## Using Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

in Program Development, Implementation, Evaluation, and Adaptation

Heather J. Risser, Ph.D.

Mental Health Services and Policy Program

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Department of Preventive Medicine







The Family CARE (Coaching, Advocacy, Resources, and Evaluation) Parenting Lab

## **Agenda**

- CQI in Program Development
- CQI in Program Implementation
- CQI in Program Evaluation
- CQI in Program Adaptation

## **Learning Objectives**

- Apply the Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control (DMAIC) framework to develop programming to address unmet needs
- 2. Use CQI methods to engage people with lived experience in program development, implementation, evaluation, and adaptation
- Use CQI methods to conduct program evaluations
- 4. Use CQI methods to adapt existing programs for different populations or to address other unmet needs

## Where do we start?

Identify unmet needs within an existing program

## **Large Group Activity**

## Identify some unmet needs within one of your programs

## **Unmet Needs**

## Asthma Virtual Home Visiting Program

**Unmet Needs Example** 

- 19% of youth in care have Asthma
- 94% of healthcare visits with a primary cause of Asthma were for follow up care, urgent care, emergency department, and hospitalizations.

 Unmet need: Additional services for youth with poorly controlled Asthma.

## Family Navigator Plus (FN+) Program

**Unmet Needs Example** 

 Focus groups and needs assessment surveys with foster parents indicated that one of the biggest unmet needs was accessing mental and behavioral health services for youth in care.

 Unmet need: Foster parents wanted more support, training, and resources re: youth mental and behavioral health needs.

# Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control (DMAIC) framework

## Six Sigma DMAIC













## Addressing Unmet Needs

Unmet Needs/Define The Problem

Data Source/Measure the Size of the Problem

## Addressing Unmet Needs

#### **Defining the Problem**

 Increase Foster Parent Capacity to Manage Youth Asthma

#### Measuring

- 1. Medicaid Data
- 2. Foster Parent Needs Assessment
- 3. Youth Asthma Control Test

## Addressing Unmet Needs

#### **Unmet Needs**

- Increase Foster Parent Capacity to:
  - Understand Youth Mental & Beh. Health Needs
  - Find & Engage in Tx
  - Support Tx Goals at Home
  - Manage the Youth's Sx & Beh.
  - Use Digital Mental Health
     Tools to support treatment

#### **Data Source**

- 1. Foster Parent Report
- 2. Caseworker Report

## **Small Group Activity**

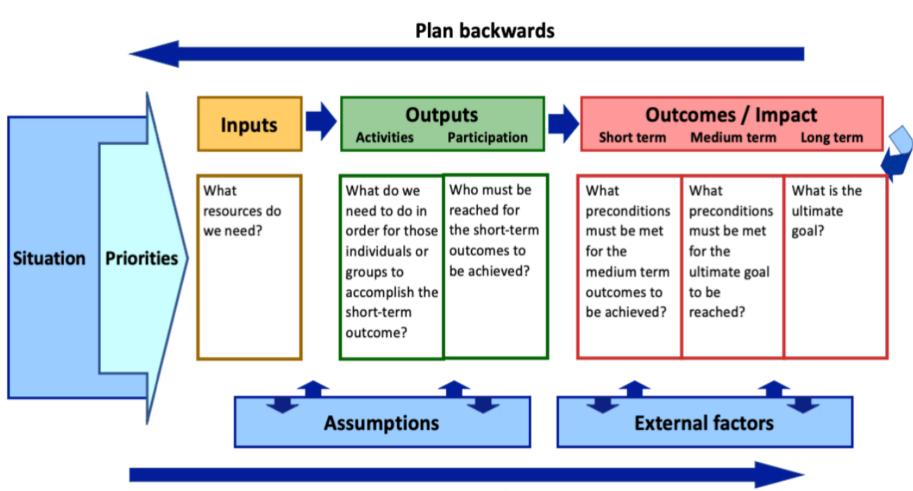
Choose an unmet need from one the group listed or a new one and methods for identifying the cause of the problem:

Analyze

## **Small Group Activity**

Report Out: What were some unmet needs and identified cause of the problem?

