

Capital Area Human Services District

F a l l 2 0 1 1

CAHSD's School-Based Therapy Program Makes a Positive Difference in Area Schools

The School-Based Therapy Program has made a difference for students, families, teachers, and principals. In the last three years alone, CAHSD professionals have:

- Provided therapy to 4,179 students
- Educated 42,391 students, parents, and teachers through workshops
- Averted 46 student suicides through interventions
- Avoided 112 student expulsions through mediation at hearings
- Contributed to a significant decrease in discipline referrals.

CAHSD is proud to work in approximately 30 schools in this region. Over the past 20 years, our school-based program has offered top-quality behavioral health counseling, therapeutic interventions and medication management.

These, and other services, have won high praise from superintendents, principals, teachers, parents and students. They commend CAHSD for helping students improve their grades and stay in school through effectively addressing problematic behaviors, absenteeism, suspensions and expulsions.

Looking forward to the coming year, our staff continues to be the

behavioral health provider of choice in area schools, serving with the utmost integrity. As a public entity, our focus has been and will always remain bringing the best professionals into schools to support students' success.

100% of principals indicated that the School-Based Therapy Programs provide quality services to students and their families.

91.3% of school administrators stated that students' behavior had improved.

84.5 % of school administrators indicated that the overall progress made by students served by the School-Based Therapy Program had improved.

77.8% of school administrators indicated that students' school attendance had improved.

95.1% of parents indicated that they were satisfied with the progress made by their child or family since seeing the school-based therapist.

98.5% of parents indicated that they were very satisfied with the amount of time the school-based therapist spent with them and/or their child.

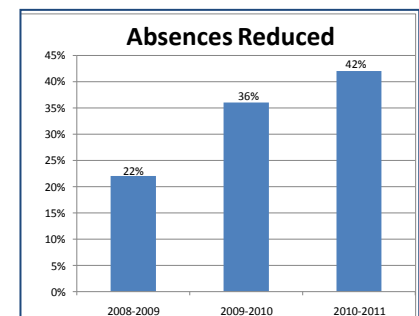
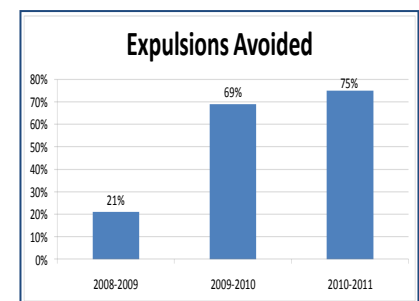
97.4% of students indicated that they were very satisfied with the services they received through the School-Based Therapy Program.

In recent weeks, CAHSD representatives have visited with the Capital Area's 8 school districts' superintendents reviewing CAHSD

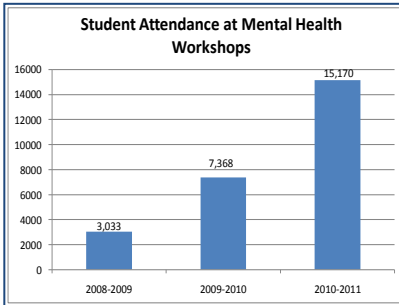
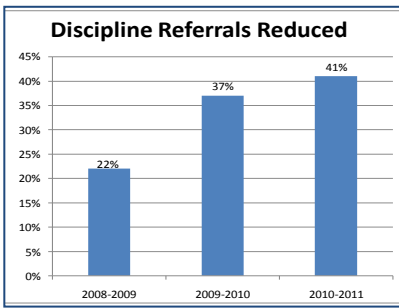
services, to further gauge current satisfaction among the leadership in schools served.

Each June and July, the School-Based Therapy Program conducts summer enrichment programs, in seven parishes at affiliate schools. This summer, there were 15 camps and a total of 150 students; 30 more than last year's camp. The benefit of the summer enrichment program is to allow the opportunity for continuity of care for students during the summer months. Our school-based therapists facilitate group activities that focus on cooperation, increasing interpersonal skills, self-esteem and team building through structured adventure based counseling techniques.

CAHSD Delivers



Celebrating 14 Years of Service



CAHSD Partners with Department of Corrections to Help Prisoners Re-Entering the Community

The Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DOC) has partnered with CAHSD through a signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to create an Adult Re-entry

Pilot Program for DOC offenders who are being released from prison in the CAHSD service area.

Officials of DOC and CAHSD say the program is designed to help adults access mental health and substance abuse treatment quickly upon release from prison. It ensures the referral and treatment of offenders released from state custody is expedited (including those housed in local facilities) for those with a serious mental illness and/or substance abuse problem. This process is the best way to prevent relapse into criminal behavior and/or re-incarceration. As part of the program, CAHSD will:

- Accept the individual who is released into treatment if he/she meets the clinic’s eligibility criteria;
- Assist DOC in appropriate referrals and placement elsewhere for individuals that

do not meet the clinic’s eligibility criteria;

- Track the individual’s progress and participation in treatment;
- Communicate with Probation and Parole regarding the individual’s progress and needs.

