ENEWS - A Monthly Forum for Sharing and Interchange

Source: UCLA SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT/ CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

June, 2000 - (Vol. 4, #9)

WHAT IS ENEWS? (for those who don't know) This forum is another link for those concerned with enhancing policies, programs, and practices related to addressing barriers to student learning and promoting mental health in schools. It augments the other ways our Center shares information and facilitates interchange/networking.

WHAT'S HERE THIS MONTH

**Emerging Issue

ACLU Class Action Suit Against California over Poor School Learning Environment

**News from around the Country

**Recent Publications Relevant to
 >Children's Mental & Physical Health
 >Delinquency, Violence, and Substance Abuse Prevention
 >Family & Community

**Upcoming Initiatives, Conferences, Workshops

**Calls for Grant Proposals/Papers

**Helpful Resources

**Training & Job Opportunities (including fellowships and scholarships)

**Requests/Comments/Questions from the Field

To post messages to ENEWS, E-mail them to: smhp@ucla.edu

If you were sent ENEWS indirectly, you can be added to our list at no charge by sending an E-mail request to:

listserv@listserv.ucla.edu

leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the message type: subscribe mentalhealth-L

To remove your name from the mailing list type: unsubscribe mentalhealth-L

EMERGING ISSUE

ACLU Class Action Suit Against California over Poor School Learning Environment

In California, the ACLU recently initiated a suit against the state to hold them accountable for the substandard conditions found in too many schools. As one of the lawyers states:

"There is a whole lot of talk now about accountability in education. ... I think this is an excellent idea, But who is accountable to our students? The state has established and works through local school boards, but that is a political and legislative choice, not a constitutional mandate. Under general state constitutional law, the buck stops with the governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and other state officials.

But in the daily reality of our schools, there is another answer to the question of who is accountable to our students: No one. The patchwork of laws and regulations that govern conditions in public schools is made up mainly of holes. . . . Public school students lack some of the same protections from slum conditions that tenants have had since 1919." (Gary Blasi, UCLA professor of law)

The suit alleges that the state has reneged on its constitutional obligation to provide at least the bare essentials necessary for educating all students. By allowing students to attend substandard schools, the state is seen as denying tens of thousands of students an equal educational opportunity. A few of the conditions cited are massive overcrowding, degraded and unhealthful facilities and conditions, textbook inadequacies, no access to a library, too few guidance counselors, and many more. The suit names the State's superintendent of public instruction, the State Dept. of Education, and the State Board of Education. (Reported in the Los Angeles Times May 18th see http://www.latimes.com/news/learning/20000518/t000046957.html)

What do you think about such litigation? Has something like this occurred in your locale?

You can post your response directly on our website Net Exchange page for others to read and respond to or you can send it to: E-mail: smhp@ucla.edu Phone: (310) 825-3634 Write: Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology, UCLA

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563

"If we are to reach real peace in the world, We shall have to begin with the children."

-Gandhi

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

>>Violence Against Teachers<<

Given the tragic shooting of a teacher in Florida, SAMHSA's Teacher Stress Reduction Initiative takes on a sense of increased urgency. This initiative recognizes the need to attend to the mental health needs of teachers in relation to school safety. Through this initiative, the National Education Association (NEA) convened a group of national organizations to identify critical teacher stressors and recommend interventions. These are reported on the NEA's website see http://www.neahin.org/mentalhealth/stress.html

>>New Guidelines on ADHD Diagnosis<<

The American Academy of Pediatrics has issued new guidelines on the diagnosis of ADHD in school-aged children intended for use by primary care clinicians. Recommendations include: (1) the child must meet DSM-IV criteria for ADHD; (2) Evidence for the disorder must be directly obtained from parents and teachers. Available online: http://www.aap.org/policy/ac0002.html

