

+-----+  
| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |  
+-----+

DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 95 LCM-21

Date: March 3, 1995

Division: Services and  
Community  
Development

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Survey of School Based Preventive Services Programs

ATTACHMENTS: Findings from Survey of School Based Preventive Services  
Programs (Available On-Line)

In 1994, you participated in a survey on school based preventive services conducted by the Department. The attached report presents the findings of this survey for each social services district.

Through your cooperation in providing information on the status of these programs in your social services district, the Department was able to compile this statewide picture of these programs. As the report shows, almost all social services districts are either operating or planning/considering the development of a preventive services program that outstations caseworkers in the schools.

These programs reflect a more holistic approach to meeting the needs of children and families through coordinated resources from multiple systems. The Department encourages your commitment to these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for your assistance in this survey. Please contact your Division of Services and Community Development regional office if you have any questions on this or are interested in technical assistance on the development or ongoing operation of these programs.

---

Anona Joseph  
Acting Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Services and  
Community Development

SCHOOL BASED PREVENTIVE SERVICES PROGRAMS

Mary E. Glass  
Commissioner  
New York State  
Department of Social Services

Anona Joseph  
Acting Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Services and  
Community Development

+-----+  
| S C H O O L B A S E D P R E V E N T I V E S E R V I C E S |  
|  
| P R O G R A M S |  
|  
+-----+

The New York State Department of Social Services conducted a survey in 1994 on the status of school based preventive services programs in each local social services district. The findings show that these collaborative programs between local social services districts and school districts are developing and expanding throughout the State.

Almost three-quarters of the local social services districts are currently operating a preventive services program that outstations caseworkers in the schools in at least one school district and almost all of the rest are considering or planning to develop a program.

These findings appear to reflect the growing recognition that responding to the needs of children and families requires a holistic, cross-systems approach. Coping with family stresses can affect a child's academic performance, school attendance, and behavior at school. A study of statewide random samples of children entering foster care and families entering the preventive services program presented in the Department's report, Families in the Child Welfare System: Foster Care and Preventive Services in the Nineties, supports this. School-related problems were the most prevalent child problem for both samples - 45% for all preventive services cases and 50% for children in foster care of school age. Of the preventive services cases having a school-related child problem, 38% had parental substance abuse (drug and/or alcohol), 27% had parental mental illness, and 28% had domestic violence, while only 8% of these cases had no family problem identified.

#### FINDINGS

Survey findings are presented for each local social services district by Regional Office on the attached charts covering the following areas:

- Program Status

This identifies whether the local social services district is one of the forty-two districts currently operating a preventive services program that outstations caseworkers in the schools or whether it is one of those considering or planning to develop such a program. It also identifies the number and in some cases the names of the schools or school districts participating.

- Local Consortium

This identifies whether there is a county/local consortium (ala the Herkimer model) comprised of local policy and decision makers from the local social services districts, school districts, and any other relevant systems that have responsibility for planning and coordinating the program.

- Almost one-half (26) local social services districts reported participating on a local consortium.

◦ Caseworker Employer

This reports on whether the caseworkers outstationed in the schools are or will be direct employees of the local social services district or whether the local social services district contracts with another agency or a school district or BOCES for the caseworkers. Information is presented for local social service districts currently operating programs along with some who are in the planning stage.

- In over one-half (35) of the local social services districts, caseworkers are or will be direct employees of the local social services district. One local social services district utilizes caseworkers employed by another local social services district in a school district that encompasses portions of both local social services districts.
- In 9 of the local social services districts, caseworkers are or will be employed by a private or preventive services agency.
- One local social services district is planning to use BOCES as the caseworker employer.

◦ Funding Source

This reports on the funding source local social services districts are using or planning to use. The use of in-kind/donated funds is included.

- Mandated preventive services is the most frequently used funding source - approximately two-thirds (38) of the local social services districts.
- Non-mandated preventive services - 5 local social services districts.
- Foster care or JD/PINS CAP savings - 4 local social services districts.
- Community Optional Preventive Services demonstration funds - 2 local social services districts.
- Four local social services districts included in the above funding sources are using or planning to use more than one source.
- Almost one-half (27) local social services districts are receiving some in-kind/donated funds as contribution toward the local match. Local school districts are the source for 25 of the local social services districts. (NOTE: The survey may not have captured this information for all local social services districts).

REGIONAL OFFICE: Buffalo

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Allegany	Plans to begin a program in select school districts.	Yes	Will be district
Cattaraugus	Beginning Fall of 1994 in Pine Valley School District which encompasses portions of Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties.	Yes	Chatauc
Chautauqua	Currently operational in Lo Guidice: A BOCES school and Pine Valley: A middle school.  Considering expanding to 2 more school districts.	Yes	2 case employ district
Erie	Currently planning to develop program in 3 school districts: PS #53 in Buffalo, Sweethome in Amherst, and Phillip Sheridan in Kenmore.	Yes	To be service
Genesee	Plans to develop a program in 1995.	Yes	
Niagara	Considering developing a program.	Yes	
Orleans	As of September, 1994 operational in all 5 school districts.	Yes	Local :

REGIONAL OFFICE: Buffalo

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Wyoming	Currently operational in Perry School District.	Yes	1 case social

REGIONAL OFFICE: Rochester

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Chemung	Operational in 2 school districts - Elmira and Horseheads.	No	Prevent
Livingston	Beginning program in 3 school districts during Fall 1994.	Yes	Local :
Monroe	Currently operational in Rochester City School District	Yes	Private
Ontario	Currently operational in 2 school districts and planning to expand into a third school district.	Yes	Local :
Schuyler	Operational in 2 school districts - Watkins Glen and Odessa - Montour.	Yes	Local :
Seneca	Considering developing a program.	----	
Steuben	Considering developing a program.	----	
Wayne	Considering developing a program.	----	
Yates	Considering developing a program.	----	

