# EXHIBIT K 

## ARBEST

## Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma

January 24, 2017

Marty Garrity, Executive Secretary
Legislative Council
500 Woodlane Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Garrity:

Like you, ARBEST (Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma) is dedicated to improving the lives of our state's children. Because of your work in this area, I want to share with you our 2015-2016 annual report that captures our accomplishments of the past year, including supporting the provision of services to 6,267 Arkansas families.

ARBEST is housed at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' Psychiatric Research Institute and funded by our state legislature. For the past seven years, ARBEST has trained mental health clinicians in Arkansas in evidence-based practices to effectively treat children who have experienced trauma, including sexual and physical abuse and neglect. This past year 194 clinicians participated in our two-day training on Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, one of the most effective therapies available to heal traumatized children. To date, 450 clinicians in Arkansas have been certified in this therapy and are listed on ARBEST's website so that families and professionals can easily find trauma-informed care across the state (arbest.uams.edu/clinicianslist). We also provide a multitude of other trainings for professionals working with children, from church leaders to child advocacy center staff to child welfare frontline workers.

In addition to supporting training efforts across the state, ARBEST also helps clinicians provide direct services to children who have experienced maltreatment and to their families. With 35,519 reports of child maltreatment accepted by the Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline last year, the need for a trauma-informed response in our state is greater than ever.

These and other efforts are detailed in the enclosed annual report. We hope you find it informative and helpful to your work. Please contact me at 501-526-8311 if you have any questions about ARBEST. We appreciate your commitment to the children of Arkansas.

Sincerely,


Teresa L. Kramer, Ph.D.
Professor and Chief Psychologist
Psychiatric Research Institute

Enclosure: ARBEST FY16 Annual Report


## ARBEST

Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma

Table of Contents

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| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Letter from the
FY16 Highlights
02
Objectives

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Mission ARBEST＇s mission is to improve outcomes for traumatized training，advocacy，and evaluation．
Annual Report FY16

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { FY16 } \longrightarrow
\end{aligned}
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\begin{aligned}
& \text { January • } \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { board meets quarterly } \\
\text { program development, training needs, outreach, } \\
\text { data analysis, and strategic planning. We thank } \\
\text { dhe following members who served this year: }
\end{array}
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\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { Prymis Bell } \\
\text { office of the Governer } \\
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Dear Stakeholders,
For the past 35 years, ive witnessed the devastatirg effects
$\begin{aligned} & \text { of child sexual, physical, and psychological abuse on the } \\ & \text { children and adults with whom I've had the honor to work. }\end{aligned}$
taken a risk and entrusted a ther apist, teacher, coach. or
friend with their long-held secret. When a four-year-old child
$\begin{aligned} & \text { discloses she is being abused by her stepfather, when a } \\ & \text { nom is willing to come forward publicly and talk about how }\end{aligned}$
a Child Advocacy Center helped her son who was abused
for years by an uncle, when an adult woman reveals for the
$\begin{aligned} & \text { first time in treatment her multiple abuses involving multiple } \\ & \text { offenders, I am inspired to continue this work. And I am reas- }\end{aligned}$
sured that our mission at ARBEST is being fulfilied. Through
our efforts this past year we have directly touched the lives
$\begin{aligned} & \text { of } 6,267 \text { families, } 464 \text { therapists, } 310 \text { child welfare workers, } \\ & \text { and } 692 \text { other professionals in our state to increase aware- }\end{aligned}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { We thank you for joining with us to safeguard our children's } \\ & \text { futurc well-being, and we hope you are inspired by the prog. }\end{aligned}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { future well-being, and we hope you are inspired by the prog. } \\ & \text { ress we have made in the past year. }\end{aligned}$
Yours truly. Teven, Yrameel
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Teresa L. Kramer, Ph.D. } \\ & \text { ARBEST Director }\end{aligned}$
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Evidencesased Treathents for seven years, ARBEST has been training mental health professionals in the evidence-based treatment (EBT) of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Since 2012. ARBEST's sister program, Arkansas Network for Early Stress and Trauma (AR NEST), has been disseminating two EBTs for children who have experienced trauma:
Child-Parent $P_{\text {sychotherapy ( }}$ (CPP) and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT).

 their TF.CBT training beyond initial consultation calls. Since the first webinar aired on June 22, 2012, the series has covered a variety of topics including, "Implementing TF-CBT with Adolescent Females with h-igh Risk Behaviors," "Secondary Traumatic Stress," and "Witressing Family Violence." This fiscal year, 434
participants attended the "live" webinars, an increase of $75 \%$ from last year.

