



Mental Health Department Call Center *Screening/ Assessment Referral Information for Pediatricians*

Starting July 14, 2011, pediatricians can refer children ages birth through five for a developmental screening and/or mental health assessment by contacting the Mental Health Department Call Center.

Typical reasons for a screening/assessment referral include:

- Mental Health/Social-Emotional Developmental concerns such as exposure to trauma or excessive stress, grief and loss, attachment issues, disruptive behaviors, anxiety, emotional withdrawal or internalizing behaviors or parent concern regarding social-emotional development.
- Neurodevelopmental concerns such as autism spectrum symptoms, fetal alcohol spectrum symptoms, speech and language delays, and global developmental delays.

Services provided include: Bridging children ages birth through five and their families to critical and necessary services that would support their optimal growth and development; Referrals triaged by highly skilled clinicians; Developmental and social-emotional needs identified; and Linkages to services and resources that promote early prevention and intervention.

To make a screening/assessment referral, pediatricians can call or fax a referral form to the Mental Health Department Call Center.

Mental Health Department Call Center

Phone: 1-800-704-0900 Fax: 408-938-4536

Screening/assessment referrals should include the following information:

- STARTS Physician Referral form (www.first5kids.org/forms)
- Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids number
- Family/Pediatrician Concerns
- Additional information that supports the reason for referral

After a referral is received:

- ✓ The Call Center will confirm receipt of referral with the pediatrician or representative by email or phone.
- ✓ Based on services needed, medical necessity, geographic location, language and capacity, the family may be referred to the KidConnections Network of Care¹ for a multi-disciplinary assessment which could include a developmental screening, a mental health assessment, support for behavioral/learning concerns, clinical observation, utilization of standardized assessment tools, and linkage to appropriate services.
- ✓ With permission from the parent and within approximately 60 days from the onset of assessment, the pediatrician will receive a copy of the Assessment for Intervention Report (AFI), which includes recommended services for the child and family. A Targeted Diagnostic Assessment (TDA) by KidScope is one possible recommendation.

¹ See cover letter for the KidConnections Network of Care description