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.

FEEL FREE TO FORWARD THIS TO ANYONE.

WHAT'S HERE THIS MONTH

**Emerging Issue
   >Threat Profiling

**Commentary
   >Promoting Health and Addressing Barriers are Complementary Agendas: Let’s not play Us vs. Us!

**News from around the Country

**Recent Publications Relevant to
   > Homeless and Migrant Children & Families
   > Violence & Substance Abuse Prevention
   > System Concerns

**Upcoming Initiatives, Conferences, Workshops

**Call for Proposals and Papers

**Helpful Resources

**Job Announcements

**Internships & Postdoctoral Training

**Comments/Requests/Questions from the Field

**News From Our Center and Our Sister Center

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:
One of the more controversial outcomes of the increasing concern about school violence is the move toward identifying potentially violent students based on “student profiling.” For the most part, the plan seems to be to use behavioral checklists for this purpose. Identified students then will be dealt with in a variety of ways.

It is evident that few folks argue against the value of preventing violence. Concerns have been raised, however, about threat profiling. These include (a) the lack of evidence supporting the ability to predict who will and won’t be violent, (b) concerns about what will be done to those identified as “threats” -- including a host of due process considerations, (c) concerns about another set of interventions that likely will be antithetical to educating the students who will be identified, and (d) the negative impact on the school environment of additional procedures that are more oriented to policing than to creating school environments that foster caring and a sense of community.

Is this something that is happening in your locale? What’s your take on all this?

You can post your response directly on our website 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

“Many well-known adolescent difficulties are not intrinsic to the teenage years but are related to the mismatch between adolescents’ developmental needs and the kinds of experiences most junior high and high schools provide...”
-Linda Darling-Hammond

“We prefer the simplicity and satisfaction of holding individuals responsible for whatever happens: crime, poverty, school failure, what have you. Thus, even when one high school crisis is followed by another, we concentrate on the particular people involved--their values, their character, their personal failings--rather than asking whether something about the system in which these students find themselves might also need to be addressed.”
-Alfie Kohn “The Legacy of American High Schools”
***COMMENTARY***

Promoting Health and Addressing Barriers are Complementary Agendas:
Let’s not play Us vs. Us!

Recently, we have noted a bit of an Us vs. Us dynamic occurring within the ranks of those trying so hard to improve outcomes for children and youth. Therefore, we hasten to stress that a focus on addressing barriers to development and learning is in no way at odds with the "paradigm shift" that emphasizes child and youth development (assets, strengths, protective factors, and resilience). The value of promoting healthy development and primary prevention is both evident and in need of continuous advocacy. At the same time, we know that too many youngsters are growing up and going to school in situations that not only do not promote healthy development but are antithetical to the process.

A major commitment to enhancing child and youth development efforts and improving instruction can help redress these conditions. But, effective prevention also requires direct and comprehensive action designed to remove or at least minimize the impact of major external and internal barriers (hostile environments, individual vulnerabilities, and true disabilities and disorders). Otherwise, such barriers will continue to interfere with youngsters benefiting from programs designed to promote development and provide the best possible instruction.

In addressing barriers to learning at schools, much of the intervention focus must be on enhancing the school-wide and classroom environments and, as much as is feasible, engage with the community to prevent problems and enhance every youngster's strengths. At the same time, for the few individuals who need something more, schools and communities, separately and working together, must provide essential supports and assistance.

Our concern is with any paradigm shift that ignores these matters or assumes that they will be rectified if only schools will make a greater commitment to youth development. Such a shift will allow school reform to continue to marginalize efforts to address barriers. There are important resources at every school and in every community that need restructuring to be fully integrated with efforts to promote child and youth development and instruction. Policy makers and practitioners can ill afford to ignore the contribution these resources can make to strengthening school, home, and neighborhood by addressing barriers. Ignoring what they can contribute will only continue to marginalize and fragment policy and practice.

When it comes to child and youth development and addressing barriers to development and learning:
- It's not either/or.
- It's not first/then.
- It's not about a positive vs. a negative emphasis (or excusing or blaming anyone).
- And, it's not about what's wrong vs. what's right with kids.

It is about building up and building on assets, strengths, protective factors, resilience. And it also is about continuing to face up to the reality of major environmental problems and problem conditions that are intrinsic to or have become internalized by some youngsters. It seems clear that we all share the responsibility of promoting healthy development and addressing barriers.

