

Hidalgo County Head Start Program

Policy Council Agenda

DATE: May 20, 2009

SUBJECT: Discussion/Approval of Mental Health Services 2009-2010 Program Plan

RATIONALE/NEED: The program plans must be approved annually to comply with Federal Performance Standards.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends approval.

COST: N/A

RELATED INFORMATION INCLUDES: Mental Health Services Program Plan

INITIATED BY: Elma Garza, Mental Health Director

REVIEWED BY: Edmundo Garcia, Assistant Program Director

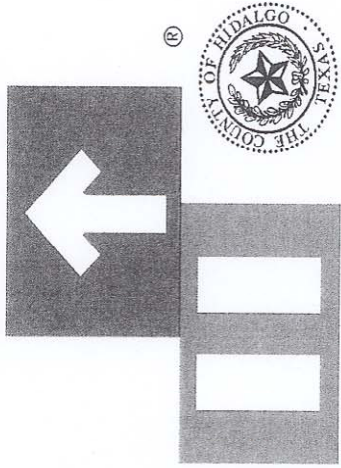
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:

Jeresa Flores

SP for EG

Edmundo Garcia

Hidalgo County Head Start Program



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM PLAN 2009-2010

Elma Garza R.N., Mental Health Services Director

Committee Approval: 05/11/09
Policy Council Approval: 05.20.09
Commissioners' Court Approval:

**HIDALGO COUNTY EARLY START/HEAD START PROGRAM
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH SERVICE
PROGRAM PLAN
2009-2010**

PERFORMANCE STANDARD: 1304.24 (a) (1) (i) (ii)

GOAL: The HCHSP will work collaboratively with parents to solicit parental information, observations, and concerns on child's mental health. Staff will share observations of the child's behavior with parents and discuss development, separation and attachment issues.

OBJECTIVE: To provide opportunities to solicit and discuss with parents information and concerns about their child's mental health.

TASK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING	PROJECTED DATE OF COMPLETION	DOCUMENTS OR FORMS
<p>1. Staff will obtain information about a child's mental health thru activities such as enrollment, home visits reports, Functional Assessment Interview, parent conference, parent partnership agreement and children's health records.</p>	<p>Teachers Center Manager and Support Services Staff</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>HSFIS enrollment Home visit report Child's health records, parent partnership agreement Functional Assessment Interview</p>
<p>2. Staff will share observations on children's behavior and development and growth with parents through the six weeks progress report, the mental health professional classroom observations, staff observations, home visits and staffing on behavior issues.</p>	<p>Teachers, Center Manager, Support Services Staff</p>	<p>Mental Health Services and Education Area Directors</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Six weeks progress report, home visit reports, classroom observations, child observation, staffing, parent interview form on mental health</p>
<p>3. The Mental Health Parent Handbook for 2009-2010 will be issued to all parents at the August orientation meeting. The handbook provides parents information that helps them understand children's behaviors and how to seek help if needed.</p>	<p>Teachers, Center Managers, Support Services Facilitators and Assistants</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August and September</p>	<p>Mental Health Parent Handbook 2009-2010. Parent orientation meeting agenda.</p>

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PERFORMANCE STANDARD: 1304.24 (a)(1)(iii)(iv)

GOAL: The HCHSP staff will discuss and identify with parents appropriate responses to their child's behaviors and discuss how to strengthen and nurture supportive environments and relationships in the home and at the program.

OBJECTIVE: To provide staff and parents opportunities to determine age appropriate responses to children's behaviors.

