ENEWS - A Monthly Forum for Sharing and Interchange

Source: UCLA SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT/ CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

May, 2001 (Vol. 5, #8)

WHAT IS ENEWS? (For those who don't know) This forum is another link for those concerned with enhancing policies, programs, and practices related to addressing barriers to student learning and promoting mental health in schools. It augments the other ways our Center shares information and facilitates interchange/networking.

Feel Free to Forward This to Anyone

WHAT'S HERE THIS MONTH

**Emerging Issue >The Push for Small Schools: Good or Bad?

**News from around the Country

**Recent Publications Relevant to
>Childrens' Mental & Physical Health
>Delinquency, Violence & Substance Abuse Prevention
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>Policy & Statistics

**Upcoming Initiatives, Conferences, Workshops

**Calls for Grant Proposals/Papers

**Other Helpful Resources

**Training & Job Opportunities (Including fellowships and scholarships)

**Requests/Information/Comments/Questions from the Field

**News From the Two National Centers Focusing on MH in Schools

To post messages to ENEWS, E-mail them to: smhp@ucla.edu If you were sent ENEWS indirectly, you can be added to our list at no charge by sending an E-mail request to: Listserv@listserv.ucla.edu leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the message type:

Subscribe mentalhealth-L

To remove your name from the mailing list type: Unsubscribe mentalhealth-L

EMERGING ISSUE

The Push for Small Schools: Good or Bad?

Although the idea of breaking up large school campuses seems intuitively on the right track, concerns have been raised that this is being seen as another panacea for improving schools. A recent article in the San Francisco Chronicle (April 1, 2001) highlights the matter.

Kathleen Cotton of the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory is quoted as saying:

"I really believe many of the other things we're doing in school reform are just so much shifting of deck chairs on the Titanic, so long as we continue to herd children into huge impersonal schools."

At the same time, Pedro Noguera, a Harvard professor of education cautions: "There are lots of small schools I can think of that are not good academically or in lots of other ways. It's a mistake to think that size alone solves all these problems. It's a necessary condition for improvement, but not sufficient to ensure successful outcomes for kids."

Thus, it is not really a matter of whether the push for small schools is good or bad; the problem is how to avoid having this push become just another panacea that doesn't pay off.

Do you have some thoughts about this? If so, let us know, so we can include it in our efforts to have this issue widely discussed.

To post your response directly on our website's Net Exchange page for others to

read and respond to, go to http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu

Or you can send it to: E-mail: smhp@ucla.edu Phone: (310) 825-3634 Write: Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology, UCLA Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563

"The current promise to our youth is clear. If you're in trouble, we are ready to spend \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year on a prison cell for you. We need a companion promise that we will address problems before they get out of control."

John Calhoun, National Crime Prevention Council

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

>>New National Study on Mental Health in Schools to be Funded<< SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services has put out a request for delivery order for a study on the Characteristics and Financing of School Mental Health (MH) Services. Researchers will conduct a national survey of the range of mental health services provided in public elementary, middle, and secondary schools. The work is to be conducted in the period from April 2001-March 2003. For more info, contact: Patrick Joy at 301/443-9265 email: Pjoy@psc.gov

>>Controversy Over Correlational Study related Non-Maternal Child Care and Misbehavior<<

Media reports are sensationalizing a study being reported at the SRCD meeting in Minneapolis. The modest findings show a correlation between time in nonmaternal care and misbehaving in kindergarten (e.g., 17% of children who spent over 30 hours a week in child care showed signs of misbehavior between ages 4 ¹/₂ and 6, while only 6% of those who spent less than 10 hours in day care demonstrated the misbehavior). Among the cautions being voiced by researchers are that the degree of misbehavior was all within a normal range for the age group, no inferences can be made about whether the misbehavior will be long-lasting, no data were reported on possible positive functioning differences, and of course, no cause-effect relationship should be inferred.

>>Primary Care Pediatricians Identifying Depression in Clients<< In a recent issue of Ambulatory Pediatrics (vol.1(2)), survey findings are reported indicating a majority of the 280 pediatricians surveyed want to improve their diagnostic skills for identifying depression (but only 27% felt it was their responsibility to treat the problem). To meet the need, the authors outline new approaches to training. See http://ampe.allenpress.com/ampeonline/?request=get-toc&issn=1530-1567&volume=001&issue=02

>>Risks for Children Cared for by Relatives<< Of the 1.8 million children living with relatives, instead of parents, nearly a quarter are seen as facing multiple social and economic risks and many fail to receive benefits to which they are entitled. http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/series_b/b28/b28.html.

