Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program Fact Sheet

PROGRAM PURPOSE
The Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA) Program promotes behavioral health integration into pediatric primary care using telehealth. Statewide or regional networks of pediatric mental health teams provide teleconsultation, training, technical assistance, and care coordination support services for pediatric primary care and other providers to recognize pediatric behavioral health conditions and to diagnose, treat and refer children with such conditions. The overarching goal of the program is to use telehealth modalities to provide high quality and timely detection, assessment, treatment, and referral of children and adolescents with behavioral health conditions, using evidence-based practices and methods such as web-based training sessions. PMHCA recipients will focus on achieving health equity related to racial, ethnic, and geographic disparities in access to care, especially in rural and other underserved areas.

The PMHCA Program has the following priorities:

- Increase the availability and accessibility of statewide or regional networks of pediatric mental health teams composed of child and adolescent psychiatrists, licensed mental health professionals, and care coordinators who will provide consultation and referral to pediatric primary care and other providers who care for children and adolescents with behavioral health conditions.
- Conduct training and provide technical assistance and care coordination support services to pediatric primary care and other providers to enable them to conduct early identification, diagnosis, and treatment for children with behavioral health conditions.
- Provide information to pediatric providers about and assist pediatric providers in accessing pediatric behavioral clinicians.
- Improve access to treatment and referral services for children and adolescents with identified behavioral health conditions through telehealth, especially those living in rural and other underserved areas.

PROGRAM IMPACT
In FY 2020, states have demonstrated increased access to pediatric behavioral health care resulting from telehealth efforts through the following outcomes:

- Over 4,500 primary care providers in 21 states enrolled in a statewide or regional PMHCA program.
- Approximately 3,000 tele-consultations were provided and 3,800 enrolled primary care providers received training.
- Approximately 3,000 children and adolescents overall were served by pediatric primary care providers who contacted the pediatric mental health team.
- Approximately 2,000 children and adolescents living in rural and underserved counties were served by pediatric primary care providers who contacted the pediatric mental health team.

Awardees will report this data annually.

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PROGRAM LOCATIONS

- Alabama Department of Mental Health
- Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- California: Regents of the University of California, San Francisco
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Connecticut Department of Children and Families
- Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth, and their Families
- Government of District of Columbia
- Florida Department of Health
- Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Hawaii Department of Health
- Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
- Iowa Department of Public Health
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services
- Louisiana Department of Health
- Maine Department of Health and Human Services
- Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota: Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
- Mississippi Department of Mental Health
- Missouri Department of Mental Health
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- New Jersey Department of Health
- New Mexico Department of Health
- New York: Health Research, Inc.
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- North Dakota Department of Health
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- Oklahoma: Chickasaw Nation
- The Republic of Palau
- Rhode Island Department of Health
- South Carolina Department of Mental Health
- Tennessee Department of Health
- Vermont Agency of Human Services
- Virgin Islands Department of Health Group
- Virginia Department of Health
- Washington State Department of Health
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Wyoming Department of Health

DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

DMCHWD, part of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation’s current and future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH). The Division also provides leadership through state and community-based capacity building programs. Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of interprofessional, family- and person-centered, community-based and culturally responsive systems of care across the entire life course.

DMCHWD supports programs established in federal legislation (Title V of the Social Security Act, the Autism CARES Act, American Rescue Plan Act, and the 21st Century CURES Act) to complement state and local health agency efforts. DMCHWD partners with state MCH programs, academic institutions, professional organizations, and other health training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH workforce development programs are grounded in emerging and evidence-based practices.

In FY 2019, DMCHWD awarded 186 grants, an investment of approximately $57 million.

Website: Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA)
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