



EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1999

FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your consideration of Connections, Inc. to support the children, teens, and families you serve. Our agency mission is to educate, support, and empower individuals served to improve and maintain their health, safety, and overall quality of life. We further strive to be an exceptionally skilled provider of behavioral health care and family support services across the State of Indiana.

At Connections, we believe quality human service provision is best achieved by the wisdom of our collective experiences and decisions. Thus, we commit to developing trusting relationships, open communication, creative solutions, and an atmosphere of positive interdependence with you and those we serve. In the end, we believe it is our efforts to maintain the integrity of these connections which shall, as individuals and as a community, continue to make us each stronger.

We look forward with gratitude to working with you soon.

Respectfully,
Jenifer Asher, Founder

OUR SERVICES

- ✓ BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION
- ✓ COUNSELING
- ✓ DAY REPORTING
- ✓ HOME BASED CASEWORK
- ✓ HOME BASED THERAPY
- ✓ HOME MAKER- PARENT AID
- ✓ PARENT EDUCATION
- ✓ PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS
- ✓ PSYCHO-EDUCATIONAL GROUPS
- ✓ TRANSITION FROM RESTRICTIVE PLACEMENT
- ✓ TRUANCY TERMINATION
- ✓ TUTORING
- ✓ VISITATION SUPERVISION
- ✓ YOUTH GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
- ✓ YOUTH MENTORING



CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Connections, Inc. has been committed to providing supportive services to children and families exclusively in home, school, and community-based settings for over 20 years. We believe strongly that children grow and learn best in natural settings living safely with their parents or supportive loving adults. Thus, we strive to offer comprehensive care and treatment options to facilitate meaningful relationships and more healthful outcomes for those we serve.



BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION (HB CASEWORK REFERRAL)

Our behavior consultation services provide professional support to school aged children with emotional health issues who are experiencing difficulty fully and safely participating in their homes, schools, and communities. We attempt to identify any barriers to success and recommend short- and long-term solutions to improve their quality of life. Our staff are most experienced supporting children and teens with complex trauma experiences, suicidal ideations, and who are victims of sexual abuse and/ or human trafficking.



HOME BASED CASE WORK / CASE MANAGEMENT

Case management supports assist the referred child, teen, or family with gaining access to services and supports to assure their overall health, safety, and stability. Specifically, we assist youth and families to identify safe housing, employment, health care, food security, parenting resources, and locate other community-based programs to encourage their use of natural supports and facilitate longer term independence and resilience.



COUNSELING

Our State of Indiana licensed therapists offer structured, goal-oriented therapy in an office or school-based setting for children and families affected by physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect. In addition, this service can help address other concerns such as: substance abuse, mental health issues, and youth behavioral issues.



HOME BASED THERAPY

Our State of Indiana licensed therapists offer structured, goal-oriented therapy for children and families affected by physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect in their natural home environments. In addition, this service can help address other concerns such as: substance abuse, mental health issues, family dysfunction, and youth behavioral issues.

✓ HOME MAKER-PARENT AID

Our Home Maker- Parent Aid service provides direct professional assistance to parents and caregivers who struggle with fulfilling necessary parenting or home care functions. Parent Aids support families by advocating, teaching, and demonstrating appropriate life skills to build self-sufficiency and a healthier household. Our evidence-based skill development instruction may include topics such as child safety and nutrition, obtaining and maintaining housing, managing finances and budgeting, and transportation to medical appointments or grocery shopping.

✓ PARENT EDUCATION

Our Parent Education services are offered in either individualized or group settings as a means of supporting and preserving the family and caregiver unit. Connections Inc. utilizes the Nurturing Parenting Program model exclusively for instruction. It is a family-centered trauma-informed initiative designed to build nurturing parenting skills as an alternative to abusive and neglecting parenting and child-rearing practices. Our long term goals are to prevent recidivism in families receiving social services, lower the rate of multi-parent teenage pregnancies, reduce the rate of juvenile delinquency and alcohol abuse, and stop the intergenerational cycle of child abuse by teaching positive parenting behaviors.

