- Mon Valley Supports Coordination
- FamilyLinks
- Staunton Clinic

Once a person has selected an SCO, a Supports Coordinator (SC) will arrange a meeting at the person's home or other location convenient to the person. Based on the values and goals that are important to the person, a plan for supports and services is developed. The SC locates, coordinates and monitors services.

There is currently a waiting list for other services such as those in the home, in the community and in residential settings. However, the time to plan is now, even if you or your family member do not currently need services.

# Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities

## DHS VISION

TO CREATE AN ACCESSIBLE, CULTURALLY COMPETENT, INTEGRATED, AND COMPREHENSIVE HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM THAT ENSURES INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED, SEAMLESS, AND HOLISTIC SERVICES TO ALLEGHENY COUNTY RESIDENTS, IN PARTICULAR, THE COUNTY'S VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

## DHS PRINCIPLES

ALL SERVICES WILL BE: HIGH QUALITY—REFLECTING BEST PRACTICES IN CASE MANAGEMENT, COUNSELING, AND TREATMENT. READILY ACCESSIBLE—IN NATURAL, LEAST-RESTRICTIVE SETTINGS, OFTEN COMMUNITY-BASED. STRENGTHS-BASED—FOCUSING ON THE CAPABILITIES OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, NOT THEIR DEFICITS. CULTURALLY COMPETENT—DEMONSTRATING RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUALS, THEIR GOALS, AND PREFERENCES. INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED AND EMPOWERING—BY BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND SHARED DECISION-MAKING AS ROUTES TO INDEPENDENCE RATHER THAN DEPENDENCY. HOLISTIC—SERVING THE COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS OF FAMILIES AS WELL AS INDIVIDUALS THROUGH TANGIBLE AID AND A FULL CONTINUUM OF SERVICES—INFORMATION EXCHANGE; PREVENTION; EARLY INTERVENTION; CASE MANAGEMENT; AND CRISIS INTERVENTION; AND AFTER CARE.

## OFFICE OF MENTAL RETARDATION/ DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES — ADMINISTRATION

Dan Onorato, *Allegheny County Executive*  
James M. Flynn, Jr., *Allegheny County Manager*  
Marc Cherna, *DHS Director*  
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Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities*



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One Smithfield Street  
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## Office of Mental Retardation/ Developmental Disabilities



*Everyday Lives  
Self Determination  
Person Centered  
Supports*

# Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities

**MR/DD VISION**

ALLEGHENY COUNTY BELIEVES THAT PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AND SHOULD BE AFFORDED THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE, WORK, AND FIND RECREATION IN THE SAME ENVIRONMENTS AS OTHER ALLEGHENY COUNTY CITIZENS.

**How To Get Started**

Are you or your family member in need of mental retardation services? To register for services, call:

**the DHS Office of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (MR/DD)**

**INTAKE/REGISTRATION UNIT  
412-253-1250**

Once you make this very important call, a Registration Specialist will schedule a date, time and place to meet with you and/or you family member. Our Registration Specialist will help you:

- Determine eligibility for MR services
- Complete the Personal Planning Information
- Talk about your service preference
- Learn what Supports Coordination Organization choices you have

During this meeting you will be asked to talk about the values and goals you think are important in your life, including:

- Being safe and healthy
- Engaging in meaningful life activities
- Having important people in your life
- Having personal choice

**Outreach**

In an effort to better communicate with and educate individuals, families and caregivers, MR/DD offers:

- a Key Communicator mailing and email list
- Fact Sheets
- MR Plan and Budget Request information
- a variety of educational workshops

For more information about these outreach activities, please visit our web site at:

**www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/mr.aspx**

**Everyday Lives**



**DHS Office of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (MR/DD)**

**TELEPHONE  
412-350-3695**

**INTAKE/REGISTRATION UNIT  
412-253-1250**



**IN A CRISIS**

If you are in a crisis and have never received MR services, call the 24-hour emergency hotline:

**412-350-4457**

If you are in a crisis and currently receive MR services, call the Supports Coordination Organization with which you are registered.

**VISIT THE MR/DD WEB SITE  
www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/mr.aspx**

**DHS DIRECTORS ACTION LINE (DAL)  
1-800-862-6783  
DAL@alleghenycounty.us**

You may register concerns or complaints or request information about any aspect of DHS. DAL specialist research and respond to callers' needs.