## Implement



Implement forward

## Implement Asthma & FN+ Solutions

## Program Protocol | Example Asthma Printout

Please share the following information with the youth and caregiver.

#### How to manage pollen and

Common sources of pollens are flowering tre

- 1. Be aware of daily pollen counts in yo
- 2. Limit time outside during high poller
- 3. Keep windows closed and run the air 4. Have the youth shower and wash ha
- 5. Take allergy medications.
- 6. Use an air cleaner that does not emit

#### How to manage weather-re

Exposure to cold air, high humidity, or poor

- 1. Monitor local weather forecast and h
- 2. Keep windows closed and use air cor
- 3. Cover face with a scarf or wear a me

#### How to manage infections:

Colds, upper respiratory tract infections, infl

- 1. Diagnosing and treating upper respi sinusitis) is an integral part of manag
- 2. Wash hands often.
- 3. Use paper towels.
- 4. Don't share cups, toothbrushes, towe
- 5. Keep hands away from face.
- 6. Get an influenza shot yearly.

#### Strong Emotions and Respiratory Symptoms:

Helping children and youth stay calm when experiencing asthma and respiratory symptoms is key to preventing worse exacerbation of symptoms!

#### How to manage strong emotions that car

When you feel strong emotions, your breathing symptoms worse.

Here are some tools that can help children ma cannot use new coping strategies when we are

#### Deep Breathing and mindfulness activities 1. Have the child pretend they are blowing b deep breath out through their mouth. Each

#### Here is another example of a mindful breatly

2. Practice "melting" away the stress/tension https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTzXFPh

#### Grounding:

1. Identify a color. Ask the child to find even pick colors until the child has calmed down

2. Identify different items in the room that v called the 5-4-3-2-1 method). An example is

Help the child practice positive self-talk dur forever." Encourage the child to repeat the

#### Identify Calming Strategies Ahead of Tim Talk with your child about what helps them

next time they are upset. When the child be this. For example, listening to music. Taking a

#### What to Do After A Child Calms Down:

Simply say something like, "Good job calmir upset and calmed down may cause the child

#### Pediatric Respiratory Distress

medication use and technique?

medical providers scheduled?

Responding to respiratory distress quickly is important to prevent more severe outcomes. When your child is in respiratory distress, make sure you are following the plan outlined in their asthma action plan and utilizing the child's rescue inhalers.

- Symptoms to look out for that might require addit
- · difficulty or inability to speak, talk, or walk · if the child is lethargic, listless, in a state of d
- · skin turning blue or grey

pale, cold, moist skin.

- · feelings of agitation, confusion, or inability to
- · breathing hard and fast (particulary if follows
- · retractions (chest, stomach, or neck skin pull
- · needing to stand or strain stomach and neck · constant wheezing, chest pain, or coughing
- . high or low-pitched noises when breathing in

#### For babies and infant, look out for these addition

- · head bobbing when breathing
- · nasal flaring
- grunting

#### If your child is in respiratory distress:

- · first and foremost: keep kids calm crying a
- use rescue inhalers and follow the asthma a when in doubt, go to the doctor - the quicker

#### Remember, the key to treating asthma attacks

- · always having up-to-date rescue medication
- · consistently using long-term control medicat · knowing signs and symptoms associated wit
- · managing/avoiding allergens and environm severe and potentially fatal asthma attacks
- · monitoring frequency of asthma symptoms
- · maintaining an active asthma action plan

#### Additional resources:

https://www.emergencyphysicians.org/article/k https://www.hopkinsallchildrens.org/Patients-Far

https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/er-asthma.htm

If the child is not responding to their rescue inhale Session Wrap-Up (don't share screen) provider immediately, especially if symptoms are Do the youth and caregiver plan to make any changes to

> Do the caregiver and youth plan on making any changes to the home environment to reduce risk for exacerbated respiratory symptoms?

Caregiver plans to start using an air purifier in the home during pollen season and having youth wear a mask during cold days. Caregiver will work with caseworker to discuss reducing youth's exposure to cigarette smoke and pet dander during visits with bio parents.