>>Free Tutors<<

Through the America Reads initiative, the federal government will pay up to 100 percent of the wages of college students who tutor children in reading in just about any organization (ie., public and private schools, child care centers, libraries...). A new federal law requires every institution receiving federal work-study funds to have a reading program in place by July, 2000. http://www.ed.gov/americareads/coluniv_fws.html

>>ADHD Class Action Suit<<

In Texas, a major class action suit has been filed against Ciba-Geigy Corporation, Novaritis Pharmaceuticals, Children and Adults with Attention Disorder (CHADD), and the American Psychiatric Association.. From approximately 1955, Ciba-Geigy, which in 1996 merged with Sandoz Pharmaceuticals to become Novaritis, has been the exclusive or primary manufacturer and supplier of Ritalin in the U.S.A. The suit alleges fraud and conspiracy claiming Ciba/Novaritis planned, conspired, and colluded to create, develop, and promote the diagnosis of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to increase the market for Ritalin. It also claims the company (1) actively promoted and supported the idea that a significant proportion of children suffer from a "disease" requiring narcotic treatment/ therapy, (2) actively promoted Ritalin as the drug of choice, (3) actively supported groups such as CHADD, both financially and with other means so that the organization would promote and support (as a supposed neutral party) the ever-increasing implementation of ADD/ADHD diagnoses as well as directly increasing Ritalin sales, (4) distributed misleading sales and promotional literature to parents, schools, and others in an effort to further increase the number of diagnoses and the number of persons prescribed Ritalin.

>>Drug Use Prevention On-Line<<

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) launched its online national dissemination system for science-based model drug use prevention programs. The system provides information and technical assistance about effective substance abuse programs. It also promotes national partnerships among groups interested in improving substance abuse in their communities. http://www.samhsa.gov/csap/modelprograms

>>"Final Report from the Interprofessional Education/Accreditation Project" This report from the Council on Social Work Education (2000) examines interprofessional efforts across multiple disciplines, includes extensive case studies in teacher education, nursing and social work, and provides a comprehensive look at interprofessional education and discipline-specific accreditation see http://www.cswe.org; or call 703/519-2043.

>>Even Start Family Literacy Program Grants for Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations<<

Dept. of Education is providing approximately \$1.5 million for this program designed to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving educational opportunities of low-income families by integrating early childhood education, adult literacy/basic education, and parenting education. This and other funding opportunities are posted on the School Health Finance Project Database -- see http://www2.cdc.gov/nccdphp/shpfp/display.asp?syskey=541

Our job is to help all children function at their best mentally, emotionally, and socially so that they can succeed. The challenge is to create the kind of positive learning environment that reduces frustration and failure, and fosters better learning and healthy behavior. -NASP President, Kevin Dwyer

^^^^RECENT PUBLICATIONS^^^^^

*CHILDREN'S MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH<=<=<=<

"Children's Mental Health: Recommendations for Research, Practice, and Policy" by Annie Steinberg, Anne Gadnomski, & Michele Wilson -- a LDI Issue Brief (April, 2000). Summarizes the findings of the Children's Mental Health Alliance Project's mulitdisciplinary consensus conference held in Nov. 1998. See http://www.upenn.edu/ldi/ or call Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at the Univ. of Penn. (215) 898-5611.

"Attention Problems" (Spring, 2000), a special edition of Communiqué published by the National Association of School Psychologists. The set of articles provide an overview of attention problems, examples of interventions for parents and teachers, and resources for more info. Download at http://www.naspweb.org/center/pubs.htm or contact: NASP Center, 4340 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814.

"Looking at School Health and School Reform Policy Through the Lens of Addressing Barriers to Learning" (2000) by H. Adelman & L. Taylor in the journal Children's Services: Social Policy, Research, and Practice (Vol. 3).

Discusses policy and program implications relevant to mental health in schools.

