

MAY 2008

S O U T H W E S T E R N P E N N S Y L V A N I A  
**R E S O U R C E G U I D E O F  
B E H A V I O R A L H E A L T H P R O V I D E R S**  
FOR PERSONS WHO ARE DEAF, DEAFBLIND OR HARD OF HEARING



The Behavioral Health  
Task Force

*for Persons who are Deaf, Deafblind or  
Hard of Hearing of Allegheny County*

A product of the Behavioral Health Task Force for Persons who are Deaf,  
Deafblind and Hard of Hearing of Allegheny County.

Thanks to the Staunton Farm Foundation for making this brochure possible.

**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

**Resolve Crisis Network 1-888-7YOU CAN or 1-888-796-8226**

**Child and Adolescent Crisis Team Intervention Service (CACTIS) 412-624-3516 (v)**

**Information, Referral and Emergency Services (IRES) 412-350-4456 (v) 412-350-3467 (TTY)**

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This booklet is a list of health care providers who have experience working with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. This list is not intended to limit your options of providers. You have the right to choose any provider whether or not they are listed here.

Included in the list are providers who have therapists proficient in American Sign Language (ASL) or who are deaf or hard of hearing themselves. All providers have a legal responsibility to provide services in a way that will ensure effective communication. Effective communication means that important medical information must be clearly understood by you, and you must be able to express important information to your provider. Examples of the aids and services that may help with effective communication include qualified interpreters, assistive listening devices, note takers, written materials, television decoders, and telecommunications devices such as TDDs. Upon request, a provider must provide an appropriate service or aid to ensure effective communication, and they must pay for it. Providers do not necessarily have to provide a specific device or service that you request if another aid or service that is more cost effective will still enable clear, effective communication. They cannot, however, assume a specific accommodation will work for you without your input into the decision. There are several laws that protect your right to have these accommodations provided to you, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

For example, if you need an interpreter in order to understand what your health care provider is telling you, then the provider is required to provide you with one. The provider must pay for the cost of an interpreter, even if the cost of the interpreter is more than the fee that the provider is paid for your visit. You should also understand that some very small providers may have an “undue burden” defense to the legal obligation to provide accommodations. For example, where there may be continuous visits over a long period of time, the cost of interpreters may so far exceed the resources of a sole practitioner that the burden would be considered unreasonable and therefore may not be required. If your provider is unable to provide the accommodation and you are covered by HealthChoices, your HealthChoices plan must cover the cost of the accommodation.

You should contact your provider before your appointment. Explain to them your needs so that they can accommodate those needs at the appointment. If you need an interpreter, for example, this will give the provider time to arrange for an interpreter to be available. Please help the provider to assist you by giving the provider enough time to arrange for the interpreter.

Everyone’s situation is different. If you have questions regarding your rights and reasonable accommodations by providers, please call the Disabilities Rights Network intake line at:

**Phone: 1-800-692-7443**

**TDD: 1-877-375-7139**

**Americans with Disability Act** – A federal law enacted to stop discrimination against people with disabilities.

**Assistive Listening Devices (ALD)** – Amplification instruments that are designed to be helpful in specific listening situations.

**American Sign Language (ASL)** – Distinct visual-gestural-kinesthetic language.

**Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)** – The office within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Welfare which collaborates with other state offices to ensure local access to a comprehensive array of quality mental health and substance abuse services that are reflective of the needs of Pennsylvania citizens, effectively managed and coordinated, and responsive to a dynamic and changing health care environment.

**Provider** – A person, firm or corporation that provides behavioral health or medical services or supplies.

**Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS)/Wrap around Services** – Services for children and families are provided in the family’s home and community to prevent out of home placement. “Wrap around” services are a child-centered, strengths-based system.

**Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)** – Core principles that should guide service delivery. Services should be child-centered, family-focused, community-based, multi-system, culturally competent and least restrictive.

**Consumer-Oriented** – Services should meet the needs of the consumer, not the needs of the service provider.

**Culturally Competent** – Services provided by individuals who have the skills to recognize and respect the behavior, ideas, attitudes, values, beliefs, language and practices of a particular group of people.

