

Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan

Santa Rosa County School District

Presented to Board for Approval July 23, 2020

MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION PLAN

A. **Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan**

Describe the delivery of evidence-based mental health assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment and recovery through a multi-tiered system of supports.

Mental health services for students will be integrated with, and implemented through, a multi-tiered system of support. Services provided are targeted and progressively more intensive.

Tier I – Core

With a focus on prevention, mental health services will be implemented and designed at the Tier 1 level to reach all students, through delivery within the scope of the general education curriculum and setting. Schools will establish a systematic process that allows progress monitoring and evaluation at all three tier levels.

Tier 1 support will include programs designed to reduce mental health risk factors and strategies that will support student resiliency including:

- Positive Behavior Intervention Supports
- Capturing Kids' Hearts
- Project Wisdom – Character Education (Elementary)
- Ripple Effects
- Character Counts
- Relationship SMARTS (High School)
- Relationship and STI Training (High School)
- Hearts Apart (MFLC)
- Peer Support Groups and Mentoring Programs
- Bullying Prevention
- Behavior Coaches
- Intensive Family Engagement Program (piloted at specific schools)
- PREPaRE for Crisis Response
- Youth Mental Health Awareness Training
- Trauma Informed Care Training
- Code of Student Conduct Instruction
- School-wide Discipline Plans
- Life Skills Training (Middle School)
- Social Emotional Learning
- Bullying Prevention Instruction
- Mental and Emotional Health Instruction through Suite 360 (secondary schools)
- Dating Violence Prevention (secondary schools)

Tier II – Targeted

Intended for students with mild or emerging mental health needs (social, emotional, and/or behavioral), Tier II supports will be provided through problem-solving approaches for targeted students in need. These students will be identified via our Early Warning System, At Risk Report, teacher referral, or parent/student referral, suicide prevention and threat assessment protocols, and then referred for small group and/or individual mental health services.

Programs and interventions may include, but are not limited to:

- Ripple Effects
- CDAC Diversion Program
- SS Grin Groups
- Botvin Life Skills
- Anchored for Life
- CHOICES
- ECHO – Education and Counseling for High School Opportunities
- RISE – Resiliency Increasing Skills and Education
- Tough Kids
- Behavior Coaches
- Check In – Check Out
- Certified School Counselor Individual and Group Counseling
- Student Success and Safety Plans
- Social Emotional Learning
- Zones of Regulation

Tier III – Intensive

Students demonstrating advanced mental health needs (social, emotional, and/or behavioral), will receive supports at an intensive level often requiring very small group, or one-on-one settings. These services will be provided based on student need. Services may include:

- Community Action Team Services
- Mobile Response Team Referrals
- Children Services Clinical Team Referrals
- Individualized Re-entry Plans
- Individualized Education Plan
- Behavior Intervention Plan
- Collaboration with Private Providers
- ECHO – Education and Counseling for High School Opportunities
- RISE – Resiliency Increasing Skills and Education
- Social Skills Groups
- Behavior Coaches

- Tough Kids
- Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines – State Model
- Coordinated Referrals to Community Based Agencies
- Student Success and Safety Plans
- Mental Health Assessments
- Social Emotional Learning
- Zones of Regulation
- Camelot and related services

State how the plan will focus on evidence-based mental health services for students with one or more co-occurring mental health or substance abuse diagnoses and students at high risk of such diagnoses.

Services will be provided through the MTSS process as listed above. Students identified in Tier 2 and/or 3 will be provided evidence-based mental health interventions determined by individual student needs. Evidence-based services may also be coordinated between the primary care providers or community mental health/substance abuse provider.

Describe the process for coordinating mental health services for students at charter schools that are part of the school district's plan.

The SRCSD Coordinator of Mental Health will ensure coordination of services for students at charter schools by working directly with charter school administration and community agencies that provide services. A full-time, licensed mental health counselor is assigned to the charter school serving 6th-12th grade students.

Include direct employment of school-based mental health services providers (i.e., school psychologists, school social workers, school counselors and other licensed mental health professionals) to reduce staff-to-student ratios and meet student mental health assistance needs.

Our district currently employs:

- 55 Certified School Counselors – state certified in Professional Guidance and Counseling, K-12
- 12 FLDOE Certified School Psychologists – 1 is licensed, 1 is a LMHC, and 3 are nationally certified
- 3 Certified School Social Worker (increase of 2 from previous year).
- With CARES Act funds, we will be employing, 5 LCSW/LMHC counselors through our CDAC contracted services. The counselors will serve as part of the district's Crisis Response and Threat Assessment Teams. The counselors will also provide Trauma-Informed-Care and Resilience Training to students and staff at their assigned schools, assist with crisis intervention, provide referrals/community resource information to families, and provide district trainings.