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY ###

>> Medi-Cal Ombudsman <<

Ombudsman services available for navigating through the new Medi-Cal Mental Health Plan service; program provides problem resolution services, patient’s rights advocacy, and referrals at the county level. Contact Ombudsman Services, Ph: 800/896-4042 or -2512.
Eating Disorders Educational Campaign
Office on Women’s health (US Dept. of HHS) has released BODYWISE, a nationwide educational campaign to increase awareness of eating disorders, targeted at middle school educators. For an information packet, contact: (800)628-8442; Fax: (202)628-3812; Email: bodywise@esilsg.org.

Community Grants to Prevent Violence Among Youth
More than $100 million in grants given to 54 communities to make schools safer and help safeguard young people from aggressive and violent behavior and drug and alcohol abuse. Aim is to help communities design and implement comprehensive educational, mental health, social service, law enforcement and juvenile justice services for youth. Info on internet: http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/09-1999/sschools.html.

Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice
From mid-September until mid-October, CECP is featuring two Authors Online, Jennifer Simpson and Nancy Koroloff of the Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children’s Mental Health at Portland State University. They will answer questions on family-provider collaboration. Website: www.air.org/cecp/prompract2_toc.htm.

National Dialogue on Co-occurring Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorders
The report from the National Dialogue’s conference is now available. Contact: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), 66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302, Alexandria, VA 22314; Ph: (703) 739-9333; Fax: (703) 548-9517.

Health and Human Services Awards $100 Million to States Achieving Biggest Reductions in Out-of-Wedlock Births

Exercises that do no good:
-Climbing the walls
-Dragging your heels
-Spinning your wheels
-Pushing your luck
-Passing the buck

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*HOMELESS & MIGRANT CHILDREN & FAMILIES


*VIOLENCE & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION
>>Keeping Youth Safe: The Critical After School Hours, A Guidebook for Local Action (California Wellness Foundation). Provides coordinated statewide activities and tools to maximize the impact of local and statewide efforts to prevent violence. Contact: Resources for Youth; (415)331-5991; http://www.preventviolence.org/resources.html.

>>New Guidebooks on Substance Abuse
SAMHSA’s Center for Substance Abuse Treatment has issued two “Treatment Improvement Protocols” #31: “Screening and Assessing Adolescents for Substance Use Disorders” -- details the warning signs of substance use disorders among teens. #32: “Treatment of Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders” -- emphasizes the critical differences between treatment for adults and treatment for adolescents. For copies, contact: The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847; (800)729-6686; (800)662-HELP; http://www.health.org/pubs.

*SYSTEM CONCERNS<==<==<==

>>Systems of Care: A Promising Solution for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances and Their Families -- provides info on the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program.

Both put out by CMHS National Mental Health Services Knowledge Exchange Network.
Contact: KEN, P.O. Box 42490, Washington, DC 20015; (800)789-2647; Available at http://www.mentalhealth.org/child.


##############################
Take my advice, I’m not using it.
Anon.
##############################

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

>>Projects to Improve Achievement in High Poverty Schools - October 17-20, 1999 in Houston, TX. Topic: “The role of states in supporting the improvement of reading instruction.” Contact: Kimberly Campbell; Ph: (202)336-7024; E-mail: kimc@ccsso.org.


At the conference, SAMHSA has funded a special preconference workshop on October 27 focusing on ACHIEVING COORDINATED MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS. Again see the ASHA website for info on the topics and the list of special presenters. Contact person as ASHA is Faye Bell, Ph: (800)445-2742.


FOR MORE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS, REFER TO OUR WEBSITE AT http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu  (Go to "Contents" then click on "Upcoming Events of Interest").

```
“Creating connections and a caring environment in the home, at school, and in the community is an important part of preventing violence.”
-Richard W. Riley
```

^^^^^^CALL FOR PROPOSALS AND PAPERS^^^^^^

>>Grants<<


*Rural Health Outreach Grant (CFDA Number 93.912A) -- HRSA(DHHS) $10 million in grants to expand access to, coordinate, and restrain the cost of the quality of essential health care services. Actual delivery of specific services is emphasized. Target population: Children and youth in rural areas and children and youth of migrant and seasonal farm workers. http://www2.cdc.gov/nccdphp/shppf/index.asp

*Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology<<
Grants for training 400,000 teachers in integrating technology into instruction. Aim is to build partnerships involving more than 1,350 members, including school districts, universities, non-profit organizations, and technology companies. Contact: http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/08-1999/wh-0824.html.

>>Call for Abstracts and Papers<<

*Cultural Competence Mental Health Summit VII- November 30 - December 1, 1999 in Oakland, CA. Sponsored by the Alameda County Behavior Health Care Services (BHCS). Those interested in presenting or who have suggestions for presenters or topics, contact: “Mike”; Ph: (510) 567-8126; Fax: (510) 567-8130; lippitt@bhcs.mail.co.alameda.ca.us.


