



# Connecting Students to Mental Health Services

Case Studies of Collaborations, Funding, & Evidence-Based Practices

October 8, 2014

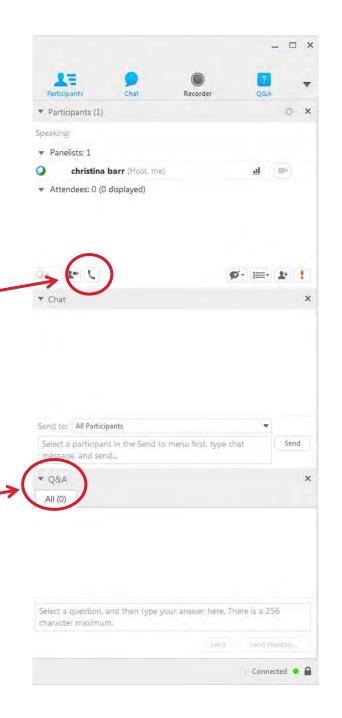




#### Housekeeping

If you can't hear the audio, try changing your audio settings and call-in using your telephone

To ask questions, please use the Q&A function. We will answer questions at the end.







#### Welcome & Introductions

- Lisa White & Alicia Rozum, California School-Based Health Alliance
- Michael Klein, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California
- Dr. Ron Powell, Desert/Mountain SELPA





#### Agenda

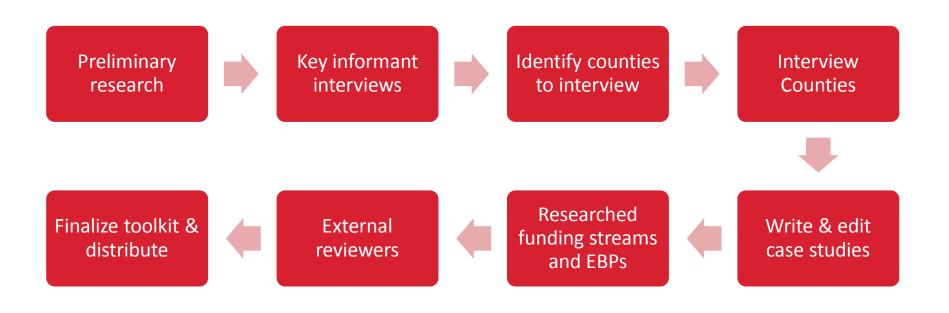
- 1. Overview of our Project
- 2. The Problem: Why school-linked mental health services?
- 3. Our Findings & Case Studies
- In-depth look at Desert/Mountain SELPA in San Bernardino County
- 5. Conclusion & Questions







#### Overview of the Project









#### What is the problem?

- Mental health challenges are common
- Symptoms can emerge in childhood and adolescence, and look different than adults
- Most children and youth, even those with insurance, do not have access to services
- Mental health challenges affect brain development and learning
- Behavioral symptoms are a big concern of teachers, schools, and law enforcement







#### Why in schools?

- Most children and youth who receive services get them at school
- Individual and group counseling in schools are linked to more developmental assets for students
- School-based services increase access and reduce stigma
- Improvement in mental health links to improvement in behavior, learning, and social skills





#### Seven County Case Studies

- 1. Kings County
- 2. Lake County
- 3. Orange County
- 4. Riverside County
- 5. San Bernardino County
- 6. San Diego County
- 7. Santa Cruz County







#### Three Themes of Collaborations

1. Enhance Delivery of Service

Bringing mental health expertise from different parts of the county to provide a continuum of mental health services

2. Maximize Funding

Organizations within the county can bring their own resources to the table to help maximize funding

