



Promoting Mental Health in Child Care: Strategies for financing services of health and mental health consultants

Presentation by

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A Framework for Intervention

Knitzer. Using Mental Health Strategies to Move the Early Childhood Agenda and Promote School Readiness. NCCP. 2000.

Based on research and clinical knowledge our strategies should:

- **Enhance the emotional and behavioral well-being of young children, particularly those with social or biological risks.**
- **Help parents and non-familial caregivers to promote the emotional well-being of young children.**
- **Assure young children experiencing atypical emotional and behavioral development and their families have access to needed services and supports.**

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Key Strategies

Knitzer. Using Mental Health Strategies to Move the Early Childhood Agenda and Promote School Readiness. NCCP. 2000.

- ❖ **Provide mental health consultation to child care and other early education programs.**
- ❖ Support through home-visiting programs.
- ❖ Promote relationship-based prevention in the context of pediatric health care.
- ❖ Advance the emotional wellness of young children through a statewide approach.

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Spending Smarter:

Using Federal Programs and Policies to Promote Healthy Social and Emotional Development Among Our Most Vulnerable Young Children

Kay Johnson and Jane Knitzer
NCCP, 2006.

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Spending Smarter Checklist

Source: Spending Smarter. Johnson and Knitzer. NCCP. 2005.

- ✓ **Does your state have a cross agency strategic planning group?**
 - Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) and Early Learning Councils
 - Working on early childhood mental health issues?
- ✓ **Does the cross agency strategic agenda include efforts to build capacity?**
 - Map system & gaps
 - Study flow of funds
 - Common definitions

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Maximize Medicaid/EPSDT

- ✓ Recommend age-appropriate screening and diagnostic tools through EPSDT.
- ✓ Finance services delivered in range of settings.
- ✓ Separate billing for development screening and diagnostic evaluation (unbundle).
- ✓ **Match funds for child care MH consultation.**
- ✓ Reimburse for parent-child (family) therapy.
- ✓ Use age-appropriate diagnostic codes.

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Title V MCH Block Grant

- ✓ Spend flexible Title V dollars on services not covered by Medicaid.
 - **Child care health and mental health consultation**
 - Cross system training
- ✓ Include children with developmental, behavioral, or emotional challenges in definition of “special needs” (CSHCN).
- ✓ Use ECCS planning capacity.

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Other Health & Mental Health Programs

- ✓ **Use children’s mental health grants (SAMSHA) to advance ECMH and consultation services.**
- ✓ **Use community mental health centers as a hub for early childhood mental health consultation.**
- ✓ Coverage for mental health in SCHIP.

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Child Care and Development Fund

- ✓ **Use child care quality funds to finance early childhood mental health consultation.**
 - Federal quality set aside or state-only funds
- ✓ Use CCDF to support training.
- ✓ Target funding to ensure highest risk get high-quality child care supported by consultation.

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Head Start & Early Head Start

- ✓ **Support & use mental health consultation.**
- ✓ Finance training to enhance the skills of parent-involvement coordinators, parent educators, etc.
- ✓ Guide referrals for vulnerable children and their families.

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IDEA Part C Early Intervention

- ✓ **Use child care consultants and other ECE settings as part of “Child Find.”**
- ✓ Finance appropriate social-emotional screening, evaluation, and services in Part C.
- ✓ Extend Part C eligibility to infants and toddlers with social-emotional conditions and risks.

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Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)

- ✓ Require collaboration across agencies.
 - **Public Health, Early Care & Education, etc.**
- ✓ Assure Part C assessment for infants and toddlers, birth to three, entering foster care.
- ✓ Assure screening and referral for those exposed to domestic violence.

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Programs Serving Most Vulnerable Young Children and Families

- ✓ Transfer TANF funds to the CCDF or the SSBG to fund activities in child care mental health consultation.
- ✓ Use TANF for family support and coordination.
- ✓ Use Title IV-B for parent-child mental health and behavioral interventions.

