



**We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities**

***Family Visitation Program***

**The Supervised Visitation Program (SVP)** provides a safe and neutral environment for non-custodial parents to visit with their children. Typically, the SVP and the referring parties (DCF, Attorneys, and Probate & Family Court) work with families toward reunification.

Staff supports non-custodial parents by modeling parenting skills and providing constructive feedback to the visiting parent at every visit. Staff encourages and supports parents toward understanding their child's physical, intellectual and emotional development with anticipation of improving parent/child relationships and encouraging age appropriate activities for the children. Additionally, the custodial parent/guardian has the assurance that interactions and conversations between non-custodial parent/child are appropriate.

The SVP operates Monday through Sunday and offers evening appointments. Visits are conducted at the Pittsfield Family YMCA and in community settings.

**The Child Exchange Program** offers families a safe and neutral place to exchange their children from one parent/guardian to the other. Families can use this service whether or not there is a protective order in place. **\*This program is only open to families who have participated in either supervised and/or partially unsupervised visits within the YMCA.**

The Child Exchange Program operates Monday through Sunday when needed. All visits, exchanges, and intakes are by appointment only.

***PAYMENTS ARE DUE BEFORE EACH INTAKE, EXCHANGE, OR VISIT.***

**Step-Down Program**

The YMCA is now offering a ***“partially unsupervised”*** visit for families progressing into reunification/unsupervised visitation. The visiting party and the child(ren) remain at the YMCA but do not have a visit supervisor supervising their visit. The visit supervisor would “check in” periodically to ensure the child(ren) feel(s) safe and comfortable. The visit supervisor would meet with the visiting party and the child(ren) before and after each visit, to assess how the visit went. The family would be allowed to use all of the facilities of the YMCA. The child(ren) can anticipate the visits without the stress of worrying about what is going to happen, and enjoy their time in a safe, familiar, and comfortable environment without being put in the middle of their parents' conflict and/or other problems.

Financial assistance is based on income eligibility. Applicants can pick up financial assistance paperwork at their intake or at the membership desk at the Pittsfield YMCA. Financial assistance is based on a sliding scale fee which ranges from \$35.00 per hour to as low as \$15.00 per hour. Applicants must live or work in the Pittsfield YMCA’s service area. The intake fee is not included in the financial assistance award.

**FEES: (Non-Refundable)**

- \$30.00** Intake for both parties
- \$35.00** Per hour of visitation
- \$12.50** Per exchange...**\$25.00** for complete exchange

For more information on Supervised Visitation or Exchanges please call the Supervised Visitation Director Justine Gingras at (413) 358-0952.