3. Address a Specific Local Issue

For example, truancy or recidivism





#### 1) Enhance Delivery of Service

**Orange County** 

MHSA-PEI expansion of school-based services

San Diego County

Medi-Cal EPSDT expansion of school-based services





#### 2) Maximize Funding

**Lake County** 

Medi-Cal Match Project with local school funds

San Bernardino County

Medi-Cal EPSDT and Special Education funding





#### 3) Address a Specific Local Issue

Kings County → Truancy

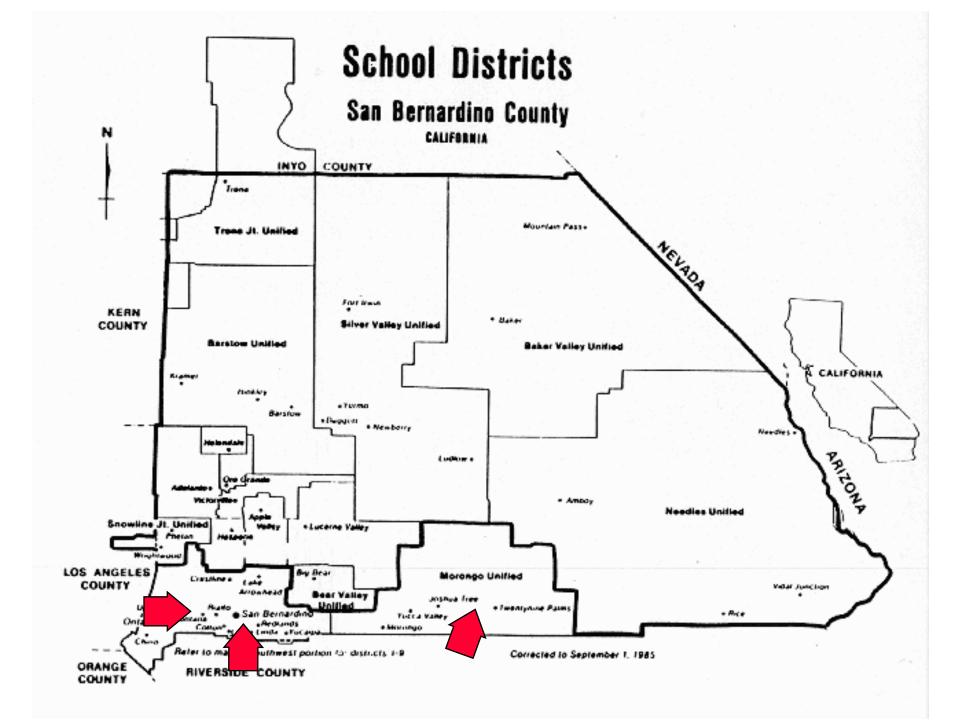
Riverside County → Recidivism

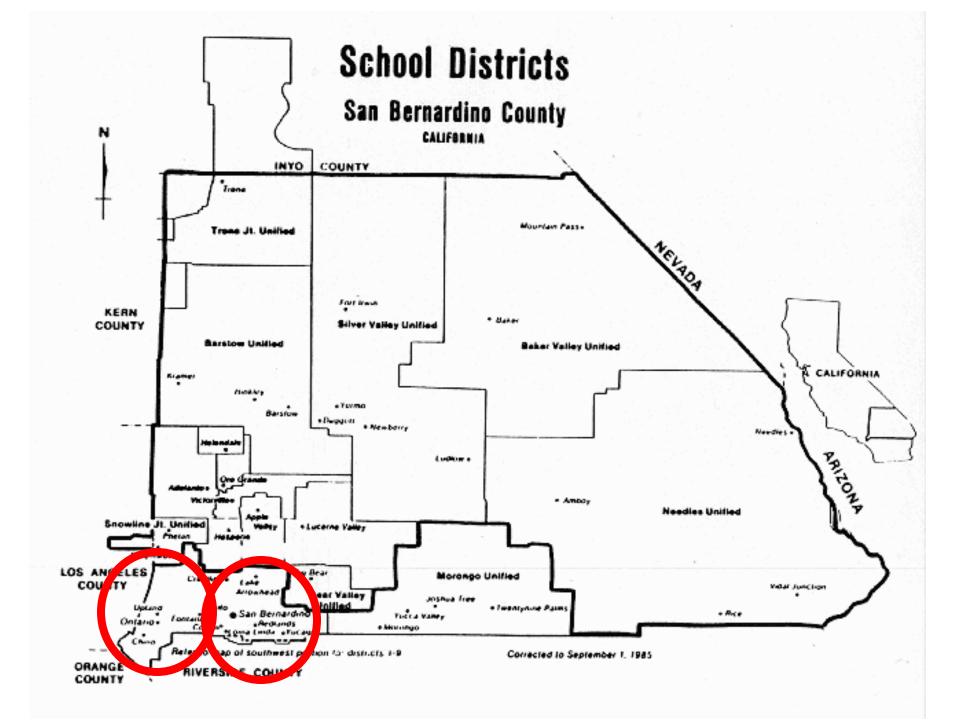
Santa Cruz County → Substance Abuse

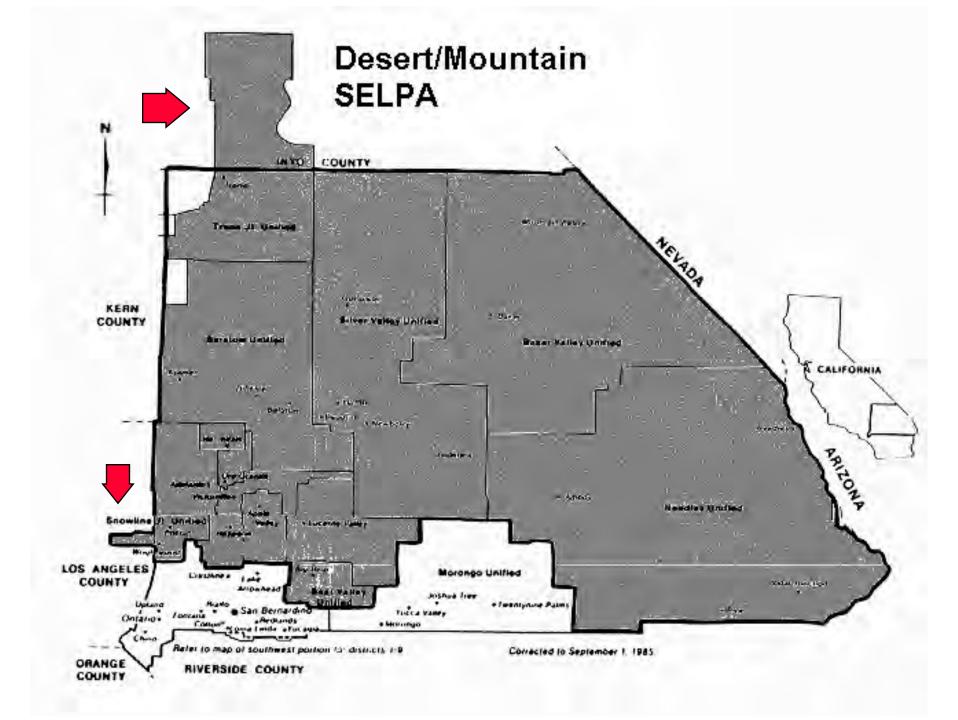
# Connecting Students to Mental Health Services

#### Desert/Mountain SELPA

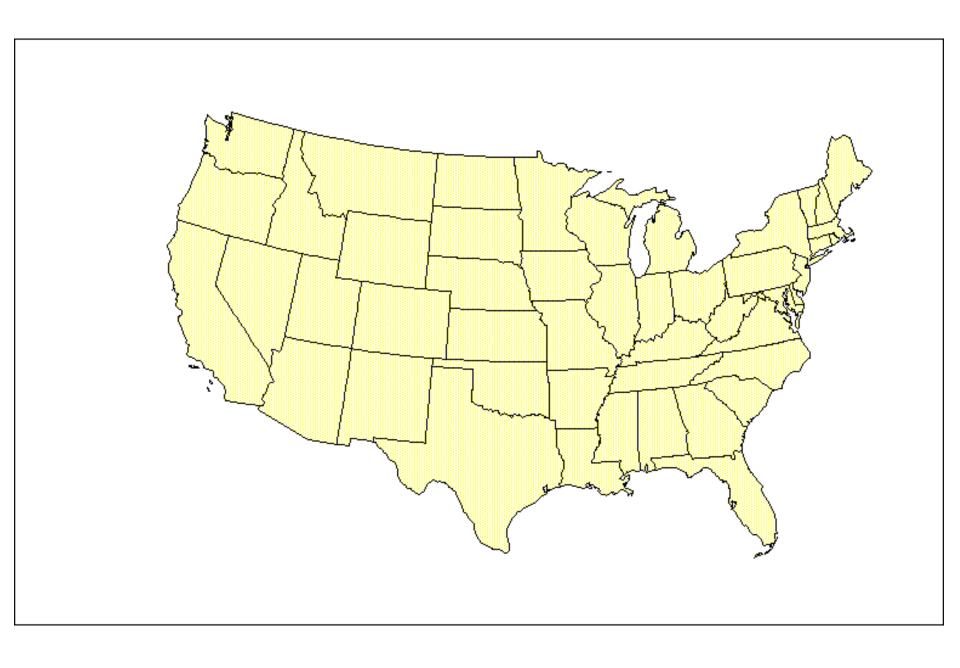
- Consortium of 15 school districts and 12 independent LEA charter schools
- 106,000 enrollment
- 12,200 students with disabilities (11.5%)