ARBEST FY16 Webinars

| Date | Presenter(s) | Topic | Attendees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| July 22 | Tiffany West ${ }^{\text {P }}$ | Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Youth: An Overview of Assessment and Differential Diagnosis | 23 |
| August 26 | Nicola Edge ${ }^{\text {e }}$ | Creating Trauma-Informed Child Care: Partnering to Support Young Children Who Have Experienced Trauma | 22 |
| September 25 | Reagan Stanford '. Lisette Yang ${ }^{\text {d }}$, <br> Emily Robbins a | Human Trafficking in Arkansas | 32 |
| October 19 | Karen Farst | The Medical Exam in Child Sexual Abuse | 21 |
| November 13 | Elizabeth Manso | Testifying at Dependency-Neglect Hearings as a Therapist or Service Provider | 26 |
| December 4 | Benjamin Sigel ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Reactive Attachment Disorde* | 48 |
| January 28 | Kendra Kohler * | Expanding Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Arkansas: Psychiatric Telehealth, Liaison, and Consultation | 15 |
| February 24 | Tess Lefmann : | The Bridge Between Nature and Nurture | 53 |
| March 23 | Josh Cisler ${ }^{2}$ | Neural Correlates of Symptom Reduction During TF-CBT | 38 |
| April 13 | Will jones ${ }^{\text {n }}$ | Cyber Crimes: Prorecting our Children through Online Investigations | 48 |
| May 18 | Chad Sievers* | Is this Helping?: Using Assessment Tools to Monitor your Clients' Symptoms and Your Program Outcomes | 53 |
| June 16 | Glenn Mesman * | Psychological Evaluations for Children and Adolescents | 55 |

UAMS Department of Psychiatry; ${ }^{\text {b }}$ UAMS Department of Farmily and Preventive Medicine, Administrative Office of the Courts: ${ }^{\text {T }}$ The University of Mississippi Department of Social Work; r Arkansas Attorney General's Office
$W 113$ ARBEST continued work on the Managing Youth Trauma Effectively (MYTE) program, an eight-session trauma-focused psychoeducational intervention developed to help caregivers understand the impast of trauma on their children; learn effective parenting strategies for
managing challenging emotional/behavioral outcomes of trauma; and create a safer, more managing challenging emotiong environment.
nurturing

This past year, ARBEST partnered with Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health), which is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and operates out of the Arkansas Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) and Mid-South Health Systems, to develop an adaptation of the MYTE program for foster and adoptive families. Focus groups were conducted with the parents and Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) staff involved with foster care to understand the ways these
parents need continued support for helping the young, traumatized children for whom they care. Focus group participants also provided feedback on ways to make the curriculum more applicable to this audience. Future plans include continuing a partnership with Project LAUNCH to offer MYTE in Mississippi County.

Tranmaflucrald Gare Continuing its partnerships with DCFS and MidSOUTH Training Academy, ARBEST developed a video training series, "Crisis Points and Triggers," for front-line staff. ARBEST continued to provide training in trauma-informed care for inpatient and outpatient juvenile justice populations, and enhance the overall quality of care provided to children and adolescents who have experienced or witnessed violence and other traumatic events.

GFGES In the fall of 2015, ARBEST organized a one-day retreat for all family advocates and MHPs affiliated with a CAC. Karen Hangartner, deputy project director of the National Children's Advocacy Center, was the keynote speaker at the retreat and tackled the important subject of secondary their efforts to aid victims of child abuse throughout the state. During this most recent fiscal year, 22 MHPs participated in regular peer review sessions in accordance with the National Children's Alliance standards of mental health.


