



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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Allegheny County Receives New Funding for Child Safety Efforts

PITTSBURGH – The Department of Human Services (DHS) announced today that it has received a \$550,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Children, Youth and Families' Children's Bureau aimed at "preventing child maltreatment and reducing entries into foster care." The grant is for the first year of a five-year funding commitment by the agency, and DHS is one of only nine jurisdictions nationally to receive the award.

"DHS is committed to ensuring that all children thrive and recognize that an important part of child safety and well-being is for families to be well supported through a comprehensive network of preventative programs," said DHS Director Marc Cherna. "We are thankful for this funding from the Children's Bureau which will help us further strengthen families in our community, improve children's outcomes and maximize safety, security and well-being."

The award is offered through the Children's Board's Community Collaborations to Strengthen and Preserve Families grant, which recognizes innovative long-term projects that bolster family-integrated services and build community-based partnerships. Funding from the five-year grant will support Hello Baby, a new initiative designed to provide assistance and supports to new parents in Allegheny County. Hello Baby is scheduled to launch as a pilot program in January.

"These grants embody the Children's Bureau's commitment to developing new and improved child welfare strategies that are focused on preventing the maltreatment of children by their caregiver, and as a result, creating environments in which families can thrive and children are free from harm," said Jerry Milner, Associate Commissioner of the Children's Bureau.

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Marc Cherna, Director

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