PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA) Program promotes behavioral health integration into pediatric primary care using telehealth. State or regional networks of pediatric mental health teams provide tele-consultation, training, technical assistance, and care coordination for pediatric primary care providers to diagnose, treat and refer children with behavioral health conditions. The overarching goal of the program is to use telehealth modalities to provide timely detection, assessment, treatment, and referral of children and adolescents with behavioral health conditions, using evidence-based practices and methods such as web-based education and training sessions.

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 case coordinators through telehealth consultation and referral to pediatric primary care providers who care for children and adolescents with behavioral health conditions.

- Conduct training and provide technical assistance to primary care 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

States will demonstrate increased access to pediatric mental health care resulting from telehealth efforts to achieve the following measures:

- Number of primary care providers enrolled.

- Number of primary care providers who receive teleconsultation on behavioral health conditions.

- Number of children and adolescents in primary care practices who enrolled in a pediatric mental health care access program who received a screening for a behavioral health condition.

- Percentage of children and adolescents who screened positive for a behavioral health condition and received treatment from a primary care practice or a referral to a behavioral clinician.

Awardees will report on these measures annually.

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DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

DMCHWD, part of HRSA’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation’s future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH).

Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of inter-professional, family-centered, community-based and culturally competent systems of care across the entire life course with experiences in one life stage shaping health in later stages.

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

In FY 2016, DMCHWD awarded 161 grants, an investment of approximately $47 million. Grants are awarded to develop trainees for leadership roles in the areas of:

- MCH teaching,
- Research,
- Clinical practice, and/or
- Public health administration and policy-making.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

- Alabama: Alabama Department of Mental Health
- Alaska: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- Colorado: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Delaware: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Families
- Iowa: Iowa Department of Public Health
- Michigan: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Mississippi: Mississippi Department of Mental Health
- Missouri: Missouri Department of Mental Health
- Montana: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Nebraska: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- Nevada: Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- New Hampshire: New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- New Jersey: New Jersey Department of Health
- North Carolina: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- North Dakota: North Dakota Department of Health
- Rhode Island: Rhode Island Department of Health
- Virginia: Virginia Department of Health
- Wisconsin: Wisconsin Department of Health Services