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This tool documents the economic burden of child maltreatment and child welfare involvement, and the cost savings associated with prevention through provision of economic and concrete supports to families. Investments in prevention, cost avoidance and return on investment are described.

ECONOMIC BURDEN OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT	
<p>Total lifetime cost of child maltreatment cases from FFY 2018, nationally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated cases of child abuse and neglect = \$2.94 trillion • Substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect = \$563 billion <p><i>This means that the cohort of children nationally from FFY2018 with CPS agency investigated cases of child abuse and neglect or substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect will collectively incur tangible & monetized intangible costs of nearly \$2.94 trillion and \$563 billion, respectively, over their lifetimes</i></p>	<p>Klika, J. B., Roesnzweig, J., & Merrick, M. (2020). Economic burden of known cases of child maltreatment from 2018 in each state. <i>Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal</i>. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10560-020-00665-5</p>
<p>Per-victim lifetime cost of child maltreatment from 2015, nationally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fatal child maltreatment per-victim lifetime cost = \$830,928 • Fatal child maltreatment per-victim cost = \$16.6 million <p>Total lifetime cost of child maltreatment from 2015, nationally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated cases of abuse and neglect = \$2 trillion • Substantiated cases of abuse and neglect = \$428 billion 	<p>Peterson, C., Florence, C., & Klevens, J. (2018). The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States, 2015. <i>Child Abuse & Neglect</i>, 86, 178-183. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.09.018</p>
<p>Annual cost of child maltreatment from 2012, nationally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct costs = \$33.3 billion <i>Includes acute medical treatment, mental health care, child welfare system, and law enforcement costs</i> • Indirect costs = \$50 billion <i>Includes special education, early intervention, emergency/transitional housing, mental health and health care, juvenile delinquency, adult criminal legal, and lost worker productivity costs</i> 	<p>Gelles, R. J., & Perlman, S. (2012). <i>Estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect</i>. Prevent Child Abuse America.</p>
<p>Annual per child costs of foster care placement and negative social return on investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario 1 - child with "best case scenario" experience in foster care in terms of time in care, treatment, permanency achieved, etc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment per child = \$32,711 (<i>includes government expenditure on child's medical needs, court costs, foster care maintenance costs, and administrative costs of the agency overseeing the child's removal and placement, including caseworker salary</i>) ▪ Long-term costs of negative outcomes per child, after foster care = \$119,069 ▪ <i>For every \$1.00 spent on a child in foster care, there is a -\$3.64 ROI</i> • Scenario 2 - child experiencing longer time in foster care, repeated placements, multiple caseworkers and aging out of care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment per child = \$65,422 (<i>includes government expenditure on child's medical needs, court costs, foster care maintenance costs, and administrative costs of the agency overseeing the child's removal and placement, including caseworker salary</i>) ▪ Long-term costs of negative outcomes per child, after foster care = \$627,501 ▪ <i>For every \$1.00 spent on a child in foster care, there is a -\$9.55 ROI</i> <p><i>This translates to a negative social return on investment, with the administrative costs of foster care outweighing the social return.</i></p>	<p>Alia (2019). <i>The unseen costs of foster care: A social return on investment study</i>. https://www.aliainnovations.org/sroi-report</p>

COST SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT FROM PROVISION OF ECONOMIC & CONCRETE SUPPORTS

Long-term cost savings due to reduced maltreatment-related costs from each additional \$1,000 spent on public benefit programs* per person living below federal poverty limit = \$153 billion

- Each \$1,000 per person living below the federal poverty limit is associated with 4.3% decline in maltreatment reporting, 4% decline in substantiations, 2.1% decline in foster care placements, and 7.7% decline in fatalities.
This means that \$1,000 of additional spending for each person living in poverty might have resulted in 181,850 fewer reports, 28,575 fewer substantiations, 4,168 fewer foster care placements, and 130 fewer fatalities in 2017 and each additional 13.3% that states invest annually in public benefit programs (which would total \$46.5 billion nationally) would save up to \$153 billion.

