

THE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SERVICES WAIVER (YES)



YES is a 1915(c) Medicaid program that helps children and youth with serious mental, emotional and behavioral difficulties. The YES Waiver provides intensive services delivered within a strengths-based team planning process called *Wrap-around*.

Wrap-around starts with family and community support and utilizes YES services to help build your family's natural support network in connection with your community. YES services are family-centered, coordinated, and effective at preventing out-of-home placement and promoting lifelong independence and self-defined success.

To participate in the YES Waiver, your child must:

- Be 3 through 18 years old.
- Have serious mental, emotional, and behavioral difficulties.
- Have a qualifying mental health diagnosis.
- Be at risk of being placed outside of their home due to their mental health needs.
- Meet the criteria to be in a psychiatric hospital.
- Be eligible for Medicaid—parent's income does not apply.
- Currently, live in a home setting with a legal guardian or on their own, if they are legally emancipated.

*Only a parent, guardian or managing conservator can request a youth be added to the inquiry list and assessed for the YES Waiver, unless the caller is a legally emancipated youth.



Benefits of YES:

- You & your child are supported by a team
- Services & supports target your child's & family's needs
- You & your children can access services that are only available through YES
- Supports help your child remain in your home & community



24-hour Mental Health Crisis Hotline: 1-866-729-3848
GCC's YES exemption consultation line: 1-409-944-4555