



YOUR ROLE

- You the parent, and other family members, guide the service team as we assist you in your journey toward reaching your family's goals.
- You will be open, available, and cooperative with your family team.
- You will hold the family team accountable for the services provided to your family.
- You will help us to identify the strengths, interests, and needs of each family member.
- You will partner with our staff to explore and access available services and resources to best meet your family's needs.

REACHING US

Family FIRST
440 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301

Phone: 508-587-2579, ext. 10
Fax: 508-583-8046

Hours
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

On-Call Hours
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.,
all day weekends and holidays

A PART OF BAMSI

Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc. is a statewide human services organization dedicated to "bringing people and services together." Incorporated in 1975, BAMSI is one of the largest minority non-profit organizations in Massachusetts and delivers a broad spectrum of high-quality services to individuals and families. Program services include day and residential programs; counseling and outreach; school-based services; child and family support services; and information, referral, and advocacy.

BAMSI's dedicated staff and collaborative partnerships ensure that real service solutions are consistently there for people throughout the Commonwealth.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

The mission of the Department of Mental Health is to improve the quality of life for adults with serious and persistent mental illness and children with serious mental illness or severe emotional disturbance. This is accomplished by ensuring access to an integrated network of effective, efficient and culturally competent mental health services that promotes consumer rights, responsibilities, rehabilitation, and recovery.



FAMILY FIRST



10 Christy's Drive, Brockton, MA 02301
508-580-8700 | www.bamsi.org



Family FIRST is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health Southeast Area and managed by BAMSI

FAMILY FIRST

(FLEXIBLE INTENSIVE
RESPONSE
SUPPORT TEAM)



WHO WE ARE

Family FIRST is a program to assist children and youth diagnosed with serious emotional disturbance (SED) and their families. Services are provided within the scope of the wraparound model, which includes family-driven services, formal and natural supports, and professionals in a team approach. Your family will work together with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and community providers to identify your strengths, needs, and desired outcomes, and develop an Individual Action Plan (IAP).

WHO WE SERVE

Depending on their individual needs, youth may benefit from different service components. The youth receiving any of the available services must first be qualified through DMH.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Family Systems Intervention: Assists families and youth to develop the skills and supports that promote family harmony and community living. These services are delivered in the home or in the community. Services associated with Family Systems Interventions include:

- Outreach and engagement of youth and families
- Comprehensive assessment
- Education for the youth and family

- Family treatment and support intervention
- Linkages to services, supports, community resources, and opportunities
- Service coordination between schools, service providers, and others that provide support to assure that the approaches taken are appropriate and clinically relevant
- Transportation as needed to meet IAP goals

Individual Youth Support: After-school mentoring to assist youth in developing emotional self-management abilities, social skills, communication skills, pre-vocational skills, and self-confidence. Mentoring usually takes place in the community, occurring while the youth and mentor participate in recreational, cultural, artistic, or social activities. A mentor may also:

- Teach new personal skills related to self-care, peer relationships, and managing symptoms
- Teach money management skills
- Assist in educational and pre-vocational skills
- Accompany and/or engage youth in social and recreational activities in which he/she would not be able to participate without therapeutic support
- Transport the youth or assist him or her with use of public transportation

Youth Support Group: The goals of these 90-minute groups include social and emotional skill building, connections in the community, and educational and vocational preparation. These groups may also provide social and recreational activities tied to the IAP goals and provide psycho-education for family members. Common topics may include:

- Understanding mental illness
- Understanding appropriate boundaries
- Understanding friendship
- Developing a positive self-image
- Violence prevention
- Conflict resolution
- Learning how to apply for jobs or school
- Developing community living skills
- Money management
- Finding housing

Collateral Contact: A Licensed Mental Health Clinician may make a collateral contact or consultation to assure that services are appropriate and clinically relevant. Collateral contacts/consultations may occur with pediatricians, school staff, and staff of other agencies providing services to the youth.