- Our district also has an MOU with Magellan and SRI to provide Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC). There is an increase from 18 to 27 counselors for the 20-21 school year. All MFLC counselors are Licensed Mental Health Counselors.

Identify strategies to increase the amount of time student services personnel spend providing direct mental health services (e.g., review and revision of staffing allocations based on school or student mental health assistance needs).

The district will review current student services personnel duties and responsibilities to determine where changes may be made to allow for an increase in provision of direct services. In addition, there will be a review of staffing allocations based on school or student mental health assistance needs.

State how the plan will establish school board policies and procedures for all schools, including charter schools, to ensure: 1. Students referred for a mental health screening are assessed within 15 days of referral; 2. School-based mental health services are initiated within 15 days of identification and assessment; and 3. Community-based mental health services are initiated within 30 days of referral.

The district will build procedures into the CDAC Behavioral Healthcare referral for services process, so students referred for a mental health screening are assessed within 15 days of referral and that school-based mental health services are initiated within 15 days of identification and assessment. In addition, community-based mental health service providers for students will be initiated within 30 days of referral.

Describe the process for coordinating mental health services with a student's primary mental health care provider and other mental health providers involved in the student's care.

A Mutual Consent to Exchange Information will be completed and signed by the parent/guardian allowing coordination of mental health services between the school district and providers.

Identify strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of at-risk students developing social, emotional or behavioral problems; depression; anxiety disorders; suicidal tendencies; or substance abuse disorders.

- School staff will continue to be trained in Youth Mental Health Awareness.
- Trauma Informed Care professional development opportunities will be advertised with attendance encouraged.
- Continue the use of collaborative partnerships to provide supports and early intervention. Contracted services include a broad range of student and family behavioral health and substance abuse options.
- Student Success and Safety Plans will be coordinated for identified students.
- We will maintain ongoing collaboration with FFN, DCF, FLDOH Santa Rosa, Law Enforcement and Santa Rosa Kids House.

Identify strategies to improve the early identification of social, emotional or behavioral problems or substance abuse disorders; improve the provision of early intervention services; and assist students dealing with trauma and violence.

Through the district MTSS process, students will be identified via our Early Warning System, At Risk Report, teacher referral, or parent/student referral. Students who have faced adverse childhood experiences will be supported via:

- Ongoing Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings
- PRePARE Crisis Response
- Mobile Response Team Hotline
- Referrals to community-based mental health agencies
- Referrals to Community Action Team
- Referrals to school-based counseling services

B. Expenditures

Number and licensure/certification of school-based mental health providers funded by the allocation.

31.5 mental health counselors with certification as detailed below

1 Coordinator of Mental Health Services - Masters level counselor and state certified in Professional Guidance and Counseling, K-12

1 Certified School Counselor on Special Assignment

1 Assistant to Coordinator of Mental Health Services - Bachelor in Psychology (providing educator training that directly impacts students' mental health needs)

School district expenditures for services provided by contract-based collaborative efforts or partnerships with community-based mental health program agencies or providers.

31.5 Mental Health Counselor positions will be provided through the district contract with CDAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. This is an increase of 4 counselors as compared to 2019-20. Hiring to fill these positions is currently occurring. To date, positions have been filled with 2 Licensed Clinical Social Workers, 3 Certified Prevention Professionals/Certified Mental Health Professionals, and 14 Masters level mental health professionals. All contracted school counselor positions will be filled with master's degree level counselors or higher.

Funding available includes 2020-21 allocation of \$1,050,722.00 + 2019-20 rollover of \$181,941.81 for a total of \$1,232,663.81.

Category	Description	Total Number	Cost	Budgeted Amount
Professional Development	Materials, supplies, stipends, substitutes, travel and miscellaneous fees		239,302.81	239,302.81
Contracted Services	CDAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., Counselors	31.5	1,131,006.00	783,361.00
Position	Coordinator of Mental Health Services	1	90,000.00	90,000.00
Position	Assistant to Coordinator of Mental Health	1	40,000.00	40,000.00
Position	Certified School Counselor on Special Assignment	1	80,000.00	80,000.00
			Total	1,232,663.81

C. Expenditure Assurances

State how 100 percent of funds are used to expand school-based mental health care; train educators in responding to mental health issues; and connect children, youth and families with appropriate behavioral health services.

Funds are being utilized to expand school-based mental health care as detailed below to connect children, youth, and families with appropriate behavioral health services. In addition, funds have been allocated to train educators in responding to mental health issues utilizing the state adopted Youth Mental Health First Aid curriculum. Our Assistant to Coordinator of Mental Health Services is responsible for coordinating and training educators in YMHFA and responding to the mental health needs of students by assisting the coordinator with linking students to services within the school or with outside agencies. The Certified School Counselor on Special Assignment also provides training for educators and district staff in YMHFA as well as works directly with the Coordinator of Mental Health, certified school counselors, CDAC Behavioral counselors and local agencies to assist in providing appropriate behavioral health services for students.

