

Terminology

1. **Agency Emergency Shelter Care**: provide short-term placement during a crisis situation. The purpose is to provide a supportive environment designed to minimize stress and emotional instability.
2. **Department Adoptive Home**: a home that the Department of Health and Human Resources' (DHHR) Bureau for Children and Families has recruited, trained and certified as a potential adoptive placement. These homes serve children who are in the custody of DHHR and whose parent(s)' parental rights have been terminated.
3. **Detention Centers**: Secure residential facility designed to physically restrict the movements and activities of juveniles held in lawful custody.
4. **Agency Foster Family Care**: a family placement designed for children with few problems who can best be served in a family setting pending the development of a permanent living arrangement.
5. **Group Residential Care**: a structured 24-hour group care setting that targets youth with needs that range from adjustment difficulties in school, home, and/or community to those in need of a highly structured program with formalized behavioral programs and therapeutic interventions. These types of settings are referred to in West Virginia as Level I, Level II and Level III Group Residential Care; where Level I serves children with mild behavioral/mental health issues, Level II serves children with moderate issues, and Level III serves children with severe health issues.
6. **Kinship/Relative**: Services provided by any person related to the child by blood or marriage including cousins and in-laws. Persons who the child considers a relative, such as a godparent or significant others whom the child claims as kin may also be considered as a placement resource.
7. **Psychiatric Facility (Long-Term)**: a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) provides for children and adolescents under the age of 21 a medically supervised interdisciplinary program of behavior health treatment which addresses the psychiatric needs of each individual and his/her family.
8. **Psychiatric Hospital (Short-Term)**: acute psychiatric inpatient hospitalization lasting 30 days or less and providing intensive, 24-hour psychiatric care, including crisis stabilization and diagnostic assessment.
9. **School For Children With Special Needs**: WV School for the Deaf & Blind in Romney, WV.
10. **Specialized Family Care and Specialized Family Care Home (Medley)**: 24-hour daily care, support, training and supervision (within a family setting) of individuals of all ages, including children with developmental disabilities. The focus of specialized foster care is long-term placement, making it critical to carefully match placements.
11. **Therapeutic Foster Care**: a family placement designed for children with significant treatment needs due to emotional and/or physical problems. Foster parents are professionally trained and supported to aid children in overcoming problems while preparing them for return home or to a less intensive out-of-home setting.
12. **Transitional Living Client**: older youth (17-20 years of age) who are assisted in moving from a foster home or group residential setting to their own community where they establish a household while continuing educational/vocational goals or entering the workforce. A private agency that DHHR has an agreement with provides assistance in career planning, development of employment/job maintenance skills, face-to-face contact and social casework services.