

What is CASSP?

CASSP stands for the Child and Adolescent Service System Program. It is not a service itself but is designed to bring professionals from all of the child-serving systems within Columbia/Montour/Snyder/Union Counties, as well as youth, their families, and their support systems together in an effort to plan effective treatment and service delivery methods for children and adolescents with or at risk of developing a severe emotional disorder.

Who is eligible for CASSP?

CASSP serves youth 18 years of age or younger and youth up to the age of 21 if the child is involved in special education services. The youth should: 1) be experiencing difficulty in functioning in multiple areas, 2) in need of services and supports to improve their functioning, and/or 3) at risk of out-of-home placement.

Who can refer to CASSP?

Schools, Children & Youth, Juvenile Probation, Provider Agencies, Mental Health/Mental Retardation Services, & Families.

When to refer a family to CASSP?

- *When there is multiple agency involvement*
- *To coordinate services between agencies*
- *To facilitate collaboration and communication in difficult cases*
- *To brainstorm and problem solve difficult cases*
- *At the families request, if the above criteria is met*
- *After a crisis is addressed and attempted to be resolved among agencies*

When a referral is NOT appropriate?

- *If parents or adolescents (age 14+) are refusing mental health services, a clinic is not an appropriate place to address this issue. Many CASSP principles would be missing.*
- *If issues are focused solely on school or academic placement.*
- *If the situation can be resolved by communication between fewer people.*
- *“Emergency Clinics” that deal with crises that need to be addressed immediately are not appropriate and are difficult to*

assemble everyone involved in such short notice.

- *Clinics are NOT to be utilized to confront an agency, school, child, or family.*

Referral Process

- *Contact the CASSP Coordinator, Jennifer Jones, at 275-4962 to discuss the referral.*
- *The CASSP Coordinator will provide you with a copy of the CASSP Referral Form and a CASSP Release. The release must be signed by a parent and the child if they are 14+ years of age.*
- *The completed referral form and signed release can be mailed or faxed (275-5754) back to the CASSP Coordinator.*
- *The CASSP Coordinator will then work with all involved parties to schedule the meeting at a time that is convenient for a majority of the participants.*

CASSP Clinic Format

- *CASSP Coordinator will facilitate the meeting.*
- *Each participant in the meeting will be required to sign an attendance/confidentiality form at the start of the meeting.*
- *The meeting will start by identifying the child's strengths, areas of concern, and the goal of the meeting. It will progress by following the CASSP Core Principles.*
- *The meeting will continue under the direction of the CASSP Coordinator and will aim to build on the strengths of the identified child and family when addressing the areas of concern.*
- *CASSP Coordinator will provide a copy of the sign in sheet to anyone who requests a copy*
- *At the conclusion of the clinic, the team will determine whether a follow-up clinic is necessary and then review the plan/outcome of the meeting.*

CASSP Core Principles

Child-Centered: *Services meet the individual needs of the child, consider the child's and family's context, and are developmentally appropriate, strengths-based, and child-specific.*

Family-Focused: *Services recognize that the family is the primary support system for the child and participates as a full partner in all stages of their decision-making and treatment-planning process.*

Community-Based: *Whenever possible, services are delivered in the child's home community, drawing on the formal and informal resources to promote the child's successful participation in the community.*

Multi-System: *Services are planned in collaboration with all the child-serving systems involved in a child's life.*

Culturally-Competent: *Services recognize and respect the behavior, ideas, attitudes, values, beliefs, customs, language, rituals, ceremonies, and practices of a child's ethnic group.*

Least Restrictive/Least Intrusive: *Services take place in settings that are the least restrictive and intrusive available to meet the needs of the child and family.*

*Columbia/Montour/Snyder/Union
County*

CASSP

*Child and Adolescent Service
System Program*



Jennifer Jones
507 East Market Street
Danville, PA 17821
(570) 275-4962
jjones@cmsu.org

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