

If your child is involved in the child welfare system, there is a new person to help you:

- Create or maintain a strong relationship with your child and family;
- Advocate for yourself and your child in court, at his or her school and at CYF team conferences; and
- Overcome barriers to reunification by connecting you to necessary services.

Your father engagement specialist is

The phone number is

DHS is

responsible for providing and administering publicly funded human services to Allegheny County residents.

DHS Principles

All services will be:

- High quality, comprehensive and accessible.
- Individualized and designed to be respectful of the unique cultural characteristics of each individual and/or community.
- Integrated and offered through a team approach that recognizes the capacity of individuals and families to identify their own strengths, needs and goals; create relationships and natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals.

Office of Children, Youth and Families

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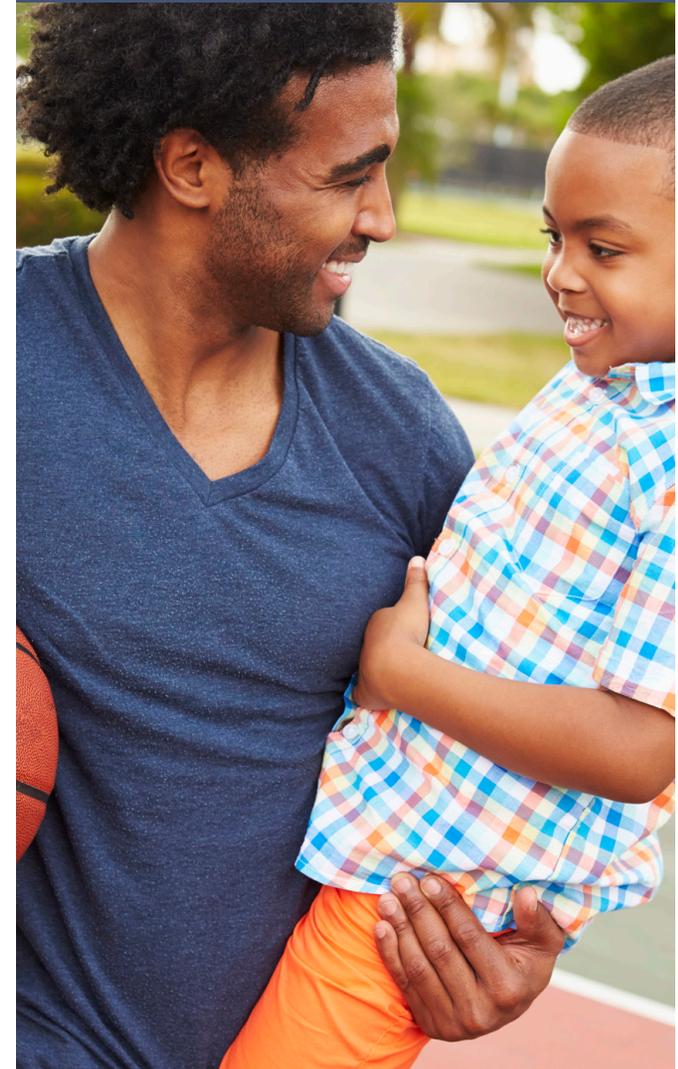
www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs

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Father Engagement Specialists

working with dads to strengthen families



Father engagement specialists (FES) work one-on-one with dads involved in the child welfare system. They are a resource for dads who want to play a positive role in the lives of their children. Their work picks up where the former DADS program left off.

Who are CYF father engagement specialists?

CYF father engagement specialists are skilled men and women who understand how complicated it is to be a dad. They are also committed to listening and using their knowledge to guide dads to meet their goals.

Are father engagement specialists CYF caseworkers?

No. Father engagement specialists work alongside caseworkers but they are not caseworkers. Their only focus is on helping dads involved in the child welfare system. They have the flexibility to meet dads at times and locations that are convenient for the dad and to work on specific issues important to the dad.

What's the benefit of working with a father engagement specialist?

Father engagement specialists are connected. They know all about the child welfare system, the education system and Children's Court. They know about resources to help dads get through common challenges. They can help dads get back into their communities and reconnect with family after incarceration. Their only focus is helping dads.



How about some specifics?

Working with a FES means you can have a knowledgeable person with you for CYF team meetings, school meetings or court hearings to provide support and advocacy.

Working with a FES means you can get personalized, in-depth help connecting to housing, employment, transportation or mental health/drug & alcohol services.

How can I get connected with a father engagement specialist?

Each CYF regional office has a father engagement specialist. You can ask your CYF caseworker to have a FES contact you. You can also call your regional office and ask to speak to the FES.

Central Regional Office: 412-350-3600
East Regional Office: 412-473-1100
Mon-Valley Regional Office: 412-664-8900
North Regional Office: 412-323-6100
South Regional Office: 412-488-8500