"The Guidelines for Protecting Confidential Student Health Information published by the American School Health Association. Aims to help school personnel make appropriate decisions regarding disclosure of student health information by establishing policies for ensuring that confidential information is protected. Contact: 330/678-1601

"Strong Minds: Mental Health for a New Generation" a 17-minute video by The Children's Aid Society (2000). Provides an overview of the Society's school-based mental health services program as well as a screen designed to detect children suffering from depression or anxiety. http://www.childrensaidsociety.org

*DELINQUENCY, VIOLENCE, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION<=<=<=<

"Sticks and Stones: Changing the Dynamics of Bullying and Youth Violence" by K.J. Kocs, Wisconsin Clearinghouse (2000). Provides recent research on child bullying including why and who they pick on. http://www.wiclearinghouse.com

"School House Hype: Two Years Later" by The Justice Policy Institute (2000). Updates a report published in 1998 titled: "School House Hype: School Shootings and the Real Risk Kids Face in America." http://www.cjcj.org; 202/678-9282.

"Working for Children and Families: Safe and Smart After-School Programs" by the U.S. Dept.'s of Education and Justice (2000). Highlights evidence on the effectiveness of after-school programs in increasing children's safety, reducing their risk-taking, and improving learning. http://pfie.ed.gov; 877/4ED-PUBS

"Implementation of Prevention Programs" (2000) a special issue of the Journal of Educational and Psychological Consultation. (Vol. 11) edited by Zins, Elias, Greenberg, & Pruett. Contains articles on
"Moving Prevention From the Fringes Into the Fabric of School Improvement" by Adelman & Taylor
"Implementation and Diffusion of the Rainbows Program in Rural Communities:.." by Kramer, Laumann, & Brunson
"Building Full-Service Schools:.." by McMahon, Ward, Pruett, Davidson, & Griffith

- "...: Using a Theory of Change Approach to Plan Urban Education Reform"
 - by Connell & Klem
- "Partnerships for Implementing School and Community Prevention Programs"

by Nelson, Amio, Prilleltsky, & Nickels

- "..."A Theoretical and Practical Infrastructure for Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating a Metropolitan-Wide School-to-Career initiative"
 - by Diebold, Miller, Gensheimer, Mondschein, & Ohmart

*FAMILY & COMMUNITY<=<=<=<

"What Works: Promoting Positive Youth Development in Your Community" by Vermont Agency of Human Services (2000). Provides highlights of effective, evaluated programs in a number of areas related to youth development. Available on the web for download: http://www.ahs.state.vt.us

"AdvoCasey" Quarterly Publication by Annie E. Casey Foundation, Fall 1999/Winter 2000. Documents successful programs for children, youth, and families that deal with foster care, violence, and juvenile justice. http://www.aecf.org

"Yearbook 2000: The State of America's Children" by the Children's Defense Fund (2000). Judges the state of America's children by looking at family income, child health, child care, education, children and families in crisis, juvenile justice and youth development. http://www.childrensdefense.org.

"Indicators of Child, Youth, and Family Well-being: A Selected Inventory of Existing Projects" by Child Trends (2000). Provides information on over 90 social indicators projects; many related to governance, data development, research, and technical assistance. http://www.childtrends.org/r_invres.cfm; 202/362-5580.

"Girl Power! Community Education Kit" by Health and Human Services (HHS) (2000). Designed to help coaches, teachers, caring adults to help girls make the most of their lives. http://www.health.org/gpower; 800/729-6686.