**Deaf** – A condition in which sounds, including speech, have no meaning for ordinary life purposes. Visual communication such as sign language, writing, text reading and speech reading is necessary.

**Hard of Hearing** – A condition in which there is some degree of hearing loss varying from mild to moderate to profound. The sense of hearing is partial, but not completely functional for ordinary life purposes. The hearing loss can be acquired at any age between birth and late adulthood.

**Health Choices** – The name of Pennsylvania’s waiver program providing mandatory managed health care to Medical Assistance recipients.

**Managed Care Organization (MCO)** – An entity that manages the purchase and provision of physical or behavioral health services.

**Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MH/MR)** – Generally, community mental health and mental retardation services are administered through county MH/MR offices. These offices are part of county government and are overseen by a county administrator. In Allegheny County, drug and alcohol prevention and treatment services, and mental health services for children, adolescents and adults are supported by the Department of Human Services Office of Behavioral Health. Services for persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities are supported by the Department of Human Services Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

**Service Coordination Unit (SCU)** – Local office or intake point for accessing the mental health or mental retardation system.

**Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI)** – A conversational approach to sign language skills assessment which measures a person’s expressive and receptive language proficiency.

**Sign Language Interpreter** – A professional who is able to listen to another person’s words, inflections and intent while simultaneously rendering them into the visual language of signs using the mode of communication preferred by deaf consumers.

**Targeted Case Management (TCM)** – Direct assistance to children and adult consumers of the mental health system, including problem resolution, advocacy and referral to other appropriate services.

**Teletypewriter (TTY/TDD)** – A device that enables deaf people and others to communicate by typing interchange over a regular phone line.

**Video Relay** – A free service that allows persons who are deaf or hard of hearing to conduct a video phone call through a certified ASL interpreter via a high-speed internet connection and a video relay solution.

***Allegheny Children's Initiative***

**Program Type:** Mental health services to children and families.

**Address:** 2304 Jane Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

**Phone (v):** 412-431-8006

**TTY:** 412-431-0682

**Fax:** 412-431-8124

**Contact Person:** Alice Mahler

**E-mail:** amahler@pfq.org

**Population Served:** Children

**Type of Behavioral Health**

**Services Offered:** Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services/Wrap-around Services for children and adolescents.

**Reimbursement:** The agency accepts third party reimbursement and fee for service.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 5 people who were deaf or hard of hearing and their families.

**Qualifications of Staff:** One of the two staff members with sign language skills has a masters degree in counseling and the other is a doctorate candidate in clinical psychology.

**Language Fluency:** There are two staff members with sign language skills. One has advanced or above ASL proficiency.

**Accreditation:** The agency holds accreditation from the Counsel on Accreditation.

**Program Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signals, amplified phones, and flashing signals.

***Aurora Rehabilitation Center/BCRC***

**Program Type:** Mental health services to adults.

**Address:** 363 Third Street, Beaver, PA 15009

**Phone (v):** 724-775-2298

**TTY:** 724-847-1306

**Fax:** 724-774-7603

**Contact Person:** Marianne Lasalle

**E-mail:** mlasalle@bcrc.net

**Population Served:** Adults

**Type of Behavioral Health**

**Services Offered:** Psychiatric services, psychiatric rehabilitation, and supported employment.

**Reimbursement:** The agency accepts fee for service, third party reimbursement and Medicaid.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 4 people who were deaf or deafblind.

**Qualifications of Staff:** The staff member with sign language skills has received training in supported employment. The facility's psychiatrist is conversationally fluent in ASL.

**Language Fluency:** There are two staff members with sign language skills. All workshop staff have received some training in basic sign language.

**Accreditation:** The Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services licenses the agency.

**Program Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible.



***Center for Community Resources, Inc.***

**Program Type:** School-based Student Assistance Program (SAP) services including information and referral to children and families.

