

Our Mission

To connect youth and families in crisis to community-based interventions that support safety and wellbeing, while promoting capacity for self-determination.



What is Youth Connect?

Dane County Youth Connect is a voluntary, short-term program that provides linkage and supportive services to youth and families following a mental health crisis.



mental health matters

How Do I Get Started?

To make a referral to the Youth Connect Program

Call:

608-896-0755

Complete a referral form:

www.danebhrc.org/Forms

Email:

youthconnect@countyofdane.com



DANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN SERVICES

To learn more about general mental health resources for children and youth in Dane County, contact:

BHRC

Behavioral Health Resource Center

608-267-2244

danebhrc.org

BHRC@countyofdane.com



DANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Behavioral Health Division



Is My Family Eligible?

You may be eligible if you have a child who:

- Is a Dane County resident between the ages of 4-19 years old (ages 18-19 must be in high school).
- Has mental health or substance use related challenges that interfere with their day-to-day functioning.
- Has needed to access crisis services such as an emergency room visit or hospitalization for mental health evaluation.
- Is not receiving mental health services outside of a prescriber/psychiatrist.
- Needs short-term, intensive, community-based services to reduce the risk of inpatient hospitalization (crisis stabilization).



What to Expect

Our **Youth Connect** staff will establish a team to support each member of the family. Families can expect active engagement and services consisting of:

- A Crisis Plan and Crisis Response Plan to reference during challenging times.
- Weekly contact with a Youth Connect social worker.
- The option to connect with Parent Peer Services.
- Support for caregivers, and connection to resources.
- Skill development to learn new coping skills to manage mental health symptoms.
- Referral and linkage to mental health and other community-based services as desired by the family.
- Support and advocacy.

Additional Services that may be offered based on the youth and families' unique needs:

- Access to coping skills items, sensory tools and educational materials.
- Psychological Evaluations.

Parent Peer Support

A **Parent Peer** combines their own knowledge gained from parenting a child/youth with social, emotional, behavioral and mental health challenges and training to support other parents or those in a parenting role.

Parent Peers will:

- Support families of youth in the Youth Connect program.
- Facilitate family-directed services, goal-setting and communicating effectively with providers.
- Advocate for youth and families within systems and provide resources relevant to the needs of the family.



Skill Development

- Teach and support youth to develop and utilize coping skills.
- Learn tools to curb unsafe behaviors.
- Promote positive communication within the family system.