"Building Successful Partnerships: A Guide for Developing Parent and Family Involvement Programs" by the National PTA (2000). Provides examples and resources for building partnerships with schools, as well as self-evaluation instruments. http://www.pta.org/programs/bsp/book.htm; 800/733-6786. "The New Community Collaboration Manual" by The National Assembly (2000). An enhancement of the original manual published in 1991, provides guidelines for the initial formation of a collaboration. http://www.nassembly.org

^^^UPCOMING INITIATIVES, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS^^^^

>>The Reinventing High School Conference June 14-16, 2000; Washington, DC. Explore ideas, experiences, and strategies for transforming high schools. Contact: http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/nahs/nahsce.html

>>National Wellness Institute Annual National Conference July 15-21, 2000; Stevens Point, WI. Focus on health education, health services, and mental health. Contact: 800/243-8694; http://www.nationalwellness.org

>>Comprehensive Health Education Foundation and National Prevention Institute Summer Trainings July 17-21, 2000; San Diego, CA. Teaches prevention programs and what works to reduce youth risk behaviors. Contact: 800/323-2433.

>>School as Resources for Families and Communities: A New Day July 18-21, 2000; Yale University, CT. Special focus on: family involvement, funding, violence prevention, literacy. Contact: 203/432-9944; http://www.yale.edu/21C

>>NIMH Conference "Challenges for the 21st Century: MH Services Research," July 18-20, 2000; Washington, DC. http://www.nimh.nih.gov/events/mhsrconf.cfm

>>NACCHO/ASTHO 2nd Bi-Annual Conference July 19-22; Los Angeles, CA. Opening session speaker Claude Earl Fox, MD., MPH, Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration. Contact: 202/371-9090; http://www.astho.org

>>MCH Public Health Summer Institute July 30-August 4, 2000; Durango, CO. Theme: Beyond Assessment: Partnering with Communities and Families to Make and Measure Change. Contact: http://hsc.unm.edu/rmphec

>>American School Health Association Summer Institute August 2-4, 2000; Ithaca, NY. Theme: Weaving the Vines of Collaboration: Our Common Purpose. Contact: 607/274-3659; ystephens@ithaca.edu

>>Preconvention Institute for Psychology in Schools, APA Practice Directorate August 3, 2000; Washington, DC. Theme: Increase Federal Support for Children and Youth: New Funding Opportunities for Practice and Research. Contact: 202/336-5878; achuukwu@apa.org

FOR MORE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS, REFER TO OUR WEBSITE AT: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu

(Go to "Contents" then click on "Upcoming Events of Interest".)

^^^^CALLS FOR GRANT PROPOSALS/PAPERS

**Grants

>>CDC Funding: Demonstration Projects for the Early Intervention and Prevention of Sexual Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Among Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations, Fund # 1596. Contact: 770/488-2719, http://www.cdc.gov. Application Deadline: July 10, 2000.

>>Dept. Of Justice Grant:

*Mental Health Services for Rural Crime Victims.. *Institute for Professional Training on MH Treatment for Child Victims and Witnesses. Application kits on line: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/dakit.htm Deadline: July 14, 2000.

>>NIMH and NIDA Funding: Research Grants to Study Interventions to Reduce Suicidal Behaviors in Youth. Contact: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms.htm; http://www2.cdc.gov/nccdphp/shpfp/display.asp?syskey=521; Ph: 301/435-0714.

>>Smaller Learning Communities Grant Program, CFDA#: 84.215L. Supports the development of small, safe, successful learning environments in large high schools that ensure all students graduate with the necessary knowledge and skills. http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg/grantann/q200/051700a.txt. Deadline: July 17, 2000

>>Gaining Early Awareness for Undergraduate Programs. Applications sought for new awards for fiscal year 2000. Aims to give more elementary, middle, and secondary school low-income students the motivation, and preparation needed to pursue postsecondary education. http://www2.cdc.gov/nccdphp/shpfp/index.asp

>>Funding for Programs for Youth and Adults with Co-Occurring Disorders Involved with Justice System, SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). GFA#: TI 00-007. Support for designing and implementing effective substance abuse and mental health services. 800/729-6686; http://www.samhsa.gov

**Presentations/papers

>>Proposals sought for Hartman National Conference on Children and Their Families May 23-25, 2001; Mystic, CT. Theme: Promoting Creativity Across the Lifespan. Contact: 860/443-2896; CHILDANDFAMIILY@CFAPRESS.ORG Deadline: September 1, 2000.

