



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org



# 2023-24 Mental Health Application

## Part I: Youth Mental Health Awareness Training Plan

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## Introduction

### Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan

s. 1006.041, F.S.

#### MHAA Plan Assurances

##### The Charter School Assures

One hundred percent of state funds are used to establish or expand school-based mental health care; train educators and other school staff in detecting and responding to mental health issues; and connect children, youth and families with appropriate behavioral health services.

Yes

Mental health assistance allocation funds do not supplant other funding sources or increase salaries or provide staff bonuses or incentives

Yes

Other sources of funding will be maximized-to provide school-based mental health services (e.g., Medicaid reimbursement, third-party payments and grants).

Yes

Collaboration with FDOE to disseminate mental health information and resources to students and families.

Yes

A system is included for tracking the number of students at high risk for mental health or co-occurring substance use disorders who received mental health screenings or assessments; the number of students referred to school-based mental health services

Yes

Curriculum and materials purchased using MHAA funds have received a thorough review and all content is in compliance with State Board of Education Rules and Florida Statutes.

Yes

##### A charter governing board policy or procedure has been established for

Students referred to a school-based or community-based mental health services provider, for mental health screening for the identification of mental health concerns and students at risk for mental health disorders are assessed within 15 calendar days of referral.

Yes

School-based mental health services are initiated within 15 calendar days of identification and assessment.

Yes

Community-based mental health services are initiated within 30 calendar days of referral.

Yes

Individuals living in a household with a student receiving services are provided information about behavioral health services through other delivery systems or payors for which such individuals may qualify if such services appear to be needed or enhancements in those individuals' behavioral health would contribute to the improved well-being of the student.

Yes

District schools and local mobile response teams use the same suicide screening instrument approved by FDOE pursuant to s. 1012.583, F.S., and Rule 6A-4.0010, F.A.C.

Yes

Assisting a mental health services provider or a behavioral health provider as described ins. 1006.041, F.S., respectively, or a school resource officer or school safety officer who has completed mental health crisis intervention training in attempting to verbally de-escalate a student's crisis situation before initiating an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463, F.S. Such procedures must include strategies to de-escalate a crisis situation for a student with a developmental disability as that term is defined ins. 393.063, F.S.

Yes

The requirement that in a student crisis situation, the school or law enforcement personnel must make a reasonable attempt to contact a mental health professional who may initiate an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463, F.S., unless the child poses an imminent danger to self or others before initiating an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463, F.S. Such contact may be in person or using telehealth, as defined ins. 456.47, F.S. The mental health professional may be available to the school district either by contracts or interagency agreements with the managing entity, one or more local community behavioral health providers, the local mobile response team, or be a direct or contracted school district employee. Note: All initiated involuntary examinations located on school grounds, on school transportation or at a school sponsored activity must be documented in the Involuntary Examinations and Restraint and Seclusion (IERS) platform.

Yes

Parents of students receiving services are provided information about other behavioral health services available through the student's school or local community-based behavioral health service providers. Schools may meet this requirement by providing information about and internet addresses for web-based directories or guides for local behavioral health services.

Yes

The Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan must be focused on a multitiered system of supports to deliver evidence-based mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to students at high risk of such diagnoses. s. 1006.041, F.S.

