

**CARBON-MONROE-PIKE MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES STATUS REPORT
JUNE 2021**

Early Intervention

The department collaborated with the Mental Health Department to offer a series of five virtual trainings on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health during May and June. Dr. Robert T. Gallen of the University of Pittsburgh was the presenter. Participants include staff, providers, and various groups in the community. The department received many positive comments from the attendees.

The department received 68 referrals in the month of May.

Developmental Services

The Administrative Entity (AE) received eleven referrals in the month of May. The department is starting to receive more complex referrals for individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. In May, eight out of eleven intakes presented with an Autism diagnosis without an Intellectual Disability or Developmental Delay. Compared to May 2020 where the department received six referrals, all of which presented with an Intellectual Disability.

The ability to locate adequate staffing has been a struggle across the state for our provider network. As a result providers, Support Coordination Organizations, and AEs must think creatively in order to avoid a staffing crisis. It is imperative that individuals living independently in the community continue to receive supports and services to ensure their health and safety. With staffing shortages, teams relied on technology to assist with supervision needs. The department is in the process of coordinating remote supports so that two individuals can remain independent in their community despite staffing concerns. The department is excited about this new opportunity. We feel as though this will allow more individuals to be active members of their community while living in the least restrictive setting for their individualized needs. Additionally, the AE is committed to helping providers through the current staffing climate. A focus group is on the horizon which will hopefully include stakeholders such as providers, local university co-op programs, and CareerLink offices to name a few. Our goal is to bring awareness of the staffing shortage to our community members so we can work together to address staffing concerns.

Personnel

The Supports Coordination Organization has vacancies in all three counties at this time. There is one vacant position in Carbon, two in Monroe, and one in Pike. Interviews are underway for Monroe and Carbon, while the Human Resources Department continues to locate applicants for our Pike County vacancy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Trautman

DS Deputy Administrator