
	<b>DHS, Early Head Start Childcare Partnership Program Policy</b>		
<b>WELLNESS SUPPORT SERVICES 1</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Identification and Intervention through Wellness Support Services		
<b>REFERENCE</b>	Mental Health		
<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	8/1/2016		
<b>Policy Council Approval: 7/25/17</b>	<b>Policy Council Revision: 7/25/17</b>	<b>Governing Body Approval: 9/28/17</b>	<b>Governing Body Revision: 9/28/17</b>
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**Policy:**

The Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) program will ensure the effective provision of mental health services by utilizing consultants who are licensed mental health professionals with experience and expertise in early childhood social emotional development and the provision of mental health services to young children, their families and Head Start staff.

The Head Start program will develop and implement a system for the identification of children, families and staff in need of the provision of behavioral supports and mental health services.

Service Providers will adhere to the process and procedures outlined by the City for Wellness Support Services.

Wellness Support Services will promote the social-emotional competence of children by providing education and services at the following levels:

- **Foundation - Effective Workforce**

The Head Start Program will contract with qualified mental health professionals to provide direct services to children, families, and staff in need of assistance. The EHS-CCP Program approach will include the provision of training and supports to staff to promote staff mental wellness so that they are better equipped to interact with children and families in healthier and more positive ways. Tier I: Promotion - Nurturing and Responsive Relationships and High Quality Supportive Environments

The EHS-CCP Program will promote the positive social-emotional development of all children by implementing an approach that focuses on creating a nurturing environment that fosters positive relationships between staff, children and parents.

- **Tier II: Prevention - Targeted Social-Emotional Supports**

The EHS-CCP program will promote the positive social-emotional development of identified children through parent and teacher education, classroom observations and

teacher consultation to implement strategies that promote wellness.

- **Tier III: Intensive Intervention**

The EHS-CCP program will respond to children families and staff in need of intensive interventions by providing consultation and referrals to community providers. The EHS-CCP program and Service Providers will obtain signed consent forms, authorizing services and written permission to release information from parents prior to the provision of services or referrals.

The EHS-CCP and Service Providers will ensure compliance with all confidentiality policies, as required by law, including when documenting services, referrals and follow-up provided in all data management systems utilized by the EHS-CCP Program.

All mental health documentation must be entered according the *City of San Antonio Data Entry & Benchmark Due Date Guide*.

**Performance Standard**

1302.45