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EMERGING ISSUE

>>> Threat Profiling: Schools Begin "Student Profiling" to Combat Violence<<<<<<<<<

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

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"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"

>>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<<

Bonuses went to Alabama, California, Massachusetts, Michigan, and the District of Columbia for achieving the nation's largest decreases in out-of-wedlock births between 1994 and 1997. The full list of states and the percentage change in out-of-wedlock birth rates is available at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/oowstate.htm>.

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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 <=<=<=<

>>The Education for Homeless Children & Youth Program Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 1997 (Dept. of Educ.). Summarizes data and reviews problems and barriers in accessing public school programs and assisting homeless children to enroll and succeed in school. Available free at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/Homelessrpt97.pdf>

>>Directory of Services for Migrant Seasonal Farm workers and Their Families (Dept. of Educ.). Lists federal programs and national organizations serving migrant farm workers and their families. Available free at <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/MigrantDirectory>.

*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.

>>Family Guide to Systems of Care for Children with Mental Health Needs -- assists parents and caregivers with how to seek help for children with mental health problems.

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>.

>>Gaining Ground Newsletter's August 1999 and September 1999 issues summarize "Ten Strategies for Turning Around Low-Performing High Schools." Based on a Department of Education report (March, 1999) that overviews the education literature relevant to "what works" and "what matters" in high school reform. Available online at: www.ccsso.org.

>>Building Business Support for School Health Programs: An Action Guide (by Carlos Vega-Matos and Katherine Fraser). Aim is to help coalitions communicate effectively with the public about how coordinated school health programs improve students' health and academic performance. Contact: National Association of State Boards education, 277 South Washington St., Ste. 100, Alexandria, VA 22314; (703)684-4000; boards@nasbe.org; <http://www.nasbe.org>.

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Take my advice, I'm not using it.

Anon.

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^^^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.

>> National Society for Experiential Education 1999 National Conference - October 20-23, 1999 in San Diego, CA. Theme: "Advancing Strategies for Civic Renewal and Workforce Development through Experiential Education". Contact: (703)578-8866; Fax: (603)250-5852.

>>American School Health Association. 73rd Annual Conference. October 27-30, 1999 in Kansas City. Theme: "Collaboration: The 'C Word' for the 21st Century. For info, contact: Linda Hroback at 330/678-1601 or on the internet, see www.ashaweb.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.

>>International Conference on Effective Schools - October 27-30, 1999 in Houston, TX. Theme: Making School Reform Happen". Sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa International. Contact: National Conference Logistics Center, The University of Oklahoma, College of Continuing Education, Ph: (800)522-0772, ext. 2248, (405)325-2248; Fax: (405)325-7164.

>>1999 National Symposium on Partnerships in Education - November 10-12, 1999 in Arlington, VA. Theme: "Student Success: the Business of Partnership." Contact: National Association of Partners in Education. Ph: (703)836-4880; Fax: 836-6941; <http://www.PartnersInEducation.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".)

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"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

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^^^CALL FOR PROPOSALS AND PAPERS^^^

>>Grants<<

*Department of Education, Special Education: State Program Improvement Grants Program
To assist state educational agencies in establishing a partnership with local educational agencies and other state agencies to improve results for children with disabilities. Contact: <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/1999-3/081899b.html>. Deadline: December 15, 1999.

*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/shpfp/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.

*American Association of Suicidology (AAS) will hold its 33rd annual conference in Los Angeles, CA, April 12 -15, 2000. Theme: "Back to the Future: Refocusing the Image of Suicide." Contact: AAS, 4201 Connecticut Ave., NW, Ste. 408, Washington, DC 20008; (202)237-2282; ssilve16@ix.netcom.com. Deadline: November 15, 1999.

*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>.

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"If you're not living on the edge,
you are taking up too much room."

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^^^HELPFUL RESOURCES^^^

>>Common Purpose<< <http://www.common-purpose.org> -- Easy access to some of the major findings in the book, "Common Purpose: Strengthening Families and Neighborhoods to Rebuild America" by Lisbeth B. Schorr.

>>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/dbasedescrip.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.

>>Taking Responsibility for Ending Social Promotion: A Guide for Educators and State and Local Leaders<< <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/socialpromotion/> -- Discusses comprehensive approaches to ending social promotion stressing the need for leadership, resources, and community support.

>>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/cecp/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.

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.

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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.  
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*****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.

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu>.

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:

CENTER FOR SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE
University of Maryland at Baltimore , Dept. of Psychiatry
680 West Lexington Street, 10th fl., Baltimore, MD 21201;
Ph: 888/706-0980; E-mail: csmha@csmha.ab.umd.edu;
<http://csmha.ab.umd.edu>

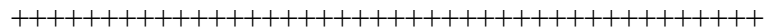


IS THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE US TO INCLUDE IN THE NEXT ISSUE?

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THIS IS THE END OF THIS ISSUE OF ENEWS

Below is a brief description of our Center.



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.
