

PRESS RELEASE

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ST. JOSEPH'S VILLA LAUNCHES IN-HOME BEHAVIORAL TREATMENT PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH MEDICAID'S EPSDT PROGRAM

Services will help families of children with intellectual or developmental disabilities coupled with behavioral disorders

New service will be run by Danielle Moore, MS, LPC

Richmond, VA – St. Joseph's Villa has begun a new service to help families of children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who also have behavioral disorders. The new service, which is funded through Medicaid, provides families with the tools they need to care for their child in-home and to avoid having the child placed in a more restrictive environment.

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 services are for individuals with behavioral difficulties, communication limitations, adaptive functioning delays, or sensory integration difficulties which result from intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. 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 services 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.

The new service will be run by Danielle Moore, who holds a Master's of Science in Mental Health Counseling degree from Northeastern University. Ms. Moore is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in Massachusetts and a Licensed Professional Counselor in Virginia.

"So much important work (clinical, educational, etc) is devoted to individuals with developmental delays such as Autism, but too often the family members of these individuals are missed," said Ms. Moore. "These families

often are in need of stress management, assistance with advocacy issues, family counseling, behavior management and communication training, and a variety of other clinical services. Family-focused work is a critical component to effective and lasting change for individuals with Autism and their families. In my new position at St. Joseph's Villa, I have the amazing opportunity to ensure that this type of work is provided to the families of individuals with Autism to improve the individual's and family's overall functioning and quality of life."

Ms. Moore can be reached via telephone (804)553-3200 or via email (dmoore@sjvmail.net).

St. Joseph's Villa

Established in Richmond in 1834, St. Joseph's Villa is metro-Richmond, Virginia's oldest and largest continuously-operating children's nonprofit organization. The Villa is located on a spacious 82-acre campus in Richmond/Henrico County and builds stronger children, families and communities. The Villa serves more than 800 children and families each year, through the delivery of day, after-school and residential programs that include: special and nontraditional education programs for at-risk youth; education and housing services for homeless children and their families; education and respite, summer and after-school care for children with autism and developmental disabilities; behavioral treatment programs for children and families; housing for adults with disabilities; and a child development center. The Villa is accredited by the national Council on Accreditation and is an approved Medicaid provider for many of its services.

St. Joseph's Villa admits clients of any race, color, gender, age, religion, disability or national origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accepted or made available to clients at St. Joseph's Villa. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, St. Joseph's Villa is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability and retaliation in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other agency-administered programs. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any U.S.D.A. related activity should write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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