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Welcome to the **Child Behavior Clinic**! We are looking forward to meeting you and your child!

**The Child Behavior Clinic is a clinic that provides evaluations for children under the age of 6 with emotional or behavioral concerns.** Some families are referred to our clinic by their primary care provider or another medical professional due to their own concerns about their child; sometimes concerns have been brought to the attention of families due to difficulties in early education or community settings. Regardless of how you are coming to us, we hope that we can be helpful to you and your family.

Recognizing the importance of having multiple sessions to learn about your child and family’s unique needs, **we meet with families over a series of 4 Thursday afternoon appointments typically occurring on consecutive weeks.** Our clinic is equipped with a play space for your child to engage in play-therapy with some members of our team and a separate office where you can meet with different members of our team, giving you the space to speak candidly about your child without worrying about he/she hearing what is discussed. Some of our sessions may be spent with you and your child in these separate spaces; some sessions may incorporate time with both you and your child together.

Our first appointment and last appointments tend to be the longest – typically somewhere between 90-120 minutes in length. The second and third appointments are typically around an hour in duration. We encourage you to let us know if you have any specific time you need to leave by so our team can plan appropriately. For most sessions, we will take a break part-way through, allowing your child to rejoin you in the waiting room and use the restroom, have a snack, etc.

Our clinic is a consultation clinic – that is, we work with your child’s primary care provider to care for your child. At the end of our assessment, we communicate our thoughts to both you and your child’s provider about how to best understand what concerns prompted the referral. If there are specific recommendations about additional referrals, supports, care, or (occasionally) medications, these supports are ordered by your child’s primary care provider, but will always be discussed with you.

We know that young children can present differently in different settings and with different individuals and welcome the opportunity to partner with anyone you feel comfortable with us collaborating with – whether that is other family members, caregivers, early education providers, or other service providers.

We have a large team that works hard to provide as complete of an understanding of your child and family’s needs as possible; the team is co-lead by **Dr. Kara Lindquist,** a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, and **Carolina Clark, LICSW,** a specialized and experienced Early Childhood clinician. Additional members of our team frequently include a physician in their child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship program, a pediatrics resident physician, and several UMass Chan medical students.

Because this clinic relies heavily on play-based evaluation of a young child, it is most helpful for when children can verbally communicate with others and engage in play. We do not have the ability to provide speech and language or occupational therapy evaluations.

A Family is a Good Fit for Our Clinic if:

* They are seeking a better understanding of their child’s struggles and how to help.
* Their child is under the age of 6, communicates verbally, and able to engage in play.
* They are able to attend 1-2 hour appointments on 4 consecutive Thursday afternoons.
* They welcome the opportunity to work with a multidisciplinary team of professionals and students, including medical students, resident physicians, and fellow physicians at various stages of their professional learning.

If you have any questions if your child is appropriate for the clinic, we encourage you to reach out to the CANDO clinic at 774-442-2263 to further discuss.

For More Information about the CANDO Clinic, please refer to the CANDO website: <https://www.umassmed.edu/psychiatry/clinicalservices/child-adolescent-clinical-services/cando/>