



## RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

### Getting More Information

**T**his section lists national organizations and government agencies, as well as selected articles and reports, that we hope will be useful as you work to improve access to mental health screenings and assessments for children. The resource kit builds upon the very important work done by many of the organizations listed below. We cite their valuable work throughout the resource kit.

#### National Organizations

##### **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**

141 Northwest Point Boulevard  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098  
847-434-4000  
847-434-8000 (FAX)

or

Department of Federal Affairs  
601 13th Street, NW  
Suite 400 North  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-347-8600  
202-393-6137 (FAX)  
[www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

For specific e-mail inquiries, see the directory at <http://www.aap.org/visit/contact.htm>

Addresses needs of children and their families through advocacy, education, and research to improve the systems through which its members deliver pediatric care. AAP also publishes “Recommendations for Preventive Health Care,” which specifies a schedule for regular screenings and developmental assessments. AAP has a number of departments, divisions, and programs to address specific issues. Their Web site offers general information for parents of children from birth through age 21 and also for clinicians.

##### **American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)**

3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016-3007  
202-966-7300  
202-966-2891 (FAX)  
[www.aacap.org](http://www.aacap.org)

Addresses concerns about health care and socio-economic issues affecting children to improve and expand psychiatric services for them. AACAP offers public information, in both English and Spanish, for families and physicians on many mental health topics on its Web site, and provides recognized professionals as spokespersons. Contact the AACAP Executive Office for organizations or the Department of Government Affairs for legislative or related issues. AACAP provides practice parameters for children of all ages. AACAP also is working with the Child Welfare League of America on a special initiative to improve the mental health and substance abuse services provided to children in foster care.

## RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

### **The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law (Bazelon Center)**

1101 Fifteenth Street NW, Suite 1212  
Washington, DC 20005-5002  
202-467-5730  
202-223-0409 (FAX)  
[www.bazelon.org](http://www.bazelon.org)  
E-mail for publications: [pubs@bazelon.org](mailto:pubs@bazelon.org)

Promotes the rights of people with mental disabilities. The Center produces many publications that analyze and interpret federal laws and policies affecting access to services for adults and children with mental disabilities. In 2000-2001, it conducted a study of state Medicaid policies on mental health and substance abuse screening of children and adolescents. Results of the study are reported in "Behavioral Health Screening Policies in Medicaid Programs Nationwide," R.M. Semansky, C. Koyanagi, and R. Vandivort-Warren, *Psychiatric Services*, May 2003, 54:5, 736-739. See also *Avoiding Cruel Choices*, the Bazelon Center's guide for policymakers and family organizations on Medicaid's role in preventing custody relinquishment. For additional information on this topic, see *Staying Together: Preventing Custody Relinquishment for Children's Access to Mental Health Services* (1999), a publication released jointly with the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health.

### **Center for Health and Health Care in Schools**

1350 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 505  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-466-3396  
202-466-3467 (FAX)  
<http://www.healthinschools.org>

Promotes health services in schools. Its priorities include increasing collaboration with Medicaid and CHIP for school-based prevention and service programs and increasing access to mental health services through school-based health clinics. It is supported by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. On its Web site, click on "Dental and Mental Health Services" for

useful background information, resources, and financing options.

### **Center for Health Services, Research and Policy**

The George Washington University  
School of Public Health and Health Services  
2021 K Street NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-296-6922  
202-296-0025 (FAX)  
[www.gwhealthpolicy.org](http://www.gwhealthpolicy.org)  
E-mail: [info@gwhealthpolicy.org](mailto:info@gwhealthpolicy.org)

Works to improve access to quality, affordable health care by providing information to policymakers, public officials, and advocates. It is known for its work analyzing developments in Medicaid and CHIP and the impact of these programs on health care access, quality, and financing. The Web site has many useful publications, especially regarding Medicaid managed care.