ALA - Common Asthma Triggers and Management

Youth will work on holding their breath for longer

(10 seconds) when using inhaler.

List any helpful resources or information discussed during the visit.

Does the caregiver have follow-up appointments with

O No

Please list when the follow-up appointments are

Pulmonologist follow-up 2/1/2025

Strategies: Managing Strong Emotions

Please select if any of the following conditions are

- There was an error in medication delivery or dosage ☐ The RA recommended specific interventions in the home to control asthma triggers ☐ The RA felt that the caregiver could use support
- in understanding the youth's asthma triggers and The youth had an Asthma Control Test score below 19
- The youth has had to make frequent visits to their asthma specialist to get their asthma under control The youth is frequently missing school due to
- asthma (2+ days in a semester; 4+ days in the past

If needed, please schedule a follow-up appointment with the caregiver and youth in three months to discuss their progress in making asthma-related changes.

When is the next meeting scheduled? (NOTE: SEND A CALENDAR INVITE TO THE PARENT IMMEDIATELY AFTER CALL)

What time will the next meeting be at? (note: please follow up with a calendar invite for the foster parent)

03-04-2025 (MM/DD/YYYY)

3pm

### **Family Navigator Overview**

**5 Weekly Sessions** (30-45 mins)

#### **Purpose**

Build foster parent capacity to:

- 1) Understand their child's specific MH needs
- 2) Work with the child's caseworker to engage the child in MH services;
- 3) Manage the child's difficult behaviors;
- 4) Support treatment goals at home.
- 5) Remove remaining barriers to treatment access and use digital MH tools during long waits for treatment;

- **Session 1**: Introduction and Understanding Child Behaviors
- Session 2: Finding and Accessing Mental Health Treatment for Your Child
- **Session 3:** Engaging in Your Child's Mental Health Treatment
- Session 4: Understanding the "Why" Behind your Child's Behavior
- Session 5: Using Digital Mental Health Tools



