



CRSA

Community & Residential Services Authority



*Piecing Together Services
for Youth*

WHAT IS THE CRSA?

The Community and Residential Services Authority (CRSA) is a board created by the State Legislature in 1985. The CRSA is responsible for identifying and addressing barriers facing parents, professionals and providers when trying to get needed services and programs for an individual with a behavior disorder or a severe emotional disturbance and their family.

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE CRSA?

The Authority is made up of nine state agency representatives that provide programs and services to an individual with a behavior disorder or a severe emotional disturbance and their family, four members of the legislature and six persons, including a parent, appointed by the Governor.

WHAT IS THE CRSA MISSION?

The mission of the Community and Residential Services Authority (CRSA) is to actively advocate, plan and promote the development and coordination of a full array of prevention and intervention services to meet the unique needs of an individual with a behavior disorder or a severe emotional disturbance and their family.

WHAT DOES THE CRSA DO?

The CRSA combines interagency responsibility with legislative authority to:

- *Identify* barriers to receiving services
- *Provide* technical assistance to parents, service providers and member agency personnel to access needed services and reduce barriers
- *Assist* local communities, upon request, to develop or strengthen collaborative interagency networking
- *Plan* for a more responsive, efficient and coordinated service delivery system
- *Resolve* multiple agency disagreements about residential placement or funding of placement and services

HOW DOES THE CRSA DEFINE A DISPUTE?

A dispute must involve a child, adolescent or young adult:

- Who is 21 years of age or under
- Who shows evidence of being severely emotionally disturbed or behaviorally disordered (*this can include coexisting disorders such as autism and/or developmental disabilities*)
- Where there is a disagreement between a parent and an agency or between two or more agencies regarding implementation of a plan of services

WHO CAN BRING A DISPUTE TO THE CRSA?

Any parent, professional, individual or agency on behalf of a youth with a behavior disorder or severe emotional disturbance can bring a dispute.

HOW DOES DISPUTE RESOLUTION AFFECT OTHER PROCEDURES?

CRSA Dispute Resolution does not replace the use of any other appeal process. A parent/guardian should pursue the appropriate appeal procedures with state or local agencies to challenge decisions made about a plan of service.

HOW WE ASSIST PARENTS

- Help parents to learn about and navigate special education services and other systems of care
- Help parents understand public funding resources for residential treatment
- Empower parents to be the best advocates for their children
- Follow legislation and recommend policy change that directly impacts youth services

HOW CAN THE CRSA BE CONTACTED?

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