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Ohio Medicaid set to defund program for children with autism, behavioral health issues

CLEVELAND, OH – In less than 100 days the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is slated to end a special funding arrangement for a program in Cuyahoga County called Positive Education Program (PEP) Connections.

Each year, PEP Connections serves nearly 900 high-risk youth with autism, and or other intensive mental health needs who are also at risk of out-of-home placement.

The potential end of funding is due to ODM and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' (OhioMHAS) efforts to move behavioral health into their existing system of Medicaid managed care.

Greater Cleveland health, education, child welfare and juvenile court officials are raising concerns about how ending the special funding arrangement will impact these very ill children and their families.

Read more about the program and the plans in John Corlett's new piece:

<https://www.communitysolutions.com/ohio-medicaid-funding-county-program-children-autism-mental-health-needs-slated-end/>

For more information, or to speak with Corlett, please contact Dani Carlson,
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