



# SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

*Division of Behavioral Health  
Health and Human Services Department*

## **WHO is the Child Assessment Team (CAT):**

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**WHAT is the CAT:** The Child Assessment Team was created to assist Sheboygan County families with obtaining and utilizing (county) resources to aid them in providing support to children who are in the beginning stages of behavioral and psychological decline while maintaining a positive family environment. CAT will also work with schools and will provide the schools with tools and support for a child who may be struggling in their school environment.

The Child Assessment Team will work closely with a family to get a picture of the family's everyday life and any factors that could be causing extra stress for them. CAT will meet with the families virtually or in an outside setting, per COVID protocol. As CAT becomes more familiar with family life and practices, CAT will provide feedback, tools and support to help establish rules, schedules and cohesiveness to the family to be able to work together. CAT will also provide county resources and referrals for long term services if deemed appropriate.

**WHEN should I refer to CAT?:** Ideally, within the first 6 months of the notice of decline. Past or current trauma will be explored so that appropriate referrals can be made and resources can be given to provide the family additional support. Once referrals are made and additional resources are given the CAT team will follow up with the family to check in on their progress.

**WHERE does CAT meet?:** CAT meets with families in a virtual setting or outside with keeping 6 feet of distance due to COVID protocol. CAT is able to meet with children in school if the school allows. Other public places, with the respect of confidentiality can be explored if those public places allow for 6 feet of social distancing, such as the library or a park.

**WHY to involve CAT?:** The CAT team was assembled to provide support to the families of Sheboygan County who have children experiencing a decline in their mental health. Mental health can sometimes cause stress to not only those experiencing it but their family as well. The idea behind the CAT team is to take a holistic approach to the mental health and work with the family unit to ensure they have resources and support while remaining a positive family unit.



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