

# WHY CHILD AND FAMILY CLINIC PLUS?

Social and emotional development colors every aspect of a young child's life and sets the stage for a strong foundation for later development. Early childhood mental health is important for the social, emotional, and behavioral well-being of children, birth through five, including their capacity to:

- Experience and express a wide range of emotion;
- Form close, secure relationships with family and caregivers; and
- Explore their environment and learn.

# WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT CLINIC PLUS?

Information about Child and Family Clinic Plus is also available online at the New York State Office of Mental Health's Clinic-Plus website at [clinicplus.org](http://clinicplus.org)

**For more information  
contact:**

New York State  
David A. Paterson  
Governor

Office of Mental Health  
Michael F. Hogan, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

David J. Woodlock  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Children and Families



CHECK IN  
WITH YOUR CHILD THROUGH:

# Child and Family Clinic Plus



To do list

- Clothes
- Crayons
- Play Date
- Annual Physical
- Hearing Screening
- Vision Screening
- Emotional Health Screening



## DID YOU KNOW?

Your child's emotional health can affect how prepared they will be for school, their ability to connect with friends and family, and their ability to bounce back when faced with life's setbacks. Checking on your child's emotional health is important, just as important as having their vision and hearing tested or their yearly physical exam with your family doctor.

Sometimes it is hard to know if your child's emotional development is on track. To help you with this, Child and Family Clinic Plus is making available a simple list of questions that either the parent or the child (depending on their age) can complete. This list of questions, or screening, will be looked at by a professional who will let you know if a more detailed assessment of your child is recommended. Screening is

important, because the earlier you know that your child has an emotional health need, the sooner you can take action. We know from experience and science that children can and do recover quickly from emotional challenges, particularly when they are identified early.

## CHILD AND FAMILY CLINIC PLUS WILL WORK WITH YOU TO:

- ① Identify if your child has emotional needs;
- ① Provide access to treatments that work at a time and place that is convenient for your family; and
- ① Keep your child on track in your home, school and community.

## WHAT CHILD AND FAMILY CLINIC PLUS CAN OFFER YOUR FAMILY...

**Respect...** parents are provided with information and support. Parents decide when and if their child is screened, who has access to their child's information, and when and where they receive services.

**Help...** to get your child back on track. Working together, we will identify children with emotional needs as early as possible. This will be followed with the best possible treatment and support that is available.

**Screening is available at no cost.** If your child has a need to see a specialist at the Child and Family Clinic-Plus program, there may be a charge. All Child and Family Clinic-Plus programs take Medicaid and other insurance payments. No one is turned away regardless of their ability to pay.