



A Closer Look: Out-of-home care or treatment

Call **651-266-4500** to talk to a Ramsey County screener.



Transport to ER (police transport hold)

In a youth mental health emergency, police must issue a transport hold when a caregiver is not present or is not able/willing to drive youth to the ER. Police or ambulance will take the youth instead. With caregiver permission, CPS and Crisis staff can facilitate non-emergency transport.



Voluntary Treatment and Admission

A doctor does an assessment and determines that a hospital or other inpatient treatment is needed. The caregiver agrees with the treatment plan and plan for admission. If needed, a case manager can facilitate non-hospital care.



Emergency Hold

If a doctor determines that hospital or inpatient treatment is needed but the caregiver does NOT agree, the hospital will request a Child Protection hold or an emergency hold with Peace or Health Officer Authority (PHOA) to ensure youth safety.



Child Protection Hold/ Placement

When there are immediate safety threats, Child Protection staff place youth in kinship care or assume temporary legal custody and place youth in shelter, foster home, hospital or other inpatient care. Typically, youth up to age 12 will first be assessed at Children's Hospital.



Voluntary Placement

When a caregiver is temporarily unable to care for a child and kinship care is not an option, Child Welfare staff can arrange a time-limited, voluntary placement to shelter or foster home. A voluntary placement agreement must be signed by the caregiver.



Kinship Care & Host Homes (volunteer)

County screeners can discuss informal care options such as kinship care (family/friend) or volunteer host homes through community-based groups. Informal arrangements are made by the caregiver and are not affiliated with the county.