

CLARION Serving The People Of The New Community Network

Family Service Bureau

Child Abuse And Autism Awareness

s a community organization, the Family Service Bureau of Newark provides assistance for society's victims of child abuse. This topic has been addressed for decades and each day dedicated workers at FSB, an affiliate of New Community, come together to create a network of support for survivors and their families to heal from tragic experiences. Emotional, physical, sexual, and psychological trauma are the most common forms of child abuse, along with neglect and abandonment. Child abuse is very traumatic and it is well-documented that if left untreated, victims usually face mental health issues.

The effects of abuse can cause problems and stress in one's daily life. Reports show that victims of child abuse may suffer from depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and, in some cases, even thoughts of or attempts at suicide. This is also true of victims' family members and loved ones.

Even though individuals and families go through the reporting process, oftentimes many do not seek counseling afterwards. Families may experience feelings of shame, blame and guilt. These feelings and emotions often cause disturbances in everyday life. Families may feel alone and may believe that they can't entrust anyone or any agency with the confidentiality and sensitivity necessary to help move past their difficult events. However, such counseling is a vital step towards building a healthy state of mind. Evidence shows that people with histories of childhood abuse and neglect suffer from profound and pervasive psychiatric disturbances during adulthood (McCord; Roesler & McKenzie; McCauley et al.; Widom, Levitan). This is especially true of those who do not receive follow-up treatment, which often leads to more complex mental health issues.

Under New Jersey state law, the child protection agency must show that a child's "physical, mental, or emotional condition has been impaired" or is in "imminent danger of becoming impaired" as a result of a parent's failure to exercise a "minimum degree of care...by unreasonably inflicting or allowing to be inflicted harm, or substantial risk thereof." The Family Service Bureau would like to highlight our services and offer our full support.

FSB's mission is to preserve, support, strengthen and enrich family life through prevention, intervention and community education programs by assisting families, children and individuals to realize their full potential. We offer comprehensive services to youth, families and individuals who live and work in Essex and West Hudson counties. Our outpatient department services offered at our Newark and Kearny offices both offer services for children. FSB provides group therapy and individual therapy, and bilingual services are also available at both locations.

Family Service Bureau is located at 274 South Orange Ave. in Newark (or call 973-412-2056) and at 379 Kearny Ave. in Kearny (or call 201-246-8077).