### **Center for Mental Health in Schools (School Mental Health Project)**

University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)  
Department of Psychology  
P.O. Box 951563  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1563  
310-825-3634  
310-206-8716 (FAX)  
E-mail: [smhp@ucla.edu](mailto:smhp@ucla.edu)  
<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu>

Works to increase resources to improve mental health in schools; the capacity of systems and personnel; and the role of schools to address children's mental health, psychosocial and related health concerns. It offers technical assistance on-line and through personal requests. The Center, and its sister group described below, are supported by the Office of Adolescent Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau in the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

## RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

### **Center for School Mental Health Assistance (CSMHA)**

#### **University of Maryland, Baltimore**

#### **Department of Psychiatry**

680 W. Lexington Street, 10th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201-1570  
410-706-0980 or 1-888-706-0980 (toll-free)  
410-706-0984 (FAX)  
E-mail: [csmha@psych.umaryland.edu](mailto:csmha@psych.umaryland.edu)  
<http://csmha.umaryland.edu/>

Helps develop and promote interdisciplinary school-based mental health programs. The Center provides technical assistance and training for schools and communities that want to develop accessible, family-centered, culturally sensitive programs that are responsive to local needs. The Center is supported by the same federal agencies as described above for its sister group, the Center for Mental Health in Schools.

### **Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)**

440 First Street NW, Third Floor  
Washington, DC 20001-2085  
202-638-2952  
202-638-4004 (FAX)  
[www.cwla.org](http://www.cwla.org)

Offers resources and information on issues affecting children and families served by public and private child welfare agencies. Its Behavioral Health Division helps agencies address these particular needs of children and their families. CWLA is working with AACAP on a special initiative to improve the mental health and substance abuse services provided to children in foster care.

### **Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (FFCMH)**

1101 King Street, Suite 420  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-684-7710  
703-836-1040 (FAX)  
[www.ffcmh.org](http://www.ffcmh.org)  
E-mail: [ffcmh@ffcmh.org](mailto:ffcmh@ffcmh.org)

Addresses the complex needs of children and youth with emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders and their families. It's a national family-run organization with state organizations and chapters across the country. See their Web site for local contact numbers and to learn more about their support activities for children and families and their state advocacy and public education work. From the Web site, you can also download the excellent publication, *Blamed and Ashamed: The Treatment Experiences of Youth with Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Health Disorders and Their Families*. For information on custody relinquishment, see *Staying Together: Preventing Custody Relinquishment for Children's Access to Mental Health Services* (1999), a publication released jointly with The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

### **Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development**

3307 M Street NW, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-687-5000  
202-687-8899 (FAX)  
<http://gucdc.georgetown.edu>

Works on issues related to children's health, mental health, early intervention, and foster care. To read the two publications, *Meeting the Health Care Needs of Children in the Foster Care System: Summary of State and Community Efforts—Key Findings* (Jan McCarthy), and *Meeting the Health Care Needs of Children in the Foster Care System: Strategies for Implementation* (Maria Woolverton), go to <http://gucdc.georgetown.edu/foster.html>. These reports describe what communities and states can do to provide developmental and mental health screenings, assessments, and treatment for foster care children, but their recommendations apply beyond that group.

## RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

### **National Academy for State Health Policy**

50 Monument Square, Suite 502  
Portland, ME 04101  
207-874-6524  
207-874-6527 (FAX)  
www.nashp.org  
E-mail: info@nashp.org

Coordinates an early childhood development program through four state Medicaid programs. See the Web site for their report, *Early Findings from the ABCD Consortium*, discussing ways to increase access to developmental screens for Medicaid-eligible infants and toddlers.

### **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)**

Colonial Place Three  
2107 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201  
703-524-7600  
NAMI Helpline: 1-800-950-6264  
www.nami.org

Works to improve the lives of persons with severe mental illnesses including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness), major depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and severe anxiety disorders. It's a national grassroots advocacy organization with local affiliates across the country that sponsor support groups for individuals and their family members. Some larger affiliates have an advocacy and education agenda. NAMI issued a report on custody relinquishment titled, *Families on the Brink: The Impact of Ignoring Children with Serious Mental Illness* (1999).

