What specialized services are available?
As part of the Juvenile Justice Public Safety Improvement Act, DSS has partnered with the Department of Corrections and the Unified Judicial System to identify and implement community-based treatment services for justice involved and at-risk youth. Those services include: Functional Family Therapy, Aggression Replacement Training, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Systems of Care, and Substance Use Disorder services.

How do I refer for services?
The justice involved youth’s supervising officer submits a referral to the Division of Behavioral Health. Parents, guardians, and/or schools can refer at-risk youth to a local contracted provider, as well. The agency then conducts an assessment to determine appropriate services, based on the youth and family’s needs.

Aggression Replacement Training (ART)
ART is designed to alter behaviors of chronically aggressive youth by using guided group discussions to correct anti-social thinking. ART uses repetitive learning techniques to teach coping skills for managing anger and impulsiveness. ART includes three interventions; social skills, anger control, and moral reasoning.

Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
FFT is a family-based therapy that focuses on building skills to improve family relationships, reduce behavioral issues and improve school performance. FFT is a clinical model that increases a family’s motivation to change and tailors interventions to each family’s unique risk and protective factors.

Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)
MRT is an evidence-based program combining education and structured exercises to assist participants in addressing negative thought and behavior patterns. MRT includes 12 steps which focus on issues such as honesty, trust, acceptance, healing relationships, and setting goals.

Systems of Care (SOC) Program
SOC includes a wraparound approach to care coordination and service delivery for youth and families with complex needs. This approach is built on the values of being family driven, team-based, collaborative, individualized and outcomes-based. SOC helps families to navigate and access services, while also giving them the skills they need to become self-reliant.

Additional Services
At times, a youth may have additional needs for other outpatient mental health services, substance use disorder treatment services (including Integrated Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (ICBT) or Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBISA), or an inpatient residential treatment program. Based on the youth’s assessment, the community provider can make referrals to these services, as appropriate.

For information about the Juvenile Justice Public Safety Improvement Act please visit jjri.sd.gov
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Discrimination Coordinator, Director of DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governor’s Drive, Pierre, SD 57501, 605-773-3305.

Español (Spanish) - ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-305-9673 (TTY: 711).

Deutsch (German) - ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-800-305-9673 (TTY: 711).

*Systems of Care services also available in these counties

FFT, MRT, ART, and CBISA are available statewide via telehealth

This information is accurate as of the date it was printed. For most up-to-date information, please visit dss.sd.gov/behavioralhealth

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