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Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services Expands Program Linking Residents To Community Providers

Unique agreements create “one-stop-shop” for individuals, families to access needed services



County Executive,
 Steve Schuh

Mission

The Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services will assist County residents to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency; provide services to strengthen individuals and families; and join our community partners in the protection of vulnerable children and adults

Other Locations

Glen Burnie Office
 Multi-Purpose Building
 7500 Ritchie Highway
 Glen Burnie, Md. 21061
 (410) 269-4500

Heritage Center
 2666 Riva Road
 Suite 390
 Annapolis, Md. 21401
 (410) 897-3950

Child Advocacy Center
 Winterode Building
 41 Community Place
 Crownsville, Md. 21032
 (410) 421-8570

ANNAPOLIS, MD (Aug. 14, 2015)— The Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services (DSS) announces the addition of several on-site service providers to the department’s Annapolis Community Resource Center, part of a sustained effort to provide county residents access to an array of health and human services, all in one convenient location.

Beginning today, the **YWCA Annapolis and Anne Arundel County** will provide domestic violence counseling, sexual assault counseling and crisis intervention services for children, adolescents, and adults each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Suite C of the Annapolis DSS office, located at 80 West Street. Walk-ins and appointments are accepted. Appointments can be made by contacting the YWCA at 410-626-7800.

Starting Aug. 12, **M&M Behavioral Health Solutions** therapists will be onsite each Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. providing substance abuse assessment and counseling, crisis intervention, trauma recovery, individual and group counseling, medication management and grief counseling for children, teens, adults and families. Referrals are accepted from community members and local agencies by calling 410-766-6624.

These and all other community services are available to those seeking DSS assistance as well as residents who may not need government services offered by DSS.

“Families we serve may be experiencing domestic violence, literacy deficiencies or have unmet mental health or substance abuse treatment needs,” said AACODSS Director Carnitra White.

“Through these unique partnerships, the Community Resource Center makes it easier for families to access services that can help them to resolve these issues and ultimately become more self-sufficient.”

Two additional providers are expected to join the Annapolis Community Resource Center in September:

- **The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program**, administered by the county Department of Health, will be on site two days each month to offer nutrition and health education, breastfeeding support, and determine program eligibility for pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5. Office dates and times will be announced next month.
- **The American Red Cross of Southern Maryland** will begin using DSS office space this month to administer several programs which include Disaster

assistance/training, Health and Safety classes, Service to the Armed Forces assistance, and Volunteer recruitment/training.

Other providers currently offering services in the DSS Annapolis office include:

- **The Literacy Council of Anne Arundel County** provides screening/assessment of reading level, referrals for one-on-one tutoring and literacy tutor training workshops. Services are available by referral only. Last year, the program served 141 individuals.
- **The Organization of Hispanic and Latin Americans of Anne Arundel County (OHLA)** promotes and facilitates the socio-economic well-being of Hispanic residents by assessing individual and family needs and linking people to services. Open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **Health Choice** assists people with applying for or receiving Medical Assistance, selecting medical care providers. Open the second and fourth Thursday each month from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Last year, the program served 181 customers.
- **Community Action Partnership's Head Start Program** recruits/enrolls eligible preschool children in an educational program. Children also receive free medical and dental care, and services are available to children with special needs. Operates during the school year (August-June only), from 8:45 a.m. to noon, one day a week (dates vary). Last year, 61 families participated.

In Glen Burnie, the following services are available at the DSS offices in the Maryland District Courthouse, 7500 Ritchie Highway:

- **Health Choice.** Open Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Community Action Partnership's Head Start Program.** Operates during the school year (August-June only), from 8:45 a.m. to noon, one day a week (dates vary).
- **El Centro de Ayuda (Center of Help)** assists the Hispanic community with finding resources and provides conflict resolution, mediation services and translation services. Open Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Last year, the program served 559 families.
- **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)** offers assistance to families of and persons with mental illness, facilitates support groups for families consisting of mentally ill members, advocates on behalf of families with mentally ill members, and offers a 12 week evidence-based practice class for families with mentally ill members. Services are offered by trained family members who have mental illness in their own families. On-site availability varies.

For more information about any of the programs offered through the DSS Community Resource Center, contact Shirley Richter at 410-269-4592.

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