#### **Branch 1:**

Understanding Your Child's Symptoms and Behaviors

#### Session 1

Introduction to Family Navigator and Understanding Your Child's Symptoms Profile

#### Session 4

Understanding the "Why" Behind Your Child's Behaviors



## **Branch 2:** Effective Mental Health Treatment

Session 2
Finding and Accessing Mental Health
Treatment for Your Child

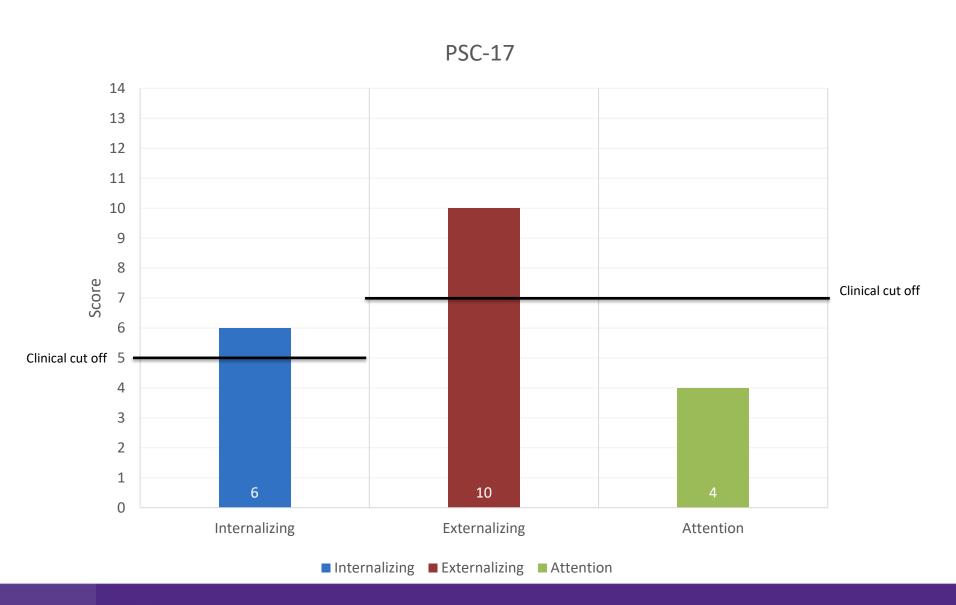


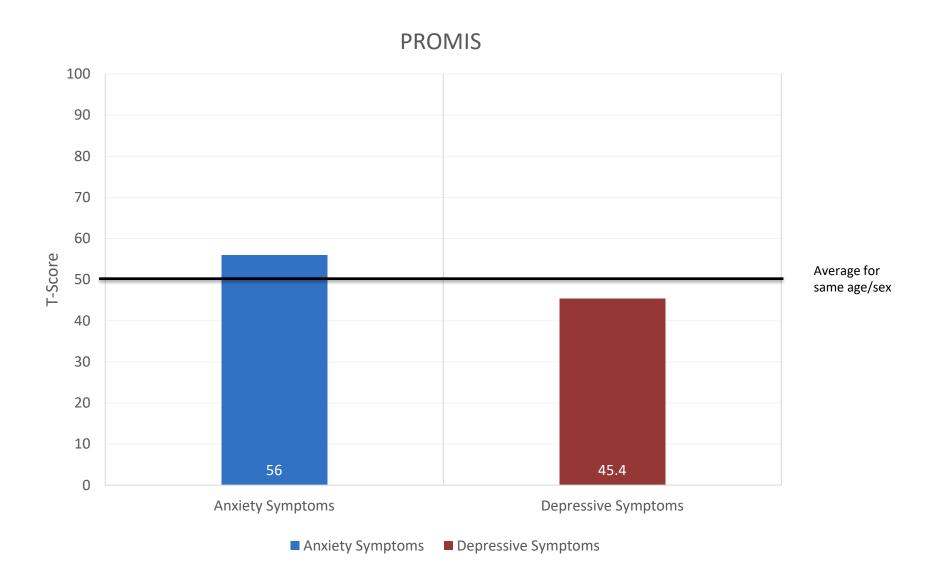
## Branch 3: Supporting Your Child's Treatment Goals at Home

Session 3
Engaging in Your Child's Mental Health
Treatment

<u>Session 5</u>
Finding, Evaluating, and Using Digital Mental Health Tools

#### **Session 1**: Introduction and Understanding Child Behaviors





#### Session 2: Finding and Accessing Mental Health Treatment for Your Child

#### **Finding Services** for Your Youth in Care



#### Mental Health and Social Services

Service Provider Identification & Exploration Resource (SPIDER)

Website: https://spider.dcfs.illinois.gov/Search/SearchAgency A database of resources in Illinois that can help you find a wide variety of services for your child.

#### Find Help by Aunt Bertha

Website: https://www.findhelp.org/

A nationwide resource directory that helps people find and connect to social services in their area.

#### Mental Health America

Website: https://mhanational.org/finding-help Provides information on what type of mental health treatments are

#### Resourc

#### YouthCare HealthChoice Illinois

Number: 844-289-2264 (TTY: 711)

Website: https://www.ilyouthcare.com Medical benefits for youth in care.

#### Teladoc Health

Website: https://www.teladoc.com/YouthCare Medical care telehealth with care options including:

- General Medical (24/7 Care) for \$0/visit
- Mental Health for \$0/visit with a therapist, \$0/visit for first and a
- Dermatology for \$0/online review

#### Need immediate

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Provides confidential support for people in distress 24/7 Support, Call 800-273-8255

#### **Finding Services** for Your Youth in Care

#### Resources

#### Center for Parent Information and Resources

Website: https://www.parentcenterhub.org/resourcelibrary/ Offers easy-to-read informational and research-based materials for parents and families of children with disabiliti

#### BraveHealth

Website: https://bebravehealth.com/

Telehealth-enabled mental health services including individual and group therapy, psychiatry and med management, marriage and family counseling, and specialized therapeutic programs.

#### Understood

Website: https://www.understood.org/hub

Offers resources and tools for children with disabilities and other special health care needs

#### Child Mind Institute

Website: https://childmind.org/

Provides gold-standard evidence-based care and delivers educational resources to families.

