

Schools and Behavioral Health Providers: The Benefits of Partnership

Children spend much of their day at school and what takes place within the school community has a tremendous impact on children. Ensuring a safe and healthy school environment is critical to student success. That healthy environment includes providing our schools with the tools and supports they need to address mental health issues, behavioral health needs and substance use concerns. Arizona is home to many outstanding providers that already support schools and students with behavioral health care services.

What Can Schools and Behavioral Health Providers Accomplish Together?

1. ***Raise Awareness of Available Services.*** Having support from schools promotes access to care for children and their families who otherwise may not know about behavioral health services that are available to them or who may be eligible for AHCCCS but are not registered.
2. ***Make It Easier to Access Services.*** When schools and districts have strong relationships with providers, it acts as a funnel for connecting kids to services quickly. Streamlining this process reduces delays and makes it easier for children to receive services where they are.
3. ***Strengthen the Network of Care to Meet Children's Needs.*** Promoting greater collaboration between the behavioral health and educational systems creates strong partnerships between school social workers, school counselors and School Resource Officers (SROs) and external providers, increasing support for children and their families. This way, children get the help they need not just when they are in the classroom, giving them the greatest chance to succeed.
4. ***Increase Support for Children and Families.*** Building this complete system of care also allows for greater support for children and families, such as increased opportunity for the child's behavioral health providers to be part of IEP development and 504 meetings.

Maximizing Pathways for Children to Access Behavioral Health Services: No Wrong Door

We want to make it as easy as possible to connect to behavioral health services. So we use the "No Wrong Door" approach, maximizing opportunities for children and families to get connected to services from anywhere.

This approach also allows the child and family to make informed decisions as to their choice of provider, where they would like to receive services and the frequency/intensity of those services.

How to Access Services: A Guide for Schools

There are a number of ways a school or district can connect to behavioral health services. The provider agencies listed below are funded through grant dollars, so they can serve all children. They are also contracted with AHCCCS health plans to provide services to AHCCCS enrolled children and families.

Typically, schools will offer either on-site services or a referral-based program. Consider your school's needs to determine the program that may work best. Your school or district may already partner with a provider, including providers who are not on list. However, if you do not have a current partner and you are interested in connecting with a provider, the list below can serve as a starting point. You can reach out to one of these providers to help shape the right type of program to meet the specific needs of your school. To get the dialogue started, schools are able to reach out to behavioral providers directly. If you are unable to find a provider in your area, or would like information about other providers, you can also or contact one of the AHCCCS health plans for assistance.

On-Site Services and Supports: There are agencies within your community who provide services on the school campus. Many behavioral health agencies are looking to partner with schools to establish this one-on-one relationship, which can also include providing support services to school personnel and families.

Referral-Based Program: Many schools prefer a direct referral process to a community-based behavioral health agency(ies). This program directly connects children and their families to an agency with whom the school has an established relationship. This facilitates access to timely services for their students and it also adds a level of comfort for students and families that there is a connection between their health care provider and the school. We want to make it as easy as possible to connect to behavioral health services. So we use the "No Wrong Door" approach, maximizing opportunities for children and families to get connected to services from anywhere.

This approach also allows the child and family to make informed decisions as to their choice of provider, where they would like to receive services and the frequency/intensity of those services.

Providers Serving Both AHCCCS-Enrolled and Non-AHCCCS Enrolled Children:

These providers have experience working with children and families, as well as supporting schools in meeting the behavioral health care needs of their students.

Central Arizona:

A New Leaf 480-969-4024 https://www.turnanewleaf.org/	Arizona Youth and Family 602-277-4833 http://www.azyfs.org/	Arizona's Children Association 800-944-7611 https://www.arizonaschildren.org/
Black Family and Children Services	Casa de los Niños	Chicanos Por La Causa

602-243-1773 http://www.bfcsfamily.org/	520-624-5600 https://www.casadelosninos.org/	602-257-0700 https://www.cplc.org/
Child and Family Support Services 480-635-9944 https://www.cfss.com/	Devereux Foundation 520-296-5551 http://www.devereux.org/	Ebony House 602-276-4288 http://ebonyhouseinc.org/
EMPACT La Frontera 480-784-1514, ext. 1048 http://lafrontera-empact.org/	Jewish Family and Children's Services 602-279-7655; 520-795-0300 https://www.jfcsaz.org/	Native American Connections 602-254-3247 https://www.nativeconnections.org/
Open Hearts 602-285-5550 http://www.openheartsaz.org/eng/	Rio Salado Behavioral Health 602-529-5914 https://www.riosaladobhs.org/	Southwest Behavioral Health 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/
Southwest Network 602-266-8402 http://www.southwestnetwork.org/ni/	Terros 602-685-6000 https://www.terroshealth.org/	Touchstone Behavioral Health 866-207-3882 http://www.touchstonehs.org/
Valle del Sol 602-258-6797 http://www.valledelsol.com/		

Northern Arizona:

Coconino County Flagstaff: Child and Family Support Services 480-635-9944 https://www.cfss.com/ The Guidance Center 928-527-1899 http://www.tgcaz.org/	Coconino County Page Fredonia area: Encompass Health Care 928-645-5113 https://www.encompass-az.org/	Yavapai County Prescott, Prescott Valley: Child and Family Support Services 480-635-9944 https://www.cfss.com/ Southwest Behavioral and Health Services 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/ West Yavapai Guidance Clinic 928-445-5221 https://www.wygc.org/
Yavapai County Cottonwood: Spectrum Healthcare Group 928-634-2236 http://spectrumhealthcare-group.com/	Mohave County Kingman: Southwest Behavioral and Health Services 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/	Mohave County Bullhead City: Southwest Behavioral and Health Services 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/ Mohave Mental Health Clinic 928-758-5905

<p>Mohave County Lake Havasu City:</p> <p>Southwest Behavioral and Health Services 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/</p> <p>Mohave Mental Health Clinic 928-855-3432</p>	<p>Apache County Springerville:</p> <p>Little Colorado Behavioral Health 928-333-2683</p>	<p>Gila County Globe:</p> <p>Horizon Health and Wellness 480-983-0065 http://www.hhwaz.org/</p>
<p>Gila County Payson:</p> <p>Southwest Behavioral and Health Services 602-265-8338 https://www.sbhservices.org/</p>	<p>Navajo County Winslow, Holbrook, Show Low:</p> <p>Change Point Integrated Health 928-537-5315 https://www.mychangeoint.org/</p>	

For additional information and/or assistance, please contact:

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