**Address:** 220 South Main Street, Suite 407, Butler, PA 16001

**Phone (v):** 724-431-0095

**TTY:** 724- 431-0671 (Crisis Hotline)

**Fax:** 724- 431- 0099

**Web:** [www.ccrinfo.org](http://www.ccrinfo.org)

**Contact Person:** Pamela Maciejewski

Jennifer Grabowski

**Email:** [pmaciejewski@ccrinfo.org](mailto:pmaciejewski@ccrinfo.org)

[jgrabowski@ccrinfo.org](mailto:jgrabowski@ccrinfo.org)

**VP/TTY:** 724-431-0625

**Population Served:** Adults, children and families

**Type of Behavioral Health**

**Services Offered:** Crisis management, utility assistance, school-based services through the Student Assistance Program, Administrative case management and mental retardation case management services with an interpreter.

**Reimbursement:** The Agency accepts fee for service, Medicare and Medicaid and Third Party Reimbursement. All services are provided free to the consumer.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 20 people who were deaf or hard of hearing and their families.

**Qualifications of Staff:** The two staff members with sign language skills have 5+ years experience working with deaf and hard of hearing individuals in a social service setting. Mental health and drug and alcohol training is ongoing.

**Language Fluency:** There are two staff members with sign language skills. One is deaf and the other has advanced or above ASL proficiency.

**Accreditation:** Licensed by the Department of Public Welfare.

**Program Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible and has visual emergency signals.

## Center for Hearing and Deaf Services/Mercy Behavioral Health

**Program Type:** Outpatient mental health, mental retardation, psychiatric, drug, alcohol, and family therapies.

**Address:** 1945 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**Phone (v):** 412-281-1375

**TTY:** 412-281-1375

**Fax:** 412-281-6564

**Web:** [www.hdscenter.org](http://www.hdscenter.org)

**Contact Person:** Yvette Leonard | Linda Sprumont | Dr. Kim Mathos

**E-mail:** [yleonard@hdscenter.org](mailto:yleonard@hdscenter.org) | [lsprumont@hdscenter.org](mailto:lsprumont@hdscenter.org) | v/TTY: 412-281-1375

**Population Served:** Adults, children and families

### Type of Behavioral Health

**Services Offered:** Outpatient therapies, psychiatric consultation services, mental retardation services, marital therapy, office-based family therapy, group therapies, grief counseling, parent support groups, individual drug and alcohol counseling, Tinnitus support groups and therapeutic day program are offered at HDS. Targeted case management and school-based services are also offered.

**Reimbursement:** The agency is fee for service, has a sliding scale and accepts Medicare, Medicaid, and other Third Party Reimbursement – Blue Cross/Highmark, Value Options, Health Assurance, and Blue Chip.

### Number of Clients

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the program served 143 people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

**Qualifications of Staff:** Staff fluent in ASL have the following mental health training: 1 psychiatrist, 1 MSW/LCSW, 3 LSWs, 1 LPC, 2 MAs, 1 RS-certified mental health professional, 1 MSW/LCSW- certified home and school visitor, 1 BS/MS audiologist, 3 rehabilitation counselors.

One therapist has a bachelors in special education and a masters in audiology. One audiologist is on staff at the clinic and available for consultation. Assistive devices are demonstrated and available for purchase on site. An OVR counselor who is deaf is available on site.

**Language Fluency:** Nine staff members have SCPI advanced or above ASL proficiency. Two are conversationally fluent in ASL, and two are deaf.

Mental health credentials of staff with SCPI advanced or above proficiency: MSW, LSW, certified home and school visitor, LPC, MA psychology, CT, LCSW, certified grief counselor, certified EMDR, rehabilitation counselor.

**Accreditation:** Licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

**Accessibility:** The program is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signals, amplified phone, and flashing signal.