>>Articles sought for special issue of Journal of Pediatric Psychology on the topic of Adolescent health and Illness. Empirical or theoretical papers on issues of relevance to adolescents. Contact: Grayson N. Holmbeck, Ph.D., Special Issue Editor, Journal of Pediatric Psychology, Loyola University of Chicago, Dept. of Psychology, 6525 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, IL 60626. Deadline: January 12, 2001.

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"Before I took health education I thought "

Bacteria. . . referred to the. Back door to the cafeteria. Barium. . . . referred to. What doctors do when patients die. Fibula. was. A tiny lie. Nitrates. . . denoted Cheaper than day rates. || : . . : | : . . : | : . . : ||

^^^^OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

>>Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice has two online discussions this month. "Culture in Special Education" see

http://cecp.air.org/culsped_toc.htm and "Remediation and Prevention of Aggression" see http://cecp.air.org/rip_toc.htm

>>ASCD's Classroom Leadership Online http://www.ascd.org/frameclasslead.html Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development online articles: "Using Literature to Build Emotionally Healthy Adolescents" and "Promoting Health Behavior Change."

>>Practice Parameters for the Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents with Depressive Disorders http://www.guideline.gov/FRAMESETS/guideline_fs.asp?guideline=000757 Covers assessment, treatment, and prevention.

>>Journal of Clinical Psychiatry: "Methods of Adolescent Suicide Prevention" http://www.psychiatrist.com/supplenet/v60s02/60s0214.htm Article discusses teen suicide risk factors, prevention screening, current trends.

>>Children, Youth and Families Education and Research Network http://www.cyfernet.org For parents, teachers, and youth workers includes activities for and information about children, youth, families, and communities.

>>Youth Suicide Prevention Program http://depts.washington.edu/ysp Provides information on suicide and youth, special focus on Washington state.

>>Help for Teens http://www.americasteens.gov Provides information to help with homework, pursue a hobby, or choose a career.

"What we need to do is to learn more about how we can create the kind of environments that will optimize mental health. We haven't done enough of that research. We know more about mental illness today than we do about mental health. We know more about treating mental illness than we do about preventing mental illnesses and promoting mental health."

-David Satcher

^^^^TRAINING & JOB OPPORTUNITIES (including fellowships and scholarships^^^^^

>>Senior Research Associate<<

Emory University's Office of University-Community Partnerships is seeking an individual to provide primary research, analytic, and computing support for community-based research projects. Contact: Director; Ph: 404/712-9691; fax: 404/727-9892

>>Researcher and Project Manager<<

RAND seeks researcher/manager for the Los Angeles Family and Neighborhood Survey, a longitudinal research project focused on the effects of neighborhood, families and schools on children's welfare and development. Code: BHS003-510. See: http://www.lasurvey.rand.org. Contact: pebley@rand.org

>>Executive Director<<

The City School, a leadership development learning community, seeks educational and leadership administrator to develop and implement current programs. http://www.thecityschool.org

>>Director<<

The Casey Family Program, providing out-of-home-care to youth and longterm family foster care, seeks director to work on strategic and financial planning and program development. Contact: mb@morrisberger.com

>>Director<<

The Association of State and Territorial Membership Division seeks Director of Adolescent and School Health Policy to manage project activities. Contact: Adolescent and School Health Policy; Phone: 202/371-9090; Fax: 202/371-9797

>>Director<<

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) offers career Senior Executive Service position to provide national executive leadership and management for Federal effort to prevent substance abuse. #SMA-00-21. http://www.samhsa.gov

>>Director, Associate, Manager<<

The Educators for Social Responsibility (ESR) is seeking a Program Director, a Senior Program Associate, and a Publications and Curriculum Manager. http://www.esrnational.org

REQUESTS/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

REQUESTS:

A frequent request: "If someone were to ask you to name some model school mental health programs, which programs would you cite and what criteria would you use?"

