

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES
CHILDREN SERVICES POLICY**

MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN IN AGENCY CUSTODY


POLICY

Children in agency custody will receive mental health screenings within thirty days of placement. The mental health screening shall specifically identify any suicidal ideations, history of suicide attempts, and aggressive, dangerous, self-destructive or psychotic behaviors.

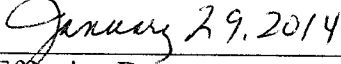
GUIDELINES

Foster caregivers or the child's caseworker will schedule mental health assessments for children ages four and over (children ages zero to three are referred to Help Me Grow). For Help Me Grow, it is necessary to secure the consent of the child's parent or guardian unless the child is in the permanent custody of the agency. Appointments can be made at any approved mental health agency willing to provide said assessment. Assessment results are to be forwarded to the child's caseworker.

For those children not in the custody of the agency, but otherwise involved in a court action, the agency will encourage their parents or other caregivers to obtain a mental health assessment. The assigned case manager will assist the parent or other caregiver in obtaining this assessment.



Michelle Tope, Director



Effective Date