National statistics show that adults who are released from prison are more likely to remain free and become productive in society if they have access to quality behavioral health services, especially those that treat mental illness and substance abuse.

The MOA between DOC and CAHSD is the first and only one of its kind in Louisiana and is intended to help prisoners who, upon release, meet the definition of having a serious mental illness or having a substance abuse problem. It will serve as the basis for additional regional MOAs across the state.

Region 2 Selected as Phase 1 Implementer of the Statewide Coordinated System of Care

The Capital region is one of four regions and one parish in the state to be selected to begin implementation, in March 2012, of the Coordinated System of Care (CSoC). CSoC is a statewide initiative to establish family and youth-driven care to serve children under the age of 22 with significant behavioral health challenges or co-occurring disorders and who are at risk of out of home placement. The CSoC project is an initiative of Governor Bobby Jindal and is being led by executives of the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children & Family Services, the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the Department of Education in partnership with

regional agencies and families.

The new model of care includes Medicaid services management by a statewide organization and coordinating councils with representation by family members.

The new system of care will provide community based intensive, individualized care planning and management along with additional supports and services through a coordinated and integrated network of service providers.

CAHSD facilitated the planning process with family members, providers and other stakeholders to develop a regional plan to implement the CSoC. In the Capital Region, care planning and management services (called

Wraparound services) will be provided by NHS Human Services while family support services will be provided by Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge.

The CSoC involves collaboration across agencies, and includes families and youth to improve access to an expanded array of services that will promote better quality of life for families served. It will be available to 240 children/ adolescents in this region per year.



STEP by STEP





Our mission is to facilitate person-centered recovery by empowering people with chronic behavioral health and developmental disability challenges to strengthen relationships, establish independence, and enhance their ability to improve their physical health and emotional wellbeing.

For More Information:

Jan Kasofsky, Ph.D.
Capital Area Human
Services District
4615 Government Street, Bldg. 2
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
225.922.2700
www.cahsd.org

CAHSD Receives Federal Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration Grant

CAHSD has been awarded a \$1.9 million, four year grant, as part of a national initiative to find the best ways to improve the health status and increase the life expectancy of persons with serious mental illness (SMI) and substance abuse conditions. During the program, more than 7,500 persons with SMI in the Baton Rouge region are expected to be helped.

CAHSD is the only Louisiana program chosen and is one of 64 nationally awarded sites for the Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration grant project, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

CAHSD will offer coordinated care through its larger clinics and rural satellites with local partners including the LSU-Mid City and North Baton Rouge Clinics in Baton Rouge, St. Elizabeth's Community Clinic in Gonzales, several local Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and private primary care clinics and offices. The LSU Department of Social Work will provide the evaluation component of the grant.

The mentally ill experience early deaths due to the same chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, hypertension, and lung diseases, identified and typically treated much earlier in the general public. This lack of access to preventive and ongoing care results in disability, early death and disproportionately costly care commonly accessed at a late stage of the illness and in an emergency setting.

Since 2008, CAHSD has laid significant groundwork to continue addressing the physical health needs of persons with SMI through early regional partnerships with the Office of Public Health, the 7 local parish

governments, local FQHCs, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, the Baton Rouge General Family Health Center, St. Elizabeth Community Clinic, and the Earl K. Long Medical Center. CAHSD was also a national finalist for "Innovation in Government" in 2009 for its work on primary care and behavioral health integration from the Council of State Governments. "The CAHSD leadership and Board of Directors would like to thank these community partners for their service to clients and their support for the grant funding", said Jan Kasofsky, Ph.D., CAHSD Executive Director.

CAHSD Partners with Crime Stoppers to Bring Message to 40,000 BR Area Residents

CAHSD has contracted with Baton Rouge Crime Stoppers to focus substance abuse prevention and treatment efforts on the increased violence and crime-related issues in the Greater Baton Rouge area.

According to the data, Baton Rouge's violent crime rate is one of the highest in the nation compared to all communities of all sizes. To address the issue, 40,000 door hangers were printed with a substance abuse prevention message and information on where to get resources and treatment services. They were placed on the doors of homes and apartments in high crime areas. The door hangers will also be distributed at media events, speaking engagements and health fairs across our seven parishes.

CAHSD's logo will appear on eleven Crime Stopper billboards throughout the area and CAHSD will appear as a sponsor in Crime Stoppers' advertisements, which will air on networks such as BET and ESPN throughout the months of October and December.