

Arkansas Building Effective Services for Trauma (ARBEST)

Quarterly Legislative Report (January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017)

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
- October 2016 – FY17 first quarter payment is distributed to CACs
- January 2017 – FY17 second quarter payment is distributed to CACs
- March 2017 – FY17 14 out of 15 CACs respond to the RFP for CAC Mental Health Services for FY18

MENTAL HEALTH APPROPRIATION RESULTS

- 1,336 children were registered by the state's CACs during the 3rd quarter of FY17.
- 314 (37%) 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.
- 1,813 hours of mental health services were provided to children and their families by mental health professionals during the 3rd quarter, which is an average of 5.7 hours per child.
- An additional 202 hours of indirect services were provided by MHPs, the majority of which included attendance at Multidisciplinary Team meetings, supervision, and outreach.
- 12 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.

- 2 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 3rd quarter.

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

- The 2 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 4th quarter of FY17.

RELATED ARBEST ACTIVITIES

During the 3rd 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
 - 3/29/17 - 33rd International Symposium on Child Abuse (Huntsville, AL)
- ARBEST Webinars:
 - 1/19/17 – It’s “Normal to be Normal” in Child Sexual Abuse (Karen Farst, MD)
 - 2/22/17 – Attachment in Young Children and the Effects of Early Adversity (Teresa Lind, MA)
 - 3/28/17 – What is Parent-Child Interaction Therapy? (Joy Pemberton, PhD)
- Preparation for the Introductory and Advanced Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) trainings to be held May 2017 in Little Rock
- Publication of three e-newsletters
- Site visits to all CACs and discussions regarding mental health service appropriation performance and upcoming RFP for FY18
- Completion of project focusing on the mental health needs of adolescents at risk for sexual exploitation in Arkansas
- Co-sponsorship of screening of *Resilience* at the Ron Robinson Theater (more than 100 in attendance)

FY 2017
Q3 (January – March 2017)

ARBEST General Activities	
Salaries/Fringe	\$169,386
Supplies	\$ 543
Training	\$ 7,350
CAC Data Entry	\$ 5,305
Other	\$ 2,206
Sub-Total	\$184,790
Admin Fee	
Total	\$184,790

CAC Mental Health Appropriation	
CACs	\$148,590
Total	\$148,590