

Safe at Home West Virginia

Quick Reference Guide

Working together to provide opportunities for youth to lead safe, healthy, and successful lives within their home communities.



What is Safe at Home West Virginia?

Safe at Home West Virginia is a state-funded program providing temporary support to:

- ✓ Reduce reliance on out-of-home settings and prevent re-entries
- ✓ Ensure youth remain in (or return to) community settings
- ✓ Safely reunify youth with their families and home communities

Safe at Home West Virginia empowers families using an innovative Wraparound planning process* including:

- ✓ Trauma-informed assessments and planning focused on needs
- ✓ Wraparound services that are individualized and coordinated
- ✓ Evidence-based services and supports to improve long-term outcomes

Who is eligible?

- ✓ System involved youth, age 9 to 18 years of age either in foster care placement or at imminent risk of foster care entry (*see below guideline for determining imminent risk and foster care candidacy*); or for a child aged 5 and older who is an adopted child or is in a legal guardianship arrangement which is at risk of disruption

AND

- ✓ The applicant demonstrates dysfunctional patterns of behavior due to exposure to trauma as indicated in the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool.

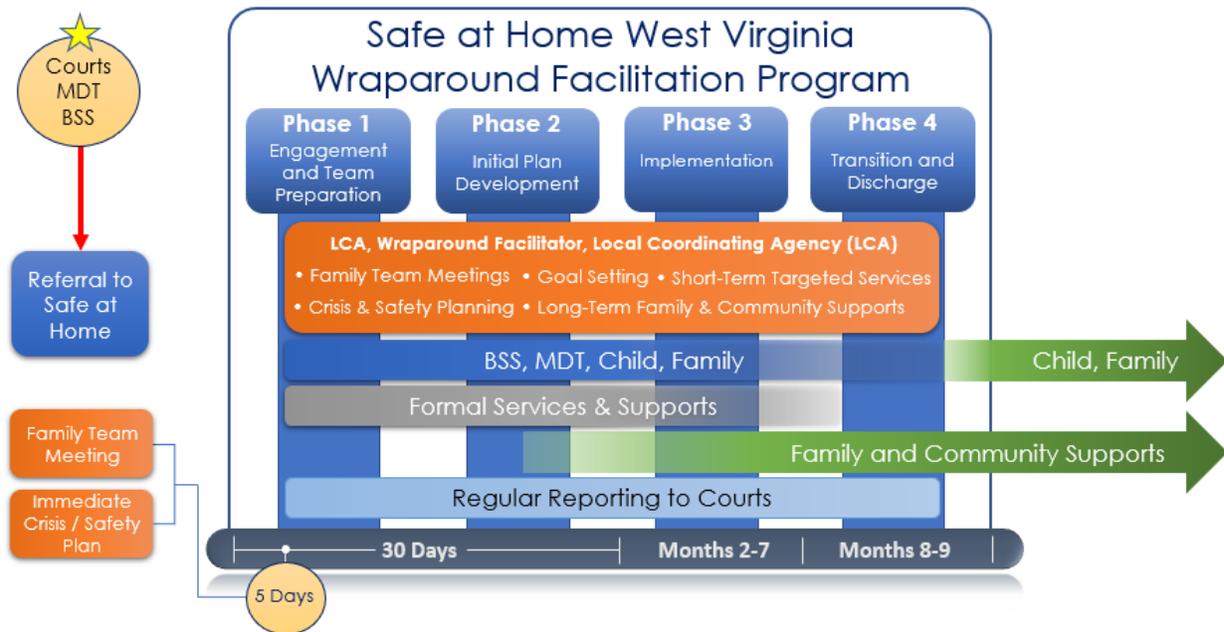
AND

- ✓ The family/caregiver demonstrates significant need(s) in at least one of the following areas, as indicated in the CANS assessment tool:
 - a) Knowledge of needs and service options
 - b) Discipline
 - c) Family stress

How does Safe at Home West Virginia work?

- ✓ Child and family are referred to *Safe at Home West Virginia* through the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Children and Families (BCF) County Offices; referrals often come from courts, healthcare providers, educators, probation agencies, BCF staff and law enforcement
- ✓ BCF County Offices refer eligible cases to one of 10 Local Coordinating Agencies (LCAs) providing *Safe at Home West Virginia* wraparound services
- ✓ LCAs assign a Wraparound Facilitator who quickly begins coordination with the family, a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), Child and Family Teams and community partners
- ✓ The Wraparound Facilitator works with the family to create a Crisis Plan and Wraparound Plan, which are actively followed through regular contact
- ✓ Formal and informal services and supports are arranged after a thoughtful planning process based on the family's specific needs
- ✓ As the family becomes increasingly successful over the course of approximately 9 months, formal supports and services are replaced with community-based and family supports

What is Wraparound?



Wraparound differs from many service delivery strategies in that it provides a comprehensive, holistic, youth and family-driven way of responding when children or youth experience serious mental health or behavioral challenges.

Wraparound puts the child or youth and family at the center. With support from a team of professionals and natural supports, the family's ideas and perspectives about what they need and what will be helpful drive all of the work in Wraparound.

The young person and their family members work with a Wraparound Facilitator to build their Wraparound team, which can include the family's friends and people from the wider community, as well as providers of services and supports.

With the help of the team, the family and young person take the lead in deciding team vision and goals, and in developing creative and individualized services and supports that will help them achieve the goals and vision. Team members work together to put the plan into action, monitor how well it's working, and change it as needed.

(Source: National Wraparound Initiative)