



ADMISSION CRITERION

Connections primary focus for admission will be to focus on youth within the age range of 11-17 years. The program will serve a broad range of individuals requiring additional services beyond outpatient care that may include but is not limited to youth stepping down from higher levels of care and this does not need to be from within the Our Home, Inc. context. Connections is open to serving youth that are from other higher-level agencies as well. While the primary age range is the 11-17 years, Connections will consider other age groups if there is a unique need such as a sibling string needs to remain intact as just one example. The needs and risky behavioral dynamics of each placement will be considered therefore Connections will consider referrals of both genders.

When applicable: a youth will undergo an interview process so that a CAFAS can be scored. The CAFAS will help drive treatment needs from an assessment of the child's functioning in 8 domains. The interview may also include a "test" overnight stay to see how the youth meld to the home setting. To the best of Connections ability, through rigorous initial interview, training will be initiated with the foster parents to match the needs of the youth to our foster home setting. The CAFAS will help in the Foster Care Case Manager determining what training should be done before admission.

Those concerning criterion in which may exclude a youth from admission to Connections includes but is not limited to:

- Fire setting
- Bestiality
- Recent and significant self-harm (within last 30 days)
- Serious risk of significant physical aggression

The program shall not discriminate in admission practices in regard to race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability or co-occurring disorder.