



Devereux/TCV Community Services opens STAIRS intensive residential treatment program in Homestead

The program serves youth, ages 6 to 21, with a primary behavioral health diagnosis, along with autism and/or an intellectual disability

Homestead, PA – April 27, 2026 – Today, Devereux/TCV Community Services, one of Allegheny County’s most respected nonprofit organizations, opened the STAIRS program, an intensive residential treatment program, at Devereux Pennsylvania’s Pittsburgh Autism and Education Center of Excellence in Homestead.

The STAIRS program serves youth, ages 6 to 21, with a primary behavioral health diagnosis, along with autism and/or an intellectual disability, who also have a history of a serious behavioral disorder, including frequent and intense aggression, and/or self-injurious behavior, and other behavioral differences.

“We are excited to launch this program, which marks a significant milestone in our mission to provide high-quality, compassionate care for youth and families with complex behavioral healthcare needs,” said Devereux/TCV Community Services Executive Director **Wendy Pardee, Ph.D.** “Often, these youth have not responded to treatment in traditional community-based or residential settings, and this program will fill a critical gap in services across the Mon Valley and beyond. By addressing this clear and urgent need for specialized, trauma-informed treatment, we will be able to offer hope and healing to more families who previously may have had limited options. Our STAIRS program will help those in our care achieve meaningful progress and build a foundation for a brighter future.”

Key features of this program

The STAIRS program offers the following features:

- **Enhanced staffing keeps youth safe/supported:** Up to 1:1 staff (daytime) and up to 2:5 staff (overnight)
- **A fully integrated clinical team, including:** psychiatrist, registered nurses, mental health professional, Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs), behavior support specialists, recreation program coordinator
- **Evidence-based practices:** Psychiatric care; individual, group and family therapies; caregiver coaching; Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA); recreational programs and community integration
- **Coordination of care:** Close collaboration with outside providers (schools, medical specialists, behavioral health and developmental supports teams)

Pardee also noted, “Developed in partnership with our community and payor stakeholders, STAIRS brings a uniquely integrated model to help participants make meaningful progress and return to their home communities stronger.”

How to make a referral

- Referrals to STAIRS must be made through the Human Services Administration Organization (HSAO). **To learn more, contact HSAO Senior Unit Manager Steven Freas at (412) 942 0112 (office) or (412) 639 2089 (cell).**
- Eligibility is based on medical necessity and a current psychiatric evaluation recommending RTF as the most appropriate level of care.

For more information about TCV’s STAIRS Program, call (412) 461-1040.

About Devereux/TCV Community Services

Founded in 1973, Devereux/TCV Community Services is a leading nonprofit provider of programs and services for youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and behavioral health challenges. With more than 250 dedicated professionals working at program locations and supported living homes across the region, TCV provides a continuum of services and supports for youth and adults through its intensive outpatient and group-home programs, as well as school-based services. Rooted in compassion and driven by clinical excellence, TCV’s community-minded model delivers hope and healing to individuals and families across the Allegheny County region. Learn more: <https://www.devereux.org/TCV>.

About Devereux

Devereux is one of the nation’s largest nonprofit organizations, providing services, insight and leadership in the evolving field of behavioral healthcare. Founded in 1912, Devereux operates a comprehensive national network of clinical, therapeutic, educational and employment programs that positively impact the lives of more than 10,000 children, adults – and their families – every year. The organization’s unique approach combines evidence-based interventions with compassionate family engagement. With nearly 6,500 employees working in programs across the country, Devereux is a trusted partner for families, schools and communities, serving many of our country’s populations in the areas of autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, specialty mental health, education and foster care. For more than a century, Devereux has been guided by a simple and enduring mission: To change lives by unlocking and nurturing human potential for people living with emotional, behavioral and cognitive differences. Learn more: www.devereux.org.

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