



ACS Statement on COVID-19

We are closely following the impact of COVID-19 on the children and families we serve, our staff, and our community.

The Cambridge Juvenile Court is currently open and limited to conducting emergency court business only. The remaining Juvenile Courts in Middlesex County are currently closed. ACS court clinicians are all working remotely. On-call clinicians are being dispatched to respond to same-day emergencies, as needed.

The Juvenile Court Standing Order regarding Court operations, prompted by the COVID-19 health crisis, can be found at www.mass.gov/juvenile-court-rules/juvenile-court-standing-order-3-20-court-operations-under-the-exigent.

At this time, ACS has suspended all in-person evaluation interviews, as well as all in-person treatment sessions. We continue to maintain contact with our clients by phone and have begun to employ accessible telehealth platforms so that we can continue to respond to the needs of our clients during this challenging time.

What to do if you need help

If a youth under the age of 18 requires emergency support or intervention, please contact your local Emergency Services Program (ESP) Crisis

Team: www.masspartnership.com/pdf/ESPflyerindividualsandfamilies.pdf

Operational Updates

ACS staff are working remotely, at this time, and are in frequent communication with colleagues and our clients.

As the Juvenile Court Clinics take steps to adjust to the evolving health crisis, ACS executive staff are participating in daily, statewide conference calls with leadership in the Department of Mental Health and the Juvenile Court Clinics across the Commonwealth.

ACS's administrative team – Finances, Human Resources, and Development - are fully functioning remotely.

We are here for you

We are grateful for your continued support and belief in our mission during these very trying times.

Please stay home, practice physical distancing, but stay connected to others. We're all in this together and social connection is critical during stressful times. As current circumstances evolve, we will continue to keep you posted on our work with the children and families in our community.

If we can be helpful to you in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us at acs@acskids.org. We check our email throughout the day and will respond as rapidly as possible.