

Intradistrict Communication

DATE: August 15, 2017

TO: Principals
School Psychologists
Counselors

FROM: Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum/Staff Development & Special Programs
Lisa Robinson, Director–Special Education
Fulvia Franco, Program Specialist–Guidance Programs

SUBJECT: Procedures for Intervention with High-Risk Students

Attached is a copy of the document *Procedures to be Followed with High-Risk Students* that has been revised and modified to reflect changes in personnel and agency fee schedules.

Attachment

cc: G. Norma Villar
Holly Bell

PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED WITH HIGH-RISK STUDENTS

EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL

The following procedures will be used with families of students who present social/emotional problems of an educational nature.

1. If the presenting problem is determined to be short-term, of an educational nature, and negatively impacting the educational performance of the student in academic or social/emotional areas, the family may be referred to the Jordan Family Education Center for an Intake Assessment with possible short-term family counseling. The local school should also determine whether the student's educational needs are being adequately addressed, if guidance services at the school are necessary, or whether a referral to the school's Child Study Team for possible evaluation is appropriate. If the student is classified as having a disability, the IEP Team should review the existing IEP to determine if it adequately addresses the educational needs of the student.
2. If the school psychologist or counselor is unable to clearly determine whether the presenting problem is school-related, the family may be referred to the Jordan Family Education Center for an Intake Assessment. The Intake Assessment process at the Jordan Family Education Center may also be used in dealing with medium risk suicide referrals. Medium risk is defined as follows:
 - a. Suicidal ideation present (no strong intent)
 - b. Minor changes in recent behavior (i.e., appetite, sleeping behavior)
 - c. Mild to moderate degree of depression or unexplained mood swings

NONEDUCATIONAL SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL (NOT LIFE-THREATENING)

The following procedures will be employed by the school psychologist or counselor when it is determined that a student's social/emotional problem is not of an educational nature and is, therefore, outside the service pattern offered by the District. These families may be referred to the JFEC for an intake assessment.

1. If it is determined that the presenting problem is not of an educational nature, the family should be informed that the issue does not appear to be education-related. If in the professional judgment of the school psychologist or counselor, the family might benefit from additional counseling services of a long-term nature outside of the educational system, the school psychologist or counselor may suggest that the parents may wish to consider whether they want to pursue services by a private provider. Parents should be asked whether they have health insurance that covers mental health services. If the family has health insurance, their particular insurance company will inform them where services should be obtained. Families without health insurance may be asked if they are interested in being provided with a list of private, nonprofit agencies that work with families on a sliding-fee scale basis. Some of the agencies with sliding fee scales have been listed below:
 - a. **Family Counseling Center**
Phone: 801-261-3500
650 E. 4500 S. #300
Murray, UT 84107
www.familycounselingcenterutah.com
Accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Optum referrals, and some private insurance
Counseling for children age 7 and older
 - b. **Family Support Center**
Phone: 801-955-9110
1760 West 4805 South (Admin. Office)
Taylorsville, UT 84129
www.familysupportcenter.org
Accepts Medicaid, United Health Care, Blue Cross/Blue Shield (based on Provider Plan), self-pay and Crime Victim Reparations.
Parent Education and Adult Anger Management classes are available (for a fee).
Free services:
 - Crisis Nursery (3 locations)
 - Family Mentoring (in-home family support)
 - Adoption Respite Care
 - c. **Optum Health Services**
Medicaid Services #: 877-370-8953
Mental health telephone #: 800-888-2998

2525 Lake Park Blvd.
West Valley City, UT. 84120
www.optumhealthslco.com
provider inquiries: saltlakecounty.networkbox@optum.com

d. Valley Behavioral Health - Children's Outpatient Services

Phone: 801-284-4990

Main Office: 1141 East 3900 South #A170
Salt Lake City, UT 84124

West Office: 3809 West 6200 South
Kearns, UT

www.valleycares.com

Services provided for children with a mental health disorder and no health insurance, Medicaid and some private insurance. Unfunded program's co-pay is a sliding fee scale based on income, number of dependents and Utah residency for at least 90 days. Must be denied by Medicaid in order to qualify for unfunded or sliding scale program

e. Youth Services Center (SLCo.)

