



Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services

Helping build stronger, safer & more self-sufficient families and adults

Who We Are

The mission of the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services is to assist county residents to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency, provide services to strengthen individuals and families, and join our community partners in the protection of vulnerable children and adults.

What We Do

Our staff works with individuals and families to keep children and vulnerable adults safe and assist Anne Arundel County residents with obtaining economic assistance benefits, employment, healthcare and other community supports to promote self-sufficiency. With each person, we strive to provide services that are accessible, customer-focused and delivered in a timely and accurate manner.

Family Investment Division

Economic Assistance

The Family Investment Division supports low-income families with children and individuals by helping them with temporary cash, food supplemental and medical assistance. Our Annapolis and Glen Burnie centers are “one-stop-shops” where residents may access needed resources from various government and community partners. Residents can apply online for services at www.mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us.

Social Services Division

Adult Services

The Adult Services program receives and responds to reports alleging physical and sexual abuse, neglect by others and self-neglect and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. In addition the program delivers home and community-based services to help elderly, disabled, vulnerable adults 18 to 64. The program’s goals are to protect vulnerable adults, promote self-sufficiency and prevent unnecessary institutional placements.

Emergency Services

The Emergency Services unit assists families in crisis by providing emergency shelter, utility assistance and other supportive services.

Child Protection

Child Protective Services (CPS) receives and responds to reports alleging abuse or neglect of children.

In Home Services

The In-Home Services provides family preservation services to families and children that enhance child safety to prevent the recurrence of maltreatment and reduce the risk of foster care.

Foster Care

When a child is at imminent risk of harm and the safety of the child cannot be assured, DSS social workers provide temporary placement with relatives or a foster family. The goal is to reunite a child in foster care with his/her family, if possible, or find a new, permanent home through adoption or guardianship.

Community Initiatives & Programs

The following programs meet the specific and dynamic needs of families, children and vulnerable adults in Anne Arundel County:

- **Annapolis Family Support Center:** Offers parenting classes and free on-site child development/childcare (infant-3 years) for enrolled parents. The Teen Parent Alternative Program helps young parents attain their educational goals.
- **Representative Payee Program:** Matches vulnerable adults on limited income with trained volunteers to manage their finances. Referrals are through county agencies.
- **Back to School Program:** In conjunction with county schools, matches donors with more than 5,000 children in elementary school in need of school supplies and backpacks.
- **Holiday Sharing Program:** Matches donors with seniors or families in need during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. On average, more than 10,000 unduplicated individuals and families are served each year.
- **Homeless Services/Homeless Resource Day:** Held each Fall, the event enables people experiencing homelessness to access needed services. Outreach workers provide case management and service referrals.

Anne Arundel County DSS By The Numbers (FY18)

Moving People From Welfare To Work

- **1,077:** Number of job placements for county residents.
- **46%** of customers placed in jobs earning at least \$10/hr.
- **32,400:** New applications for economic assistance processed.
- **20,621:** Eligibility reviews conducted for continuing cases.

Keeping Children Safely At Home

- **132:** Monthly average # of children in foster care. We've safely reduced the number of children in foster care by 47% since 2005.
- **54:** Number of children leaving foster care & achieving permanency through adoption, family reunification or guardianship.
- **8,146:** CPS referrals received. The Department accepted 3857 (47%) of those referrals for Child Protective Services investigation or assessment, and 330 (26%) for Adult Protective Services investigations.
- **1,196:** Children receiving In Home Family Services, helping prevent further maltreatment and foster care placements.
- **98%:** Percentage of In Home children who remained safely at home with their parents.
- **31:** New Resource Homes approved for foster children

Meeting Community Needs

- **\$1.3 million:** Monetary value of volunteer time and 639 donations made through the Holiday Sharing Program.
- **307:** Guests served by 64 community providers at our 11th annual Homeless Resource Day, made possible by a \$4,000 County investment.
- **\$444,793:** Monetary value of the Back to School Program donations, serving 5,671 students.
- **262:** Families served annually through the Annapolis Family Support Center.

How to Contact Us

Phone: 410-269-4500

Fax: 410-974-8566

Email Address: aacodss.dhs@maryland.gov

Annapolis Family Support Center: 410-269-4478

Child Advocacy Center: 410-421-8570

To report suspected adult or child abuse, or if you are in need of Emergency Services in Anne Arundel County, call 410-421-8400.

