About our Family Support Specialists

School & Community Family Support programs are led by Children's Case Management Family Support Specialists to assist children in need of additional support to live life to it's potential.

We follow a strength based model to provide support, linkage to services, advocacy, direct care (transportation, tutoring, role modeling) and flex funding for necessities to keep the child and family safe and healthy.

Our programs are a collaborative effort between County Department of Social Services and multiple school districts across Columbia County. For Greene County, we work with Greene County Mental Health.



MHA of Columbia-Greene Your bridge to wellbeing

Get in Touch



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School & Community Family Support

Services for children and their families in need of support with behavioral, social, emotional, or educational needs.



Referrals

There are many reasons you/your child may be referred to our program. Each family has unique needs and our support specialists will help figure out what's best for you.

Some Reasons for Referrals

- » Student in grades K-12 in need of mental health support.
- » Identified as having behavioral, social, emotional, or education needs.
- » Referred by a member of your child's school, such as a teacher, guidance counselor, principal, nurse, etc.
- » Youth who is at risk of becoming, alleged to be, or adjudicated as Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS).
- » Youth alleged, or convicted, as Juvenile Offenders, Juvenile Delinquents, Adolescent Offenders, or adjudicated as Youthful Offenders.

How we help

Home Visits

Our Family Support Specialists will work with the family to do home visits as often as needed to help them succeed, with a minimum of twice per month.

Goal Setting

Have a goal in mind? We can help figure out your goals and ways to work toward achieving them. Whether the goal is helping your child increase socialization, improve academics, or help with behavioral concerns, we can figure out a game plan.

Service Connection & Support

Not sure what help is available or where to start? We can help with referrals and support to other services. Maybe one of our other programs can help, or link up with social services, or couseling. Maybe it's help with SNAP or HEAP. We're here to help.

Socialization Skill Building

We introduce fun, pro-social skill building activities into a child's life in one-on-one interactions or with other children. Activities are goal focused and can be anything from walks out in the community, to arts & crafts, games, group activities, going to the library, or even learning how to cook.

Advocacy

We help advocate for the family and child for the school district or for development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP). We can assist with working with the Department of Social Services to help advocate for the welfare of the child.

Family Education

Raising a child can be challenging. We can help support family needs by providing tools for parents/guardians on ways to better care for their child, improve family communication, and ways to manage a child with emotional or behavioral issues.

Interested in receiving Family Support Services?

Send us an email to learn more: childrenandfamilies@mhacg.org