

Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma (ARBEST)

Quarterly Legislative Report (July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016)

OVERVIEW

Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma (ARBEST) was established in the spring of 2009, when the Arkansas State Legislature approved funding to improve screening, monitoring, and continuity of care for children experiencing physical or sexual abuse. Several changes were made to the ARBEST website in July 2013 in order to maintain quality assurance for the Mental Health Appropriation for the state's Child Advocacy Centers (CAC). These changes enhance procedures for monitoring the type and duration of care for each child and their family referred to a CAC-contracted mental health professional (MHP). All ARBEST activities are housed within the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute (PRI) to minimize redundancy and allow for improved communications between UAMS and the state's CACs, CAC chapter, MHPs, child welfare workers and other stakeholders. ARBEST holds quarterly Advisory Committee meetings with representatives from the UAMS Departments of Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Family and Preventive Medicine; the Children's Advocacy Centers of Arkansas (the Executive Director and members of the Mental Health Workgroup); and the Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence.

TIMELINE

- March 2016 – 14 out of 14 CACs respond to the RFQ for CAC Mental Health Services for FY17
- June 2016 – Legislative Review Committee approves Professional Contract Service.
- July 2016 – FY16 fourth quarter payment is distributed to CACs

MENTAL HEALTH APPROPRIATION RESULTS (July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016)

- 1,311 children were registered by the state's CACs during the 1st quarter of FY17.
- 230 (28%) children who were eligible for counseling were registered by mental health professionals across the state affiliated with a local CAC. Registration indicates intent to provide mental health assessment and/or treatment to a child.
- 1,515.43 hours of mental health services were provided to children and their families by mental health professionals during the 1st quarter, which is an average of 6.5 hours per child.
- An additional 179.15 hours of indirect services were provided by MHPs, the majority of which included attendance at Multidisciplinary Team meetings, supervision, outreach and ARBEST data entry.
- 10 CACs met the goal of providing mental health services to at least 30% of children registered by the CAC or providing 94 hours or more of direct service to their clients.
- 4 CACs did not meet the goal of providing mental health services to at least 30% of children registered by the CAC or providing 94 hours or more of direct service to their clients. Based on the performance standards listed in the ARBEST Mental Health Appropriation Agreement, these CACs received a decreased proportion of their funding for the 1st quarter.

MENTAL HEALTH APPROPRIATION GOALS (July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016)

- The 4 CACs that did not meet the 30% goal of registering new eligible clients or providing 94 hours of direct service will receive technical assistance during the 2nd quarter of FY17.

RELATED ARBEST ACTIVITIES

During the 1st quarter of FY17, ARBEST was also engaged in the following activities to support the mental health of children with suspected abuse and their families:

- Partner Trainings:
 - 7/12/16 – Juvenile Justice Training for New Probation and Intake Officers
 - 8/31/16 – 2016 Arkansas Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect
- ARBEST Webinars:
 - 7/20/16 – Incarceration and Broken Family Ties: The Invisible Victims and Unintended Consequences (Rhonda Maddox, MD)
 - 8/31/16 – When the Bough Breaks: Treating Early Childhood Trauma with Child Parent Psychotherapy (Sufna John, Ph.D.)
 - 9/20/16 – Hormones and the Human Stress Response (Terri Combs-Orme, Ph.D.)
- Preparation for the Introductory Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) training to be held October 2016 in Fort Smith.
- Preparation for the Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) training to be held November 2016 in Little Rock.
- Publication of three e-newsletters

FY 2017
Q1 (July – September 2016)

ARBEST General Activities	
Salaries/Fringe	\$143,842
Supplies	\$ 7,976
Training	\$ 7,576
CAC Data Entry	\$ 5,474
Other	\$ 789
Sub-Total	\$ -
Admin Fee	\$ -
Total	\$165,657

CAC Mental Health Appropriation	
Salaries/Fringe*	\$0
CACs	\$144,412
Total	\$144,412

*Required to be less than \$50K annually for the management of the Mental Health Appropriation.