

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.
Head Start/Early Head Start

Part: 1302 Program Operations
Subpart: D- Health Program Services
Section: 1302.45 Child Mental Health and Social & Emotional Well Being
Subject: Mental Health On-Site Services and Resources

Policy

Mental health services must be secured by contracting with a mental health consultant. The consultant will provide the program with classroom observations, assist the program with implementing strategies that promote positive mental health and social-emotional functioning. The consultant will also assist the program with addressing behavioral and mental health concerns.

Procedure

1. Service contracts will be updated annually for mental health services through a contracted agency or individual.
2. Consent for classroom observation by a social-emotional development professional should be attained at enrollment.
3. A signed mental health observation permission form is needed before any individual observations of a child are made. Although, observations can be made of children while the classroom is being observed.
4. The mental health consultant will provide information and assistance with identifying situations that require further treatment or the modification of the program to meet the needs of the child.
5. Information from the mental health consultant will be shared with the parents upon request.
6. Staff will solicit assistance from a mental health consultant to access all existing resources as needed and to locate a provider for any child and family services that are outside of the consultant's scope of support.
7. Staff will work with a mental health consultant to secure appropriate services through referrals as needed. Staff will ensure that appropriate follow-ups are conducted to ensure that the family is able to access services.
8. All referrals and assistance to the family will be documented in the Family File.