#### Location

search methods

Search from an Area of Interest

Useful when searching for a very specific service or you

can't find what your looking for with

Type an address, zip code, neighborhood, city, or county into the "Search from location or zip code" box and click the green "Loc

Accepts DCFS

Youth in Care!

Search from Current Location

Leave "Search from location or zip code" box blank and click the green "Get my Location" button. Determine Search Distance

Use the "Maximum Distance" drop down box

Once SPIDER has found your desired location, an icon of a person will appear on the map identifying your Area of Interest or Current Location

You can then fill in the specific Search Criteria that meets your needs under the "General" tab



Illinois Department of Child and Family Services

#### SPIDER User Tips

#### Search Results

Search by Location

- · Your search results will populated on the map and directly below the search engine.
- Reading from left to right, the distance closest to your location is shown first, then the Agency, the address, the Agency's main phone number, and it's Program(s) that meet your search critefia
- Search without Location
- . The programs that meet your search criteria will populate on the map and directly below the search engine listed alphabetically by city name
- You can click on the hyperlinked Agency name to access the Agency Details Report.
- · Provides listing of other locations and programs
- · You can click on the hyperlinked Program name to access the Detailed Program Report
- · Provides detailed information on that specific type of program (e.g. hours, eligibility requirements, staff information, payment information, services offered).



#### Need immediate support?

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Provides confidential support for people in distress 24/7 Support. Call 800-273-8255

CARES (Crisis and Referral Entry Services) 24/7 Support. Call 1-800-345-9049

#### Session 3: Engaging in Your Child's Mental Health Treatment

### Tips on How to Work Well with Your Child's Therapist

#### Maintaining a Good Relationship

A good relationship with the mental health professional treating your child is key to a successful outcome.

#### Getting Started

- Come prepared to talk to your child's therapist about your child's behaviors to provide background information. The more context you can provide the better!
- Information from your child's school may be valuable. Your therapist can suggest ways to request this information without providing a reason for disclosing why it is needed.
- Work out the logistics up front. You may want to ask the therapist what you will and won't be billed for, how quickly they will return your calls, and what incidents merit a headsup call before an appointment.

#### Setting Treatment Expectations

It's normal to wonder how long your child's treatment will take and when you will start to see progress. Consider asking the therapist the following questions:

 What is the estimated time frame for the treatment?
 What are the specific goals for treatment?
 How will you measure success?

Source: Child Mind Institute

#### Being Supportive and Involve in Your Child's Treatment is Pivotal

For your child to get the most out of treatment, you'll need to monitor your child closely, know which skills are being worked on and how to reinforce them outside the office in everyday life.

When a five-minute meeting or phone call with the therapist isn't enough, ask about background reading material, online resources and parent support groups.

You can also ask to meet for a full session without the child present. These sessions may be covered by insurance, allowing you to discuss issues and care in greater depth.

#### Strategies for Effective Communication

- Although parents and therapists have a common goal of helping your child get better, you each see them from a different perspective.
- Effective communication depends on many factors, including your own stress level, how receptive the therapist is to input, how well you articulate your concerns and the personal factors that play into any kind of relationship.
- Any relationship has its rough spots, and occasionally people say things that are inconsiderate or hurtful. When this happens with a therapist, parents may feel blamed, unheard or angry. It's okay to say, "I felt dismissed when you said \_\_\_\_" or "I didn't appreciate the way you responded when \_\_\_\_." Addressing the problem directly is the fastest way to move forward.
- If after trying to resolve the issue you decide you are unhappy with the provider or with your child's progress, it's okay to seek a second opinion on treatment. It's generally a lot easier on the current relationship if you let your child's therapist know that you're exploring other options.

#### Strategies for Speaking with Your Child's Therapist

#### Respect Your Own Knowledge

Your child's therapist is the expert on therapeutic interventions, yet you are the expert on your child. That knowledge matters, as does your gut feeling for what's going on. Don't be afraid to speak up! The therapist needs to know what you see, sense, and think is happening.



