



POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS



Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health changes lives by unlocking and nurturing human potential for people living with emotional, behavioral or cognitive differences.

As part of our continuum of care, we provide multiple programs and support for children, adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorders, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and emotional and behavior disorders. Specifically, we are committed to implementing multi-tiered systems of behavioral and academic support – including Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) – across our treatment network. *Note:* PBIS is a framework that helps schools and other organizations adopt evidence-based behavioral interventions to enhance the academic and social behavior outcomes for *all* individuals.

D-PBIS designed for alternative settings

Launched in 2011, “Devereux Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports” (D-PBIS) is a framework that combines several initiatives under one umbrella to create a seamless, multi-layered system of support for youth across all Devereux programs. D-PBIS was designed specifically for alternative settings – including our Approved Private Schools, day / residential mental health treatment programs, child welfare settings, programs for adults with intellectual / developmental disabilities and autism – and is currently being implemented across our organization.

This trauma-informed model provides a *prevention-oriented* method that helps our staff:

- Organize and further enhance the implementation of evidence-based practices; and
- Maximize academic / vocational and social behavior outcomes for the individuals in our care.

D-PBIS focuses on the strengths of each individual; the program defines, teaches and supports desired behaviors to create a positive environment, thereby making problematic behaviors less efficient and less effective. Treatment intensity can be targeted based on the individual’s needs and level of risk to himself and / or others. As a result of implementing D-PBIS at our campuses, we have experienced a reduction in:

- Disruptive behaviors
- Emergency safety interventions
- Workers compensation claims

Turn the page to learn more about D-PBIS.



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HOW IT WORKS

Devereux's D-PBIS program provides individuals with the opportunity to learn and develop social / life skills and problem-solving skills, while rewarding them for demonstrating positive, pro-social behavior.

This multi-tiered system of support increases appropriate behaviors and decreases problem behaviors by:

- Teaching expectations (e.g., being safe, being responsible, being respectful);
- Acknowledging individuals when they demonstrate desired behaviors; and
- Providing clear and consistent consequences when individuals demonstrate undesired behaviors.

Ultimately, D-PBIS emphasizes learning and prevention, and these interventions instill values that stretch beyond our treatment settings. The program also helps individuals understand the behavioral expectations needed in specific environments so they can learn to live and thrive in their communities.



A TRAUMA-INFORMED MODEL

Our D-PBIS program provides Devereux staff and the individuals we care for with a common vision, language and experience. As a trauma-informed model, D-PBIS acknowledges the prevalence of traumatic occurrences in an individual's life. As a result, our dedicated professionals are:

- Sensitive to the unique needs of individuals
- Mindful to avoid re-traumatization
- Aware of the need for a sense of safety

The program also provides a flexible framework of supports by:

- Creating a safe environment
- Supporting consistency
- Emphasizing our role in modeling appropriate boundaries
- Providing a mechanism for adapting the environment to meet our individuals' needs
- Emphasizing the teaching of emotional self-regulation
- Providing opportunities for choice
- Collaborating with families, caregivers and key agency partners

To learn more about Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health and our D-PBIS program, visit devereux.org or call Dr. Barry McCurdy at (610) 542-3057.

