

# Benefits

- 🍏 Students who before needed highly specialized and isolated care can now be supported in their base school.
- 🍏 Schools may experience reduced suspensions and expulsions, and higher attendance
- 🍏 Improved academic performance, reduced need for disciplinary action, and improved graduation rates
- 🍏 Improved staff morale
- 🍏 Improved academic achievement through more engagement in on-task behaviors
- 🍏 Enhancement of behavior interventions for students through teacher consultation

# Framework

- 🍏 Developing supportive relationships with the youth and effectively engaging families
- 🍏 Decreasing risk factors and stressors affecting the student and family (like food, health insurance, transportation, etc.)
- 🍏 Enhancing strengths and protective factors in youth and family through education and counseling
- 🍏 Improving anger management skills
- 🍏 Addressing past and current traumatic experiences to prevent psychiatric problems in young adulthood to live productive lives

# Staff Members

# Contact Us

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For further information,  
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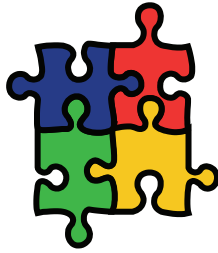
Prince George's County  
Board of Education

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**1** **COME**  
**FIRST**

The Prince George's  
School Mental  
Health Initiative

# Who We Are

The Prince George's School Mental Health Initiative (PGSMHI) is a partnership that was formed between the Center for School Mental Health (CSMH)/ University of Maryland, Maryland State Department of Education and Prince George's County Public Schools.



# Program Participants

- 🍏 Referrals are generated at IEP meetings, through school, regional staff, and parent consultation
- 🍏 Appropriate candidates are students at risk for entering non-public settings due to behavioral/emotional problems that are related to poor anger management, deficient problem solving skills, or chronic stressors
- 🍏 Students motivated to transition to their base school after making progress in non-public settings are also good candidates
- 🍏 Set criteria for the selection of potential participants in the program

# Our Purpose

- 🍏 To develop and implement a model that will help students with significant emotional and behavioral problems to be successful in all environments
- 🍏 Enhance staff competency through on-going training and education on Individualized Education Program (IEP) team decision-making
- 🍏 Establish active decisions from non-public special education placements that allow for continued behavioral and academic success
- 🍏 Develop a Center of Excellence in PGCPs for effective school mental health promotion and intervention for youth in special education.

# Program Model

- 🍏 The program includes an experienced team of professionals:
- 🍏 A Program Coordinator (Licensed Psychologist) from the Center for School Mental Health (CSMH)/ University of Maryland and PGCPs Liaison (Certified School Psychologist) to facilitate implementation of the program
- 🍏 Consultation with the school psychologist and IEP team
- 🍏 One therapist and a case manager
- 🍏 Use of family advocates
- 🍏 Psychiatric consultation using advances in telemedicine technology
- 🍏 Collaboration with local school system resources
- 🍏 Consistent and state-of-the-art (Internet-based) evaluation to ensure treatment progress and program quality



# Program Components

- 🍏 Needs assessment
- 🍏 Family-based interventions and support
- 🍏 Individual and group therapy
- 🍏 Collaborative professional development and consultations for school staff
- 🍏 Crisis intervention services
- 🍏 Case management
- 🍏 A constant focus on quality and diverse stakeholder involvement such as MSDE, Office of Psychological Services, Non-Public Office, Dept. of Family Services Mental Health & Disabilities Administration, Dept. of Social Services, State's Attorney's Office, etc.