

M♥HOUSE

MACS THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY FOR CHILDREN

PROCESS FOR REFERRAL



MACS

SUPPORTING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

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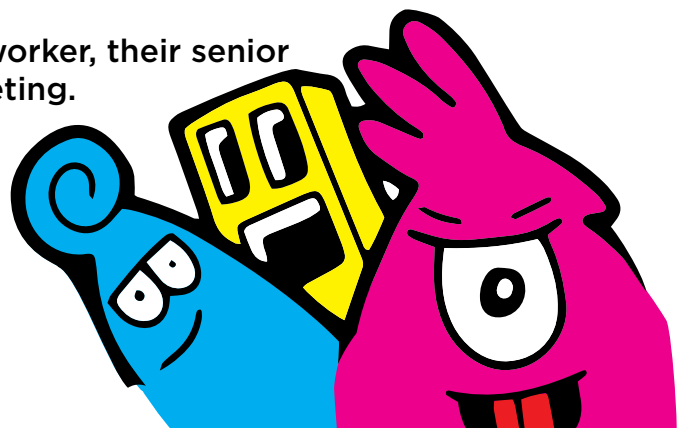
CRITERIA

- A maximum of 3 children can live at the House. In the process of assessing the appropriateness of the referral, MACS will have to consider the needs of the children currently living in the house and how the needs of the referred child will impact on them. It is important, as far as is reasonably possible, to ensure that all of the needs of the children living in the house can be met.
- Children who require an intensive supervised environment providing 1-1 constant (24/7) supervision in a secure or psychiatric environment cannot be accommodated at the House.
- MACS will accept referrals for children aged 6-13 years old, with complex needs, whose needs cannot be catered for in mainstream residential or foster care. The age of 13 has been included to allow children aged 11/12 to age out of the Service. The 'target' age range for referrals is 8-12 years old - with the younger age of 6 in place to support potential referrals for siblings.
- We will not accept emergency admissions (same day or previously unknown to the Trust) or children who need to be accommodated for less than 1 year.
- Please see statement of purpose for further information on the Service (can be provided on request).

STAGE 1

CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING AND REFERRAL

- Confirmation of funding and support of the referral must be provided to Mary Ryan (Registered person and CEO) via e mail. This will be requested by the Registered Manager upon confirmation of intent to refer by a social worker. MaryRyan@macsni.org
- Completion of referral form required
- Referral form will be reviewed by the Registered Manager in consultation with Registered person.
- Manager will engage social worker in initial conversations to inform decision on whether or not referral is appropriate at this time.
- If appropriate, the Manager will invite the social worker, their senior (and relevant others) to an initial assessment meeting. This can happen promptly and will be led by the urgency of the referral.
- MACS may process more than one referral at any given time.



STAGE 2 (A)

INITIAL ASSESSMENT MEETING

The manager will invite the referring social worker, their senior (and relevant others) to a meeting to discuss the referral in more detail. In advance of the meeting the social worker will be sent the 'stay close to' stages framework for completion.

The format of the meeting will further explore:

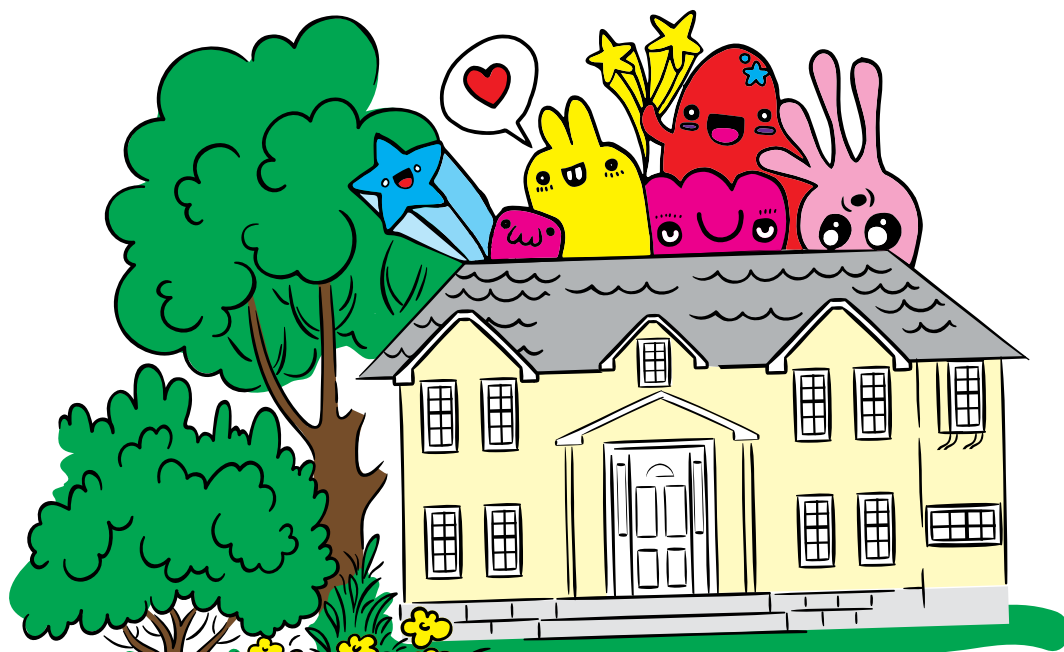
- Current accommodation and reason for breakdown
- Alternative accommodation options and preferred timescales should move to My House be assessed as appropriate
- All areas of the current care plan
- Significant events and child's presentation when anxious, defiant, in crisis and what soothes /comforts them.
- Social interaction and social needs, including relationships with other children and sharing space with others.

