



Overview

Elwyn's Early Childhood Services has contracted with the Pennsylvania State Department of Education to provide preschool special education to eligible young children in the Chester-Upland School District school district area. This program is referred to as Special Education for Early Developmental Success (SEEDS). Chester SEEDS provides free, appropriate public special education services (FAPE) for eligible children 3 to 5 years of age living in the Chester-Upland area of Delaware County. Chester SEEDS coordinates preschool special education services, performs multi-disciplinary evaluations, and provides and/contracts for ongoing preschool special education services. Children are served in the least restrictive environment possible to meet their educational and developmental needs. Locations can include the child's home, Head Start, early childhood programs, or a center-based early intervention program. Services include special instruction, occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy or any combination of these.

Chester SEEDS is dedicated to quality programming for eligible children and works to address issues related to young children. It ensures compliance with Federal and State education law. Chester SEEDS also works to ensure fiscal responsibility, develop policies and procedures at the local level, and mediate problems that interfere with families gaining access to service.

Our Commitment

Chester SEEDS is based on a family centered model. Our program focuses on the concerns, priorities, and resources of the family and the individual strengths and needs of the child. It takes into consideration the crucial, constant role that the family plays in a child's life. Families are treated as valuable partners and are encouraged to participate at all stages of decision making. The family and the special education staff work together as a team to plan an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that will address the child's educational needs. Chester SEEDS programs and services are based on best practices of early childhood education and development, special education, and interagency collaboration. Families and professionals work together to create a framework for successful learning throughout a child's life.

Contact Us

Chester SEEDS: 610-872-4590

seeds.elwyn.org

Program Services

Children grow and learn at different rates. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 who do not meet developmental targets may be eligible for preschool special education to help maximize their potential for learning. The services provided are based upon the individual needs of each child and are provided in the least restrictive environment (LRE) appropriate to meet those needs. The Chester SEEDS staff consults with parents and service providers throughout the process.

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) can be provided in a variety of settings, including:

- day care center
- preschool
- Head Start
- child's home
- other community setting
- early intervention center, including Autistic support class, vision support class, hearing support class, early intervention in specialized classes, early intervention with opportunities for Integration with typically developing peers, medically fragile class, or approved private school.

The services each child receives are documented in an Individual Education Plan and may include any or all of the following:

- speech and language therapy
- special instruction
- occupational therapy
- physical therapy
- vision and hearing services
- identified family services
- other services, as necessary

Chester SEEDS administrative offices are located on the 3rd Floor of 419 Avenue of the States in the newly renovated Crozer Building. This is one block north of City Hall and directly across from the Old Court House. Administrative offices include the multidisciplinary evaluation teams, service coordination, administrative and support staff, as well as the community-based service teams.

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