



Catholic Charities of Buffalo, NY

Therapeutic Supervised Parent Child Access Program

Purpose

The Therapeutic Supervised Parent Child Access Program (PCA) provides the opportunity for children to have safe access with their parent(s).

The PCA program is a 9 month time limited program.

The PCA program provides a safe, neutral site for supervised access. Each visit is continuously monitored by a Master's level, licensed or license eligible social worker or mental health worker or an intern in a Master's level social work or mental health program, who is supervised by a Master's level, licensed or license eligible social worker or mental health worker.

The role of the social and/or mental health worker is to actively intervene to facilitate parent/child attachment, strengthen positive parenting behaviors and engage the participants in the process of healing the issues that led to the request for supervised access. Visits are scheduled weekly unless otherwise ordered by the court. Catholic Charities does not make recommendations to the court regarding the future of any parent and child access arrangement. However, summary information regarding parent strengths and concerns will be made available to the court upon request.

Eligibility

Visitation may be Court Ordered, requested by attorneys for both parties or voluntarily agreed upon by both parties.

Referral Process

A completed PCA application and an existing Court Order, if one is in effect, should be mailed or faxed to Catholic Charities (see contact information below). Upon receipt of both party's PCA applications, and the Court Order, if applicable, a welcome letter will be sent to each party.

When the PCA Program is able to begin providing the service, the program staff will contact both the custodial and non-custodial parties to schedule separate orientation sessions and obtain the **\$30 orientation fee** from each party. The orientation will allow each party to meet the social and/or mental health worker who will be facilitating the access and discuss all issues related to the services including reason for referral, safety needs, relevant Court Orders, scheduling availability, confidentiality, fees, etc. After each party has completed the orientation and paid the orientation fee, the parties will be contacted by phone and/or by mail indicating the access schedule.

At the orientation each party will also be required to sign up for Catholic Charities Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness (OKPEAP) class before visits at Catholic Charities can begin. Both parents/guardians are expected to complete OKPEAP within the first 6 months of starting visits in order to remain in compliance with the PCA program. There is a **\$50 enrollment fee** for this class. Classes are offered virtually or in person if needed. Parents/guardians will not be put in the same class as their co parent.

Fees

There is a **non-refundable orientation fee** of **\$30** which must be paid by both the custodial and non-custodial parent prior to or at the orientation appointment.

There is a **non-refundable** enrollment fee of **\$50** for the OKPEAP co parenting class. The custodial and non-custodial parent are both required to enroll in this class in order to use the PCA program and each parent/guardian must complete the class within the first 6 months of visits in order to remain compliant with the PCA program.

The cost of each visit is \$150 per access hour. The cost can be reduced with presentation of documentation that qualifies the party for our sliding fee scale and most parties who use our service take advantage of a reduced fee. The accessing parent is responsible for payment for the visits unless otherwise indicated by a Court Order.

Program Hours/Availability

Tuesday 9:00am-8:30pm

Wednesday 9:00am-8:30pm

Thursday 9:00am-8:30pm

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

Termination of Parent Child Access Services

Parent Child Access services will be terminated 9 months after the start of services. Parent Child Access services can be terminated prior to 9 months if ordered by the Court or when both parties agree to an alternate plan through mediation which is submitted to the Court for approval. The Parent Child Access Program may also terminate the service at any point for failure to comply with the program policies and procedures. Notification will be sent in writing to the participants and an update can be provided to the Court upon request.

For more information, please contact:

Catholic Charities Parent Child Access Program
1581 Bailey Ave
Buffalo, NY 14212
Phone: (716) 896-6390
Fax: (716) 896-4236

Catholic Charities of Buffalo
Therapeutic Supervised Parent Child Access Program (PCA)
REFERRAL INFORMATION

ERIE COUNTY FAMILY COURT

ERIE COUNTY SUPREME COURT

ERIE COUNTY IDV COURT

OTHER _____

NAME OF JUDGE: _____

COURT CASE #: _____

DATE OF NEXT COURT APPEARANCE: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

CUSTODIAL PARENT/CAREGIVER (person child lives with majority of time)

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ACCESSING PARENT/CAREGIVER (person visiting)

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CHILD(REN) INVOLVED IN THE SERVICE

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

NAME: _____

DOB: _____

CHILD(REN)'S ATTORNEY

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

SERVICE INFORMATION

(ALL SERVICES ARE CONTINGENT UPON PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE AND AVAILABILITY)
AVAILABILITY FOR ACCESS (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

TUESDAY BEFORE 4PM

TUESDAY AFTER 4PM

WEDNESDAY BEFORE 4PM

WEDNESDAY AFTER 4PM

THURSDAY BEFORE 4PM

THURSDAY AFTER 4PM

Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program (OKPEAP)

PCA/MEX Clients Only

OKPEAP is designed for any parent or guardian who wants to reduce conflict and parent effectively for their children.

Custodial and non-custodial parents in PCA and MEX visitation Programs are both required to enroll in this class. Each parent/guardian must complete the class within the first 6 months of visits/exchanges in order to remain compliant with the PCA/MEX program. Failure to do so may result in having to pay a \$50 re enrollment fee and/or their visitation/exchange case may be closed.

Parents/guardians of the same children are placed in different groups, however each group consists of a mix of both custodial and non-custodial parents/ guardians. Grandparents and new partners are encouraged to attend

Each group consists of 3 sessions totaling approximately 7.5 hours. Groups may be offered in person or virtually.

Fee: Non-refundable discounted enrollment fee of \$50 paid via check, money order, credit card, or cash. Payment may be mailed, called in or made in person.

Topics will include:

- The impact of separation/divorce on children
- Child development and the implications for parenting after separation/divorce
- "Cooperative" and "parallel" approaches to co-parenting
- An overview of family law as it affects custody and visitation
- The impact of conflict on children
- Conflict management and problem-solving Location

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of other parent/guardian (so you are placed in separate groups): _____

Number of children: _____

Referred by: _____

Family Court and file/docket number: _____

Supreme County and index number: _____

Other/County of referral. Please specify: _____

Please identify your availability (indicate first and second choices):

Tuesday evening group Saturday morning group Wednesday morning group

Please identify your preference (indicate first and second choices): In person group Virtual group

You will be notified of the date and type of class you are enrolled in. If you have questions, please call: Catholic Charities at (716) 896-6390 . Please return this form and payment to: Catholic Charities Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program

1581 Bailey Avenue Buffalo, NY 14212 Fax: (716) 896-4236