***Chestnut Ridge Counseling Center, Inc.***

**Program Type:** Mental health, drug and alcohol services via an interpreter to adults, children and families.

**Address:** 100 New Salem Road, Suite 116, Uniontown, PA 15401

**Phone (v):** 724-437-0729

**TTY:** 724-425-2596

**Fax:** 724-437-0729

**Web:** [www.crcsi.org](http://www.crcsi.org)

**Contact Person:** Melanie McMillen

**E-mail:** [cmcmillen@crcsi.org](mailto:cmcmillen@crcsi.org)

**Population Served:** Adults, children and families

**Type of Behavioral Health**

**Services Offered:** Partial hospital programming, crisis management, outpatient therapy and psychiatric services with an interpreter.

**Reimbursement:** The agency accepts fee for service, third party reimbursement, medicare and medicaid.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 8 people who were deaf and 11 people who were hard of hearing.

**Qualifications of Staff:** There is one staff member with sign language skills who is a licensed social worker.

**Language Fluency:** There are no staff members with advanced or above ASL proficiency. The agency contracts with interpreting agents.

**Accreditation:** The Department of Public Welfare licenses the agency.

**Program Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signals, and flashing signals.

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### **Family Services of Western Pennsylvania – Greensburg Office**

**Program Type:** Mental health services to adults and children.

**Address:** 1011 Old Salem Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

**Phone (v):** 724-832-7600 To initiate services call point of entry at 1-888-222-4200.

**Fax:** 724-832-7602

**Contact Person:** Deborah Swisshelm

**E-mail:** Swisshelmd@fswp.org

**Population Served:** Adults, children and families

#### **Type of Behavioral Health**

**Services Offered:** Outpatient therapy and medication management for adults and children.

**Reimbursement:** The agency accepts fee for service, third party reimbursement, Medicare, Medicaid and sliding scale payments.

#### **Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** The program is opening in spring 2008

**Qualifications of Staff:** The therapist with superb sign language skills has a masters degree in school counseling from Gallaudet University, and is a national-certified counselor pursuing LPC credentialing.

**Language Fluency:** There are three staff members with sign language skills. One has advanced or above ASL proficiency, one is taking intermediate ASL classes, and the psychiatrist has fluent conversational skills.

**Accreditation:** The agency is accredited by The Counsel on Accreditation.

**Program Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signals, amplified phones, and flashing signals.

***Milestones Incorporated - Wilkinsburg Office (formerly Allegheny East)***

**Program Type:** Mental health and mental retardation services.

**Address:** 712 South Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**Phone:** 412-473-8059

**TTY:** 412-243-3358

**Fax:** 412-731-5025

**Web:** [www.milestonecentersinc.org](http://www.milestonecentersinc.org)

**Contact Person:** Jennifer Macioce

**E-mail:** [jmacioce@milestonecentersinc.org](mailto:jmacioce@milestonecentersinc.org)

**Population Served:** Adults

**Type of Behavioral**

**Services Offered:** Partial hospital, psychosocial rehabilitation, outpatient individual therapy, art therapy, blended service coordination, psychiatric consultation services, mental retardation services, residential full care CRR/and housing support.

**Reimbursement:** The agency is Fee for Service. Third party payments are accepted for CCBHO and other third party payers. There is a sliding scale. Medicare and Medicaid are accepted.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 30 people who are deaf and 2 who are hard of hearing.

**Qualification of Staff:** 1 LCSW/CCDP, 1 LSW:BSN, 1 with associates degree. Residential staff are at minimum high school graduates. The total number of staff for residential and day treatment is 8.

**Language Fluency:** None have been tested for SCPI proficiency. Residential staff are familiar with TTYs, fire alert systems, doorbell, bed vibrators.

**Accreditation:** CARF accreditation is pending.

**Accessibility:** The day program is wheelchair accessible and has visual emergency signals and flashing signals.

## Pressley Ridge

**Program Type:** Mental health, educational and residential services for deaf youth with behavioral and emotional problems.

**Address:** 5500 Corporate Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

**Phone (v):** 412-321-6995

**TTY:** 412-321-6995

**Fax:** 412-321-5313

**Web:** [www.pressleyridge.org](http://www.pressleyridge.org)

**Contact Person:** Mary Ellen Snatchko-Ketterer

**Email:** [mketterer@pressleyridge.org](mailto:mketterer@pressleyridge.org)

**Population Served:** Children and families who are deaf or hard of hearing

### Type of Behavioral Health

**Services Offered:** Year-round residential services and approved private school curriculum for youth and adolescents grades 1-12. Behavioral management (re-education philosophy training), psychiatric consultation and therapeutic crisis intervention for enrolled students. Outpatient (non-educational related) services include case management and family-based mental health services.

