



Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems

State Superintendent's Conference
On Special Education and Pupil
Services Leadership Issue
November 19, 2008



Grants to Integrate Schools and Mental Health Systems

Purpose is to improve students' access to mental health services by creating innovative linkages between school systems and mental health systems.



What we know

- Students are presenting with more disabilities, more related services and more emotional issue
- Students presenting with more mental health characteristics
- Increase in the number of families eligible for free and reduced lunch (1 of every 3 students)
- Decreased resources accessible to families



What we know

- Barriers to mental health services in rural and urban communities
 - Financial
 - Transportation
 - Language and cultural competence
- No systems approach to addressing behaviors
- Shortage of cross-training opportunities



What we know

- Inadequate inter-organizational communication
- Fond du Lac and Beaver Dam lack a 24 hour juvenile mental health facility
- Need to build teacher skills in the identification and response of mental illness in the classroom
- Regulatory and liability concerns



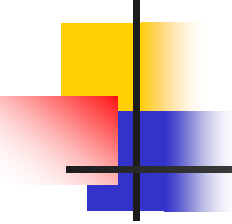
Mental Health Facts

- 90,000 school-age children statewide have serious mental health disorders
- One in five children and adolescents have a mental health disorders
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15-24 year olds
- Considered Suicide in the past year (21%/FDL -20%/BDUSD)



Mental Health Facts

- 1,000,000 teens in the US suffer from depression
- One in 10 children and adolescents have a serious emotional health disorder (disorders when they severely disrupt daily functioning at home, school or community)
- Students with Emotional Behavior Disorder (194/FDL – 88/BDUSD)



Comprehensive Service Integration (CSI)

- Schools and mental health systems will collaborate to improve prevention, diagnosis, and treatment for youth
- Services, such as crisis intervention, appropriate student referrals, and ongoing mental health support, will be more available and accessible
- Training will be provided for school and community personnel who support child's mental health

Comprehensive Service Integration (CSI)



- Technical assistance and consultation services will be provided to schools, community mental health systems, and families who participate in CSI
- Linguistically appropriate and culturally competent mental health services will be provided in the Fond du Lac community



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- Better connections among schools, parents and community partners
 - Interagency Agreement (required)
 - Steering Committee –guides grant
 - Advisory Committee- provide feedback and recommendations
 - Trainings – cross-representations of school and community
 - Spotlight Kickoff Event – Inspired community collaboration



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- Education, community agency, and law enforcement personnel, as well as parents will be trained to recognize warning signs of mental health and make appropriate referrals
 - Dr. David Mays' Training (mental health disorders and suicide assessment)
 - Young Children's Mental Health Workshop
 - Four Pilot 4K/EC sites
 - Mental Health Overview – EBD staff and community



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- A case management system will be established to track students in crisis or those requiring mental health services
 - Collaborative Plans – address gaps
 - Coordination of Care
- Parents of children with mental health concerns will be trained to act in a supportive role for other parents
 - Parent Educator Training – parents supporting other parents
 - Parent group



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- Survey data will be used to identify gaps and barriers
 - FDL Co. Mental Health Survey: An Assessment of Mental Health Services for School-age Children – November 2007
 - FDL Co. Parent Survey: An Assessment of Emotional/Behavioral Health Services – Spring 2008



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- Mental Health information and resources will be available
 - Website established – www.csifdl.org
 - Local resources
 - Coming Events
 - Contact Information
 - All about CSI
 - Local resource guide for educators



Outcomes/Accomplishments

- Cultural Competence Committee
 - Interpreter Training
- Availability of mental health services
 - FDL Co. Continuum of Care –resource for CSI partners
- Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS)
 - District-wide training / four pilot schools



BDUSD/Dodge County Connections (DCC) Grant Components:

- Provide educational awareness and training on warning signs for school staff, students and parents, which lead to prevention and earlier diagnosis.
- Develop and train all school staff in mental health referral protocol.
- Develop a plan for suicide prevention education, mental health assessments, and follow-up support and referral.

BDUSD/DCC Grant

Components continued:

- Train school staff in substance abuse prevention, anti-bullying, and caring school climate.
- Implement a county-wide communication campaign to increase mental health awareness and reduce the stigma.
- Train staff in the Building Collaboration Team (BCT) model.

BDUSD/DCC Grant

Components continued:

- Link district Crisis Management Teams with mental health services and train staff in trauma debriefing and disaster preparedness.
- Implement a “wraparound” service delivery system with the county.



BDUSD/DCC Grant Accomplishments:

- Partnership with the Dodge County Coordinated Services Team (CST).
- Formed the Dodge County Connections (DCC).
- Monthly parent education trainings across Dodge County.

BDUSD/DCC Grant

Accomplishments continued:

- On-going mental health training of all school staff across the 8 school districts.
- Implemented Safe School Ambassador (SAA) Program across all middle schools' of the DCC.
- Adopted Tribes across all DCC districts and trained over 80 school personnel in summer of 2008.

BDUSD/DCC Grant

Accomplishments continued:

- Trained all PPS Staff and health teachers across the DCC in DPI's Gatekeeper Training.
- Implemented the CST wraparound model in 3 of the 8 school districts; other 5 in 2009.
- Trained all PPS Staff in FBAs and BIPs.



BDUSD/DCC Grant Yet to Come...

- Advance mental health training for all PPS Staff and special education staff.
- Adopt model substance abuse programs across the DCC districts.
- Establish DCC sub-committee to create a communications campaign to promote facts and resources.



BDUSD/DCC Grant Yet to Come...

- Develop and systematize BCTs across the DCC districts.
- Create a DCC Crisis Management Team with county partners and train all involved collaboratively.



Lessons Learned:

- Have the “right” people at the table.
- Making true partnerships means sharing power and control
- Collaboration and partnerships are the only way to make it happen, ex. Wraparound.
- Recognize partners needs, challenges, and accomplishments
- Ensure trust, communication, and mutual respect
- Educate partners about how to share information within federal guidelines



Lessons Learned:

- Get parents actively engaged in your program development.
- Follow a public health approach
 - Emphasize prevention and early intervention
 - Promote healthy development
 - Address know population risk and community protective factors
 - Engage community partners on common goals



Lessons Learned:

- Schools and community may speak a different language
- Use data to drive your decisions
- Share data with partners to increase buy-in
- Be willing to do business differently
- Accountability is essential
- Start small, but think big.
- Look for local, state and federal opportunities



Where Does Your District Go From Here?

- Begin NOW to meet with your county agency, ministerial teams, NAMI, juvenile justice, parent groups, law enforcement, parent groups, etc.
- Begin NOW to collaborate with area school districts and share resources.
- Talk about “wraparound”.
- Utilize the “free” services (agencies, DPI, etc.).