#### Plan What You Will Say Ahead of Time

Focusing on observing changes in your child's behavior, mood, and social interaction and see if you can identify what it is that's causing you to be concerned. It may help to keep notes about the frequency, intensity, and duration of behaviors. If confusing new behaviors emerge, it's okay to tell the therapist "I'm not sure what this means, but here's what I've been seeing."

#### Tell a Story

Sometimes a child presents differently in therapist's office than at home or school. This can create a disconnect between your mpression of what's going on and the therapist's. Anecdotes help. Instead of summarizing the week with, "Mornings have been rough," try including detail so it's clear exactly what you mean. For example, "She had a 40-minute scream-fest that included flinging books and shoes, and left a dent in the wall."

#### Use Curiosity to Express a Different Opinion

People can and do disagree, and occasionally your child's therapist may reach a conclusion you think is off base. Instead of launching into a debate, probe for more information. This honors the therapist's expertise without putting them on the defensive. You might try something like, "Can you tell me more about why you think that's what's happening? I have a very different take on it" or "Hmmm. Are there other possible

#### Don't Be Embarrassed to Ask For Help

explanations?"

Raising children can put you in situations that make you feel vulnerable to the judgment of others. Instead of avoiding, try asking the therapist for advice on how to handle them. You can say something like, "I need help with strategies for how to defuse a situation when..." or "Can you suggest ways to deal with...?" The therapist may not have an answer for you right away, but if you open the discussion, you can make progress.

Source: Child Mind Institute

#### Session 4: Understanding the "Why" Behind your Child's Behavior

### The ABCs of Behavior



### I Do - Example

**Scenario:** Child throws a tantrum when parent tells them to stop playing and clean their room.



Function: Avoidance of undesirable situation

## I Do - Example

**Scenario:** Child throws a tantrum when parent tells them to stop playing and clean their room.



Change the **Antecedent** or **Consequence** for alternative behavior

#### **Session 5:** Using Digital Mental Health Tools

### Making the Connection with Brave Health



#### Making a Referral

#### Referral Form Link:

www.bebravehealth.com/referral

EMR: Brave Health

Fax: **727-306-8033** 

Secure Email:

referral@bebravehealth.com

#### Hearing from Us

It's a "305" area code! If the patient misses our call, please urge them to call or text us at 305-902-6347 to get scheduled.

Visit Brave website and/or email
Partner Support to get answers for any
questions at

partnersupport@bebravehealth.com





#### Talk to a doctor today by phone or video

Register now Registrese hoy mismo 1-800-TELADOC (800-835-2362)

Samuel Sampleton 1 Sampling St. Sampleville, AZ 29 401 Made available by:

YouthCare

#### Samuel,

Staying health yis important - especially during cold, flu and allergy season. We want you to feel your bestall yearlong so you can show up for yourself and those most important to you. With Teladoc Health, you can talk to a doctor or specialist on your lunch break, after work or even on the weekend.

Teladoc Health and Youth Care Health Choice Illinois bring healthy to you. Skip the has sle of searching for a doctor in your are a and waiting for an available appointment. Talk to a board-certified doctor by phone or video 24/7. Our team of doctors and spedalists can help you feel like your bestself. And it's all available in one convenient place. when you need it most.

Register today at no cost to you to get care when you need it.

Stay well

Your Teladoc Health Care Team



Teladoc Health is available to you through your Medicaid plan

at no cost to you.

Scan the QR code to download the app and register.

#### Live your healthiest life. Register now online.

Visit teladoc.com/Youth Care to sign up. Or call 1-800-TELADOC (800-835-2362)

#### Your care options include:

General Medical (24/7 Care) \$0/visit

Dermatology \$0/online review Mental Health

\$0/visit (therapist) \$0/first visit (psychiatrist) \$0/ongoing visits (psychiatrist)

#### What To Do While **Waiting to Get Treatment**

Focusing on getting informed, building skills, and bolstering self-esteem can make the wait less stressful and more productive.