✓ TUTORING AND LITERACY EDUCATION

Individualized and group tutoring services are offered in virtual, office, and school-based settings with a goal to raise the academic performance of school aged youth. We assist students to earn high school credits and/ or meet or exceed grade equivalent standards established by the Indiana Department of Education. Literacy instruction is also available for youth ages 4-18. Connections, Inc. tutors speak both English and Spanish at a minimum to reduce any ESL barriers.

✓ VISITATION SUPERVISION AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

Our visitation supports enable children and teens to maintain essential connections with parents with whom they are not living, while also protecting the physical and emotional safety of the children and their families. Services can be provided in the parent's home, in the community, or at our offices in Indianapolis or Bloomington as needed for everyone's health and safety.



DIAGNOSTIC AND EVALUATION SERVICES

Connections, Inc. offers an array of mental health and diagnostic assessment services for children, teens, and adults. Our team consists of State of Indiana licensed psychologists and therapists with special training in the diagnostic support of young children, adolescents, and adults. Our goal is to offer expert evaluations and recommendations to assist physicians, judicial officers, probation officers, case managers, school administrators and child and family teams plan for future treatment or interventions.

☒ CHILD HEARSAY EVALUATION

Child Hearsay Evaluations are completed by licensed psychologists to determine if participation in a court proceeding would create a substantial likelihood of emotional or mental harm to the referred child. This evaluation is intended for youth under the age of 14, or a child at least 14 and younger than 18, that has a substantial disability attributable to impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior.

☒ CLINICAL INTERVIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS

Clinical Interviews & Assessments are useful to help identify any mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders that may be present in an individual. These brief in person or virtual evaluations typically last between two to three hours. In the session, the examiner explores different areas of functioning including intellectual, memory, reasoning, and personality.

☒ PSYCHO-EDUCATIONAL EVALUATIONS

Psycho-educational evaluations are designed to determine any issues that are involved in academic functioning. The tests conducted will address, but are not limited to, any learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders and the overall learning potential based on intellectual function. The evaluation process typically includes a test battery including, individual IQ tests, educational achievement tests, personality tests, and other screening instruments that determine the presence of any serious memory deficits, behavior control concerns or other issues.

☒ PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS

Psychological evaluations answer specific questions about intellectual, academic, behavior, or mental health functions. Psychological evaluations are designed to respond to specific discovery questions about psychological functioning but may also review issues involved in forensic evaluation. Psychological evaluations will include at least formal testing, a mental status examination, psycho-social history, diagnostic impressions, and treatment recommendations as applicable.



TRAUMA ASSESSMENTS

We understand many people have experienced trauma and meet the clinical criteria for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). However, many who do not meet the full criteria for PTSD still suffer significant post traumatic symptoms that can have an adverse impact on behavior, judgement, educational performance, and ability to connect with others. Our trauma assessment evaluations assess the social and developmental history of the client, trauma history, including all forms of traumatic events experienced directly or witnessed by the client, and use of at least one standardized clinical measure to identify types and severity of symptoms experienced. Our psychologists then make trauma informed treatment recommendations if appropriate.





JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES

At Connections, Inc. we believe every young person has unique assets to contribute to their home, school, and community. Our youth and family centered approach to behavior change strives to honor their strengths, recognize youth contributions, and customize supports to meet their individual and family needs. Consequently, we strive to offer trauma informed services which enhance criminogenic protective factors, assure community safety, and lead youth to create a hopeful plan for their future.



BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION (HB CASEWORK REFERRAL)

Our behavior consultation services seek to identify and address the complex reasons youth commit acts of violence or criminal activity. We first seek to develop meaningful relationships with the youth we serve in order to best understand their hopes, dreams, needs, interests, fears, motivations and family culture. We then determine which evidence based instructional approach will most likely enhance the youth's life skills and social functioning. In consideration of their IYAS results, probation recommendations and court mandates, we may then seek to develop their skills in identification of feelings; anger and emotional regulation; how to give and receive feedback, criticism and praise; problem-solving; decision making; controlling assertive behavior; learning to resist negative peer pressure and develop pro-social peer interactions; address substance use and abuse issues; build and promote healthful coping skills; or facilitate positive community connections and employment in an effort to develop long term natural supports.



DAY REPORTING

Our Day Reporting service supports youth ages 13-18 who are court mandated to participate in this level of supervision and/ or are unable to attend school full time on campus. Using a cognitive behavioral approach to change, our daily schedule focuses upon educational achievement and addressing protective and risk factors for criminogenic behavior. Our students participate in evidence-based psycho-educational instruction and benefit from links to community volunteerism and employment.



PSYCHO-EDUCATIONAL GROUPS (VIRTUAL OR IN PERSON)

Our certified facilitators lead evidence based weekly psycho-educational courses such as Seeking Safety to address trauma, coping skills and PTSD symptomology, Aggression Replacement Training, the Matrix Model for Adolescent and Adult Addiction Treatment, and the Nurturing Parenting Education program for teen parents.

☒ HOME BASED CASE WORK

Case management supports assist the referred adolescent and their family with gaining access to services and supports to assure their overall health, safety, and stability. Specifically, we assist youth and families to identify safe housing, employment, health care, food security, teen parenting supports and to locate other community-based programs to encourage their use of natural supports and facilitate longer term independence and resilience.

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☒ TRUANCY TERMINATION

Truancy Termination support is primarily structured to address behavioral health issues which lead to truancy or expulsion from school. Targeting youth ages 12-18 who have been suspended, expelled, or refuse to attend school, intensive services will be offered to identify and address the factors leading to these outcomes.

☒ TRANSITION FROM RESTRICTIVE PLACEMENT (TRP)

TRP services assist young people with re-entry to their homes and communities after placement in a residential treatment facility or commitment to the Indiana Department of Corrections. Transition from Restrictive Placement services strives to improve overall participant functioning and secure positive attachment to their home, school, and community upon their return. We assist in the implementation of a comprehensive youth and family centered transition plan both before and after release to facilitate successful outcomes with their natural supports.

☒ YOUTH MENTORING

Our youth mentoring service assists adolescents with juvenile court involvement to enhance their life skills, educational outcomes, and social functioning. Mentoring is an evidence-based strategy we implement to reduce youth violence, reduce recidivism, reduce depressive symptoms, increase self-esteem, increase academic achievement, and improve peer relationships. Our Mentors also focus upon the healthy emotional development of youth through consistent psycho-educational instruction, links to meaningful prosocial activities and offering crisis response support as needed.

☒ YOUTH GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

Connections, Inc. is also humbled to be an invited member organization of the Project Life partnership which has been identified by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention as a Promising Model Program. Project Life is a court-mandated program designed to help educate youth, ages 14 to 18, and their families about the medical, legal, and social consequences arising from acts of gun violence. This intensive program is led by the Marion County Indiana Prosecutors Office; in collaboration with Connections, Inc., Marion County Superior Courts-Juvenile Division, Marion County Public Health Department, Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Hospital, Riley Hospital for Children, and the Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital.



WHEN WE SEEK FOR CONNECTION,
WE RESTORE THE WORLD TO WHOLENESS.
OUR SEEMINGLY SEPARATE LIVES BECOME
MEANINGFUL AS WE DISCOVER HOW TRULY
NECESSARY WE ARE TO EACH OTHER.

-Margaret Wheatley



REFERRAL INQUIRIES

**For confidential referral,
program, or partnership
information contact:**

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Our corporate mailing address is
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We are an approved provider with the
Indiana Department of Child Services and
Indiana Department of Education.

Most public and private insurances are accepted.