**Spending on public benefits programs include (1) cash, housing, and in-kind assistance; (2) low-income housing infrastructure development; (3) child care assistance; (4) refundable EITC; and (5) Medical Assistance Programs (MAPs), inclusive of Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program)*

Puls, H. T., Hall, M., Anderst, J. D., Gurley, T., Perrin, J., & Chung, P. J. (2021). State spending on public benefit programs and child maltreatment. *Pediatrics*, 148(5), e2021050685.
<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-050685>

Lifetime costs savings due to reduced maltreatment-related costs from an additional \$1,000 unconditional cash payment to families in the early months of a child's life = \$18.9 million

- An additional \$1,000 unconditional cash payment to families in the early months of a child's life is estimated to:
 - Reduce the likelihood of a CPS referral for neglect by 10% (by age 3)
 - Reduce the likelihood of a CPS referral for physical abuse by 30% (by age 3)
 - Reduce the likelihood of a substantiated CPS referral by 15% (by age 3)
 - Reduce the likelihood of child mortality by 30% (3 fewer child deaths) (by age 5)

Bullinger, L. R., Packham, A., & Raissian, K. M. (2023). [Effects of universal and unconditional cash transfers on child abuse and neglect](#). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Annual cost savings due to reduced child maltreatment rate from implementation of Family Resource Centers = \$1.8 million (Orange County, CA 2017) and \$2.5 million (Teller County, CO 2018)

- Orange County, CA: The reduction in child maltreatment cases in the Westminster Family Resource Center service area saved the child welfare system \$1.8 million in 2017, with a 451% ROI.
- Teller County, CO: After a formal partnership between child welfare and the Community Partnership Family Resource Center was established, Teller Co. saw a 63% reduction in its child maltreatment rate and saved an estimated \$2.5 million, with a 291% ROI.

OMNI Institute (2021). [Return on investment of a family resource center to the child welfare system: Westminster family resource center, Orange County, CA](#).

OMNI Institute (2021). [Return on investment of a family resource center to the child welfare system: Community partnership family resource center, Teller County, CO](#).

Average per family savings due to reducing a family's time in the child welfare system through supportive housing = \$14,600

- The impact and related savings from supportive housing varies by family characteristics and child welfare system involvement.

Tucker, L.P, Pergamit, M. & Bayer, M. (2023) [How much does supportive housing save child welfare systems?](#) Urban Institute. Washington, DC.



Pennsylvania
Department of Human Services
Office of Children, Youth, and Families

Certified Mailing Date: November 25, 2025

[REDACTED]
Cornell Abraxas Group LLC
[REDACTED]

RE: Abraxas Academy - Secure Detention Unit
1000 Academy Drive
P.O. Box 645
Morgantown, PA 19543
License # 144050

Dear [REDACTED]

As a result of the Department of Human Services (Department), Office of Children, Youth, and Families licensing inspections opened on November 12 (Attachment A-1), and November 15, 2025 (Attachment A-2) of the above facility, the violations specified in the enclosed Licensing Inspection Summaries (LISs) were found.

As a result of violations with 55 Pa. Code Ch. 3800 (Child Residential & Day Treatment Facility) and 55 Pa. Code § 20.34, the Department hereby **revokes** your Certificate of Compliance (license) to operate the above facility, Abraxas Academy – Secure Detention Unit, License # 144050. The Department's decision to **revoke** your license is based on the violations contained in the LISs; gross incompetence, negligence, and misconduct in operating the facility; and failure to provide access and is made pursuant to 62 P.S. §§ 1026 (b)(1);(4), 55 Pa. Code §§ 20.71 (a)(1);(2);(6); relating to conditions for denial, nonrenewal, or revocation, in addition to 62 P.S. §§ 1007, 1016; relating to suitability and access.