>>Nation's Report Card described as Discouraging <<

Widening gap reported between the best and worst readers over the past ten years despite instructional reforms. Fewer than a third of fourth-graders reading at grade level. http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/

"Fourth-grade students who read for fun daily had the highest reading scores." National Assessment of Educational Progress, 2000, Reading Assessment

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*CHILDREN'S MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH

"Caring Classrooms/Intelligent Schools: The Social and Emotional Education of Young Children. Ed. by J. Cohen. (2001) http://store.tcpress.com/0807740578.shtml

"Wraparound Services for Young Schoolchildren with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders" by S. Duckworth, et al, (2001) Teaching Exceptional Children, Vol 33, No. 4.

"Recovering Your Mental Health" (2001) offers tips on understanding symptoms and resources available. http://www.samhsa.gov/news/DocsShowOne.cfm?newsid=288

Or call 800-789-CMHS.

"Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs" Special Issue of American School Counselor Association, April, 2001. Contains many relevant articles, including

>Culturally Responsive School Counselors and Programs, by C. Lee

- >Maintaining and Enhancing the Developmental Focus in School Counseling Programs by P. Paisley.
- >Results-based Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs,

by R. Lapan

>Using Accountability Data to Protect a School Counseling Program, by D. Hughes and S. James.

"Bridging Theory and Practice; & About Psychosocial Treatment of ADHD" See the March, 2001 issue of Journal of Clinical Child Psychology, Vol.30, No.1, for a major discussion of the relationship between theory and practice with respect to ADHD, depression in youth, childhood Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, & Autism. This issue also has a discussion of the controversies arising from the multimodal treatment (MTA) study.

"Ordinary Magic: Resilience Processes in Development" A. Masten (March, 2001) American Psychologist.

"Children in Foster Care: Challenges in Meeting their Health Care Needs through Medicaid", (2001) M. Rosenback, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/Press%20Releases/fostercarebrief.htm

*DELINQUENCY, VIOLENCE & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

"Increasing Safety in America's Public Schools" (2001) Public Education Network. http://www.publiceducation.org.

"Raising Teens: A Synthesis of Research and a Foundation for Action" (2001) by R. Simpson, Harvard School of Public Health, Center for Health Communication. http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/pdf.html.

"Make Time to Listen...Take Time to Talk...15+ Communications Campaign for Parents/Caregivers", Center for Mental Health Services School Violence Prevention Initiative. http://www.mentalhealth.org/15plus/index.htm

"New Rules, New Roles: Preparing All Young People for a Changing World" (2001) DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. http://www.wallacefunds.org/frames/framesetpublications.htm

"Strategies to Help Solve Our School Dropout Problem. (2001). F. Scharegl & J. Smink. Eye on Education. Phone (914) 833-0551.

*FAMILY, COMMUNITY, & SCHOOLS

"Strategy Brief Series on Teacher Mobility" (2001) National Governors Association, Center for Best Practices. http://www.nga.org/center.

"Low-Income Parents: How Do Working Conditions Affect their Opportunity to Help School-Age Children at Risk?" S. Heymann and A Earle, American Educational Research Journal, Winter 2000, Vol 37 (4), 833-848.

"Helping All Students Achieve" Educational Leadership, Vol 58 (6), March, 2001, includes several articles of interest, including:

>Grading for Success, by C. Tomlinson

>Teaching to the Test? By J. Popham

>Small Schools, Real Gains, by P. Wasley and R. Lear

>Class Size Reduction: From Promise to Practice by A. Halbach, et al

>Reaching Out to Immigrant Parents, by B. Lindeman

"Thriving Together: Connecting Rural School Improvement and Community Development" produced by the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory. Available in English and Spanish and on CD-ROM.. Call: 512-476-6861.

