

Outcomes of Youth and Families Receiving School-Based Wraparound

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As concern mounts about how to effectively access and serve the increasing number of children and youth who experience emotional and behavioral challenges, several federal policies (e.g., Report of the Surgeon General on the Mental Health of the Nation, No Child Left Behind, and the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health) call for an increase in the delivery of mental health services in schools. Despite this federal attention and increased numbers of communities actively engaged in building school-based mental health services, the ongoing evaluation of these programs and documentation of the student outcomes resulting from these services is sorely lacking (Kutash, Duchnowski, & Lynn, 2006).

To that end, this poster presentation will present the evaluation results of an effort to implement school-based wraparound. Through a CMHS-funded children's system of care grant, school-based mental health services were delivered in 20 schools in Eastern Kentucky. The poster will highlight program aspects, describe the evaluation methodology, and present youth outcomes across a variety of life domains as well as family outcomes. Implications and lessons learned will be shared.

References

Kutash, K., Duchnowski, A.J., & Lynn, N. (2006). *School-based mental health: An empirical guide for decision-makers*. Tampa, FL: University of South Florida, The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, Department of Child and Family Studies, Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health.