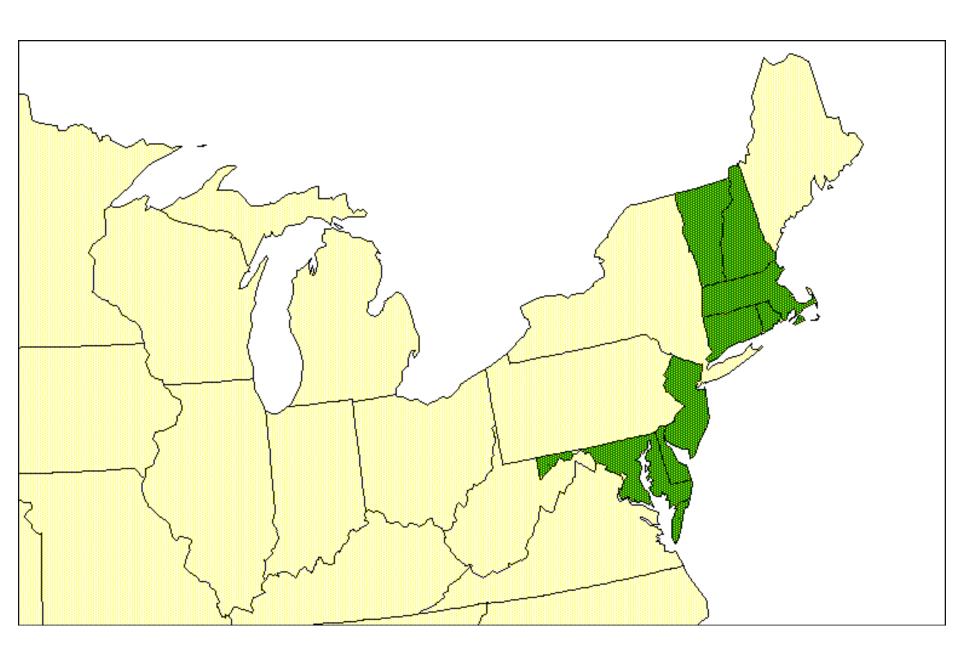


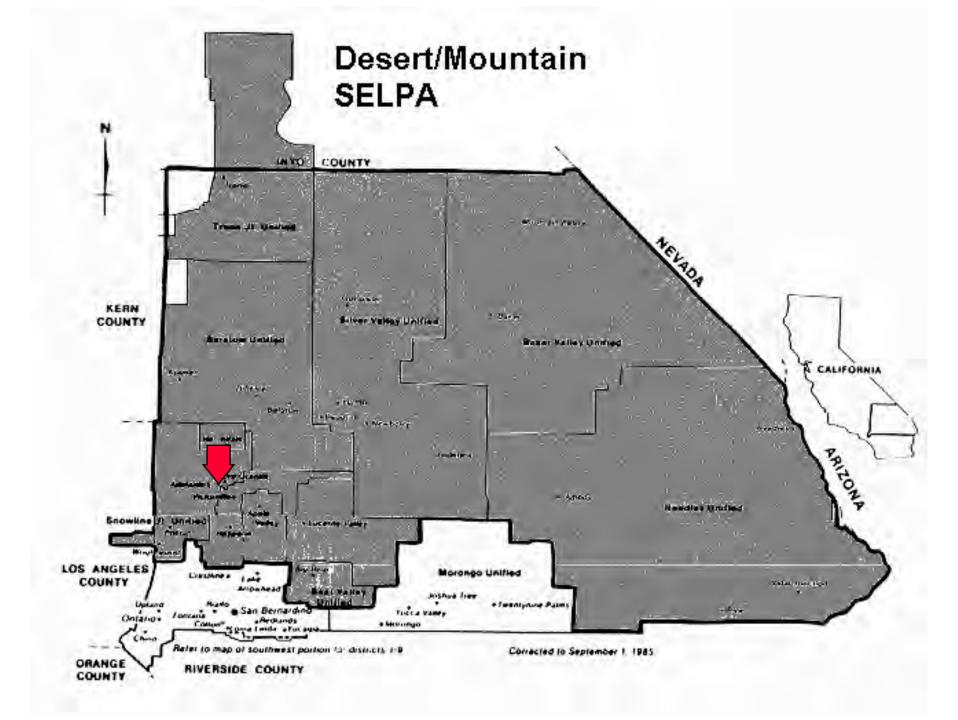












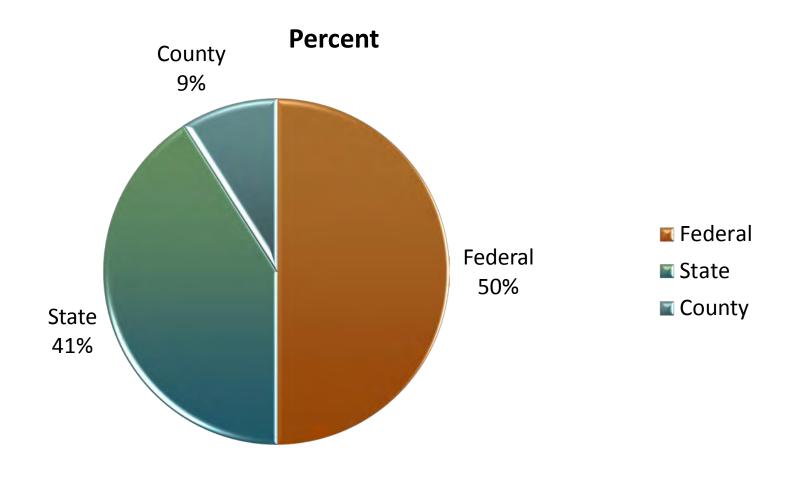
#### Mental Health Services

- SELPA Staff
  - MSW/MFT with PPS credentials
  - Fee for Service funded
- NPA Staff
  - LCSW/MFT and MSW/MFT interns
  - No requirement for PPS credential
  - SELPA provided clinical supervision

#### Mental Health Services

- DBH Partnership
  - Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) RFP
  - Access to full-scope MediCal funding

# **EPSDT Medi-Cal Funding**



\$2.61 @ minute: \$156.6 @ hour

#### Mental Health Services

- Desert/Mountain Children's Center
  - School-based EPSDT services
  - All MediCal eligible children
- Contracted DBH Clinic
  - LCSW/MFT and MSW/MFT Interns without the necessity to concurrently hold a PPS credential
  - Local, County, and State MediCal audits

# Funding

Is the funding sufficient?

# What's the need?

#### **Prevalence Rates**

- LAO stated that in 2010/2011 about 20,000 students with disabilities received AB3632 services.
  - -12 in 400 (3%)
  - 1 in 400 in residential placement (.27%)



An estimated 20% of American children and adolescents between the ages of 5 to 18 have serious diagnosable emotional or behavioral health disorders resulting in substantial to extreme impairment.

(Committee on Health, 2004; Nemeroff et al., 2008)

 Of the young children who need mental health services, it has been estimated that fewer than 10% receive services for these difficulties.

