Mandated & Permissive Reporters

Whether you are someone required by law to report suspected child abuse (mandated reporter) or someone able and encouraged but not required by law to report suspected child abuse (permissive reporter), take action when you have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is a victim of child abuse.

- If the child is in immediate danger call 911
- File an electronic report of suspected child abuse at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis)
- Call ChildLine (800) 932-0313 and complete a CY 47 (only if you cannot file electronically)
- Notify your Administrator, Principal, Director, Etc.

Montgomery County District Attorney’s Added Mandate:

- Notify local police department

Are you a Mandated or Permissive Reporter in need of training?

Go to [www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu](http://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu)

- Free 3-hour on-line course
- Provides info on recognition of child maltreatment
- Provides info on your obligation or opportunity to report suspicions of abuse
- Details procedures for making a report of child maltreatment
- Meets Act 31 training requirements
- Meets Act 126 training requirements

If you still have questions about reporting, call us at (610) 278-5800.

Montgomery County
Commissioners
Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, Chair
Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., Vice Chair
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

Montgomery County
Department of Health & Human Services
Office of Children and Youth
Montgomery County Courthouse
P. O. Box 311
Norristown, PA 19404-0311

Laurie O’Connor
Administrator

Phone (610) 278-5800
Fax (610) 278-5898
[www.montcopa.org/mcocy](http://www.montcopa.org/mcocy)

Montgomery County
Office of
Children and
Youth

VISION
To promote a peaceful community where children are supported and happy.

MISSION
To deliver effective child welfare services that empower families to appropriately care for their children and maintain or achieve a desirable quality of life in the best interest of each child.
Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth

The Montgomery County Office of Children & Youth, under Pennsylvania law, is mandated to investigate all reports of suspected abuse, neglect or dependency of children from birth to age 18 in Montgomery County.

Our professional staff investigate reports made to our office and support families, when appropriate, to address conditions which adversely affect a child’s care. Our staff work with families directly and also coordinate services with community resources to improve family conditions. Family Engagement, In-home Supportive Services, Placement Services and Adoption Services are integral to our focus on child safety and well-being.

Maintaining natural family connections for children and involving family and the family’s support system is a priority in Children & Youth casework services.

The provision of services, and referrals of clients shall be made without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, political affiliations, English language proficiency, or other protected class.

Protecting Children

Services are provided to families in need of support and assistance to remedy family conditions that are harmful to children.

OCY offers a variety of social services to client families:
- Professional family meetings to assess the best natural and community support services to assist the family in caring for their children
- Child abuse prevention services
- In-home child protective casework and placement prevention services
- Advocacy for behavioral health, developmental disability or drug & alcohol services
- Parent support groups
- Placement services for children
- Permanency services
- Family reunification services
- Family and adolescent mediation services
- Truancy services
- Child Welfare diversionary services

Sometimes help is needed...

OCY assists nearly 8,500 families with over 25,000 children in Montgomery County each year. OCY collaborates closely with nuclear families, extended families, schools, social service agencies, medical professionals and law enforcement to assure well-being of children and their families.

Resource Parents

Open your heart and home to a child. Support for infants, school age children and teens is needed. Resource parents provide care for a child when his or her family cannot. Resource parents receive the satisfaction of helping a child, stabilizing that child’s life, and providing short-term support or long-term permanency. Training and continuing support are provided by the Office of Children and Youth and the Montgomery County Foster Parents Association. Resource parents can be relatives of the child or caring individuals willing to help in resolving family difficulties. If you would like more information about becoming an Office of Children and Youth resource parent, look on the Montgomery County Website or Call (610) 278-5800.

Speakers

OCY is available to provide supplemental information about child abuse and neglect to mandated reporters, community organizations and educational institutions. Call (610) 278-5882.

Contributions

Charitable contributions from corporate and private donors are welcomed by the agency through SuperKIDS of Montgomery County. SuperKIDS is a non-profit volunteer organization established to benefit children known to the Office of Children and Youth. Contributions directly benefit children in development of educational and cultural interests. These funds assist in meeting other special needs of children as well. Inquiries can be made by calling (610) 278-5882.