TASK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING	PROJECTED DATE OF COMPLETION	DOCUMENTS OR FORMS
<p>1. During home visits or staffings held on children's behaviors, the staff discusses with parents appropriate responses to their child's behaviors. Parents receive information on social and emotional development during these home visits and staffings held. Center staff received training on positive behavior support during pre-service trainings.</p>	<p>Teachers, Center/Case managers, Education and Mental Health Services Directors</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Parent Interview Form on Mental Health, Behavior plans, Staffing Notes, Home Visit Reports</p>
<p>2. The quarterly newsletter provides parents information on children's social and emotional development and on various mental health topics. The information provided offers parents support on how to strengthen and nurture environments in the home and program.</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Quarterly Newsletter</p>
<p>3. Outcomes of the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (behavior screening) are shared with parents during the teacher's first home visit. Periodic home visits and the six weeks progress report cards allow for staff to share with parents their child's social/emotional development.</p>	<p>Teachers</p>	<p>Mental Health Services and Education Area Directors</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Devereux Early Childhood Assessment outcomes and Six Week Progress Reports</p>



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PERFORMANCE STANDARD: 1304.24 (a) (3) (i) (ii) (iii)

GOAL: Mental Health Professional will assist with design and implement program practices responsive to the identified behavioral and mental health concerns of an individual child or group, promote children's mental wellness by providing staff and parent education on mental health issues and professional will assist in providing children with atypical behavior or development and utilize community resources.

OBJECTIVE: To ensure early identification regarding "possible" behavior concerns.

TASK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING	PROJECTED DATE OF COMPLETION	DOCUMENTS OR FORMS
<p>1. Teachers will administer the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) a behavior screening to all children within 45 days of enrollment. This screening is performed to identify behavioral concerns. The DECA individual profile outcomes are reviewed and if a behavior concern is identified than the mental health process is implemented.</p> <p>2. The Mental Health Professional will provide schedules of on site classroom visits. Posting the professionals' schedule allows parents and staff the opportunity to speak to them. Visits are at least twice a year once in the Fall and in the Spring. A copy of the classroom observation is kept at the center and the original is sent to the Mental Health Services Department</p>	<p>Teachers</p> <p>Mental Health Professional</p>	<p>Center Manager and Support Services Facilitator, Mental Health Services Director and Education Area Director</p> <p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>Within forty-five (45) days</p> <p>Sept thru Nov and Jan thru March</p>	<p>Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Individual Profile, Mental health process</p> <p>2009-2010 Mental Health Community Providers Schedule</p>
<p>3. Children with severe and persistent challenging behaviors will have an Individualized Positive Guidance Plan developed by the parents and staff as indicated in the mental health process. The plan is proactive and focuses on teaching new skills in the classroom and home environment. The family is encouraged to seek and consult with mental health professionals.</p>	<p>Teachers, Case Manager, Parents, M.H. Services Dir.</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director, Education Area Directors and Special Services Director</p>	<p>September thru May</p>	<p>Individual Positive Guidance Plan, Behavior Plans</p>

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<p>4. The "Kindness Curriculum" is the mental health curriculum that promotes positive self-concept and enhances individual strengths in children. Through the education services monthly mental health activities are scheduled in the curriculum calendar. These are written in the weekly lesson plans and implemented as indicated. The Mental Health Professionals in the Health Advisory provide recommendations and resources related to the design and implementation of program practices.</p>	<p>Teachers</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director and Mental Health Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Sept. thru May</p>	<p>Kindness Curriculum Education Curriculum Calendar, weekly lesson plan</p>
<p>5. The annual Fatherhood/Healthy Marriages Conference offers parents training on child's social and emotional development, special needs of children, communication in the family, fathers as educators and provides parents of resources in the community.</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Parent Sign-In Posters/booklet</p>
<p>6. The Mental Health Professional may be part of the team to guide parent/guardian and staff by helping to develop behavior management plans for children with atypical development.</p>	<p>Center Manager Support Services Staff and Mental Health Professional</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Individual Positive Guidance Plan</p>
<p>7. Mental Health Professionals will provide parents and staff mental health education. Reading materials will be provided on a wide array of mental health topics at these parent education groups. This type of informal groups teaches parents to talk about their own experiences and to learn from one another and how to seek professional help if needed.</p>	<p>Mental Health Professionals</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Director</p>	<p>August thru May</p>	<p>Sign in for Parent Meetings, Schedules On Mental Health Parent Trainings</p>