*POLICY & STATISTICS

"Access to Care for SCHIP Adolescents, by Fox, McManus, Limb, 2001, Maternal and Child Health Policy Research Center, for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and Uninsured. Suggests need for more focus on risk assessment and counseling, reproductive and sexual health services, and mental health services. Http://www.kff.org/content/2001/2243/

"Lessons Learned National Development to Local Implementation Guidelines for Adolescent Preventive Services" (2001) M. Fleming, et al., American Medical Association. 515 North State St., Chicago, IL., 60610. Recommendations at http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/1947.html

"Evaluation and Community-Based Initiatives" by I. Edelman, Social Policy Magazine, 2001. Http://www.socialpolicy.org.

"Just Waiting to be Asked? A Fresh Look at Attitudes on Public Engagement", Public Agenda Online, 2001, http://www.publicagenda.org

"State Child Care Profiles for Children with Employed Mothers." Urban Institute, 2001. http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/state_focus.html

"A Guide for the Powerless And Those Who Don't Know Their Own Power: A

Primer on the American Political Process" S. Halperin, 2001. American Youth Policy Forum (http://www.aypf.org).

^ ^ ^ UPCOMING INITIATIVES, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS ^ ^ ^

Partnership for Family Involvement in Education National Meeting, May 9,2001, Washington, DC. Contact: Call 202-401-0056 http://pfie.ed.gov

Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health Conference, May 10-12, 2001 in Portland, OR. Theme: Building on Family Strengths. For more information please visit the RTC website at http://www.rtc.pdx.edu or contact RTC at (503) 725-4040.

Family Support America Conference, May 20-22, 2001, in Jacksonville, FL. Theme: "The Promise of Partnership: Communities, Family Support, and Child Protection." Please visit the Family Support America Website for more information. Http://www.familysupportamerica.org

National Coordinating Committee on School Health Annual Meeting, May 31-June 1, Washington, DC. For additional information about NCCSH see their web site at: http://www.healthystudents.org

Society for Prevention Research, May 31-June 2, 2001 in Washington, DC. Theme: Realizing Effective Policies and Practices through Prevention Science Visit the website for more information and registration. PH: 410/385-5211. http://www.preventionresearch.org

From Bullying to Battering, June 4-5, 7-8, 2001, in Austin, TX. Theme: "From Bullying to Battering: School-based programs for preventing bullying, sexual harassment and gender violence." Contact: mwisneski@austin-safeplace.org.

Justice for All: Addressing America's Mental Health Disparities. National Mental Health Association, June 6-9. Washington, D. C. http://www.nmha.org

Front Line Strategies in Youth Development. National Youth Professionals' Institute, New Orleans, June 7-10, (202) 484-0103 ext 3038.

The Bridge to the Future: Community Building, Economic development, and

Family Support, Family Support America, June 17-19, Hartford, Connecticut. (310)206-8716.

Partners Make a Great IDEA: National Summit on the Individuals with Disabilities Act, June 20-23, 2001 in Washington, DC. Call: The Policymaker Partnership: 877-IDEA-INFO; Families and Advocates Partnership: 888-248-0822.

Annual National PTA Convention and Exhibition, June 23-26, 2001, Baltimore, MD. Theme: Connecting Communities for the Future. Contact: http://www.pta.org

American School Counselor Association, June 24-27, Portland, OR. Http://schoolcounselor.org.

National Assembly on School Based Health Care and BPHC Center for School-Based Health Care Annual Meeting, June 24-26, 2001 in Miami, FL. Theme: School-Based Health Centers and Their Communities: A Catalyst for Children's Health. Http://www.nasbhc.org.

Center for Social and Emotional Education Summer Institute 2001, June 26-28, 2001, in Teaneck NJ. Theme: "Safe and Intelligent Schools: Integrating Effective Social and Emotional Education in School Life." Please visit the CSEE website for details. (http://www.csee.net/)

School Nurses: Building Bridges to Link Schools and Communities to Promote Student Health., June 28- July 1, Phoenix, AZ. Http://www.nasn.org/conference.htm.

FOR MORE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS, REFER TO OUR WEBSITE AT: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu (Go to "Contents" then click on "Upcoming Events of Interest".)

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"The professional's workplace, the school, is redefined as a place where both students and professional educators participate in learning communities...Varied learning opportunities abound, enabling every adult to improve constantly his or her practice..."

Lauren Resnick and Megan Williams Hall. # # # # # # # # # # #

^^^^CALLS FOR GRANT PROPOSALS/PAPERS

Collaborative Community Actions to Prevent Youth Violence and Promote Youth Development, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Deadline May 16. Http://www.mentalhealth.org/cmhs.