### **National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)**

66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-739-9333  
703-548-9517 (FAX)  
www.nasmhpd.org

Represents the interests of State Mental Health Authorities and their directors at the national level. Association staff members have information about national, state, county, and local issues relating to mental health services. Check their Web site for the staff members designated to represent their states in the Association's Children, Youth & Families Division.

### **National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)**

Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University  
215 W. 125<sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor  
New York, NY 10027  
646-284-9600  
646-284-9623 (FAX)  
www.nccp.org  
E-mail: info@nccp.org

Identifies and promotes strategies that prevent child poverty in the United States and improve the lives of low-income children and their families. It emphasizes preventing or alleviating poverty among children under age six because of the particularly serious risks to children's healthy growth and development during those years. The Center has done extensive work to address the social and emotional needs of young children and has a number of useful publications listed on its Web site. The policy paper series entitled, *Promoting the Emotional Well-Being of Children and Families*, includes *Policy Paper #4: Making Dollars Follow Sense: Financing Early Childhood Mental Health Services to Promote Healthy Social and Emotional Development in Young Children*, which describes innovative ways to finance preventive and early intervention services and traditional treatment services for young children's mental health. Other titles in the series are: *Policy Paper #1: Building Services and Systems to Support the Healthy Emotional Development of Young Children: An Action Guide for Policy Makers*; *Policy Paper #2: Improving the Odds for the Healthy Development of Young Children in Foster Care*; and *Policy Paper #3: Ready to Enter: What Research Tells Policymakers About Strategies to Promote Social and Emotional School Readiness Among Three- and Four-Year-Old Children*.

## RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

### **National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health (NCEMCH)**

Georgetown University  
Box 571272  
Washington, DC 20057-1272  
202-784-9770  
202-784-9777 (FAX)  
www.ncemch.org

The National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health provides national leadership to the maternal and child health community in three key areas—program development, education, and state-of-the-art knowledge—to improve the health and well-being of the nation’s children and families. The *Bright Futures in Practice: Mental Health Practice Guide, Volumes I and II*, can be accessed through the NCEMCH Web site or by going to [www.brightfutures.org](http://www.brightfutures.org).

### **National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice (NCMHJJ)**

Policy Research Associates  
345 Delaware Avenue  
Delmar, NY 12054  
1-866-962-6455 (toll free)  
518-439-7612 (FAX)  
www.ncmhjj.com  
E-mail: [ncmhjj@prainc.com](mailto:ncmhjj@prainc.com)

Promotes awareness about the mental health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system and works to improve policies and programs based on the best available research and practice. The center has major support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

### **National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System (GAINS Center)**

Policy Research Associates  
345 Delaware Avenue  
Delmar, NY 12054  
1-800-311-4246  
518-439-7612 (FAX)  
www.gainsctr.com  
E-mail: [gains@prainc.com](mailto:gains@prainc.com)

Serves as a national center to collect and disseminate information about effective services for adults and juveniles with co-occurring disorders who have contact with the justice system. Funded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

### **National Health Law Program (NHeLP)**

2639 South La Cienega Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90034-2675  
310-204-6010  
310-204-0891 (FAX)  
www.healthlaw.org  
E-mail: [nhelp@healthlaw.org](mailto:nhelp@healthlaw.org)

Works to improve health care for America’s working and unemployed poor, minorities, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Provides back-up and technical assistance to legal services programs, community-based organizations, the private bar, providers, and individuals who represent low-income people. In April 2003, NHeLP published *Toward A Healthy Future: Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services for Children and Youth*, which includes annotations on EPSDT cases.

# RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

## **National Mental Health Association (NMHA)**

2001 N. Beauregard Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22311  
703-684-7722  
703-684-5968 (FAX)  
Mental Health Information Center: 1-800-969-6642  
(Mon.-Fri., 9-5 EST)  
[www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org)

Works to improve the mental health of all Americans through advocacy, education, research, and service. It runs a Mental Health Information Center and provides pamphlets on many topics, including children's mental health.