**Reimbursement:** Pennsylvania Department of Education and local school districts for the school-based program. Medicaid for the outpatient programs.

**Other Programs Offered:** Intensive case management for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

### Number of Clients

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 20 persons who are deaf and 10 who are hard of hearing.

**Qualifications of Staff:** Mental health training is provided through clinical supervision of all staff by mental health professionals, including social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists as well as special education instructors. All 40 staff members are able to sign.

**Language Fluency:** 30 of the staff have advanced or above ASL proficiency. The agency is knowledgeable in the use of TTY, amplification devices, and relay services. Speech and language therapy are provided to students at Pressley Ridge in addition to full accessibility to ASL training.

**Accreditation:** The agency is accredited by the Council of Accreditation and licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as an Approved Private School.

**Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signals, amplified phones and flashing signals.

***West Central Center for the Deaf***

**Program Type:** Mental health services, BHRS, mobile therapy, psychiatric services, information and resources.

**Address:** 2201 East State Street, Hermitage, PA 16148

**Phone:** 724-342-3323

**TTY:** 724-981-4327

**Contact Person:** Shelly Dorfi

**Email:** sdorfi@cccmer.org, wccd@westpadeaf.org

**Population Served:** Adults, children, and families

**Reimbursement:** Fee for service, has contracts with Value Behavioral Health and Community Care Behavioral Health.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the agency served 35 individuals who are deaf and 3 individuals who are hard of hearing.

**Qualifications of Staff:** Two therapists have a masters degree in clinical counseling. The consulting psychiatrist is conversationally fluent in ASL.

**Language Fluency of Staff:** There is one staff member who has advanced or above SCPI skill certification.

**Accreditation:** Licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

**Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual signals, amplified phones, flashing signals, and TTY.

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## Private Practitioners

### *Patricia K. Dobosh, PhD*

**Program Type:** Mental health service provider.

**Address:** 750 Washington Road, Suite 19, Mount Lebanon, PA 15228-2052

**Phone (v):** 412-344-1776

**TTY:** 412-344-1776

**Fax:** 412-344-1772

**Contact Person:** Patricia Dobosh, PhD

**Email:** patricia@dobosh.com

**Population Served:** Outpatient counseling for adults and families

**Reimbursement:** Fee for service, there is a sliding scale and third party payments are accepted.

#### **Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 the practice served 10 deaf individuals and 2 hard of hearing persons.

**Qualifications of Staff:** Dr. Dobosh has 17 years of experience with mental health and deafness, including 8 years at Gallaudet University where she served individuals accommodating and coping with hearing loss in numerous ways, including with assistive devices. Dr. Dobosh holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Gallaudet University and is licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Language Fluency:** Dr. Dobosh is proficient in ASL.

***Private Practitioners***

***Mary-Alice Olson, LCSW***

**Program Type:** Private provider of mental health, drug and alcohol treatment services.

**Address:** 10475 Perry Highway, Suite 102, Wexford, PA 15090

**Phone:** 724-940-1730 voice or TTY

**Fax:** 724-940-1731

**Contact:** Mary-Alice Olson

**Email:** maryaliceolson@aol.com

**Type of Behavioral**

**Services Offered:** Outpatient counseling

**Population Served:** Adults and children over the age of 14.

**Reimbursement:** Fee for service. All major insurances are accepted and there is a sliding scale. Medicaid and Medicare are also accepted.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 services were provided to 7 deaf people.

**Qualifications of Staff:** Ms. Olson is RID certified-CT, BSW, MSW, ACSW. She has an associates degree in Deaf Studies/ASL/Interpreting and Deafblind issues. She received interpreter and speech reading training, and is experienced with assistive technology, FM systems and TTY. She is also certified in EMDR and bereavement counseling.

