

DISABILITY AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES CHILDREN'S BUDGET

Mental Health Grants and State Aid

Mental Health Grants awarded to local community mental health centers are used to implement programs and services that assist children and youth with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and their families. The services:

- Treat symptoms and provide needed supports and services to increase mental health resiliency in the child’s home and community;
- Help children develop skills to enhance independent functioning;
- Help organize and secure services and resources to assist the client/family in directing their own lives; and
- Assist the family in setting their own goals which focus on helping them develop their strengths and supports while increasing community integration.

Family Centered System of Care

This program funds treatment, supports, and services for children with an SED whose families do not have the means to pay for needed community mental health services. The services are the same as those listed for Mental Health Grants and State Aid.

Medicaid Funded Community Mental Health Services

SRS is assisted with its purchasing of Medicaid funded community mental health services through a managed care contract with Kansas Health Solutions (KHS). KHS contracts with a variety of community mental health providers that include community mental health centers and other private mental health practitioners. KHS is responsible to ensure persons with mental illness who are Medicaid eligible receive a comprehensive array of timely, quality, accessible, and effective mental health services in all areas of the state. As part of its responsibility, KHS manages the Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Children with a Serious Emotional Disturbance and the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Community Based Alternative grant. Both of these services fund an array of Medicaid funded community mental health services for children and youth without regard to their parent’s income.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities

A Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) provides comprehensive mental health treatment to children and adolescents who, due to mental illness, substance abuse, or severe emotional disturbance, are in need of treatment that can most effectively be provided in a psychiatric residential treatment facility. PRTFs provide short term, intense, and focused psychiatric treatment to promote a successful return of the child or adolescent to the community. Specific outcomes of the mental health services include the resident returning to the family or to another less restrictive community living situation as soon as clinically possible and when treatment in a PRTF is no longer medically necessary. The residential treatment facility works actively with the family, other agencies, and the community to offer strengths-based, culturally competent, and medically appropriate treatment designed to meet the individual needs of the resident including those residents identified with emotional and behavioral issues.

AAPS Treatment Services

Addiction and Prevention Services (AAPS) provides funding for children, youth, and families through a statewide continuum of substance use disorder treatment services. Specialized programs for women with dependent children exist in locations throughout the state. AAPS contracts with one residential youth program and several outpatient youth programs. Beginning in FY 2010, AAPS has improved its reporting abilities for these programs.

AAPS Prevention

AAPS provides funding to support statewide administration of YouthFriends, a school based mentoring program to encourage success, promote healthy behaviors and build strong communities. This funding helps to support technical assistance to local coordinators, program data collection, recruitment efforts and training of adult volunteers who mentor young people in schools.

AAPS Managed Care

AAPS administers and manages Medicaid funded community-based substance use disorder treatment services. Medicaid eligible Kansans in need of treatment services can access hospital based, intermediate and reintegration treatment services, intensive outpatient, and outpatient services from more than 185 provider locations across the state. Since July 1, 2007, SRS has purchased treatment services through a managed care organization, Value Options-Kansas. Value Options-Kansas assists AAPS in meeting its mission by contracting with community-based agencies across the state to provide quality, accessible, and effective treatment services to the greatest number of persons.

Family Support

Family Support Grants provides grant funding to families to help raise and care for their children who are MR/DD living at home (some children are over 21 years of age). Services include such support as respite, direct cash payments, in home attendant care, family training, surrogate parenting, home modifications, van lifts, etc. The number served is reported by Community Developmental Disability Organizations.

The Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals who are Developmentally Disabled (HCBS/DD) and The Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals in need of Technical Assistance (HCBS/TA)

The HCBS/DD Waiver provides Medicaid funds for services similar to family support, described above, to individuals who are MR/DD who would otherwise be served in more expensive and more restrictive public or private Intermediate Care Facilities for people with Mental Retardation (ICFs/MR). Since 1992, the HCBS/DD waiver has served children five through 18 years of age in addition to adults who are MR/DD. Children qualifying for the MR/DD Waiver would otherwise be eligible to be placed in an ICFs/MR.

The HCSS/TA Waiver provides Medicaid funds for children who are medically fragile and technology dependent, requiring intense medical care comparable to the level of care provided in a hospital setting. Children qualifying for the TA Waiver would otherwise be eligible to be placed in an in-patient hospital setting. Children receive case management by advanced registered nurse practitioners or registered nurses who coordinate their care.

SRS does charge a sliding parental fee for these waivers, but waives parental income measures for eligibility determination. Children can access these services directly if their family income and situation qualifies them to be eligible for Medicaid. Other children, whose family income is higher, can access these services through parental income being disregarded as allowed by the federally approved waiver.

CDDOs-Targeted Case Management

Developmental Disability Targeted Case Management (TCM) will assist the individual who is developmentally disabled and the individual’s support network to identify, select, obtain, coordinate, and use both paid services and natural supports, as may be available, to enhance the individual’s independence, integration, and productivity consistent with the person’s capabilities and preferences as outlined in the individual’s person-centered support plan. Case management includes the following elements: assessment, support planning, support coordination, advocacy, and transition planning.

Positive Behavior Support

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) funds are made available to Community Support Providers and Community Developmental Disability Organizations to assist them with designing and implementing successful services strategies for persons with severe behavior challenges. PBS is a set of research-based strategies that are intended to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors by designing effective environments and teaching individuals appropriate social and communication skills. PBS is the integration of: valued outcomes; behavioral and biomedical science; validated procedures; and systems change to enhance an individual’s quality of life and reduce problem behaviors. This service is provided to children under the age of 21, who are at risk of out-of-home placement with a developmental disability, a diagnosis of autism, or a traumatically inflicted brain injury.

CSS-Autism Waiver

The Autism Waiver is the newest of the HCBS waivers with the first funding approved for FY 2008. The Autism Waiver is designed to provide intensive early intervention services to children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Studies show that early intensive intervention for these children is the most effective method for increasing functional skills, replacing challenging behavior, and improving quality of life. The services funded by the Autism Waiver include respite care to provide relief to primary caregivers; parent support and training; and intensive individual supports, which will provide the therapy needed to assist the child in acquiring, retaining, improving, the self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills needed. Consultative clinical and therapeutic services and family adjustment counseling will also be provided.

ENHANCEMENTS

The following enhancement requests are included in the DBHS budget for children’s services. See the Supplementals/Enhancements section for details.

- Restore Mental Health Grant Reductions
- Restore Addiction and Prevention Services Grants Reduction
- Restore Mental Health Grant Funding Shifted to Medicaid Match
- Restore Developmental Disability Grant Reduction