## **Government Agencies**

### **Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 42557  
Washington, DC 20015  
[www.mentalhealth.org/cmhs](http://www.mentalhealth.org/cmhs)  
National Mental Health Information Center:  
1-800-789-2647

Leads federal efforts to help states improve and increase the quality and range of their treatment, rehabilitation, and support services for people with mental illness, their families, and communities. It runs a National Mental Health Information Center that provides linkages and referrals to consumer and family advocacy organizations; federal, state, and local mental health agencies; and other resources. The Child, Adolescent and Family Branch funds state and local service programs, statewide family networks, and a national anti-stigma campaign, the "Caring for Every Child's Mental Health" campaign. Go to <http://www.mentalhealth.org/publications/allpubs/CA-0000/orderform.pdf> to get an order form.

## **National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**

NIMH Public Inquiries  
6001 Executive Boulevard, Rm. 8184, MSC 9663  
Bethesda, MD 20892-9663  
301-443-4513  
301-443-4279 (FAX)  
[www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)  
E-mail: [nimhinfo@nih.gov](mailto:nimhinfo@nih.gov)

Leads the federal government's effort to conduct research about mental illness. It has many useful reports available through its Web site.

### **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)**

U.S. Department of Justice  
810 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20531  
202-307-5911  
202-307-2093 (FAX)  
[www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org)  
[Askjj@ncjrs.org](mailto:Askjj@ncjrs.org)

### **Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse**

P.O. Box 6000  
Rockville, MD 20849-6000  
1-800-638-8736  
301-519-5212 (FAX)  
[askjj@ncjrs.org](mailto:askjj@ncjrs.org)

Provides national coordination and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. It supports states and local communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system. Its Web site offers useful information and links to relevant state and national resources.

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### **President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health**

[www.mentalhealthcommission.gov](http://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov)

Began work in April 2002 to recommend improvements in the mental health service system for adults with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbances. The Commission's final report is due in May 2003. It will be available, along with the Commission's minutes, other reports and testimony, on its Web site.

### **Additional Articles, Reports & Reference Materials**

*Pediatrics*, Volume 110, Number 6, December 2002, pp. 1232-1237, "Working to Improve Mental Health Services: The North Carolina Advocacy Effort."

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. *Bright Futures in Practice: Mental Health Practice Guide, Volumes I and II*, 2002. Available at [www.brightfutures.org/mentalhealth/index.html](http://www.brightfutures.org/mentalhealth/index.html).

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, 1999.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Report of the Surgeon General's Conference on Children's Mental Health: A National Action Agenda*. U.S. Public Health Service, 2000.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Mental Health: Culture, Race and Ethnicity*. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, 2001.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Youth Violence: A Report of the Surgeon General*. U.S. Public Health Service, 2001.

U.S. General Accounting Office. *Medicaid: Stronger Efforts Needed to Ensure Children's Access to Health Screening Services*. GAO-01-749, July 2001. See Appendix II for examples of promising EPSDT practices adopted by states as a result of legal settlement agreements. Available at [www.gao.gov](http://www.gao.gov).

U.S. General Accounting Office. *Medicaid and SCHIP: States Use Varying Approaches to Monitor Children's Access to Care*. GAO-03-222, January 2003. Available to download at [www.gao.gov](http://www.gao.gov).

U.S. General Accounting Office. *Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice: Federal Agencies Could Play a Stronger Role in Helping States Reduce the Number of Children Placed Solely to Obtain Mental Health Services*. GAO-03-397, April 2003. Available to download at [www.gao.gov](http://www.gao.gov).





## About The Children's Defense Fund

**T**he mission of the Children's Defense Fund is to *Leave No Child Behind*<sup>®</sup> and to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start*, and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective voice for *all* the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations. We have never taken government funds.



Children's Defense Fund

25 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-628-8787  
[www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org)