**Language Fluency:** RID certified.

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***Rose Zingrone, LCSW***

**Program type:** Mental health outpatient counseling.

**Address:** 1824 Murray Avenue, Suite 204, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

**Phone:** 412-897-0276

**Fax:** 412-421-2401

**E-mail:** rosezingrone@yahoo.com

**Population served:** Adult individuals and couples therapy.

**Reimbursement:** Fee for service and third party reimbursement.

**Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** In 2007 services were provided to 8 people who are deaf and 3 who are hard of hearing.

**Qualifications:** Ms. Zingrone holds a masters in social work and has five years of interpreting experience. SCPI certification not obtained.

**Accessibility:** The facility is wheelchair accessible, has visual emergency signal, amplified phone and flashing signal.

**Information/Consultation**

*Teresa Nellans, MA, MBA*

**Program Type:** Nellans Consulting offers consultation on management of hearing loss to individuals, families, or a group in your home, workplace, or medical setting. Training on effective communication is available to staff and professionals on resources, Americans with Disabilities Act, web sites, assistive listening and alerting devices, telecommunications, hearing dogs, and coping strategies.

**Phone (v/TYY):** 412-767-9769

**Fax:** 412-767-4024

**E-mail:** nellanst@aol.com

**Population Served:** Adults

**Reimbursement:** Contracts with agencies are established. Cash or checks are accepted for individual payment. No third party or Medicare is accepted.

**Qualifications:** Ms. Nellans has a masters in psychology from the University of Vermont and a masters in business administration from the University of Pittsburgh. She has 32 years experience with her own hearing loss and assisting people with their hearing loss. Ms. Nellans is certified by the American Academy of Hearing Loss Support Specialists. She uses her own voice with hearing aids and FM, and is conversant in sign language.

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**Mental Retardation and Family Support Services**

*Ms. Judy Kostella*

**Phone (v & TYY):** 724-446-0683

**Cell:** 412-327-6391

**E-mail:** jbkostella@comcast.net

**Program Type:** Daily living skills, ASL instructor, interpreter, advocacy, parenting skills, budgeting, mental health, education on deafness and deaf culture, drug and alcohol services. Ms. Kostella has contracted with Mon Yough MH/MR, Family Links, and the Office of Children, Youth and Families.

***Allegheny County Department of Human Services  
Office of Behavioral Health*****Bureau of Adult Mental Health Services**

Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health Program provides mental health services for adults residing in Allegheny County.

**Contact:** Ms. Mary Jo Dickson, Administrator, Bureau of Adult Mental Health Services

**Address:** One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**Phone:** 412-350-4293

**E-mail:** Maryjo.Dickson@AlleghenyCounty.US

**Bureau of Children and Adolescent Services**

Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health Program provides behavioral health services for children, adolescents and youth, and their families residing in Allegheny County.

**Contact:** Ms. Georgianne Palaoro, Administrator, Bureau of Children and Adolescent Services

**Address:** One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**Phone:** 412-350-4472

**E-mail:** Georgianne.Palaoro@AlleghenyCounty.US

**Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services**

Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health Program office provides drug and alcohol prevention and treatment services to youth and adults residing in Allegheny County.

**Contact:** Mr. James Allen, Administrator, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services

**Address:** One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**Phone:** 412-350-3857

**E-mail:** James.Allen@AlleghenyCounty.US

***Office of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities***

**Contact:** Steve Evrard, MR Program Manager

**Address:** Parkway Center East, Professional Office Park, 2020 Ardmore Blvd.,  
3rd Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**Phone:** 412-436-8226

**E-mail:** Steve.Evrard@AlleghenyCounty.us

***Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare*****Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**

**Contact:** Ms. Valerie Vicari      vavicari@state.pa.us  
Ms. Nora Novitsky      nnovitsky@state.pa.us

**Address:** Room 413, 300 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**Qualifications:** Experience in assistive technology including FM systems and TTY.

