



News from Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley

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CSC Appoints Christopher Boyle as President & CEO

Christopher Boyle has been named President and CEO of Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley, effective July 1. He succeeds Mike Hopkins who led the organization since 2008. The two leaders have worked closely over 17 years, facilitating unprecedented growth to now serve 15,000 people of all ages annually. Boyle previously served as Chief Operating Officer overseeing mental health and primary care operations, and as Chief Human Resources Officer since 2008. Prior to CSC, Boyle worked in progressive leadership roles in human resources and financial management at American Asphalt and Pride Mobility Products Corporation. He graduated from Delaware Valley College with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a focus in accounting.

CSC Earns HRSA Designation as Federally Qualified Health Center-Look Alike (FQHC-LAL), Supports Mission to Help Underserved Families

Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley (CSC) has achieved an important milestone to preserve its mission of serving the region's families: designation as a Federally Qualified Health Center, Look-Alike (FQHC-LAL) by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). As an FQHC-LAL, CSC will expand its integrated model of care for all ages in collaboration with Conyngham Primary Health Care Center and the Substance Use Disorders Program. The designation provides financial and other incentives to ensure open access for underserved populations. As more services qualify under the FQHC-LAL model, CSC will scale its clinical programming to reach more indigent families with mental health and primary care. FQHC-LAL status will help safeguard the long-term viability of programming by supporting HRSA's goals to improve care access for underserved families in NEPA.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT

Conyngham Primary Health Care Center and the Substance Use Disorders Program at Robinson Counseling Center have achieved status as an Opioid Use Disorder Center of Excellence (COE) from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. The designation specifically recognizes the team's commitment to improve access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for individuals with substance use disorders. A hallmark of this designation is the availability of integrated mental health and primary care services for comprehensive assessment and treatment. The team facilitates medical, nursing and

support services to ensure patients have a comprehensive approach to treatment and recovery. As a COE, the team will engage in clinical data collection with the Program Evaluation and Research Unit at the University of Pittsburgh to support continued progress across the SUD continuum of care. Contact Eric Pollick at epollick@e-csc.org for more information.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FOR AUTISM

Children's Service Center is expanding services for individuals and families with Autism Spectrum Disorder, adding Occupational Therapy at its Pennsylvania Avenue facility in Wilkes-Barre. Designed to support clients served by CSC's Intensive Behavioral Health Services, Applied Behavior Analysis and other outpatient programs, the OT clinic will open in late summer (weekdays by appointment). For information, contact Tom Mitchell at tmitchell@e-csc.org.

PRE-SCHOOL FOR BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES

As a longstanding leader in therapeutic education for K12, CSC will launch an Early Childhood Partial Education Program in partnership with Luzerne County Early Intervention Program. The program will enroll its first students in late summer to offer an intensive therapeutic pre-school program for children ages 3-5 with behavioral challenges. Located in newly renovated space in Wilkes-Barre, the pre-K program team (teacher, teacher's aide, and classroom therapist) will collaborate using Parent-Child Interaction Therapy and Theraplay modalities, including individual, family and group therapy for social skill-building. The goal is to help families master the skills to facilitate a successful kindergarten experience in their home school district, and the child's continued academic progress. For more information, contact Summer Krochta, Vice President of Programs, at skrochta@e-csc.org.

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

Exposure to alcohol in the womb has lifelong implications that are often unaddressed and misunderstood, but the condition known as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) affects more people than you think. In addition to the affected adult population that has endured years of physical and cognitive challenges due to FASD, an estimated 5 percent of children born in Pennsylvania have FASD. After several years of education/assessment support, the FASD Program at CSC has become a specialty department for assessment and treatment of individuals and family support in all stages of life. The FASD department is expanding its team across outpatient therapy, case management, and family peer support, and is located at 130 Pennsylvania Avenue. Many children and adults with FASD go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, meaning the true prevalence may be higher than current estimates. For more information, contact Summer Krochta, Vice President of Programs, at skrochta@e-csc.org.