*Center for Cross-cultural Pediatric Behavioral Health presents the 2nd National Conference on Hispanic/Latino Pediatric Behavioral Health Care in June 2-3, 2000. Theme: “Violence and Substance Use Prevention and Intervention: Bridging Schools, Community and the Latino Family”. Seeking posters and presentations by February 12, 2000. Contact: Dr. Vincent Ramos, Department of Psychology, University of North Texas, P.O. Box 311280, Denton, TX 76203; (940)565-4715; ramos@unt.edu; http://www.unt.edu/pediatric.

^^^^^^HELPFUL RESOURCES^^^^^^


>>The National Neighborhood Indicators Partnerships (NNIP)<< http://www.urban.org/nnip -- Collaborative effort by the Urban Institute and local partners to further development and use of neighborhood level info systems in local policy making and community building.

>>National School Boards Association’s School Health Resource Database<<
http://www.nsba.org/schoolhealth/dbasedescrp.htm -- Contains more than 2,700 items, including sample policies, articles, audio-visual materials, and training tools, that address the many issues facing local school districts related to HIV/STDs, school-based teen pregnancy prevention, physical activity, healthy eating, tobacco use prevention, and comprehensive and coordinated school health programs.

>>American School Board Journal<< http://www.asbj.com -- Provides the latest education news and articles from the National School Boards Association’s journal.
Joint Center for Poverty Research -- http://www.jcpr.org/faq.html -- Provides answers to frequently asked questions about poverty.

Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) -- http://www.ed.gov/chip/ -- Describes how to become involved in CHIP, outlines successful school-based outreach strategies, and provides contacts and resources to start an outreach project in your community.


The National Assembly on School-Based Health Care -- http://www.nasbhc.org -- Site has been updated including a tool box, job descriptions, needs assessment and financing.

Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice -- www.air.org/ceep/wraparound -- CECP’s website now provides information on the Wraparound Process. Included are articles, training and discussion materials, and links to other websites.

YOU CAN LINK TO OTHER RELEVANT SITES FROM OUR WEBSITE

http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu
(From our home page, click on "Links to Other Sites")
(Haven't visited our site lately? Click on "What's New" -- we add new materials every week.)
If you have favorite sites you think others would find useful, let us know.

^^^^^^^JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS^^^^^^^

Associate Director: Programs and Operations -- The Collaborative to Advance Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) at the University of Illinois, Chicago. To oversee development and management of programs. Qualifications: an educator with knowledge in SEL and an advanced degree in related field; 5 years minimum administrative experience. Contact: Patricia A. Graczyk, Ph.D., CASEL. Fax: (312) 355-0559.

Executive Director -- The Institute for Youth, Education, and Families seeks individual with the ability to launch a new institution and who has demonstrated the ability to establish and work collaboratively with diverse partnerships in the public, private, non-profit, and academic sectors. Contact: Elisabeth McClain, National League of Cities; Ph: (202) 626-3077.

Research Investigator -- The CDC funded Michigan Prevention Research Center seeks a Director of Evaluation. Entails developing evaluation design and procedures for community-based projects and ongoing process evaluation of the center. Required: Ph.D in social science. Contact: Barbara Inwood, Univ. of Michigan, School of PH, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029.
Executive Director Changemakers, a new national community foundation dedicated to transforming philanthropy, seeks individual for vision development and implementation with the staff team, advisors, and donors. Contact: Tracy Gary, Founding Director, San Francisco, CA Ph: (415) 682-8415.

Project Director The Children’s Wellness Center, a school-based health center, seeks an individual to direct this clinical site; Ph.D.; experience with grant writing; 4 years experience working in school-health. Contact: Melanie Percy, RN, Ph.D. Austin, TX 78701-1499; Ph: (512) 471-8248; email: mpercy@mail.utexas.edu

Senior Organizer/Trainer The Western States Center is looking for an experienced individual to serve as co-director of field programs and to lead the development and implementation of a new racial justice program. Five years experience required. Contact: Dan Petegorsky, Western States Center, PO Box 40305, Portland, OR, 97240; Ph: (503) 228-8866; email: danp@wscpdx.org

Assistant Professor University of California, Santa Cruz, Community Studies Department tenure-track position -- emphasizing interdisciplinary field study with community-based social change organizations. Contact: Chair, Search Committee, Department of Community Studies, 207 College Eight, University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 (refer to position #531).