Yes

## District Program Implementation

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>Evidence-Based Program</b>  | Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) |
| <b>Tier(s) of Implementation</b>   | Tier 3                           |
| Describe the key EBP components that will be implemented.  |                                  |
| <p>Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) is a form of psychotherapy that focuses on modifying dysfunctional or maladaptive thoughts, emotional response, and behavior by identifying and uprooting negative or irrational beliefs. CBT utilizes a solutions-oriented approach based on the idea that thoughts and perceptions influence mood and behavior.</p> <p>CBT will be provided in individual or group therapy sessions typically held during school hours. CBT can be effective in a brief period of time and treatment generally consists of 5 to 20 sessions, or longer if needed. CBT is appropriate for treating conditions involving depression, anxiety, traumatic stress, and more.</p>  |                                  |
| <p>Explain how your district will implement evidence-based mental health services for students to improve the early identification of social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use disorders, as well as the likelihood of at risk students developing social emotional or behavioral problems, depression, anxiety disorders or suicidal tendencies, and how these will assist students dealing with trauma and violence.</p>   |                                  |
| <p>Children's Home Society (CHS) Mental Health Clinicians will engage K-8 students in individual or group therapy sessions typically once per week for 30-60 minutes each. If delivered in the group setting, CBT groups are closed and small with only three to six students in the same age range experiencing similar conditions. Students will learn how to identify and distinguish between different emotions, and build insight into the link between emotions, thoughts, and behaviors.</p> <p>Therapeutic storybooks and games are utilized to reinforce and relate concepts in developmentally appropriate and engaging ways. Clinicians teach students how to identify and challenge harmful thoughts, and replace them with a more realistic, healthy perspective. Clinicians may assign homework or tasks for students to practice between sessions such as exercises to observe and recognize their mood or thought patterns and apply the skills they learn in the session to real situations in their life. Parents can support their students practicing the skills at home.</p>  |                                  |
| <p>Explain how the supports will deliver evidence-based mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to students at high risk of such diagnoses.</p>   |                                  |
| <p>The supports include prevention services provided to all students which promotes social-emotional learning, positive skill building, and development of healthy habits. For example, there is a designated daily instructional time for responsive classroom character education. Teachers and administrators maintain frequent communication with CHS clinicians. All staff collaborates to identify and address social, emotional, or behavioral concerns as they arise. CHS clinicians can provide consultations to teachers and administrators in which specific trends or observations can be recognized and qualified feedback or recommendations can be made. All students with Tier 3 mental health needs are referred to CHS clinicians for screening and assessment.</p> <p>CHS Mental Health Clinicians consult and collaborate with school staff to address the needs of students and families impacted by environmental stressors such as poverty, incarceration, gun violence, food insecurity, and addiction. CHS clinicians provide professional development trainings to teachers and administrators throughout the school year on topics including recognizing mental health in children, the</p> |                                  |

impact of trauma on child development, and how to incorporate trauma-informed practices in the classroom setting. These trainings help equip school staff to identify early signs of students struggling with trauma or mental health needs which in turn allows earlier provision of Tier 3 intervention services.

CHS clinicians screen for substance misuse and abuse. In instances where a student presents with a co-occurring disorder with persistent and compulsive substance abuse, the clinician will collaborate with the School Counselor to refer the client to the Duval County Public Schools treatment resources, including Gateway Community Services for a comprehensive substance abuse evaluation and ongoing substance abuse treatment.

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Evidence-Based Program</b>  | Motivational Interviewing (MI) |
| <b>Tier(s) of Implementation</b>   | Tier 3                         |
| Describe the key EBP components that will be implemented.  |                                |
| <p>Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a client-centered and strengths-based approach for promoting behavior change. MI is designed to strengthen personal motivation for and commitment to a specific goal by eliciting and exploring the person's own reasons for change within an atmosphere of acceptance and compassion.</p> <p>MI is provided in individual therapy sessions typically held during school hours. MI can be used by itself or in combination with other treatments. MI is appropriate for targeting specific behavior problems such as impulsivity, acting out, self-harm, and substance use. MI aims to increase student receptivity and decrease resistance.</p>  |                                |
| <p>Explain how your district will implement evidence-based mental health services for students to improve the early identification of social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use disorders, as well as the likelihood of at risk students developing social emotional or behavioral problems, depression, anxiety disorders or suicidal tendencies, and how these will assist students dealing with trauma and violence.</p>   |                                |
| <p>Children's Home Society (CHS) Mental Health Clinicians will engage elementary and middle school students in individual therapy sessions typically once per week for 45-60 minutes. Clinicians create a nonjudgmental environment that allows students to talk openly about experiences, values, beliefs, goals, and behavior. Clinicians utilize MI techniques to empower students to change by drawing out and reflecting on their own capacity for change.</p> <p>Students collaborate with clinicians to develop and practice skills involving expressing empathy, developing discrepancy, learning to roll with resistance, and supporting self-efficacy. Students learn to express in their own words their desire for change and enhance their confidence in taking action and noticing that small, incremental changes are important in the process of change. Clinicians may provide students with journals or incorporate other expressive outlets for reflection.</p> |                                |
| <p>Explain how the supports will deliver evidence-based mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to students at high risk of such diagnoses.</p>   |                                |
| <p>CHS clinicians screen for substance misuse and abuse. In instances where a student presents with a co-occurring disorder with persistent and compulsive substance abuse, the clinician will collaborate with the School Counselor to refer the client to the Duval County Public Schools treatment resources, including Gateway Community Services for a comprehensive substance abuse evaluation and ongoing substance abuse treatment.</p>  |                                |

