

Answers to Questions about the CTSP Request for Application

There have been several queries about the school based mental health project and the cost model for this project. Below are a fuller explanation and some projections about clinician costs and revenue.

Plan for School Based Mental Health Expansion

- Start up for \$4,725 for each of 15 clinicians
- 5 clinicians each for the following school districts: Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools, Orange County Schools, Chatham County Schools
- Clinicians will cover 1-2 schools each
- Start up cost cover first month of the school year as clinician makes connections to school staff and develops a referral base.
- After the initial month, the position should be sustainable with 25 hours of billable time per week. Billable hours could be from Medicaid, HealthChoice, and or state mental health funds. The rest of the clinician's hours could be consultation for teachers and training and other non-billable activities.
- School based clinicians are expected to participate in School Based Mental Health Training institute that will meet throughout the school year. Training in first year will be in cognitive behavior therapy.
- School based clinicians should be licensed therapists and will need to register with the school district within which he/she will be working.
- All school based mental health is done with parent permission and involvement.
- Some of the billable time will likely be done in the family home for intake or family sessions, so clinicians for this project need to be comfortable practicing in a variety of settings and with a flexible schedule in order.
- The school year is about 41 weeks long but there are weeks when the school is not in session (Thanksgiving, winter break, spring break) so the clinician would need to bill during some of the school vacation and over the summer.

Potential costs of school based clinician:

\$40,000	salary
\$13,200	33% for fringe, benefits
\$2,000	mileage
<u>\$1500</u>	<u>laptop</u>
\$56,700	

One month salary = \$4,725

Below are projections of revenues based on 25 hours of billing per week based on whether the clinicians were doing behavioral counseling or psychotherapy. The projections are based on 46 weeks of billing 25 hours per week.

25 hrs of billable time x 46 weeks x \$66 per hr (H code for behavioral health counseling/ 45 minutes) = \$75,900

or

25 hrs of billable time x 46 weeks x \$60.47 per hr (45-50 minute CPT code for psychotherapy/ non facility) = \$69,540