By the end of this meeting agreement will be reached on the child's suitability for My House at this time and whether or not work is to be undertaken to further assess need in conjunction with the child and current carers / family with a view to move in.

If a significant level of risk to self or others exists, MACS may require that the Sensory Attachment Intervention (SAI) Profiling and Clinical Assessment is completed to inform the child's suitability for move in. If this is the case, the Trust will be invoiced for the cost of this work (including time) and the outcome of this SAI assessment work may be that the child is not appropriate for Move in at this time.

STAGE 2 (B)

Completion of Attachment Checklist For Children. This will inform the move in work and preparation for move in conducted by the My House team. Team formulations will begin and will underpin the contact with the child and their carers/ family. At this stage, the Clinical Psychologist may recommend completion of SAI profiling/assessment to inform the assessment decision. Completion of SAI Profiling and clinical assessment if identified as required either at 2(a) or 2(b).



STAGE 3

ASSESSMENT DECISION

MACS will seek to reach an assessment decision as quickly as possible as this will be in the best interests of the child. where no other referrals are simultaneously active, and a high level of risk to self/others is not present, it may be possible to reach a decision by the end of the initial assessment meeting.

If it is not possible to reach an assessment decision at this stage, a timescale for decision making will be agreed at the meeting and what needs to be completed in order to inform a final decision (i.e. sai profiling and clinical assessment or further information on risk, court proceedings etc).

STAGE 3 (B)

SAI PROFILING & CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

The manager will coordinate the SAI Profiling meeting with the social worker and ensure the social worker is provided with the relevant documentation required to inform this process. The findings of the SAI Profiling will inform the Initial Assessment decision on appropriateness for the Service. The Profiling report will be shared with the social worker. The findings of the report will also determine whether or not the completion of the clinical assessment (SAI) would further inform the Initial Assessment process.

STAGE 4

ACCEPTANCE AND OFFER OF MOVE TO MY HOUSE

The manager will contact the social worker with the final decision, and this will also be communicated in writing. If the child is moving into My House, a pre move in meeting will be coordinated by the manager to plan for the move in, confirm timescales and move in date. A series of meeting will be set up by the team to introduce and implement the child's move to My House. This will be completed in partnership with the child, their social worker and any other person(s) important to the child.



STAGE 1 REFERRAL FORM

CHILDS NAME		AGE:
CHILDS CURRENT ADDRESS		DATE OF BIRTH:

Social worker details (name, email, address)

Care status & any active court proceedings

What are the arrangements for the childs contact with family

Who else is significant to the child & what are the contact arrangements

Comment on the child's strengths & capabilities

Any social activities or interests that the child is engaged with or would like to be doing

Any particular likes or dislikes that would be important in the setting of home

Why is the current fostering or residential accommodation not working for the child

What is the arrangements for their education

Outline any emotional or behavioural difficulties that the child experiences

Comment on any specific safeguarding concerns or arrangements that exist for the child

Comment on any specialist services in place (or previously in place) & how the child is engaging

Comment specifically on any health needs including medication that the child is taking (has taken that is appropriate for this referral) Please identify any medication that is a controlled drug

Any other relevant information

SIGNATURE SOCIAL WORKER: _____ DATE: _____

**Please return completed form to: Sinéad O'Flaherty
303 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 3GG Tel: 028 9031 3163 Mob: 07793 196 367
Email: SineadOFlaherty@macsni.org**

