



In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT)

Overview

The Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program is the child health component of Medicaid. It is designed to improve the health of low-income children, by financing appropriate and necessary pediatric services.

In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT) services are for individuals with behavioral difficulties, communication limitations, adaptive functioning delays, or sensory integration difficulties which result from intellectual disabilities or developmental delays. The goal of these services is to provide the child's family with the tools and support necessary to maintain and appropriately care for the child in the family's home and to avoid out of home placements.

A qualified mental health professional provides therapy, support, and training for the identified client and their family/caregivers in the family's home. These services work to improve the client's adaptive functioning skills (daily living tasks, etc), his or her behavior, and his or her ability to communicate effectively. In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT) also include various individualized services for the family and caregivers of the identified child, including family therapy, training, parent support groups, and ongoing support and encouragement.

Why St. Joseph's Villa In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT)?

- Services focus on supporting the identified child and family in their own home setting
- Licensed Mental Health Providers complete extensive assessments to ensure appropriate treatment interventions
- Prompt access to services following completion of the admissions packet and assessment
- In Home Clinicians ensure ongoing coordination of all support services
- Positive alternative to out-of-home placement for challenging children
- Program is supervised by Licensed Professional Counselor
- Counseling services actively address various common needs in families with an individual with Developmental Delays, including unsafe or disruptive behaviors, communication delays, caregiver stress, limitations in functional behavior, advocacy needs, and coordination of services.

Services Provided

The In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT) program utilizes a combination of psychotherapeutic interventions which are individualized specifically for each client and family. In-Home Clinicians work closely with the client's caregivers to address concerns and needs related to the identified child. Activities might include: providing the family with training on a specific diagnosis or communication device, supporting the family as they develop and implement a therapeutic behavior support plan, encouraging the parents to maintain consistency and structure in the home, or providing family therapy. Caregivers are supported in their ability to effectively advocate for their child and secure the services necessary to safely and successfully care for the child. The In-Home Clinician also acts as a liaison and case manager to ensure that all of the services received by the client and family (such as psychiatric, medical, or educational services) are consistent with the family's long term goals.

Each client and family receives:

- A comprehensive diagnostic assessment
- Individualized Service Plan outlining short and long term service goals
- Monthly progress and Service Plan reviews
- Case management services to coordinate and communicate with all support services provided to the family
- Family and individual counseling
- Psychoeducational counseling and training



- Ongoing access to Family Support Groups specifically for family members and caregivers of children with Developmental Delays

Admission Criteria and Process

Children referred for In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT) must be found eligible for services through criteria established by Medicaid/EPSDT, which are bulleted below. Referrals for In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT) may be made by school workers, school administrators, parents, foster parents, mental health therapists, or primary care physicians. Once a referral has been received, the family or caregivers will receive a screening phone call and an admissions packet. When basic information regarding the client and family is verified and pre-authorization from EPSDT is received, the Licensed Mental Health Provider will complete a full assessment at the family's home. Services will begin immediately following approval from Medicaid (usually 10 days after the assessment).

In order to be eligible for In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT), the following requirements must be met:

- The individual must have documented medical necessity for treatment
- The individual must be under age 21
- The individual must have behavioral needs and communication limitations or delays
- The individual must demonstrate clinical need due to intellectual disabilities, brain injury, behavioral, or emotional illness (DSM IV diagnosis)
- The individual must be at risk for out-of-home placement or be returning home from a non-home setting (hospitalization, group home, etc)

For More Information

If you have questions, or want to make a referral please call Danielle Moore, Clinical Supervisor for In-Home Behavioral Treatment (EPSDT), at 804-553-3285.

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