Salt Lake Office: 177 West Price Ave. (3610 South)
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
385-468-4500

Riverton Office: 8781 S. Redwood Rd.
West Jordan UT 84088
385-468-4610

www.slco.org/youth/

Accepts Medicaid; sliding fee scale for other insurance programs

Counseling for families with children ages 8-17

Free crisis counseling services

Short term counseling (up to 8 sessions); extended counseling offered for mental health or substance abuse issues
Parenting, substance abuse and anger management classes are available (for a fee)

2. Families should be informed they may seek services from a mental health agency or private practitioner other than those listed above if they wish to do so. Families should be encouraged to check with their insurance companies for specific information regarding coverage. Those who have preferred provider insurance (PPO) or Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) coverage may be required by their insurance companies to receive counseling services through designated agencies or therapists. If a written release of information has been obtained from the parent, pertinent information or reports may be shared with the therapist from the outside agency.

NONEDUCATIONAL SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL (LIFE-THREATENING)

The following procedures will be used by school psychologists or counselors when it is determined that a student's social/emotional problem is not of an educational nature and potentially life threatening.

1. In the event that a student is determined to be in a life-threatening situation in which a significant threat to his/her life and/or that of another individual exists, the situation must first be reviewed with a member of the school's administrative staff. The situation must also be reviewed by Fulvia Franco (801-567-8390) Cassandra Romine (801-565-7584), or Lisa Robinson (801-567-8374), before the parent is provided with information regarding possible intervention(s). If these individuals are unavailable, please contact Marla Potter at the Jordan Family Education Center (801-565-7442) for assistance.

The parent(s) must be notified, and if the student is in treatment, the family may be referred to the student's current therapist. A parent must pick the student up from school if the student is actively suicidal. Students who are actively suicidal should not be sent home unless they are accompanied by a parent. Parents of students who have Medicaid coverage should be given the phone number for Optum Health (877-370-8953). Families with health insurance should contact their insurance company for information regarding which agency provides crisis intervention services in their particular case. Parents should also be provided with the number for the 24 Hour UNI Crisis Line/Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) - 801-587-3000. Note: The District Administration has determined that the information regarding UNI Health's 24-Hour Crisis Line/Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) telephone number should only be given directly to parents. This service is free of charge because it is funded by a grant through Salt Lake County.

2. Life-threatening situations include individuals who are actively suicidal, homicidal, physically explosive or aggressive, or too disabled to adequately care for themselves. These situations are defined as follows:

Actively Suicidal: These individuals represent a high likelihood of suicidal behavior, in contrast to individuals who have suicidal ideation but no active plan, or those individuals who use non lethal suicidal gestures. The following factors should be considered in determining whether an individual is actively suicidal:

- a. a recent hospital discharge
- b. a significant loss
- c. a mood or thought disorder
- d. a family history of suicide
- e. substance abuse
- f. a set plan
- g. intent to use a lethal suicide method
- h. the nature of previous attempts
- i. the type of available support systems (e.g., the client's parents, or extended family)

Homicidal: These are individuals who communicate an actual threat of physical violence against a clearly identified or reasonably identifiable victim. A school administrator, the parents of the intended victim(s), as well as the parents of the student making the threat, must be informed of the threat. A law enforcement officer or agency must also be notified of the threat.

Students expressing homicidal ideation, with an actual threat of physical violence against faculty, staff, or other students, with the intent to cause death, and with some ability or reality-based capacity to carry out such intent, will have those threats investigated and substantiated by the school administration, working with local law enforcement and the school psychologist. In these situations, the administrator should contact his/her Administrator of Schools to discuss whether the student should be referred for a School Violence Risk Assessment (SVRA). Identified students, pending parental/legal guardian consent, will complete an in-depth intake assessment at the JFEC.

If the JFEC staffing committee determines that an SVRA is warranted, a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation and a psychoeducational evaluation conducted by the school psychologist will be completed. The purpose of the School Violence Risk Assessment is to determine the level of risk posed by the identified student and to assist the district in determining the appropriate educational placement for the student. Fulvia Franco is the district's liaison for these assessments.

Explosive or Aggressive: These individuals may not be threatening to a specific individual but are generally aggressive and dangerous physically.

Inability To Care For Oneself: This may be demonstrated by a severe disability, such as psychosis, which exists to such an extent that the individual is in danger of serious physical harm.

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f. **24 Hour UNI Crisis Line/Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) - 801-587-3000**

(Sponsored by Salt Lake County, University of Utah and Optum Health SLCo)

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