

AUTISM & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES AND PROVIDERS IN MERCER COUNTY

Supports Coordination Services are received by all individuals enrolled in the Intellectual Disabilities system. Supports Coordination is a critical service that involves the primary functions of locating, coordinating, and monitoring needed services and supports for participants. The Supports Coordinator will develop and implement the Individual's Support Plan (ISP).

Available providers in Mercer County: Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc., Family Links, Inc., SAM, Inc. Additional Supports Coordination Organizations can be viewed on the web by going to: <https://www.hcsis.pa.us/hcsis-ssd>

Community Participation Support Services provide opportunities and support for community inclusion and building interest in and developing skills and potential for competitive integrated employment. This service involves participation in integrated community settings, in activities that involve persons without disabilities who are not paid or unpaid caregivers.

Available Providers in Mercer County: Diversified Family Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, Iron and String Life Enhancements, LARK, MCAR, St. Michael's Harbour, The Verland Foundation, Vocational Services, Whole Life Services, Youth Advocate Programs

In-Home and Community Support Services are provided in home and community settings to assist participants in acquiring, maintaining and improving the skills necessary to live in the community, to live more independently, and to participate meaningfully in community life.

Available Providers in Mercer County: Diversified Family Services, Don Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, Extraordinary Youth Program, Loving Care Center, MCAR, Stellar Care Services, St. Michael's Harbour, Thoughtful Needs, THRIVE, Vocational Services, Whole Life Services, Youth Advocate Programs

Companion Services are provided to participants age 18 and older who live in private homes for the limited purposes of providing supervision or assistance that is designed to ensure the participant's health, safety and welfare or to perform activities of daily living for the participant.

Available Providers in Mercer County: Diversified Family Services, Don Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, Extraordinary Youth Program, MCAR, Stellar Care Services, St. Michael's Harbour, Thoughtful Needs, THRIVE, Whole Life Services, Youth Advocate Programs

Residential Habilitation Services (Licensed) are provided to participants who live in licensed and unlicensed provider owned, rented, or leased residential settings. Through the provision of this service, participants will acquire, maintain, or improve skills necessary to live in the community, to live more independently, and to participate meaningfully in community life. Some of the settings include Family Living Homes and Community Group Homes.

Available Providers in Mercer County: ABDD, Diversified Family Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, Extraordinary Youth Program, Loving Care, MCAR, Passavant Memorial Homes, Service Techniques Empowering People with Support; STEPS., STOCK/Divine Collaborative, Thoughtful Needs, THRIVE, Verland Foundation, Whole Life Services

Supported Employment services are provided in a variety of community settings for the purposes of supporting participants in obtaining and sustaining competitive integrated employment. Competitive integrated employment refers to full or part-time work at minimum wage or higher, with wages and benefits similar to workers without disabilities performing the same work, and fully integrated with coworkers without disabilities. Supported Employment services include:

1. **Career Assessment**: a person-centered, individualized employment assessment used to assist in the identification of potential career options, including self-employment, based upon the interests and strengths of the participant. Career assessment may include discovery activities and may be provided within a variety of settings including residential habilitation settings when identified as a need in the service plan. Career

assessment activities, on average, should be authorized for no longer than 6 consecutive months and should result in the development of a career assessment report.

2. **Job Finding or Development:** includes employer outreach and orientation, job searching, job development, resume preparation and interview assistance. Other activities may include participation in individual planning for employment, development of job-seeking skills, development of job skills specific to a job being sought, job analysis, consulting with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), benefits counseling agencies, or Ticket to Work employment networks on behalf of a participant, or self-employment assistance.
3. **Job Coaching and Support:** consists of training the participant on job assignments, periodic follow-up, or ongoing support with participants and their employers. The service must be necessary for participants to maintain acceptable job performance and work habits, including assistance in learning new work assignments, maintaining job skills, and achieving performance expectations of the employer.

Available providers in Mercer County: Diversified Family Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, LARK, MCAR, St. Michael's Harbor, Vocational Services, Whole Life Services, Youth Advocate Programs

Small Group Employment services consist of supporting participants in transitioning to competitive integrated employment through work that occurs in a location other than a facility subject to 55 Pa. Code Chapter 2380 or Chapter 2390 regulations. Work that participants perform during the provision of Small Group Employment services must be paid at least minimum wage and the compensation must be similar to compensation earned by workers without disabilities performing the same work. Small Group Employment service options include mobile work force, workstation in industry, affirmative industry, and enclave.

Available providers in Mercer County: Diversified Family Service, LARK, MCAR, Whole Life Services

Behavioral Support Services are service that includes a comprehensive assessment; the development of strategies to support the participant based upon the assessment; and the provision of interventions and training to participants, staff, parents and caregivers. Services must be required to meet the current needs of the participant, as documented and authorized in the service plan.

Available Providers in Mercer County: ABDD, Diversified Family Services, MCAR, Stellar Care Services, St. Michael's Harbour, Vocational Services, Whole Life Service, Youth Advocate Programs

Respite Services are provided to supervise and support participants living in private homes on a short-term basis for planned or emergency situations, giving the person(s) normally providing care a period of relief that may be scheduled or due to an emergency.

Available Providers in Mercer County: ABDD, Diversified Family Services, Erdos; Professional Habilitation Services, Extraordinary Youth Program, MCAR, STOCK/Divine Collaborative, Thoughtful Needs, THRIVE, Whole Life Services, Youth Advocate Programs

Financial Management Services (FMS) are Participant Directed Services and Supports that provide a service to help people hire, pay and manage their own individual providers of service. There are two models from which to choose.

PA State Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent Financial Management Services: Palco Inc.

Mercer County Agency with Choice Provider: MCAR

Vendor Services are not specific to persons with Intellectual Disabilities. They are typically available to the general public. In the ID system they are often paid for through an intermediate organization.

OTHER AVAILABLE SERVICES – ASK YOUR SUPPORTS COORDINATOR FOR MORE INFORMATION

- [Advanced Supported Employment](#)
- [Assistive Technology, Home and Vehicle Accessibility Adaptations](#)
- [Benefits Counseling](#)
- [Communication Specialist](#)
- [Education Support Services](#)
- [Family/Caregiver Training and Support, And Supports Broker Service](#)
- [Family Medical Support Assistance](#)
- [Homemaker/Chore Services](#)
- [Housing Transition and Tenancy Sustaining Services](#)
- [Licensed Day Habilitation, Older Adult Daily Living Centers](#)
- [Life Sharing and Supported Living Services](#)
- [Shift Nursing and Consultative Nutritional Services](#)
- [Specialized Supplies](#)
- [Support \(Medical Environment\)](#)
- [Transportation Services](#)
- [*Therapy Services: Physical, Occupational/Orientational, Speech/Language, Mobility/Vision, Music, Art, and Equine Assisted Therapy](#)

*** INDIVIDUAL MUST MEET SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PAID THERAPIES**

If you would like to review these services in more detail, please visit the following Department of Human Services website: <https://www.hcsis.state.pa.us/hcsis-ssd> and click on the Services and Supports Directory.

If you would like additional information about Services and Supports and/or Providers outside of Mercer County, please contact your Supports Coordinator or you can also navigate providers on the website listed above.