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 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 with natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals.

Children, Youth and Families

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The Allegheny County Department of Human Services does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of a protected class including: race; color; religion; national origin; ancestry or place of birth; sex; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; disability; marital status; familial status; age (40 and older); use of guide or support animal because of blindness, deafness, or physical disability.

*DHS funding information is available at **www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/funding.aspx***
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Children, Youth and Families

Father Engagement Specialists

Working with dads to strengthen families

ALLEGHENY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

alleghenycounty.us/dhs

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.

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 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.

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