



Probation Service Definition

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS & PROBATION

SERVICE NAME	In-Home Family Services (IHFS) (aka Ecological In-Home Family Treatment (EIHFT))	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juvenile
Category	Non-Treatment	
Setting	Home Based	
Organizational Licensure, Credentials, Accreditation, or Certification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility Licensure is not required by the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) - Division of Public Health. • Agencies providing services must be licensed in the Boys Town In-Home Family Services program by Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Home. Licensure includes compliance with program monitoring, quality assurance, data collection, contract/agreement status, and payment status. 	
Service Description	<p>Boys Town In-Home Family Services (IHFS) is an intensive model of services that is designed to reduce risk that contributes to delinquent behavior and family dysfunction through strength-focused home and community-based interventions.</p> <p>Family Consultants work to enhance and improve youth and family functioning in the home and community, and prevent the need for youth to be placed in an out-of-home setting. Each family has an individualized service plan developed to include youth and family-driven goals that address the behavioral, social, educational and emotional needs of families. Services include a strong focus on family engagement, initial and ongoing assessment, individualized interventions, and case closure planning for long-term outcomes. IHFS is designed to implement focused interventions and cognitive behavioral techniques to enhance youth skill development, such as social skills, problem-solving, and anger management skills.</p> <p>Family Consultants engage with parents on evidence-based, behaviorally-oriented parenting practices to improve family functioning and stability in the home. Interventions also include development of informal and formal supports, linkage to community resources, and concrete services. The outcomes of these interventions are reduced truancy, substance use, curfew non-compliance, and other youth maladaptive behaviors.</p>	

	<p>Components of the intervention model address factors related to involvement in the juvenile justice system and consist of engagement, assessment and service planning, functional life skills training for both parents and youth, development of parenting skills using Boys Town's Common Sense Parenting® curriculum, accessing resources and formal/informal supports, and case closure planning.</p>
<p>Service Expectations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family Consultants work with the family, youth and others (as identified by the family and youth) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implement focused interventions and behavioral techniques to enhance both parental and youth skill development. Interventions are designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support service objectives ▪ Help identify and improve ineffective patterns of interaction ▪ Develop and maintain natural supports for the family and youth ○ Conduct formal assessments of family strengths and barriers to success. Assessments are used to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a plan for risk management ▪ Identify and utilize community resources that will increase formal and informal supports ○ Teach and practice skills in parenting, problem-solving, decision-making, life and social skills that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve communication ▪ Help parents/guardians learn to manage the stress of raising an adolescent ● Services with youth/family shall be conducted in the family home or an environment in the community where the behaviors to be addressed are occurring. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This service will include multiple in-person direct contacts and indirect contacts (e.g. e-mails, text messages) with the youth and family each week. ○ This service will also include direct (in-person) or in-direct skill or case specific contacts with other community-based professionals and family ecology supports (i.e. school personnel, therapist, DHHS, neighbors, etc.). ○ Scheduling logistics is not a behavioral intervention or case coordination activity and is not billable. ● An individualized service plan shall be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Developed based on goals of the youth and family within 10 days of intake. ○ Informed by the referral for services from the probation/problem-solving court officer, and relevant collateral documentation. ○ Shared in writing with the probation/problem solving court officer within 30 days of intake. ○ Revised as needed throughout the service, with written updates provided no less than every 90 days if no revisions have been made.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress toward individualized goals will be documented in weekly reports submitted by the agency. If progress is not indicated, or is limited, the agency staff will provide a rationale as to what changes will be made to initiate a plan to increase progress. • A crisis (risk reduction) plan shall be developed and updated as needed throughout the service. The youth and the parent/guardian/caregiver must be able to demonstrate they have the knowledge and skills to implement the crisis plan. The crisis plan will be shared with the probation/problem solving court officer.
Service Frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-4 hours per week of direct contact with youth and/or family, plus indirect contact with professional /family ecology contacts as needed. • Frequency of services will vary based on the needs of the youth/family. Contact hours will generally be more intensive at the beginning of service delivery and taper as the youth's functions improves.
Length of Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expected duration of services is a range of 4 to 6 months. • Duration of services is individualized based on progress of the youth and family.
Staffing & Individual Professional Licensure, Credentials, Accreditation, or Certification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff must be affiliated with an agency that is a Registered Service Provider and licensed to provide IHFS services. • IHFS Staff must be competent, compassionate, high performing; have effective communication skills; be reflective of community diversity; have access reliable transportation and be willing to travel within a specified service area; be able to provide youth and their families with crisis support as needed • Family Consultants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hold a Bachelor's degree in a Human Services related field, with 1-2 years' experience working with youth and families in community-based programs (such as home-based supportive services, adolescent skill-building, life-skill training for parents, instructing Boys Town's Common Sense Parenting® curriculum, etc.) OR ○ Hold a High School diploma with some college coursework and 2+ years' relevant experience may be considered in absence of qualified bachelor's level candidates, with a waiver of service model education requirements from Boys Town Director of National Training or equivalent. Waivers to the educational requirement must be requested and received in writing from Boys Town. ○ Complete the IHFS Initial Training with Boys Town before accepting IHFS referrals.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisors of Family Consultants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hold a Bachelor’s degree in a Human Services related field. ○ Have 2-3 years’ experience working with youth and families. ○ Be able to perform administrative functions. Supervisory experience in intermediate level management is preferred. ○ Be willing to provide consistent and ongoing development and support for employees. ○ Complete the IHFS Initial Training and IHFS supervisor training within 3 months of employment. • All providers must be trained in trauma-informed care, recovery principles, evidence-based practices, adolescent development and crisis management.
Staff to Client Ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staffing shall be adequate to meet the individualized service needs of the youth and meet the responsibilities of each staff position as outlined in the IHFS model. • Family Consultant caseloads range from 4 to 8 youth/families, average caseload per Family Consultant is 6 youth/families (1:6). Caseloads may be adjusted due to environmental conditions, such as travel time to visit clients’ homes. • Family Consultants work in teams of up to 5 IHFS Family Consultants. Supervisors may oversee up to 2 teams. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supervisors with 3 or fewer Family Consultants (1:3) may carry a partial caseload
Hours of Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services are scheduled during day, evening, or weekend hours, based on family needs. • Services are available for crisis assistance 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.
Service Desired Outcomes	<p>Youth is/has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residing at home with family and abiding family structures • Attending school regularly or graduated • Remained arrest-free at the 6-month and 12-month follow-up • Improved behavioral health symptoms as related to justice system involvement • Improved daily functioning and relationships with peers and adults as defined in individualized service plan <p>Family is/has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved familial functioning and relationships • Monitoring youth’s behavior and identifying problem areas and concerns • Developed parenting skills for applying rules, consistent discipline and reinforcement • Implemented informal supports and connected with community support systems • Developed a crisis plan and knows how to implement the plan • Coordinated with treatment professionals, as appropriate
Unit and Rate	Hourly, billable in quarter hour increments; see rate sheet