BIG 6 Questions

1. Do you have enough food?
2. Is your housing safe?
3. Do you have enough money for basic needs?
4. Do you have problems getting your health insurance to pay for services and medication?
5. Is your child getting an appropriate education?
6. Do you have a disabled child who needs support at home, in school, in the community?

Help Eligible Families Get Benefits

- Don’t be afraid to ask difficult questions
- Maximize income from alternative sources
- (food stamps, fuel subsidies, etc)
- De-stigmatize use of government benefits
- Encourage families to reapply or appeal if denied
- Document patients’ need for services
- Contact the school, landlord, or caseworker
- Use an agency’s chain of command to get answers

Refer a Patient who Needs Services

- Identify the problem
- Refer family directly to resources
- Contact clinical social worker at 203-688-2195
- Refer to Attorney Alice Rosenthal
- Medical-Legal Partnership Project
- Yale New-Haven Hospital
- 203-688-0113 or alice.rosenthal@ynhh.org

Letters Requesting Services

Be sure to include:

1. Medical condition, treatment, and prognosis
2. Specific nature of the problem
3. The rule, law, or requirement that applies
4. How 2 and 3 relate to the patient’s condition
5. Request for action

Sample Letter:

Dear Principal Overwhelmed,

I am writing to request that you address the education needs of Patricia Patient, daughter of Mother Patient, who is a fourth grade student at Can’t Educate our Students Elementary School.

According to my review of Patricia’s records, her educational performance has fallen far below the expected level for a child in the fourth grade, and as a result, we believe that Patricia is a student who requires intensive educational and academic supports.

We kindly request that the school institute a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting to begin the process of testing and evaluating Patricia for eligibility for special education services.

We look forward to working with you and are happy to provide the school with medical records necessary to support the goal of providing appropriate educational services to Patricia at this time.

Please contact me at xxx-xxx-xxxx if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Pat Pediatrician

Center for Children’s Advocacy
Medical-Legal Partnership Project
Advocacy for Your Patients
New Haven Area Resources

Resources

LGBT
New Haven Pride Center
203-387-2252 newhavenpridecenter.org
True Colors
888-565-5551 otruecolors.org

Legal Assistance
Medical-Legal Partnership at YNHH
203-688-0113 kidsCouncil.org/mlpp
New Haven Legal Assistance
203-946-4811 nhlegal.org
Statewide Legal Services
800-453-3320 stlc.org

Maternal and Infant Health
Diaper Bank
203-934-7009 thediaperbank.org
Healthy Start
203-946-8456 cityofnewhaven.com/Health/Maternal.asp
Nurturing Families Network
800-505-7000 cityofnewhaven.com/Health/Maternal.asp
Planned Parenthood
203-865-5158 plannedparenthood.org

Mental Health Resources
Clifford Beers Clinic
203-772-1270 cliffordbeers.org
Cornell Scott Child & Family Guidance Clinic
203-503-3055 cornellscott.org
Yale Child Study Center Outpatient Clinic
203-785-2513 medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/children
CT Behavioral Health Partnership
877-552-8247 cbhpartnership.com
EMPS (Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Service)
Call 211

Substance Abuse/Smoking Cessation
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline
800-662-HELP
Alcoholics Anonymous
203-624-6063 ct-aa.org
Smoking Quattle
800-QUIT-NOW

Teen Resources
Big Brothers. Big Sisters
203-366-3766 bbbs.org
Boys and Girls Club of New Haven
203-787-0187 bgcnewhaven.org
Center for Children’s Advocacy
860-570-5327 speakupteens.org
Centro San Jose
203-777-6771 ccaoh.org/locations.html
Leadership, Education, Athletics Partnership (LEAP)
203-773-0770 leapforkids.org
Youth Continuum
203-562-3396 youthcontinuum.org

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