

Interagency Agreements with Community Mental Health Programs

Policy:

Where needed Interagency Agreements will be developed with Community Mental Health Programs or mental health professionals to assist Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, Inc. in providing a comprehensive mental wellness approach that enhances and supports positive social-emotional development in families and children, that identifies early potential social-emotional issues and works with parents and Center staff to address the issues.

Procedure:

1. The Mental Health Services Director will contact the Community Mental Health Programs in Wallowa, Grant, Wheeler, and Morrow Counties about providing Mental Health Consultant Services for the Head Start centers located in the respective Counties.
2. If a Community Mental Health Program is unable to provide the needed services the Mental Health Services Director and/or other Mental Health Professional on staff will provide the service.
3. An interagency agreement will be developed with the Community Mental Health Program or mental health professional that will be providing Mental Health Consultant Services. This agreement will include, at a minimum, provisions for a regular schedule of classroom observations and consultation to staff, individual child observations if required, and meetings with parents when appropriate.
4. The mental health interagency agreements will be kept on file at the Umatilla Morrow Head Start Administrative Office.
5. The Mental Health Services Director will be responsible for maintaining linkages with the Community Mental Health Programs as needed.
6. Mental health consultant services for Head Start centers in Counties where UMCHS does not have an interagency agreement in place are provided by the Mental Health Services Director or other mental health professionals on staff.