#### **Learning Differences**

- · Supporting the Emotional Needs of Kids with Disabilities
- Help for Kids Strugaling with Learning
- 7 Things to Tell the Teacher About Your Child

#### **Sensory Processing**

- School Success Kits for Kids with Sensory Processing Issues
- How Can We Help Kids with Transitions
- Tips for Going Places with Sensory-Challenged Kids

#### Depression

- What To Do if You Think Your Teenager is Depressed
- Treatment for Depression
- What To Do if You're Worried About Suicide

#### Anxiety & Avoidance

- What Are the Signs of Anxiety?
- What are the Different Kinds of Anxiety?
- Tips for Calming Anxious Kids

#### Attention Problems

- Is It ADHD or Immaturity?
- Strategies to Help Homework Go More Smoothly
- School Success Kit for Kids with

#### **Behavior Problems**

- Common Cause of Behavior Problems in Kids
- How Can We Help Kids With Self-Regulation
- Managing Problem Behaviors at

#### Speech & Language

- Helping Toddlers Expand Their Language Skills
- Inside an Evaluation for Learning Disorders
- Learning Disability Diagnosis and English Language Learners

#### Source: Child Mind Institute





#### For Parents and Youth in Care

#### **General Mental Health Resources**

Resource	Purpose	Website	
APA DSM-5-TR Online Assessment	Provides free online mental health assessments for caregivers to complete; provides resources and recommendations based on assessment	https://www.psychiatry.org/p sychiatrists/practice/dsm/ed ucational- resources/assessment- measures	
BEACON Illinois	Resource for Illinois youth and families to find behavioral health services	https://beacon.illinois.gov/	
Mental Health America – Parent Test: Your Child's Mental Health	Provides free online mental health assessments for caregivers to complete	https://screening.mhanationa l.org/screening-tools/parent/	
Mindfulness Activities for Kids	Provides mindfulness activities for caregivers to teach their kids	https://www.mindful.org/mindfulness-for-kids/	
The California Healthy Minds, Thriving Kids Project	Provides evidence-based videos and print resources that parents can use to teach their kids critical mental health and coping skills	https://childmind.org/healthy minds/parents/	
One Mind PsyberGuide	Collection of mental health apps	https://onemindpsyberguide. org/	

#### **Target Mental Health Resources**

Emotion/ Behavior	Tool	Details	Website
Aggression	Child Mind Institute – Complete Guide for Managing Behavior Problems	Provides psychoeducation about how to respond to behavioral problems	https://childmind.org/ guide/parents-guide- to-problem-behavior/
Bipolar Disorder	DBSA Bipolar Disorder	Provides psychoeducation to parents about bipolar disorder and treatment options	https://www.dbsallia nce.org/education/bi polar-disorder/
Hoarding	Child Mind Institute – Quick Guide to Hoarding Disorder	Provides psychoeducation to parents about hoarding and treatment options	https://childmind.org/ guide/hoarding- disorder-in-children- quick-guide/
OCD	IOCDF for Kids	Provides psychoeducation to parents about OCD symptoms and treatment	https://kids.iocdf.org/
School Refusal	Child Mind Institute – When Kids Refuse to Go to School	Provides education to parents about what school refusal is and what to do	https://childmind.org/ article/when-kids- refuse-to-go-to- school/
Substance Use	SAMHSA – "What Parents are Saying" Podcast	Provides a platform for parents to get informed, be prepared, and take action by having conversations with their kids about substance use	https://www.samhsa. gov/talk-they-hear- you/podcast
Trauma	The National Child Traumatic Stress Network	Provides psychoeducation to parents about trauma and treatment	https://www.nctsn.or g/

## Control

# Maintaining, Sustaining, and Scaling

## Adaptation

## What Are Some Adaptations?

# Thank you! Questions?

### **Contact Information**



Website: https://sites.northwestern.edu/familycareparentinglab/

Email: <a href="mailto:familycareparentinglab@northwestern.edu">familycareparentinglab@northwestern.edu</a>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/familycarelab

Instagram: <a href="mailto:@familycarelab">@familycarelab</a>



Email: heather.risser@northwestern.edu

Find me on LinkedIn