Building Mentally Healthy Communities, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services, Deadline May 21. Http://www.mentalhealth.org/cmhs.

Family Violence Prevention Grants, Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Community Services. For outreach projects, collaborations, and community awareness campaigns. Deadline May 21. Contact: Sunni Knight at 202-401-5319.

Local Initiative Funding Partners Program, Robert Wood Johnson, Deadline August 1. Http://www.lifp.org.

National Education Association Innovation Grants, for teachers, education support personnel, and higher education faculty. Http://www.nfie.org/programs/innovation_guidelines.htm.

NOTE; If you want to surf the Internet for funds, go to: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu and click on What's New: scroll to "New Materials" click on "Surfin' for Funds."

^ ^ ^ ^ OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES ^ ^ ^ ^

>>Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Health

Adults and Children Together Against Violence, American Psychological Association and the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Http://www.actagainstviolence.org.

The Prevention of Mental Disorders in School-Aged Children: Current State of the Field, by M. Greenberg, C. Domitrovich, and B. Bumbarger, in online journal Prevention & Treatment, American Psychological Association, March 30,2001. Http://journals.apa.org/prevention.

"Off Balance: Youth, Race, and Crime in the News, Building Blocks for Youth

Initiative. A study of media coverage of youth. Http://www.buildingblocksforyouth.org/

"Female Gangs: A Focus on Research" by J. Moore and J. Hagedorn for Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/gang.html#186159.

"Manifestations of Poverty and Birthrates Among Young Teenagers. Http://www.agi-usa.org/pubs/journals/3306301.html.

"Reproductive Health Services for Adolescents Under the SCHIP", Alan Guttmacher Institute. Http://www.agi-usa.org/pubs/journals/3308101.html.

>>Parents, Schools, and Community

The Child & Family WebGuide, online resource for parents, mental health and child-care professionals, educators and students. Tufts University. Http://www.cfw.tufts.edu.

"National Study of Child Care for Low-Income Families, State and Community Substudy" (2001) prepared by Abt Associates for the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, http://www.abtassoc.com/html/reports/childdevelopment-download.html

"Final Research Report of the Collaborative Action Team Process" a focus on rural schools and community development, Southwest Educational Development Laboratory. http://www.sedl.org

"How are Hispanic Children and Families Faring?" Child Trends fact sheet on education, workforce preparation, adolescent risk-taking, family structure, health and safety, and poverty. Http://www.childtrends.org/PDF/Hispanicfactsheet2.pdf.

"The Condition of Education, 2000 In Brief" 30 indicators with graphs. National Center for Education Statistics. (http://www.nces.ed.gov).

"The Children's Rights Council" resources for parents at http://www.info4parents.com.

^ ^ TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES ^ ^ ^ (Including fellowships and scholarships) <Nurse Practitioner>

Teen Center in New Mexico, coordinated through the University of New Mexico, Department of Pediatrics. Contact Nissa Patterson, npatterson@salud.unm.edu. 505-272-4462.

FELLOWSHIPS

<Post-doctoral Training in Prevention Research with Children. Arizona State University Psychology Department and the Program for Prevention Research. Deadline June 30. Send vita and research interest to Tim Ayers, Program for Prevention Research, Arizona State University, P.O. Box 876005, Tempe, AZ, 86287-6005. Fax (208) 485-2140.

>Postdoctoral Research Position in Dept. of Psychology, University of Missouri at Columbia. To serve as project director for ongoing longitudinal study of psychosocial and personality factors in risk-taking behavior among adolescents and young adults. Send vita, reprints, cover letter stating research interests and experiences, and three letters of reference to: Dr. Lynne Cooper, 112 McAlester Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. Application screening begins May 15th.

REQUESTS/INFORMATION/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

Excerpts from four of the responses to last month's ENEWS Issue "What's Wrong with Kids Today?"

"...I am currently working on a community drive initiative which is working actively to develop a plan to strengthen the assets in our community and one of those assets is our youth. We will have a youth leadership component and we will be challenging the local media to join us in partnership to focus more attention on the great things that our youth are involved in in the community..."

