
	<b>DHS Early Head Start Program Policy</b>		
<b>WELLNESS SUPPORT SERVICES 1</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Identification and Intervention through Wellness Support Services		
<b>REFERENCE</b>	Mental Health		
<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	10/1/2020		
<b>Policy Council Approval: 7/26/16</b>	<b>Policy Council Revision: 5/23/23</b>	<b>Governing Body Approval: 9/19/16</b>	<b>Governing Body Revision: 6/15/23</b>
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### Policy:

The Early Head Start Program will develop and implement procedures that support a program-wide culture of that promotes promoting mental health, social emotional well-being, and overall health and safety that includes for the identification and the effective the provision of mental health services to Early Head Start children, their family members, and to Early Head Start staff. in need of wellness supports through the program's Wellness Support Services.

Wellness ServicesSupport Supportservices will be provided by qualified licensed mental health professionals<sup>ss</sup> and consultants with experience in early childhood social-emotional development and in the provision of mental health services to young children, their families, and staff.

Wellness Sservices are provided by a licensed mental health professional or by a qualified mental health professional who works under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional, Early Head Start mental health professionals, including consultants, and other designated staff. Wellness Support Sservices may include consultations or individualized wellness support services promoting the social-emotional development of children, family members and staff by implementing practices from a research based tiered approach at the following levels: ,that are provided by a licensed mental health professional or by a qualified mental health professional who works under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional,

Early Head Start licensed mental health professionals, including behavior coaches/consultants, and other designated staff, will support the social-emotional development of children and the wellness of family members and staff by implementing providing education and servicespractices from a research based tiered approach at the following levels:

### Foundation – Effective Workforce

The Early Head Start Program will provide training and supports to staff to promote staff well-being so that they are able to cultivate supportive and caring relationships with children and families. services to children, families and staff in need of assistance. Emphasis will be placed on-

~~the provision of training and supports to staff to promote staff well-being so that they are able to cultivate supportive and caring relationships with children and families.~~

#### **Tier I: Promotion - Nurturing and Responsive Relationships and High-Quality Supportive Environments**

~~The Early Head Start program will promote the positive social-emotional development of all children by creating and implementing an approach that focuses on positive and nurturing relationships between staff, children, and parents/guardians.~~  
The Early Head Start program will promote the social-emotional development of all children by implementing an approach that focuses on nurturing and responsive relationships including relationships between staff, children, and parents/guardians.

The EHS program will provide staff with training and support to create inclusive and supportive classroom environments for learning and development. Opportunities will also be provided to parents/guardians to create supportive home environments for children and families.-

## Tier II: Prevention - Targeted Social-Emotional Supports

The Early Head Start program will ~~support~~~~promote~~ the ~~positive~~ social-emotional development of identified children by providing through parent and teacher consultations and individualized wellness support services to prevent behavior concerns.

Consultation and wellness support services will include developmentally appropriate strategies that support self-regulation, expressing and understanding emotions, developing social relationships and problem-solving.

The Early Head Start Program will develop and implement a system to document, report and track referrals, consultations, and observations for targeted wellness supports.

~~-education, classroom observations and teacher consultations to impact effective strategies that promote wellness.~~

## Tier III: Individualized Intervention

The Early Head Start program will respond to children, family members and staff in need of individualized interventions by providing consultation and wellness support services that may include, referrals to community providers or direct intervention services.

The Early Head Start Program will develop and implement a system to document, report and track referrals, consultations and observations for intensive interventions. ~~The Early Head Start program will ensure compliance with all confidentiality policies, as required by law, including when documenting services, referrals and follow-up provided in all data management systems utilized by the Head Start program.~~

The Early Head Start Program will develop and implement a system to respond to mental health emergencies.

The Early Head Start program will ensure compliance with all confidentiality policies, as required by law, including when documenting services, referrals and follow-up provided in all data management systems utilized by the Head Start program.

All mental health documentation must be entered according to the *City of San Antonio Data Entry & Benchmark Due Date Guide*.

## Performance Standard:

1302.45; 1302.46