## Direct Employment

### MHAA Plan Direct Employment

#### School Counselor

*Current Ratio as of August 1, 2023*

**2:800**

*2023-2024 proposed Ratio by June 30, 2024*

**2:800**

### **School Social Worker**

*Current Ratio as of August 1, 2023*

**1:800**

*2023-2024 proposed Ratio by June 30, 2024*

**1:800**

### **School Psychologist**

*Current Ratio as of August 1, 2023*

*2023-2024 proposed Ratio by June 30, 2024*

### **Other Licensed Mental Health Provider**

*Current Ratio as of August 1, 2023*

**2:800**

*2023-2024 proposed Ratio by June 30, 2024*

**2:800**

## **Direct employment policy, roles and responsibilities**

**Explain how direct employment of school-based mental health services providers (school psychologists, school social workers, school counselors and other licensed mental health professionals) will reduce staff-to-student ratios.**

At 1271-KIPP VOICE Academy, the direct employment of school-based mental health service providers increases the total number of staff available and dedicated to providing social-emotional and behavioral health support to students in individual, family, small group, and classroom settings.

**Describe your district's established policies and procedures to increase the amount of time student services personnel spend providing direct mental health services (e.g., review and revision of staffing allocations based on school or student mental health assistance needs).**

At 1271-KIPP VOICE Academy, two Children's Home Society (CHS) Mental Health Clinicians are contracted to provide direct mental health care to students. CHS clinicians meet regularly with School Counselors and Administrators to support a steady referral flow by identifying students with mental health or trauma symptoms.

**Describe the role of school based mental health providers and community-based partners in the implementation of your evidence-based mental health program.**

At 1271-KIPP VOICE Academy, CHS is the sole provider of Tier 3 services. The two CHS clinicians are registered with the Florida Department of Health Licensing Board for Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling. CHS provides crisis support and Baker Act evaluations.

## **Community Contracts/Interagency Agreements**

**List the contracts or interagency agreements with local behavioral health providers or Community Action Team (CAT) services and specify the type of behavioral health services being provided on or off the school campus.**

At 1271-KIPP VOICE Academy, Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS) is our local provider. CHS Mental Health Clinicians provide individual, family, and group counseling services. The partnership with CHS also includes one licensed supervisor to oversee the program and to help reduce staff-to-student ratios and assist with student mental health needs at KIPP VOICE Academy.

## MHAA Planned Funds and Expenditures

### Allocation Funding Summary

**MHAA funds provided in the 2023-2024 Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP)**

**Unexpended MHAA funds from previous fiscal years**

**Grand Total MHAA Funds**

### MHAA planned Funds and Expenditures Form

Please complete the MHAA planned Funds and Expenditures Form to verify the use of funds in accordance with (s.) 1006.041 Florida Statutes.

The allocated funds may not supplant funds that are provided for this purpose from other operating funds and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses. School districts are encouraged to maximize third-party health insurance benefits and Medicaid claiming for services, where appropriate.

The following documents were submitted as evidence for this section:

*No files were uploaded*

## Charter Governing Board Approval

This application certifies that the **Duval County Public Schools** governing board has approved the Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan, which outlines the local program and planned expenditures to establish or expand school-based mental health care consistent with the statutory requirements for the mental health assistance allocation in accordance with section 1011.62(14), F.S.

### Governing Board Approval Date

Tuesday 7/18/2023