

Multisystemic Therapy – Building Stronger Families (MST-BSF)

Program Overview

MST-BSF is an intensive home-based treatment approach for families with children ages 6-17 involved with the CT Department of Children and Families protective services due to neglect and physical abuse concerns where there is also a concern about the impact of parental substance abuse on the family. The mission of MST-BSF is the keep families together, assure that children are safe, prevent abuse and neglect, eliminate parental substance misuse, reduce mental health difficulties experience by adults and children and increase natural social supports. A central part of the model is empirically supported treatment focused on monitoring and treating parental substance abuse. MST-BSF provides multiple sessions per week with the family, 24-hour crisis support, extensive safety planning and monitoring, and case management services. The MST-BSF team works collaboratively with DCF, the courts and other formal systems, building on the strengths of family members and increases the family's connection to a variety of supports in the natural family environment

Target Population

MST-BSF serves families with a youth between the ages of 6 and 17 who meet all the following criteria:

- Families who have come to the attention of the DCF due to the physical abuse and/or neglect of the children in the family due to the use of drugs or alcohol by a caregiver(s) in the family.
- The family had a new report of physical abuse and/or neglect in the last 180 days.
- Families are also eligible if the youth is currently in foster care and will be reuniting with their family AND there is use of drugs or alcohol by the caregivers in the family.

Length of Service

The average length of service is 6 - 9 months. MST-BSF is administered to families in the home and is an intensive treatment involving a minimum of 3 sessions per week.

Program Coverage and Providers

MST-BSF is available from DCF area offices in Bridgeport, Norwalk, New Haven, Norwich, Hartford, Manchester, Waterbury, New Britain & Meriden.

Geographic Region	Agency Contact
Bridgeport, Norwalk	Boys and Girls Village – 203-376-4887
New Haven	Family Centered Services: 203-624-2600 x 204
Norwich	Community Health Resources – 860-634-4088
Hartford, Manchester	Wheeler Clinic – 860-793-7263
Waterbury	Wellmore – 203-725-5710
Meriden, New Britain	Wheeler Clinic – 860-793-7263

Program Contact

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