REGIONAL OFFICE: Syracuse

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Broome	Currently operational in 2 school districts.  Considering expanding the program for next year.	No	Local s
Cayuga	Actively planning with BOCES Superintendent to start a program next year.	-----	
Chenango	Does not have a school based preventive services program but does have a preventive program jointly with Probation that meets with the school on a regular basis.	-----	
Cortland	Currently operational in 1 school district.	Yes	4 Youtl by loca  2 MSW
Herkimer	Operational in 11 school districts and BOCES.  In every district but plan to expand amount of time caseworker spends in schools.	Yes	Local :
Jefferson	Currently operational in 3 school districts.  Considering a possible expansion of program.	Yes	Local :



REGIONAL OFFICE: Syracuse

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Lewis	Currently operational in 4 school districts. Considering expanding into a 5th school district.	Yes	Local
Madison	Currently operational in 2 school districts. Considering a possible program expansion.	Yes	Not-for-Resource
Oneida	Currently operating a program with plans for expansion.	Yes	Private
Onondaga	Currently operating in 1 school district. Plan to expand to into another 10 school districts in 94-95.	No	Private
Oswego	Currently operational in 2 school districts with plans to expand into other school districts.	Yes PINS Division Committee	Local
St. Lawrence	Currently operating home school based program in 3 school districts and planning to expand into other school districts.	No	1 case social

REGIONAL OFFICE: Syracuse

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Tioga	Operational in 4 school districts.	No	2 cases social
Tompkins	Does not currently have a program.	-----	

REGIONAL OFFICE: Albany

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Albany	1 ongoing project started in 1991 in Guilderland School District through Project Strive.  Currently in negotiations with several contract providers and schools: Albany P.S. #26 with Parsons, P.S. #20 with Trinity, Berne/Knox Westerlo and possibly Cohoes Schools with St. Catherine's.	No	Prevent
Clinton	In February 1993, 2 districts in elementary school level started in: Beekman Township; Plattsburgh City Schools.  In February 1994, started in 4 districts: Peru, Northern Adirondack, Saranac and 2 half-time positions (one in Ausable Valley City School District).	No	6 cases social
Columbia	In planning stage to contract with Columbia County Mental Health for Ichabod Crane District  Other school districts are interested.	---	
Delaware	Operating school based programs since 1987.  Currently in 9 school districts and Trout Creek BOCES program.	Yes	12 cases social  Direct County
Essex	Began operating in 3 school districts this year.	No	Local :
Franklin	Pilot project started in 1992. Operating in 7 schools Malone (2), Salmon Central (1), Brushton (1); started in September 1994 - Chateau (1) and Saranac (2).	No	1 case social

REGIONAL OFFICE: Albany

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Fulton	Began in Gloversville School District in March 1993.	No	1 case social
Greene	Began in September 1994 in 5 school districts: Catskill Central, Cairo-Durham Central, Greenville Central, Hunter Tannersville Central, Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central.	Yes	4 case social
Hamilton	Began in Indian Lake School District in September 1993.	No	1 part local
Montgomery	Started September 1992.  Currently in 4 schools: St. Johnsonville, Fort Plain, Canajoharie, Amsterdam  Another school in Amsterdam is pending county approval.	No	Local
Otsego	Operating 3 years currently in 11 schools.	No	10 case social
Rensselaer	Began in January 1994 in Rensselaer City School District.	No	1 case social
Saratoga	Began in August 1994 for 1 year in Shenendahowa Elementary School.	No	1 case social

REGIONAL OFFICE: Albany

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Schenectady	Began in 1990. Currently in 3 middle schools - Oneida, Central Park, Mt. Pleasant.	No	Berksh
Schoharie	Began program in September 1993 in Middeburgh Central.  Expanded in August 1994 to Cobleskill-Richmondville Central and in September 1994 to Sharon Springs Central.	No	2 case social social
Warren	Does not have a school-based program but has had discussions regarding the possibility of starting one.	----	
Washington	Began in September 1994 in 3 school districts: Fort Edward, Whitehall, Hudson Falls.	No	Local :

REGIONAL OFFICE: Metropolitan

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Dutchess	Considering developing a program.	-----	
Nassau	Does not currently have a program but is interested in discussing it.	-----	
New York City	Operational in approximately 10 Beacon Schools with plans to expand to an additional 10.  Approximately 14 community districts included.	Yes Each Beacon School has a local board of directors & is encouraged to include rep's. from their sponsoring agencies & community boards on the Beacon School Boards.	Various cont Admi
Orange	Operational in 6 Newburgh shools.  Planning to start program with BOCES in Goshen schools.	Yes	4 ca Coun
Putnam	Operational in 5 school districts but will be reduced to 4 due to budgetary constraints of a participating school district.	No	3 ca soci
Rockland	Operational in 3 school districts	Yes	4 case social

REGIONAL OFFICE: Metropolitan

LOCAL DISTRICT	PROGRAM STATUS	LOCAL CONSORTIUM	CASEWORKER E
Suffolk	Operating small pilot program in 1 local school district but workers are not outstationed in the schools.  Plan to evaluate the pilot to determine expansion implications.	Yes	Local :
Sullivan	Operational in 7 school districts.	No	6 case social
Ulster	Planning to develop program in all 9 school districts.	Yes	Case a
Westchester	Operational in Peekskill school district through contract with Peekskill Area Health Center.  Plans to expand are being considered but not for this school year.	No	3 case social