Provide a statement that ensures the Mental Health Assistance Allocation does not supplant other funding sources, increase salaries or provide staff bonuses.

All newly direct hire employees and contracted services are in addition to the previous mental health services provided by the district. Prior to the Mental Health Assistance Allocation, the district provided funding through IDEA and the district operating budget for 15 mental health counselors. By the end of last year, the mental health allocation increased the number of mental health counselors to 29. This year, with the mental health allocation, the number of counselors will increase to 31.5. Grant management of IDEA funds denied allocation of funds for CDAC services this year, so those funds will not be utilized this year as they have been in the past. Mental Health Assistance Allocation funds are being used to fund the position of a Certified School Counselor on Special Assignment to support mental health initiatives, Coordinator of Mental Health Services, the Assistant to the Mental Health Coordinator. The district is not supplanting services provided last year with new Mental Health Assistance Allocation funds.

Describe how the district will maximize the use of other sources of funding to provide school-based mental health services (e.g., Medicaid reimbursement, third-party payments and grants).

The district uses other sources of funding to support school-based mental health services. These sources include CARES Act funds and district funds..

Maximization of resources is achieved by contracting with CDAC Behavioral Health Services, Inc., as grants provided to CDAC help fund mental health positions. When applicable, billing for Medicaid will be encouraged.

D. Program Implementation and Programs

Identify the number and ratios of Florida Department of Education-certified or licensed school-based mental health services providers employed by the district (i.e., school psychologists, school social workers, school counselors and other mental health services providers by licensure type).

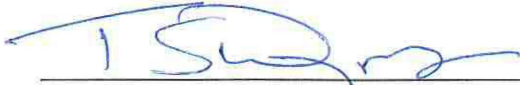
- 12 FLDOE Certified School Psychologist will be employed by the district, of these, currently, 2 are licensed, 1 is a LMHC, and 3 are nationally certified (ratio of 2384:1)
 - 57 Certified School Counselors (including 2 Certified Counselors on Special Assignment)– state certified in Professional Guidance and Counseling, K-12 (ratio of 502:1)
 - 1 Certified School Social Worker/ 3 FLDOE certificate (ratio of 7164:1)
 - 31.5 Mental Health Counselors/providers through CDAC Behavioral Health (ratio of 909:1)
- (Ratios based on total number of K-12 students at the end of 19-20 school year.)

Describe a system for tracking the number of students at high risk for mental health or co-occurring substance abuse disorders who received mental health screenings or assessments; the number of students referred to school-based mental health services providers; the number of students referred to community-based mental health services providers; the number of students who received school-based interventions, services or assistance; and the number of students who received community-based interventions, services or assistance.

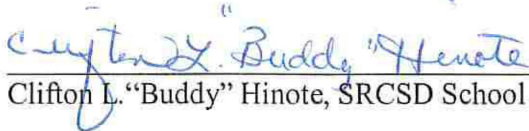
Our Coordinator of Mental Health will be responsible for ensuring the tracking of the number of students at high risk for mental health or co-occurring substance abuse disorders receiving screenings, the number of students referred to school-based mental health services, and those students referred to community-based mental health services. Our school CDAC counselors will be responsible for reporting the number of students served through school-based interventions, services or assistance.

E. Plan Approval and Submissions

This plan was submitted and approved by the Santa Rosa County School Board this 23rd day of July 2020.



Tim Wyrosdick, Superintendent of Schools, SRCSD



Clifton L. "Buddy" Hinote, SRCSD School Board Chair

APPROVED IN SESSION

JUL 23 2020

**SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
SUPERINTENDENT**

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2020-21 MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION
PLAN CERTIFICATION FORM

ATTENTION: Andrew Weatherill
Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org

Due: August 1, 2020

Richard Corcoran, Commissioner
Florida Department of Education

APPROVED IN SESSION
Dear Commissioner Corcoran:

This letter certifies that the Santa Rosa County School Board approved the district's Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan on 7/23/20, which outlines the local program and planned expenditures to establish or expand school-based mental health care consistent with the statutory requirements for the mental health assistance allocation in accordance with section 1011.62(16), Florida Statutes (see attached Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Checklist). This letter further certifies that legislative funding allocated to implement the district's plan does not supplant funds already allocated for school-based mental health services and the funds will not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses. The district's approved plan with expenditures and Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Checklist are attached

School (MSID) Number	Charter School Name

Note: Charter schools not listed above will be included in the school district Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan.

APPROVED IN SESSION

JUL 23 2020


Signature of District Superintendent

Timothy S. Wyrosdick
Printed Name of District Superintendent

**SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
SUPERINTENDENT**

Attachments: Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Checklist
District Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan
Charter School Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plans