The Department evaluated Abraxas Academy – Secure Detention Unit for a provisional license, pursuant to 62 P.S. § 1008, based on the violations listed in Attachments A-1 and A-2. After review, the Department determined that Abraxas Academy – Secure Detention Unit did not qualify for a provisional license because it was not in substantial compliance with the applicable statutes, ordinances, and regulations, as follows: Attachments A-1 and A-2 demonstrate a failure to report serious incidents involving youth in addition to failure to provide access after repeated requests by investigators.

Additionally, effective with the date of this notice the maximum licensed capacity of License # 144050 is also hereby **reduced** to 25 youth. The Department's authority to **reduce** maximum licensed capacity can be found at 55 Pa. Code Ch. 20. Failure to abide by the reduction in maximum licensed capacity may result in further action by the Department.

OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

You are also directed to provide the Regional Manager the names of children residing in the facility along with their respective county or federal authority contact. This information must be received by the Regional Manager within 10 days of the mailing date of this letter. The name and address of the Regional Manager are provided below. A representative of the Department will visit your facility if this information is not provided within 10 days.

If you disagree with the decision to revoke your License Number 144050 and/or the reduction in maximum licensed capacity for License Number 144050 you have the right to appeal through a hearing before the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with 1 Pa. Code Part II, Chapters 31-35. Your appeal must indicate the reasons for the appeal, and you must be as specific as possible regarding your areas of disagreement with the Department's decision.

If you decide to appeal, a written request for an appeal must be received within ten (10) days of the mailing date of this letter at the following address:

[REDACTED]
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
Southeast Region Office of Children, Youth and Families
801 Market Street, Suite 6112
Philadelphia, PA 19107

This decision is final eleven (11) days from the date of this letter, or if you decide to appeal, upon issuance of a decision by the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals.

Sincerely,



Laval Miller-Wilson, JD
Deputy Secretary
Office of Children, Youth and Families

Enclosure:
Attachment A-1
Attachment A-2

Department of Human Services
Office of Children, Youth and Families
Licensing Inspection Summary - Public
55 PA.CODE CHAPTER 3800

November 21, 2025

[REDACTED]
CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, LLC.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: ABRAXAS ACADEMY
1000 ACADEMY DR., P.O. BOX 645
MORGANTOWN, PA, 19543
LICENSE/COC#: 14405

Dear [REDACTED]

As a result of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families licensing inspections on of the above facility, areas of non-compliance with applicable regulations were found. The noncompliant areas and specific regulation references are set forth in the enclosed Licensing Inspection Summary (LIS).

You must submit an acceptable plan to correct noncompliant items pursuant to 55 Pa. Code § 20.52 (relating to plan of correction). You should begin to implement your plan immediately upon submission. The Department will notify you whether your plan is acceptable or not acceptable and needs to be changed.

Return the LIS and completed Plan of Correction by 12/01/2025. Supporting documentation to verify compliance of any non-compliance area that has been corrected must be provided to the Department as corrective actions are completed. Failure to submit an acceptable Plan of Correction may result in further licensing action including but not limited to license revocation or nonrenewal. Continued compliance with 55 PA Code Ch. 3800 – Child Residential and Day Treatment Facilities regulations must be maintained.

Submit the Plan of Correction electronically in SansWrite by **12/01/2025**.

If you need assistance writing your plan of correction or submitting your plan in SansWrite, please refer to online training available at [REDACTED] or contact me at or email [REDACTED]

Please note that in order for the Department to verify your compliance, you are required to upload documentation verifying compliance into SansWrite AFTER the Plan of Correction has been accepted by the Department, and not with the initial submission of your Plan of Correction.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Enclosure
Licensing Inspection Summary (LIS)

cc: Pennsylvania Office of Children, Youth and Families

Agency/Facility Information

Name: ABRAXAS ACADEMY

License Number: 14405

Address: 1000 ACADEMY DR., P.O. BOX 645, MORGANTOWN, PA 19543

License Expiration: 10/10/2026

County: BERKS

Administrator

Name: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Legal Entity

Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, LLC.

