

EXPANDING SYSTEM OF CARE

**Hood County
Johnson County
Palo Pinto County
Parker County
Tarrant County**

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Collaboration of public and private agencies, individual, and families.

Vision: No wrong door to the right mental health resources



Sponsoring Organizations

(\$25,000 support annually)

- ACH Child and Family Services
- City of Fort Worth
- Cook Children's Medical Center
- Fort Worth Independent School District
- JPS Health Network
- Lena Pope Home, Inc.
- Mental Health Mental Retardation of Tarrant County
- Tarrant County



Members

(\$300 – \$10,000 support annually)

- AIDS Outreach Center
- Alliance for Children
- Catholic Charities
- Child Study Center
- First United Methodist Church
- Masonic Home for Children
- Mental Health Association
- Millwood Hospital
- NAMI of Tarrant County
- Pressley Ridge
- Safe Haven of Tarrant County
- Santa Fe Youth Services
- Tarrant County Challenge
- The Art Station
- The Parenting Center
- Trauma Support Services
- United Way of Tarrant County
- The Women's Center

Plus numerous individuals (\$30)

Others Who Participate

- Mental health consumers and their families
- Physicians and private therapists
- Elected Officials and Government Agencies
- Texas Health Resources
- Baylor All Saints
- University of Texas at Arlington
- University of Texas at Austin
- Southwestern Medical Center
- University of North Texas Health Science Center
- Tarrant County College
- Texas Wesleyan
- Texas Women's University
- CPS
- Arlington ISD
- Keller ISD
- Crowley ISD
- DFW Center for Autism
- Arlington Police Dept.
- Fort Worth Police Dept.
- Resource Recovery Council
- Judicial System
- Corporate Community
- YWCA
- YMCA
- Multi-Cultural Alliance
- Faith community

Community Solutions



- \$9.6 million cooperative agreement
- Started 2002
- Administered by City of Fort Worth
- Target population:
 - Children ages 6-18
 - Enrolled in Fort Worth ISD
 - Experiencing severe emotional disturbance

Legacy of Community Solutions



- Mental Health Connection structure
- Family Resource Centers
- DataLink (management information system)
- Family Organization
 - Family & Consumer Connection
 - Community Evaluation Team
 - Links of Hope
- Expansion of Evidence-Based Practices
- Better Outcomes for Children and Families

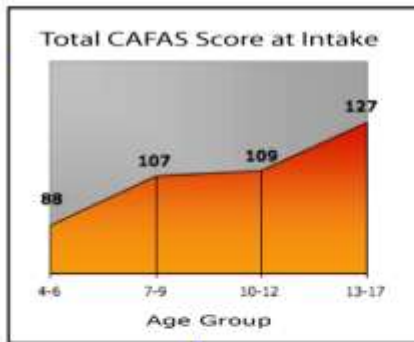
Wraparound reduces Functional Impairment

Most children entered wraparound with **Serious or Severe** impairment in their daily lives, as measured by the Child & Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS).

SERIOUS
(or "Marked")
Total score
100 - 130

SEVERE
Total score
140 or more

Severity increases with age especially as youths become involved with substance use and delinquent behavior.

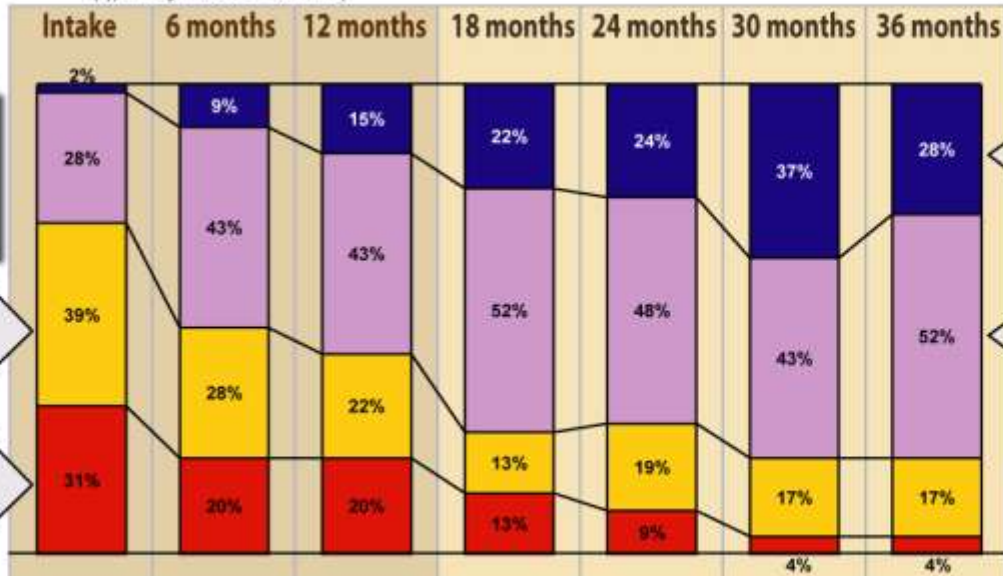


Early intervention is key.

Intervention

(Typical length of service = 12 months)

Post-Intervention



MILD
Total score
40 or less

MODERATE
Total score
50 - 90

Wraparound helped families find ways for their children to function better at school and at home.

The percentage of children with severe impairment in these settings dropped over the course of the intervention ...



Life after wraparound:

Most youths sustained Mild or Moderate levels of impairment up to 3 years later.

The average change in functioning was substantial - a clinically and statistically significant improvement.

(mean 36-month change on CAFAS = 46 points, $p < .001$)

Data are based on a sample of 47 families who participated in a local longitudinal outcome study and provided complete data at each time point.

An additional 14 families provided partial data that, though not shown here, followed the same pattern of results.

The other CAFAS subscales not shown here also showed improvement, except for the Substance Abuse subscale.

Focus on Early Childhood

- First few years of life critical to brain development
- Recent years have seen an increase in severe behavioral & emotional problems among preschool-aged children
 - 35% increase in preschoolers needing inpatient psychiatric care in local children's hospital
- Gap in services at age 3 when children graduate from Early Childhood Services
 - Many child psychiatrists will not diagnosis or prescribe medications until age 6
- Early intervention prevents later involvement with high-cost systems (child welfare, juvenile justice)



- \$8.3 million cooperative agreement
- Started in 2008
- Administered by MHMR of Tarrant County
- Target population:
 - Children ages 0-6
 - Residents of Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, or Tarrant Counties
 - Experiencing severe emotional disturbance



- Expanding System of Care to rural communities
 - Wraparound
 - Respite
 - DataLink
- Working with local grass-roots organizations
- Connecting families with other families
 - Family mentor program
 - Play groups / Support groups
 - Social networking and technology

Training

- Wraparound training
- Statewide certification for home visitors
- Cultural competence training
- Early childhood education
- Training for childcare providers
- Training clinicians in evidence-based practices

Evidence-Based Practices

- Bridging the Gap Symposium
- Journal Club reviewing EBP's for young children:
 - Nurse-Family Partnership
 - PCIT
 - Incredible Years
 - High/Scope Curriculum
- Trauma-Focused CBT
 - Participating in national study
 - Partnership with UT Austin

Challenges

- High levels of stigma in rural communities
- Lack of mental health services for young children, particularly in rural communities
- Young parents struggling with their own mental health and substance abuse issues
- Increased number of children in kinship care
- Physicians lack of expertise in early childhood mental health