

# Survey of System Status



This **Quick Training Aid** is part of a set of self study surveys. The complete set is included in the Continuing Education packet entitled: *Addressing Barriers to Learning: New Directions for Mental Health in Schools, Instructor's Guide*, pp. IV-15 - IV-17. Center for Mental Health in Schools (2000).

As your school sets out to enhance the usefulness of education support programs designed to address barriers to learning, it helps to clarify what you have in place as a basis for determining what needs to be done. You will want to pay special attention to

- ? *clarifying what resources already are available*
- ? *how the resources are organized to work in a coordinated way*
- ? *what procedures are in place for enhancing resource usefulness*

This survey provides a starting point.

Items 1-6 ask about what processes are in place.  
Use the following ratings in responding to these items.

- DK = don't know
- 1 = not yet
- 2 = planned
- 3 = just recently initiated
- 4 = has been functional for a while
- 5 = well institutionalized (well established with a commitment to maintenance)

Items 7-10 ask about effectiveness of existing processes.  
Use the following ratings in responding to these items.

- DK = don't know
- 1 = hardly ever effective
- 2 = effective about 25% of the time
- 3 = effective about half the time
- 4 = effective about 75% of the time
- 5 = almost always effective

DK = don't know  
 1 = not yet  
 2 = planned  
 3 = just recently initiated  
 4 = has been functional for a while  
 5 = well institutionalized

1. Is someone at the school designated as **coordinator/leader** for activity designed to address barriers to learning (e.g., education support programs, health and social services, the Enabling Component)? DK 1 2 3 4 5

2. Is there a time and place when **personnel** involved in activity designed to address barriers to learning **meet** together? DK 1 2 3 4 5

3. Do you have a **Resource Coordinating Team**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

4. Do you have **written descriptions** available to give staff (and parents when applicable) regarding

(a) **activities** available **at the site** designed to address barriers to learning (programs, teams, resources, services -- including parent and family service centers if you have them)? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(b) **resources** available **in the community**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(c) a **system** for staff to use in making **referrals**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(d) a **system** for **triage** (to decide how to respond when a referral is made)? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(e) a **case management system**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(f) a **student study team**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(g) a **crisis team**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(h) Specify below any other relevant programs/services -- including preventive approaches (e.g., prereferral interventions; welcoming, social support, and articulation programs to address transitions; programs to enhance home involvement in schooling; community outreach and use of volunteers?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DK 1 2 3 4 5  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DK 1 2 3 4 5  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DK 1 2 3 4 5  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DK 1 2 3 4 5

5. Are there effective **processes by which staff and families learn**

(a) **what is available** in the way of programs/services? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(b) **how to access** programs/services they need? DK 1 2 3 4 5

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6. With respect to your **complex/cluster's** activity designed to address barriers to learning has someone at the school been designated as a **representative** to meet with the other schools? DK 1 2 3 4 5

7. How **effective** is the

(a) referral system? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(b) triage system? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(c) case management system? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(d) student study team? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(e) crisis team? DK 1 2 3 4 5

8. How **effective** are the **processes** for

(a) planning, implementing, and evaluating **system improvements** (e.g., related to referral, triage, case management, student study team, crisis team, prevention programs)? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(b) **enhancing resources** for assisting students and family (e.g., through staff development; developing or bringing new programs/services to the site; making formal linkages with programs/services in the community)? DK 1 2 3 4 5

9. How **effective** are the processes for ensuring that

(a) **resources** are properly **allocated and coordinated**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

(b) **linked community services** are effectively **coordinated/integrated with related activities at the site**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

10. How **effective** are the **processes** for ensuring that **resources** available to the whole complex/cluster are properly **allocated and shared/coordinated**? DK 1 2 3 4 5

Please list **community resources** with which you have formal relationships.

(a) Those that bring program(s) to the school site.

(b) Those not at the school site but which have made a special commitment to respond to the school's referrals and needs.