



# DUALLY INVOLVED YOUTH PROJECT

*Improving outcomes through coordinated care*

**The Dually Involved Youth Project** improves outcomes for youth who are involved with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems by supporting the coordination of their care and providing important new services.

## HOW IT WORKS

The Dually Involved Youth Project is based on a “Wraparound Process,” an effective way to coordinate support for youth involved with two systems of care such as child welfare and juvenile justice.

Wraparound is a goal-driven process that utilizes a youth-centered “Wrap Plan” for addressing the youth’s needs, and a support team who coordinates their care, known as the “Family Team.” Youth and their family’s involvement in the program is expected to last approximately 9–12 months. During this period of time, Family Team meetings occur at least one time per month.

The Family Team develops the Wrap Plan and identifies Family Team members, who typically include the youth, parent/guardian, child welfare caseworker/supervisor, service providers, schools, extended family and friends, and others chosen by the family as helpful supports. The Family Team Facilitator facilitates this process.

The Family Team owns the Wrap Plan and contributes to its successful completion. Additionally, the Family Team provides ongoing support and encouragement for the youth and their family after completion of the program.

## THE PROJECT AIMS TO:

- Safely support youth within their communities
- Prevent future criminal behavior
- Help youth transition to adulthood
- Develop a positive support team for the youth

The Dually Involved Youth Project is a collaboration between the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Conscience Community Network (CCN).

## KEY COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT

**Dually Involved Youth** – A Youth involved with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

**Family Team** – The youth and their support team, including family, child welfare caseworker/supervisor, service providers, and other resources.

**Wrap Plan** – A comprehensive plan for helping dually involved youth prepare for stability and success, including their transition out of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, as appropriate.

**Wraparound Process** – The combined resources of the Wrap Plan and Family Team, which together provide a complete and coordinated effort to support the youth.

**Family Team Facilitator** – The key point person coordinating the Wrap Plan and Family Team.

**CCN** – Conscience Community Network, a group of Illinois nonprofit service providers that collaborate to staff and deliver this project with DCFS.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility requirements include:

- Youth aged 11-17
- In guardianship/custody of DCFS
- Involved in the juvenile justice system
- From and living in Cook or Lake counties

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

**Therapy** – The Family Team may identify and coordinate additional services, which include individual, family, and group therapies.

**Flexible Funding** – CCN provides funds to address additional needs identified by the Family Team. These needs can include additional therapy, substance use treatment, pro-social activities, and others. Funds are prioritized for positive youth activities, education and job training support, and activities that encourage home stability.

**Living Arrangement** – CCN and the Family Team identify and coordinate out-of-home care for youth. Whenever possible, CCN promotes community-based, home-like settings for youth.

## LEARN MORE

Web: [IllinoisCCN.org](http://IllinoisCCN.org) | Email: [info@IllinoisCCN.org](mailto:info@IllinoisCCN.org) | Phone: (773) 312-4CCN (4226)

*CCN is a network of five Illinois nonprofit service providers.*

