Source: UCLA School Mental Health Project/Center for Mental Health in Schools

ENEWS - A Monthly Forum for Sharing and Interchange

September 27, 1996

Welcome to ENEWS!

WHO ARE WE?

Under the auspices of the School Mental Health Project in the Department of Psychology at UCLA, we have established a Center for Mental Health in Schools. The Project and Center are co-directed by Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor.

Our group at UCLA approaches mental health and psychosocial concerns from the broad perspective of addressing barriers to learning and promoting healthy development. Specific attention is given policies and strategies that can counter fragmentation and enhance collaboration between school and community programs.

We are involved in model development and implementation, training and technical assistance, and policy analysis. Our activities include

publishing a quarterly newsletter (called Addressing Barriers to Learning),

developing, gathering, and sharing resource materials through our clearinghouse, website, and ENEWS,

facilitating creation of national and regional in-person and electronic networks such as a consultation cadre and policy analysis groups,

providing training and technical assistance across the country,

    and so forth.

WHAT IS ENEWS?

This is an effort to begin an electronic forum/news group that reaches out to those of you who may not have easy access to our Website but do use email. The goals are to augment our current

avenues of sharing information and facilitating interchange and networking related to mental health in schools.

Each month our center will highlight some resources. You can send us announcements, news items, general information, and commentary for posting. We'd like to develop a forum on major issues.

Email us at smhp@ucla.edu.

PLEASE TELL OTHERS ABOUT THIS.

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NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

Center Newsletter

We just mailed out the third issue of Addressing Barriers to Learning. The feature article is "Labeling Troubled and Troubling Youth -- The Name Game." Previous issues featured articles on "Mental Health in Schools: Emerging Trends" (Winter '95) and "School-Linked Services and Beyond" (Spring '96).

If you aren't receiving a copy and want one, let us know. We also want your reactions.

Introductory Packets

The Center is developing a set of overview packets on key topics. Each packet includes overview discussions, references to publications, internet, and other resource documents, access information to other relevant centers, agencies, organizations, and advocacy groups, and a list of consultation cadre members who have offered to share their expertise. Where appropriate, model programs are described. Currently available are packets on:

Financial Strategies to Aid in Addressing Barriers to Learning

Designed as an aid in identifying sources and understanding strategies related to financing needed reforms.

Violence Prevention and Safe Schools

Outlines selected violence prevention curricula and school programs and school-community partnerships for safe schools. Emphasizes both policy and practice.

Dropout Prevention

Highlights intervention recommendations and model programs, as well as discussing the motivational underpinnings of the problem.

Learning Problems and Learning Disabilities

Identifies learning disabilities as one highly circumscribed group of learning problems, and outlines approaches that address the full range of learning problems.

Evaluation and Accountability: Getting Credit for All You Do?

Emphasizes evaluation as a tool to improve quality and to document outcomes. Focuses on measuring impact on students, families and communities, and programs and systems.

Least Intervention Needed:
   Toward Appropriate Inclusion of Students with Special Needs

Highlights the principle of least intervention needed and its relationship to the concept of least restricted environment. From this perspective, approaches for including students with disabilities in regular programs are described.

Collaborative Teams, Cross-Disciplinary Training and
   Interprofessional Education

Outlines models of collaborative school-based teams and interprofessional education programs.

Parent and Home Involvement in Schools

Provides an overview of how home involvement is conceptualized and outlines current models and basic resources. Issues of special interest to minority families are addressed.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Support

Covers model programs and resources and offers an overview framework for devising policy and practice.

Introductory Packets and other resource materials are available from our clearinghouse.

Email: smhp@ucla.edu
Phone: (310) 825-3634
Write: Center for Mental Health in Schools
        Dept. of Psychology, UCLA,
        Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563

Each month we will highlight the contents of one of these packets. Our most recent one is "Violence Prevention and Safe Schools." This packet contains:

An introductory article, Violence Prevention and Safe Schools: The Urgency, excerpted from Joan Curcio and Patricia First's 1993 book, Violence in the Schools: How to Proactively Prevent and Defuse It.

A brief listing of statistics on school violence and safety.

Selected references on violence prevention and safe schools covering topics such as programs promoting safety and preventing violence in schools; violence prevention curriculum; school-community partnerships; safe-school planning; and brief research syntheses from the ERIC Clearinghouse.

A listing of agencies, organizations, and advocacy groups that help communities and schools create safe environments for children and adults.

Internet resources specializing in making schools safe for learning.

A few resource aids including:
Parent Talk: Protecting Students from Violence, Genesee County Mental Health;

Elements of an Effective Prevention Program, Michigan Department of Mental Health Prevention Services;

How to Help Your Child Avoid Violent Conflicts, ERIC Clearinghouse on Urban Education.

Model Programs: a review of selected violence prevention programs in schools and other model programs for safe schools and communities.

"How Can We Intervene Effectively?" -- a chapter from the Report of the American Psychological Association Commission on Violence and Youth, Vol. 1.

"Anti-Bias and Conflict Resolution Curricula: Theory and Practice" -- from the ERIC Clearinghouse on Urban Education.

Some consultation cadre members with expertise on safe schools and violence prevention.

"Schools Attack the Roots of Violence" -- a brief research synthesis available from the ERIC Clearinghouse.

"Ideas into Practice: Public Policy Recommendations" -- a chapter from the Report of the American Psychological Association Commission on Violence and Youth, Vol. 1.

Regional Conference

The center sponsors a series of three Regional Conferences each year. The third in this years series will be held in Portland, Maine on September 30, 1996. The focus is on Addressing Barriers to Student Learning: New Directions for Policy and Practice. participants are a mix of leaders from state departments, regional and local agencies and school districts, and universities.
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NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE --

The First National Conference of our sister center at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, held on Sept. 20 and 21, focused on Advancing School-Based Mental Health Services. Over 300 were in attendance. Plan now to participate in next year's conference which will be held in September in New Orleans.

For information on the range of training and technical assistance provided by the center call their toll free number: 1 (888) 706-0980.

The Center is directed by Mark Weist and coordinated by Marcia Glass-Siegel.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

The American Medical Association Website has just added Adolescent Health Online

(http://www.ama-assn.org/adolhlth/adolhlth.htm).

You can also link to it and other mental health related sites from our website
(http://www.lifesci.ucla.edu/psych/mh/).

If you have favorite sites you think others would be interested in, let us know.

Upcoming conferences: The Kansas Conference in Clinical Child Psychology: Translating Research into Practice, October 24 - 26, Lawrence, KS. "This national conference will focus on various applications and clinical research in various areas of mental health of children and families. Major session topics will be on externalizing disorders, internalizing disorders, treatment and interventions, and the interface of research
and clinical practice. Invited speakers will present in plenary sessions on these and other topics."

For more information, contact:
Paul Forio or Karen Wilson
University of Kansas, Division of Continuing Education
Lawrence, KS 66045-2607
Phone: (913)864-3284; Fax: (913)864-5074.

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  Don't forget to visit our web site at:
      http://www.lifesci.ucla.edu/psych/mh/

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To post messages to ENEWS, email them to: smhp@ucla.edu

To subscribe to ENEWS, send an email request to:
   maiser@bulletin.psych.ucla.edu

   leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the message type:

         subscribe mentalhealth

   you will automatically be added to the mailing list.

To remove your name from the mailing list type:

      unsubscribe mentalhealth
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For more information about ENEWS contact Perry Nelson at the Center
   (see contact information below).

Contact information:

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