A related request is: "Does someone have a tool for monitoring and evaluating a school mental health program?"

Let us know what you think we should reply in response to such requests.

COMMENTS:

From E. L. Lotecka: "From thirty years of research, I most wholeheartedly agree that improving academic performance requires expanding the accountability framework to include high standards and measures of social learning, communication competency, character/values, civility, and healthy/safe behavior. The schools that have significantly elevated academic performance have done so by creating a peaceful productive learning culture. For those interested, there is at least one example of using this approach to achieve extraordinary turnaround in San Diego area schools, Emerald Middle School."

NEWS FROM OUR CENTER AND OUR SISTER CENTER

(Support for the two national Centers comes in part from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Office of Adolescent Health.)

^^^UPDATES FROM the

CENTER for MENTAL HEALTH in SCHOOLS, UCLA:

*The report from the regional meetings of the Policy Leadership Cadre for Mental Health in Schools was recently mailed out as well as posted on our web site (http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/policy.htm). You will also find posted there the workgroup topics and the names of all who have volunteered to work on one or more topics.

*NEW Feature on our website News Item(s) of the Week. Go to http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu and click on What's New?

*Also on the web site, NEW Quick Finds (easy access to information on a variety of topics): >Bullying >At-Risk Youth Education > Student Motivation > Dating Violence

Go to http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/websrch.htm.

*Recently updated packets:

>Violence Prevention and Safe Schools

>Financial Strategies to Aid in

Addressing Barriers to Learning;

>School Interventions to Prevent Youth Suicide

Available by downloading from the web or by order from our Center.

NOTE: If you want to surf for funds on the internet, go to: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu and click on What's New and scroll down to "New Materials from our Center" and click on Surfin' for Funds."

FOR THOSE WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS, ALL RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING THE CENTER.

*Still not receiving our quarterly newsletter "Addressing Barriers to Learning"(not to be confused with this ENEWS)? Let us know, and we'll add your name and send it to you. Otherwise current and past editions can be accessed and downloaded from our web site.

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

Or Contact the Center at:

School Mental Health Project/ Center for Mental Health in Schools UCLA Dept. of Psychology Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563 (310) 825-3634 / Fax: (310) 206-5895

^^^FROM OUR SISTER CENTER

*Brochures for the 5th National Conference on Advancing School-Based

Mental Health Programs will be available June 1. Interested individuals can go to the website for a peek at the program agenda (http://csmha.umaryland.edu). Register today!

*School Nurse Institute Program 2000 "Partners in Promoting Healthy Schools," July 31 through August 4, 2000. In Towson, MD. Contact: Sylvia Huntley at the Center.

*Just out an article by the Center staff entitled "Toward the Integration of Prevention Research and Expanded School Mental Health Programs" in the journal Children's Services: Social Policy, Research, and Practice, (2000), Vol. 3.

Several other new articles/documents are available. Check on the website or contact:

Center for School Mental Health Assistance University of Maryland at Baltimore, Dept. of Psychiatry 680 West Lexington St., 10th fl., Baltimore, MD 21201 Ph: 888/706-0980 Email: csmha@umpsy.umaryland.edu http://csmha.umaryland.edu

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. The Center for Mental Health in Schools at UCLA is one of two national centers. The other center is at the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

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 gathering and disseminating information, materials development, direct assistance, and facilitating networking and exchanges of ideas.

For more information about the Center or about ENEWS, contact Center Coordinator Perry Nelson or Center Co-Directors Howard Adelman, or Linda Taylor at UCLA School Mental Health Project/Center for Mental Health in Schools Voice: (310) 825-3634 Fax: (310) 206-5895 E-mail: smhp@ucla.edu Web Site: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu Write: School Mental Health Project/ Center for Mental Health in Schools Dept. of Psychology, UCLA , Box 951563, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563.