

Nebraska Partnership for Mental Healthcare Access in Pediatrics

Why NEP-MAP?

There is an unmet need among children and youth in Nebraska for access to mental and behavioral health services. Telehealth, behavioral health consultation, and training for primary care providers help address that need by growing capacity in underserved areas.

Goals of NEP-MAP

- **Increase Screening** for mental and behavioral health issues among children, youth, and their caregivers.
- **Increase Capacity** of primary care providers in underserved areas to screen, refer, and treat children and youth with need mental health care.
- **Provide Consultation** from pediatric behavioral health experts to providers using tele-behavioral health.
- **Expand** the project in scale, scope, and impact.

Year One Accomplishments of NEP-MAP

- The **Expert Consultation Team** formed and a **Clinical Demonstration Project** launched. <https://www.unmc.edu/mmi/departments/psychology/psych-patientcare/teleproviderconsult.html>
- The **Partnership** formed. The partnership advances: integrated systems of care, family-centered care, culture and language, best practices, and informed decision-making. www.dhhs.ne.gov/NEPMAP
- The **Screening Menu and Referral Guide** was developed and tested with audiences.

Year Two in NEP-MAP

- Quality Improvement activities to increase provider enrollment and use of the consultation service.
- Survey of screening and referral practices in community settings.
- Grow our partner network of parents, providers, and others to expand the impact of NEP-MAP.
- Develop and increase availability of provider training on pediatric mental health topics.



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Lead Agency: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. Title V Maternal Child Health Program. For more information see our webpage www.dhhs.ne.gov/NEPMAP.

The Nebraska Children and Families Foundation* shows that:

- 10-30% of all preschool students ages 3 to 5 are not behaviorally and emotionally ready to succeed in school.
- Preschool teachers report that children's disruptive behavior is the single greatest challenge they face.
- 65% of students identified with social-emotional or behavioral issues in early childhood drop out of school.
- Preschool children are three times more likely to be expelled than children K-12.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), for the period 2013-2017**:

- The annual average prevalence of past-year major depressive episode in Nebraska was 11.8% (or 17,000 individuals).
- The annual percentage of Nebraska youth aged 12-17 with a major depressive episode in the past year increased compared to the period 2004-2008.
- Among youth aged 12-17 in Nebraska with a major depressive episode in the past year, an annual average of 30.7% (or 5,000 individuals) received depression care in the last year.
- Among young adults aged 18-25, the annual average prevalence of past-year serious thoughts of suicide in Nebraska was 8.3% (17,000 young adults).

* <https://www.nebraskachildren.org/our-approach/evidence-based-strategies/pyramid-model.html>

** <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/behavioral-health-barometer-nebraska-volume-5>