

### **Cross Systems Case Example:**

Name: Norma R

Age: 18

Systems Involved: CYF, MR, MH

Norma R is a young woman. Both of her parents have mental illness. She has had two documented episodes of sexual abuse and several other allegations of abuse that had been perpetrated towards her. Upon investigation, CYF determined that those additional allegations were “unfounded”, meaning there was insufficient evidence to prove the allegations.

In one case of the documented abuse, the stepbrother (perpetrator) was charged and sent to the Chester County Youth Center. The second case involved Norma and her younger brother in which Norma was identified as the perpetrator, and she was placed in a RTF (Residential Treatment Facility), at which time the court gave CYF legal and physical custody of her. Norma has been in residential treatment facilities for the majority of her childhood due to severe behavioral dyscontrol and mental health needs. She also has a diagnosis of mental retardation. Norma has occasional reviews and court appearances in which time she is housed at the Chester County Youth Center.

As she has turned 18 and is currently in a MH course of treatment (Residential Treatment Facility), the court has extended custody with CYF. The team has been meeting on a regular basis while she is residing in the Residential Treatment Facility. There were concerns about her aging out of the program (age 18 or over) and returning home to the same environment and risks of abuse.

As a result, the team agreed to pursue legal guardianship through a person who is very familiar with her history. Currently CYF, MR and MH are working together with this young woman to develop a plan for her adult life.

CYF - Children, Youth, and Families

MR – Mental Retardation

MH – Mental Health