

What services does the CNYOHCC Social Worker provide?

Crisis intervention:

The patient's situation is assessed and the skills needed to help make the crisis manageable are developed. Information on available community resources is offered.

Short-term counseling and guidance:

Listen to and discuss problems with patients. This process includes problem-solving and developing a plan of action.

Referral to community resources:

Referral to financial resources, attorneys, long-term counseling, vocational rehabilitation, emergency food, emergency housing, and medicaid and public assistance.

Stress reduction using relaxation techniques:

Instruction in breathing exercises, visualization techniques and other relaxation exercises.

Support groups:

Bring together patients with similar symptoms, problems, and illnesses to share their feelings about their illness and its effect on them. Support groups also may be available for families, spouses, and caregivers.

Information about medicaid, public assistance, social security, social security disability, workers' compensation:

Provide general information on each program, including eligibility criteria and application process.

Community education:

Occupational illness, the implications of occupational illness, how occupational illness affects patients' daily lives, and how the social worker at CNYOHCC can help are some of the issues our educational programs can address.

Who provides Social Support Services?

Social work support services are offered by the social work staff. Social workers at the CNYOHCC have many jobs and are skilled in helping patients and families with social and emotional issues that occur along with occupational illness. A social worker may serve as a counselor and/or provide other support to patients and families faced with disability or chronic illness, social/financial hardships, and the day-to-day issues of living and adjusting to the occupational illness. The CNYOHCC social worker has a master's degree in social work and is a registered social worker in the state of New York.

When can a CNYOHCC Social Worker help me?

At stressful times such as job loss, difficulties in family relationships, chronic illness:

Last month John was exposed to large amounts of solvents. He is too ill to work. His wife had to find a job that would support the family. At night, she comes home very tired. John does not look sick to her and she is getting impatient with his inactivity. The tension between them is high and they fight almost every day.

During financial difficulty or unemployment:

Karen has just been taken out of work for eight weeks. Without any money, she cannot support her family. She needs for her children and money for her daughter's asthma medications.

With problems at home - material and environmental needs:

Joann has MCS. For the last few weeks, she has been having great difficulty cleaning her house. She has tried different cleaning agents but all have the same effect on her. She wants to clean her house but does not want to become sick from the chemicals she is breathing in.

With substance abuse

Rita has been experiencing severe pain between her hand and neck ever since she began typing six hours a day. To ease the pain Rita drinks beer, sometimes until it knocks her out. Rita's family is concerned about her alcohol use, but no one can get her to stop.

When having difficulty making decisions:

Wayne's physician has filed workers' compensation for him. Now, Wayne must find an attorney that can represent him. He does not know any attorney and is worried about how much it will cost.

How can I make an appointment with the CNYOHCC Social Worker?

Social work services are available to all CNYOHCC patients and their families. Patients may contact the social worker on their own or be referred to the social worker by a physician, nurse or other health care professional for individual, family and group counseling.

Services are offered individually, with family members, with significant others, or in a support group setting. The social worker may work with the patient at the clinic or over the telephone.

To make an appointment, call (315) 432-8899.

How much will it cost?

Patients of CNYOHCC and their families can receive social work services at no charge. Participants of the support groups, however, are asked to make a donation to cover group costs.

What is CNYOHCC?

The Central New York Occupational Health Clinical Center (CNYOHCC) was developed as a result of the growing recognition of illness and disease resulting from exposure to hazards in the workplace and the need physician specialists and other health care providers trained in occupational medicine to thoroughly diagnose work-related disease. The CNYOHCC is here to work with you and help identify and prevent workplace illness and health risks.

The CNYOHCC has a team of occupational medical specialists, industrial hygienist, social worker, nurses, and other trained staff to provide a variety of services to the patient.



Central New York
Occupational Health Clinical Center

Social Work Services



CNYOHCC

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