^^^^^^INTERNET PROGRAMS & POST DOCTORAL TRAINING^^^^^^

Post-Doc Fellow: Child and Adolescent Resources for Education, Inc. Full-time and part-time positions available in child and adolescent mental health services. Start and end dates are open. Contact: M. Kohr, Child and Adolescent Resources for Education, Inc., 677 Ala Moana Blvd., Ste. 1003, Honolulu, HI 96813; (808)533-3936; Fax: (808)533-3966.

Post-Doc Fellow: Institute for the Study and Prevention of Violence A one-to-two year position in youth violence prevention projects. Position available until filled. Contact: Daniel Flannery, Institute for the Study and Prevention of Violence, 113 Bowman Hall, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242; dflannel@kent.edu.

Maxims for the Internet age:

Home is where you hang your @.

There’s no place like www.home.com

from Robert Gibson

***COMMENTS/REQUESTS/QUESTIONS***

Request: Patricia Williams is looking for information on the STAR (Students Transformation and Recovery) Program. It is used in her district as an intervention for kids who are disciplinary
problems. She is interested in finding out what the long term effects of the program are.

>> Stephanie Kutin is seeking a survey instrument that looks at how secondary school staff view and identify adolescent depression.

>> Last month we had several requests related to depression and anxiety. In response, Roger Klein, a school and clinical psychologist, sent us information on a program he co-developed called “Ready..Set.. R.E.L.A.X. This prevention program uses relaxation, music and active imagination in a brief story format that is implemented by classroom teachers. He can be contacted at: kleinr@watertown.k12.kwi.us for more information.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
You can respond directly when contact info is provided, or simply send us the information (smhp@ucla.edu) and we will forward it. If you send it direct, please also send us a copy so we can let others know the info.
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

***NEWS FROM OUR CENTER AND OUR SISTER CENTER***
(Support for the 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.)

^^^FROM the CENTER for MENTAL HEALTH in SCHOOLS, UCLA:

>>>New Technical Assistance Sampler on:
“School Interventions to Prevent Youth Suicide”
Provides basic statistical info on the problem and gives overviews on the topics of assessing suicide risk, prevention activities, and aftermath assistance. Lists key references and major websites.

>>>Now Available for PDF downloading on our Website:

* Our quarterly newsletter, Addressing Barriers to Learning (Vol. 4, No. 3) is in the mail and available on our website. The feature article is “Youth Suicide/Depression /Violence.” A list of risk factors is presented along with some general guidelines for prevention. Also in this issue are excerpts from the mini-summit report on Expanding Policy Leadership for MH in Schools. If you are not on our mailing list, let us know and we will add your name and send you a hard copy of the entire newsletter.

*We have expanded our efforts to facilitate the development of key groups by hosting their initial internet activity. See our website for the initial work of the “Coalition for Cohesive Policy in Addressing Barriers to Development & Learning” (http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/coalitin.htm). In particular, see the policy statement designed to guide organizations working toward Policy Cohesion.
Also on our Website:

* QUICK FIND SEARCHES

Two quick find sections offer a growing list of (1) Center technical assistance responses to specific requests on topics of general interest and (2) Center prepared resources. These are intended to speed up access to a sampling of basic information and resources on a range of major topics. New topics that have just been added include: Suicide Prevention, Financing & Funding, and Mental Health Assessment & Screening.

From our home page, click on "Contents" to find the Quick Find search box. From there, you can access Center responses to specific technical assistance requests we’ve received in the past.

As fast as we can, we are adding our materials for Internet access (in PDF file format for easy downloading). Refer to the resources section of our web site for directions on downloading.


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

Let Us Hear From You:

E-mail: smhp@ucla.edu    Ph: 310-825-3634  Fax: 310-206-5895

Write:  Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology,
       UCLA Box 951563 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563

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

NEWS FROM OUR SISTER CENTER

The Center for School Mental Health Assistance (CSMHA) at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, Dept. of Psychiatry, is a national training and technical assistance center designed to promote the expansion and improvement of mental health services for school-aged children and youth. It is directed by Mark Weist, Ph.D. and Olga Acosta, Ph.D. is the Assoc. Director.

CSMHA has started a new project that is looking at Expanded School Mental Health (ESMH) programs and the new State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). One of the primary objectives of the project is to develop several in-depth case studies of key stakeholder groups. The case studies will represent information given by different stakeholder groups in states that are working to use SCHIP to support the development of ESMH programs. If you have information that would be useful to this project, please contact: Jennifer Rommel at the Center or e mail: jrommel@jhsph.edu.

If you wish to be on their mailing list, contact:
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 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 Perry Nelson, 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.