
Behavioral Health Services Package Proposal

Prepared for:

The Lima City Schools

October 8, 2009

A partnership of:

Family Resource Centers
Lima UMADAOP
Lutheran Social Services
SAFY Behavioral Health

Problem Statement:

Many students, including those within the Lima City School system, are plagued by non-academic barriers. These barriers include life stressors such as family conflict, homelessness, extreme poverty, involvement with the criminal justice system/criminal activity, and mental health disorders – and they all impede academic success.

Challenges:

With recognition of these issues, measures have been taken by individual buildings within the Lima City School district to offer students non-academic support on site. This has yielded some positive results, but was also largely unrestrained in quantity and fragmented in terms of service delivery.

Further complicating the issue, is that public mental health and substance abuse treatment funds have been cut by roughly 40% over the last year. This equates to over \$2.2 million dollars in our local communities.

Therefore we are experiencing the “perfect storm”: the availability of treatment dollars has been slashed, current services in the school are fragmented and unrestrained, and most importantly, students are arguably experiencing the greatest need for services due to economic and other social factors.

Proposal:

The joint collaborative of FRC, UMADAOP, LSS, and SAFY offers a solution to these issues in a treatment delivery model that utilizes an agreed upon screening tool. FRC, SAFY, and LSS will share in the responsibility of coverage to all LCS buildings. This Mental Health Triage tool will assess level of identified need and appropriate treatment recommendation. Further, the tool directs the screener to a brief treatment delivery model, wherein there will be a limit of five (5) individual sessions with a student in any one school building. If and when a child is determined to require treatment beyond those five sessions, either the screener or treatment provider will transition the student to office-based treatment or other community resource.

Family Resource Centers is a non-profit, behavioral health agency primarily serving the communities in the Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, and Hardin County region with services now expanding into Seneca, Wood, and Shelby Counties. FRC is certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

Lutheran Social Services is a non-profit agency serving 24 counties in Northwestern Ohio, including Allen, Auglaize, and Hardin Counties. LSSNWO is certified by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. It also is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Family and Children.

Lima Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Program (Lima UMADAOP) is committed to targeting the residents of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin Counties with alcohol,

tobacco, other drugs and violence prevention and treatment services. The youth services are designed to ensure that the risk conditions of children will be reduced. A variety of evidenced-based curriculum materials are used that emphasize practical life skills such as conflict resolution, positive communication, anger management, substance abuse avoidance, violence prevention, and problem solving.

SAFY Behavioral Health is a private, non-profit agency. It is the behavioral health division of the Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youths agency. SAFY provides behavioral health services to youths and adults in the greater Lima area. Our range of service include case management, individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, and intensive home based treatment. SAFY is certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

With this model, the entire spectrum of mental health services is offered to the school in a way that best manages treatment - both clinically and financially.

1. Screening - (For example, Teen Screen, Consultation, and Outreach Services, Pre-hospital screening) – with the goal of identifying the presenting problem and the likely care protocol necessary; prevention, intervention, *and brief* treatment.
2. Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment – working with families and youth ~~over time~~ *during those five contacts* in order to engage them into the appropriate level of care: Alcohol and Drug and/or Mental Health
 - i. Individual Counseling
 - ii. Group Counseling
 - iii. Psychiatry
 - iv. Educational Groups
 - v. Case Management
 - vi. Home-based therapy
3. Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programming –
 - i. Life Skills Training
 - ii. Peer Lead Prevention Programming
 - iii. Individual Counseling
 - iv. Group Counseling
4. ¹School Staff outreach; classroom consultation, stress relief, etc. – the goal to work with teachers and administrators to assist in providing a nurturing atmosphere within the school setting, offered on an as-needed basis.
5. Tragedy Response – respond to school buildings in order to assist students and staff to deal effectively with a tragic occurrence.

¹ This level of service is contracted with and paid for by each school district separately

6. Benefits Consultant – Work with families and youth to get them the benefits they are qualified to receive

By individual school building, the following agencies will be dispatched for approximately two days per week to the following:

Heritage Elementary – FRC

Liberty Elementary – FRC

Freedom Elementary – FRC

Independence Elementary – FRC

Unity Elementary – FRC

North Middle School – SAFY

South Middle School – SAFY

West Middle School – FRC

Emerson Alternative – SAFY

OPT Center – SAFY

Lima Senior High School –LSS

Lima UMADAOP would continue to offer as requested:

1. Peace Maker Project
2. Building for the Future Girls Program
3. Project Safe Neighborhoods Coordination (PSN)
4. Coalition for Academic and Personal Excellence Program
5. After School Program/Teen Peer Educators (TPE)
6. Youth Circle for Re-Entry of Ohio Program
7. Supplemental Education Services (SES)

Commitment from the Lima City Schools:

In order to best effectuate the referral, school staff will complete a Referral Form which consists of the student's name, referral source name, and reason for the referral. It is the responsibility of the referring staff to make every effort to obtain parental consent. The referring school staff member will also complete the "Worker" version of the Ohio Scales.

Every other month, the Lima City Schools will convene the Behavioral Health Services (or similar) review team to meet and share data obtained from the screening tool and disposition of cases to analyze the behavioral health services' impact on quality school indicators: increased attendance, reduction in discipline referrals, progress, etc.

Implementation Procedure

1. All pertinent building staff (teachers and administrators) of each building participating in this program will take part in a brief training consisting of:
 - a. An overview of the scope of the program
 - b. Referral process including parental consent
2. Staff from each building will then meet with the assigned behavioral health services manager from FRC, SAFY, or LSS to develop the behavioral health services program plan targeted to meet the unique needs of that building for the year -
 - a. Prevention Services
 - b. Intervention Services
 - c. Treatment Services
3. The behavioral health services program manager will then implement the program in coordination with the assigned school building staff
4. The Behavioral Health Services Review Team (assigned by the Superintendent and Behavioral Health Provider Partners) will monitor the implementation of the program in LCS

Hope Line – 1 800 567 4673

During the interim period and at any time school staff are encouraged to call the Hope Line (any time of the day or night) to request services for any student, family member or staff experiencing a behavioral health emergency or crisis. Hope Line staff will then ensure that a link is made with the appropriate behavioral health provider.