Families Neseds for the 2,830 families who were contacted by an advocate one month after their initial visit to a CAC，most wanted assistance with counseling services（ $86.6 \%$ ），followed by case management（ $44.1 \%$ ），and help with the child＇s investigation through the Arkansas Crimes Against Children Division（24．8\％）．
Behavior FCilow－UP酋 One month after a family visits a CAC，an advocate follows up with a caregiver to screen for issues related to the child＇s emotions and behaviors．For this time period，
advocates screened 2,451 caregivers，and of those， $41 \%$ reported that the child was having difficulties $w$ th both internalizing and externalizing behaviors．

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\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l}
2.2 .5 \% \\
10.3 \\
34.0 \% \\
6.9 \% \\
72.4 \% \\
15.2 \% \\
5.4 \% \\
6.3 \% \\
8.3 \% \\
22.8 \% \\
54.9 \% \\
26.7 \% \\
65.3 \% \\
72.6 \%
\end{array} \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { Registeredby MHPs } \\
\hline \text { Average Age } \\
\text { Gender: Male } \\
\text { Female } \\
\text { Race: } \begin{array}{l}
\text { Cautasian } \\
\\
\\
\\
\text { African American } \\
\text { Other } \\
\text { More Than One }
\end{array} \\
\text { Hispanic/Latino } \\
\text { Offender Is Under Age 18 } \\
\text { Offender Is a Family Member } \\
\text { More Than One Type of } \\
\text { Trauma Reported } \\
\text { Referred From a CAC } \\
\text { MHP Plans to Use TF-CBT }
\end{array}
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Annual Report FY16

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UAMS Clinital Services One of ARBEST's goals is to make UAMS experts available to treat the most severe cases of childhood trauma from across the state through the P sychiatric Research Institute's (PRI) outpatient clinics. This year, MHPs from UAMS have registered 260 children from

 Complex Traumal In July 2015, PRI's Child Study Center started the Complex Trauma As. sessment program in partnership with DCFS. The goal of the program is to deliver comprehensive psychological evaluation services in order to provide diagnostic clarification and treatment recommendations to address the needs of high-risk youth within the child welfare system. Feedback from these evaluations is shared with foster families, DCFS personnel, attorneys ad litem, and youth to ensure that a team of trusted adults understands the results and recommendations pro. vided by the UAMS team.
Servin: chiliren ayes 0.SI Arkansas NEST continues to provide evidence-based treatments in two interventions designed for very young children and their parents (Parent-Child Interaction Therapy and Child-Parent Psychotherapy). Since 2012, MHPs have provided services to 286 children five years old and younger who have experienced traumatic events lincluding 89 children this fiscal year). On average, children experienced five types of traumatic events prior to treatment. For children and parents with a follow-up assessment, significant improvements were seen in children's internalizing behaviors (such as being withdrawn, anxious, or depressed) and externalizing behaviors (such as acting out, having tantrums, or showing aggression) and in parenting stress. Reductions in symptoms of PTSD were also found.

screening tool that provides information regarding trauma exposure and PTSD syinptoms. The UCLA is available in caregiver, adolescent, and child versions. The caregiver version asks questions pertaining to the child. In FY16, 1,477 children were assessed for trauma symptoms. In general, severity scores below 27 fall in the low range, those between 27-37 are considered moderate, and those above 38 are considered
Severity of Child's PTSD Symptoms at Baseline


The chart below represents the overall UCLAPISD reaction index scores of clients who have had a baseline and two follow-up assessments. The total distress score endorsed by clients or their caregivers should decrease across time in treatment.

UCLA PTSD Scores at Baseline and Follow-Ups

Annual Report fY15


Objective 4:
Statewide communication system
Websire The ARBEST website (arbest.uams.edu) continues to be regularly updated, providing trainees and other visitors crucial information about the program's efforts and accomplishments. During the past year, the site had 11,835 visits. One of the more popular resources on the website is the TF-CBT Clinician Directory. More than 290 clinicians from 58 Arkansas counties are listed in the directory.

Database mental health professionals use the ARBEST online database to complete assessments of their clients, plan treatment, and document their use of TF-CBT. All conference attendees are automatically registered to use the database. As of June 30,2016 , approximately 1,900 mental health professionals from 68 counties had registered in the database.

Search for a TF-CBT Clinician (arbest.uams.edu/clinicianslist):


TF-CBT Clinicians

Bepert: Semi-annual reports are prepared for the state's 14 Child Advocacy Centers (CACs). For these reports, ARBEST analyzes their mental
health program and provides statistics related to client characteristics ard service utilization. ARBEST also creates quarterly reports for the state legislature to account for the mental health appropriation distribution. WEWSTEtter To expand reach, in 2013 ARBEST began publishing a monthly newsletter disseminated to CAC directors, advocates, and MMPS affiliated with CACs. The newsletter shares informational articles, timely news announcements, and helpful resources. Since its inception, 29 issues have been published with cover stories ranging from new National Children's Alliance standards of accreditation, renowned Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) expert Dr. Vincent Felitti's presentation to UAMS, and mental health
appropriation updates. Each month the newsletter averages 12 pages and 135 subscribers.