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Inspection Information

Start Date: 11/12/2025

End Date: 12/12/2025

Type: Complaint

Notice: Announced Visit

Inspector(s): [REDACTED]

Inspection Narrative

The department of Human Services received a complaint regarding a child's rights violation as well as the provider not abiding by mandated reporter requirements. There are additional concerns for the physical structure within the bathroom. The provider should increase communication internally and with the regional office of Children, Youth, and Families the Department of Human Services' partners to ensure timely and proper reporting is occurring for child safety to remain as a priority.

Inspections / Reviews

11/12/2025 - Complaint

Lead Inspector: [REDACTED]

Follow-Up Type: POC Submission

Follow-Up Date: 12/01/2025

3800.15 Child Abuse

1. Requirements

3800.15.a. The facility shall immediately report suspected abuse of a child in accordance with 23 Pa.C.S. § § 6301—6385 (relating to the Child Protective Services Law) and Chapter 3490 (relating to protective services).

Description of Violation

On [REDACTED], the facility's leadership failed to file a report of suspected child abuse of a child as required by the Child Protective Services Law. On November 13, 2025, the Department of Human Services, Southeastern Regional Office of Children, Youth, and Families instructed leadership to report all concerns that fall under the CPSL to Childline. The department confirmed after 24 hours later that the allegations still were not reported. The provider is being held accountable for not abiding by 3800.15 regulation and reporting their suspicion of staff members providing juveniles with contraband.

Plan of Correction

[Empty lines for Plan of Correction]

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

3800.16 Reportable Incidents

2. Requirements

3800.16.a. A reportable incident is the following:

Description of Violation

3800.16a 10.

An incident requiring the services of police department, occurred on [REDACTED], regarding [REDACTED] residents attempting an escape. All attempted escapes require police services and proper documentation; furthermore, an incident of contraband allegedly being provided by a staff member occurred on [REDACTED], is reportable and the facility failed to document and report.

Plan of Correction

[Empty lines for Plan of Correction]

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

3. Requirements

3800.16.c. The facility shall complete a written reportable incident report, on a form prescribed by the Department, and send it to the appropriate Departmental regional office and the contracting agency, within 24 hours.

3800.16 Reportable Incidents (continued)

Description of Violation

On [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] incidents involving a staff member providing contraband to residents, and an incident involving an attempted escape respectively, occurred at the facility which required notification to the Department within 24 hours. The facility failed to provide this 24-hour notification.

Plan of Correction

[Empty lines for Plan of Correction]

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

3800.32 Specific Rights

4. Requirements

3800.32.b. A child may not be abused, mistreated, threatened, harassed or subject to corporal punishment.

Description of Violation

On November 4, 2025, child A was sitting at a table and was engaged by the staff member A verbally. This verbal altercation led to the staff member A putting [REDACTED] hand on child A's neck shoving [REDACTED] face to the table briefly. Other staff safely intervened to deescalate the altercation.

Plan of Correction

[Empty lines for Plan of Correction]

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

5. Requirements

3800.32.c. A child has the right to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect.

Description of Violation

On November 4, 2025, child A was sitting at a table and was engaged by the staff member A verbally. This verbal altercation led to the staff member A putting [REDACTED] hand on child A's neck shoving [REDACTED] face to the table briefly. Other staff safely intervened to deescalate the altercation.

3800.32 Specific Rights (continued)

Plan of Correction

Five horizontal lines for writing the Plan of Correction.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

3800.53 Director

6. Requirements

3800.53.b. The director shall be responsible for administration and management of the facility, including the safety and protection of the children, implementation of policies and procedures and compliance with this chapter.

Description of Violation

3800.53b b. The director shall be responsible for administration and management of the facility, including the safety and protection of the children, implementation of policies and procedures and compliance with this chapter. The multiple incidents of failure to report as well as failure to document reportable incidents demonstrates a breakdown or lack of enforcement of the procedures for reporting incidents which has caused noncompliance within this chapter and noncompliance within the CPSL.