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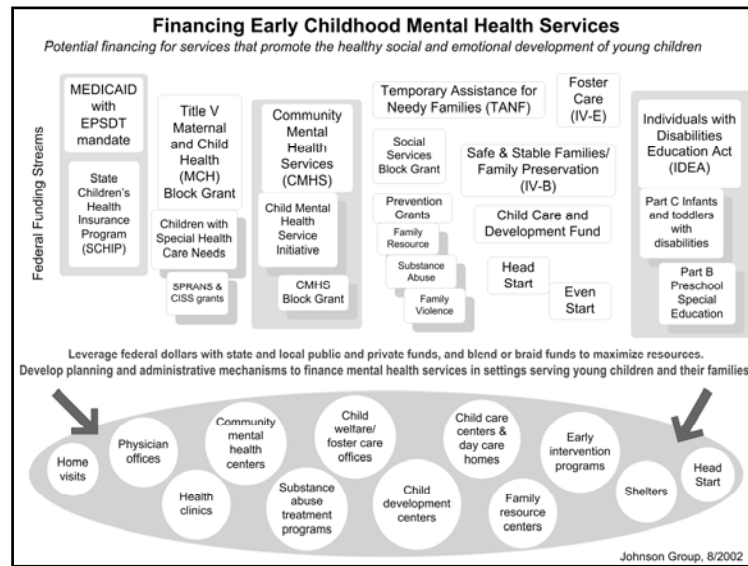


Making Dollars Follow Sense:

Financing Early Childhood Mental Health Services to Promote Healthy Social and Emotional Development in Young Children

Kay Johnson, Jane Knitzer, and Roxane Kaufmann
NCCP, 2006.

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29 States with Consultation

Survey by Georgetown University

Duran, F. et al. (2009). *What Works?: A Study of Effective Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Programs*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development.

- ❖ 29 states confirmed ECMHC services are available
 - Of 29 with services, 21 are offering consultation statewide.
- ❖ Most frequently identified sources of funding for ECMHC services as:
 - State General Funds (41%),
 - Child Care Development Funds (34%),
 - Mental Health (32%), and
 - Private Funds (28%).

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Program	Funding source	Annual Budget FY 2009	No. served in program consultation
Child Care Expulsion Prevention (MI)	Child Care Development Fund	\$1.9 million	6,884 children in 306 child care settings
Early Childhood Consultation Partnership (CT)	Department of Children and Families, Early Intervention; plus CT State DOE	\$2.1 million	2,301 children in 224 ECE centers
San Francisco	Primarily San Francisco Departments of Public Health ; Children, Youth & Families; and First Five. Also EPSDT and Preschool for All	\$4.6 million	
Maryland ECMH Initiative	MD State Department of Education; Office of Child Care	\$1.9 million	
Together for Kids (Central Mass.)	MA Department of Early Education & Care; Health Foundation; United Way; Head Start; Community Partnership for Children, and 3 rd billing for direct therapy services	\$861,343	4,000 children 85 ECE sites

Braiding in San Francisco

- ✓Leadership of mental health and child care agencies
- ✓Total amount for Bay Area about \$1.5 million.
 - Funding originally from a private foundation; over time more grounded in public programs.
- ✓Developed centralized funding mechanism
 - Captures financial support from 8 human service agencies and 4 city departments to multiple, diverse CBOs
- ✓Funding from: TANF, CCDF, and Medicaid/EPSDT for individual treatment for children when their needs exceed basic program consultation

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Finance strategies that miss the mark

- ❖State general revenues unmatched to Medicaid or another major federal program
- ❖ Mini-block grants to local communities to “left a thousand flowers bloom”
- ❖Using one-time grant funds without a long-range plan for sustainability
- ❖Model communities without a strategy to “spread” statewide

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Spending Smarter means:

- ✓Capturing dollars that already exist in federal funding streams.
- ✓Blending and braiding funds.
- ✓Leveraging both smaller grant funds and entitlement dollars.
- ✓Maximizing efficiencies through systems approaches.
- ✓Using flexible funds to fill gaps in systems of care.
- ✓Paying for appropriate services.

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