ECcinIMEClial ARBEST's monthly webinars are recorded and uploaded to its YouTube channel. These videos have garnered more than 6,500 additional views this year, a $30 \%$ increase compared to last year. In December, ARBEST broadened its audience through social media by adding a Facebook page as a means to disseminate information about
issues pertaining to childhood trauma. The venture has been very successful. Posts with the most engagement (e.g. likes, comments, and shares) have been about TF-CBT training registration and ARBEST staff presentations. The AREEST Facebook page audience continues to grow each month, achieving
475 "likes" in its first six months. 475 "likes" in its first six months.

Co: www.youtube.com/c/UAMSARBEST

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Raferals to Mental Healeh Services the majority of clients (67\%) were either referred or already in counseling at their initial CAC visit. For clients who were not referred to counseling, the most common reason was the parent or caregiver refused services at that time.
Engasing Cients in Services One of the overarching geals of the CAC mental health appropriation is to connect children and their families to mental health professionals who are trained in an evidence-based intervention, such as TF-CBT. On average, the first mental health appointment takes 20 days from the time a child is first seen at a $C A C$.

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\text { Time from CAC Visit to MHP Appointment ( } n=1,114 \text { ) }
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"We are so very thankful for our mental health component. The transformation we witness from the onset of the children's cases and throughout their therapy process is extraordinary. To see their hope restored and childhood innocence renewed, and r laughter as they skip through our garden, is glorious!"
-- Janice Faye Beaver, Executive Director,
Cooper-Anthony Mercy Child Advocacy Center








## FY16 Publications






 than $\$ 500,000$ to CACs to promote evidence-based mental
health services-a $14 \%$ increase from last fiscal year. In order to receive the full appropriation amount each quarter, CACs must demonstrate that the MHPS affiliated with their agency: 1) Provide a minimum of 94 direct service hours in the quarter or 2) Docurnent quarter.

| child Advocacy Center (Location) | Mental Health Services | Data <br> Entry <br> Services | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Central AR Childreris Advocacy Center (Conway) | \$42,072.00 | \$2.052.00 | \$44.124.00 |
| Children's Protection Center (Little Rock) | \$41,381.00 | \$1.837.00 | \$43,218.00 |
| Children's Safery Center (Springoale) | 542,045.00 | \$2.106.00 | \$44.151.00 |
| Childrens Advocacy Center of Benton Colinty (litile Flock) | \$34,600.00 | \$2.452.98 | \$37,052.98 |
| Children's Advocacy Center of Eastern AR (West Memphis) | \$24.411.02 | \$579.00 | \$24.990.02 |
| Children's Advocacy Center of Pine Bluff (Pine Bluff) | \$36.229.09 | \$1,215.00 | \$37,444.09 |
| Cooper.Anthony Mercy Child Advocacy Center (Hot Springs) | \$45.206.00 | \$3.793.00 | \$49,999.00 |
| Grandma's House Children's Advocacy Center (Harrison) | \$48,106.00 | \$1.893.00 | \$49,999.00 |
| Hamilton House Child Safety Center (Fort Smith) | \$34,600.00 | \$3.459.00 | \$38.059.00 |
| Percy \& Donna Malone Child Safety Center (Arkadelphia) | \$34,600.00 | \$689.00 | \$35,289.00 |
| Texarkana Children's Advocacy Center (Texarkana) | \$42,849.49 | \$2,094.00 | \$44,943.49 |
| Wade Knox Children's Advocacy Center (Lonoke) | \$20.277.32 | \$1.820.00 | \$22.097.32 |
| White County Children's Sofety Center (Searcy) | \$32.581.66 | \$1.590.00 | \$34.171.66 |
| TOTALS | \$479.958.58 | \$25,579.98 | \$505.538.56 |

## ARBEST

4301 W. Markham Street, \#554


[^0]:    Syuntoms Screencel ARBEST＇s secure and confidential web－based system to screen for trauma symptoms and track client and familn year，advocates from CACs registered 5,018 children into the database and followed up with 2,830
    families regarding additional services．During the past year，mental health professionals registered 2,252 children and assessed 1,477 of them for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder（PTSD）symptoms．