## **Other Agencies Serving Allegheny County Managed Care Organization**

### **Community Care Behavioral Health**

Managed Care Company for medical assistance recipients for mental health and drug and alcohol services.

**Contact:** Ms. Sherry Shaffer

**Address:** One Chatham Center, Suite 700, 112 Washington Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**Phone:** 412-454-2663

**TTY:** 877-877-3580

**Email:** shaffersl@ccbh.com

### **Additional Behavioral Health Services – Early Intervention**

#### **Achieva**

ACHIEVA Support is a non-profit organization that provides life long services to people with developmental disabilities. The Early Intervention Program provides services to children, birth to three years old in Allegheny County who are hearing impaired and/or visually impaired at no cost to families. Services are provided in the home or community setting.

ACHIEVA has a Preschool Readiness Program for toddlers, ages two to three, who have developmental disabilities, including vision and hearing disabilities. Children and families have an opportunity to attend a preschool like setting to prepare children for the separation from parent/caregiver and to learn preschool tasks. There is also a support group for families participating in the program.

**Phone:** 412-995-5000 x 420

**Fax:** 412-995-5044

**E-mail:** lwright@achieva.info

**Web:** [www.achievaearlyintervention.org](http://www.achievaearlyintervention.org)

**Population Served:** Birth to three years old and their families

#### **Number of Clients**

**Served Annually:** 85 in 2007

**Reimbursement:** No cost to families

**Qualifications:** ACHIEVA Support has professional staff and consultants in the areas of vision, hearing, audiology, special education, physical and occupational therapy, speech and language, nutrition and social work.

#### **Alliance for Infants and Toddlers**

**Address:** The Hough Building, 2801 Custer Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227

**Phone:** 412-885-6000

#### **Child Development Center**

**Address:** Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, 3705 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**Phone:** 412-586-5589

### ***Family and Mental Health Consumer Organizations***

#### **Advisory Board on Autism and Related Disorders (ABOARD)**

**Address:** 35 Wilson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15223

**E-mail:** support@aboard.org

**Web:** www.aboard.org

**Phone:** 412-781-4116, toll free: 1-800-827-9385

#### **National Alliance on Mental Illness, Southwestern Pennsylvania (NAMI)**

**Address:** 105 Braunlich Drive, McKnight Plaza, Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

**Phone:** 412-366-3788, toll free: 1-888-264-7085

**Web:** www.namiswpa.org

### ***Other Advocacy Organizations***

#### **Disability Rights Network**

The mission of the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania is to advance, protect, and advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania (DRN) is a statewide, non-profit corporation designated as the federally-mandated organization to advance and protect the civil rights of adults and children with disabilities. DRN works with people with disabilities and their families to ensure their rights to live in their communities with the services they need, to receive a full and inclusive education, to live free of discrimination, abuse and neglect, and to have control and self-determination over their services.

**Phone (v):** 1-800-692-7443

**TDD:** 1-877-375-7139

**E-mail:** intake@drnpa.org

#### **Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

ODHH provides three primary services, represented by the acronym AIR. We ADVOCATE for people with hearing loss who are not receiving proper services from government or private agencies. We distribute INFORMATION and answer questions on issues relevant to people with hearing loss. We REFER people to appropriate organizations. ODHH is ready to serve as liaison, open doors, explain procedures and make referrals. No request is too small.

**Contact:** Sharon Behun, Director

**Address:** 1521 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102

**Phone (v/TTY/VP):** 717-783- 4912

**Phone (v & TTY):** 1-800-233-3008 (PA only)

**Videophone:** 717.783.6381

**Fax:** 717.783.4913

**E-mail:** ra-li-ovr-odhh@state.pa.us

**Web:** www.dli.state.pa.us keyword: odhh



## The Behavioral Health Task Force

*for Persons who are Deaf, Deafblind or  
Hard of Hearing of Allegheny County*

**The Staunton Farm Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of people who live with mental illness. The Foundation works to enhance mental health treatment and support by advancing best practices through grant making to nonprofit organizations in the ten southwestern Pennsylvania counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland.**