Plan of Correction

Five horizontal lines for writing the Plan of Correction.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

3800.87 Surfaces

7. Requirements

3800.87.a. Floors, walls, ceilings, windows, doors and other surfaces shall be free of hazards.

Description of Violation

On November 17, 2025, the facility's bathroom shower stall was unequipped and posed a hazard as there was a gaping hole in the wall which causes safety issues for residents.

3800.87 Surfaces *(continued)*

Plan of Correction

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date

LICENSING/APPROVAL/REGISTRATION INSPECTION SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY/FACILITY: Abraxas Academy License # 14405				TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]	OCYF REGIONAL STAFF APPROVAL	DATE
ADDRESS: 1000 ACADEMY DR., P.O. BOX 645, MORGANTOWN, PA 19543				COUNTY: Berks	[REDACTED]	11-21-25
INSPECTED BY: [REDACTED]				INSPECTION DATE(S): 11/15/2025,		
INITIAL INSPECTION	RENEWAL INSPECTION	COMPLAINT	UNANNOUNCED INSPECTION	RANDOM SAMPLE		
		X				

The Department of Human Services, Southeastern Regional Office of Children, Youth, and Families conducted an inspection of Abraxas Academy because of a CPS complaint filed on [REDACTED]. The following was discovered during the investigation.

The Office of Children, Youth and Families utilized Title 55 of Pennsylvania, Code 20 Licensure and Approval of Facilities and Agencies. The following regulatory violation was identified. The Office of Children, Youth and Families will issue the following citations which require the direct plan of correction to be followed effective immediately.

1. 55 PA CODE CHAPTER	2. NON-COMPLIANCE AREA	3. CORRECTION REQUIRED	4. REQUIRED CORRECTION DATE	5. PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION OR RESPONSE	6. STATUS OF CORRECTION
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<p>20.34. The facility or agency shall provide, to authorized agents of the Department, full access to the facility or agency and its records during both announced and unannounced inspections.</p>	<p>The facility was formally informed on 11-13-2025 that there was documentation needed to identify the alleged victims for a contraband incident involving a staff. Additional attempts were made to obtain documentation related to an active child abuse investigation on 11-15-2025, 11-17-2025, 11-18-2025, and 11-20-2025. The Department of Human Services had to hold a meeting with the Executive Director of Operations on 11-21-2025, to obtain the required documentation for the active investigation. The facility's failure to provide the requested documentation after multiple attempts were made as specified above is conduct that is non-complaint to Chapter 20.34.</p>	<p>The Department of Human Services is requiring the following changes in the facility's procedures by following the direct plan of correction as stated; access will be given after the first request and provided no later than 5 days after the first request.</p>	<p>Effective upon receipt of this LIS 11-24-2025.</p>		
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THE LEGAL ENTITY REPRESENTATIVE MUST COMPLETE COLUMN 5, SIGN ON THE SIGNATURE LINE AT THE BOTTOM AND DATE ALL PAGES OF THIS DOCUMENT. RETURN THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT TO YOUR REGIONAL OFFICE BY: 12/04/2025

SIGNATURE OF LEGAL ENTITY REPRESENTATIVE

TITLE

DATE

TELEPHONE NUMBER

DCF Acute Spending, FY27

Description	Dept ID	Amount	Type	Base Change	Page #
SRTF	3440120000	\$ 4,773,832	FY 27 Base?	\$ 1,000,000	99-100
SRTF - DCFS Secure Res Treatmen	3440120000	\$ 1,336,084	FY 27 Base?		145
DCF - Temp Secure Youth Facility	3440892315	\$ 4,391,877	FY27 One time		145
PRTF	?	\$ 3,499,191	?	\$ 1,999,191	?
Totals		\$ 14,000,984		\$ 2,999,191	