"...As a middle school VP, I find that, in a majority of cases, students brought in for misbehavior lack any remorse or sense of responsibility for their actions...Schools may have the power to alter this situation through various curricular programs, but it should not be a school issue. Parents need to educate their children with basic standards of right and wrong, and instill in their children a sense of responsibility. I certainly don't believe that children are inherently evil, but they are in large part a product of their experience, for better or worse, and we as a society need to help them to compensate for any gaps or serious negatives in that experience. They do, however, need to be held accountable, as do we."

"...I saw a bumper sticker yesterday that read "Focus on your own damn family". We can't promise to change the way all children are treated in their own homes. We each can only act to mean something to individual children that find their ways into our lives...We can hold each other accountable to not turn away from kids by taking the path of least resistance when their behavior presents us with awareness that all is not going well..."

"...I have become almost despondent about how we might bring some balance back into the lives of families, so that they would not continue to view their children as just one more task to contend with in their neverending work days from hell...We talk about bonding, attachment needs, safe and nurturing environments for kids and yet we practically ignore them..."

WANT TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS? Go to our Website (http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu) click on Net Exchange, or send us an email (smhp@ucla.edu).

NEWS FROM THE TWO NATIONAL CENTERS FOCUSING ON MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

Note: Both Centers are in the process of evaluating the impact of our work. If you want to share an example of how either Center's efforts has had an impact, let us know at (310) 825-3634 or email smhp@ucla.edu.

^ ^ ^ Updates from our Center at UCLA:

The Quick Finds section of our website continues to expand easy access to online documents and resource centers for quick technical assistance. We continuously update them as we identify relevant resources. Go to the website at http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu, click on Quick Find, scroll down Center Responses to see what's there. New additions:

>Alternative Schools

>Systems of Care

NEW Technical Aid Packet "After-School Programs and Addressing Barriers to Learning"

Includes discussion of key components, resources for planning and funding, potential to address school-wide component for safe schools, academic enrichment, and community connections. Available online at http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu. Click on Center Materials, Technical Aid Packets to download. Hard copies available from the Center.

Through our Center's training role, we have been focusing on SUSTAINING the impact of programs beyond the initial funding or pilot project. If you have resources, tools, examples of ways to work on this that you would like to share with others, please let us know.

Contact the Center at SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT/ CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS UCLA DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1563 Phone (310) 825-3634/ Fax: (310) 206-5895 Email: smhp@ucla.edu.

To post message to ENEWS, Email them to smhp@ucla.edu.

* * * Update from our Sister Center in Maryland * * *
(Mark Weist, Director)

See the Center for School Mental Health Assistance new website at http://csmha.umaryland.edu.

There you will see information about their 6th annual conference on Advancing School-Based Mental Health Programs, September 20-22 in Portland, OR. Keynote speakers include Richard Catalano, Social Development Research Group, and James Garbarino, Cornell University Family Life Development Center.

You will also see information on the School Health Institute Program, July 23-27 in Maryland. A multifaceted approach to continuing education.

For more information, contact: Mark Weist, Director Center for School Mental Health Assistance University of Maryland at Baltimore, Dept. of Psychiatry 680 West Lexington St., 10th fl., Baltimore, MD 21201 Ph: 888/706-0980 Email: csmha@umpsy.umaryland.edu.

Http://csmha.umaryland.edu

WHO ARE WE?

Under the auspices of the School Mental Health Project in the Department of Psychology at UCLA, we established a Center for Mental Health in Schools in 1995. The Project and Center are co-directed by Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor.

Our group at UCLA approaches mental health and psychosocial concerns from the broad perspective of addressing barriers to learning and promoting healthy development. Specific attention is given policies and strategies that can counter fragmentation and enhance collaboration between school and community programs.

We are involved in model development and implementation, training and technical assistance, and policy analysis. Our activities include gathering and disseminating information, materials development, direct assistance, and facilitating networking and exchanges of ideas.

For more information about the Center or about ENEWS, contact Center Coordinator Perry Nelson or Center Co-Directors Howard Adelman or Linda Taylor at UCLA School Mental Health Project/Center for Mental Health in Schools Phone: (310) 825-3634; Fax: (310) 206-5895 E-mail: smhp@ucla.edu Web Site: http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu Write: School Mental Health Project/ Center for Mental Health Project/ Center for Mental Health in Schools Box 951563 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563.