(Kataoka, Zhang, & Wells, 2002)



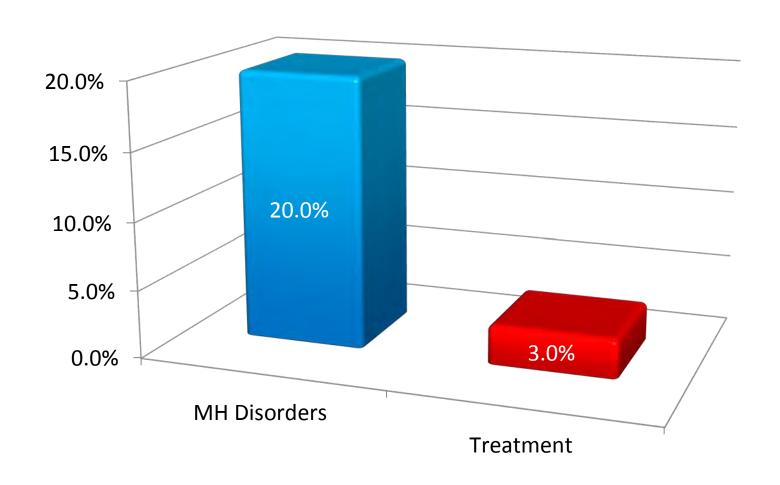
## Without Embedded MH services, School is the "de facto" MH Provider



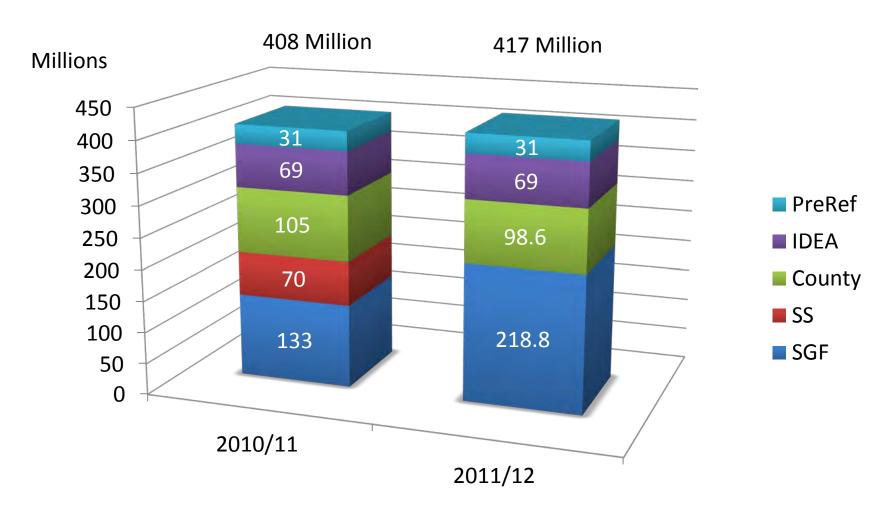


There are evidence-based practices that are effective in changing this developmental trajectory...the problem is not what to do, but rests in ensuring access to intervention and support (Kazdin & Whitley, 2006).

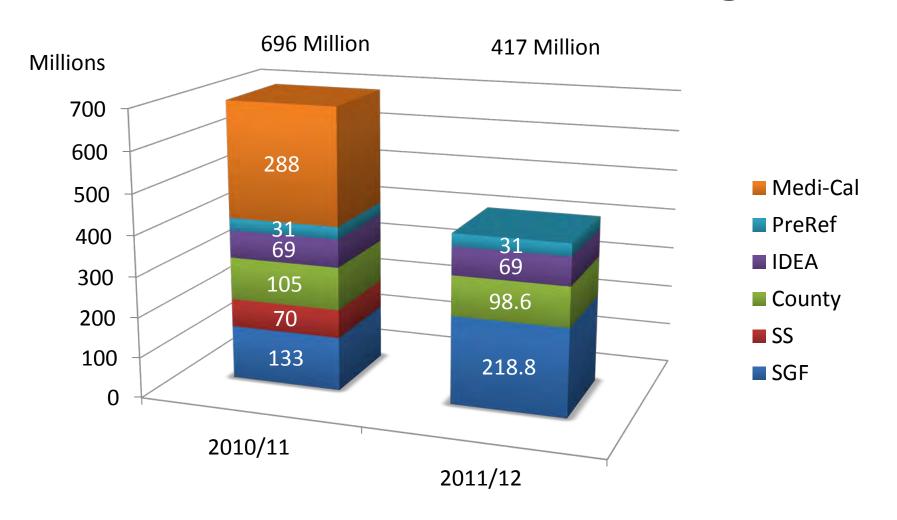
#### What is the Need?



## Mental Health Funding



## Mental Health Funding



## Mental Health Services

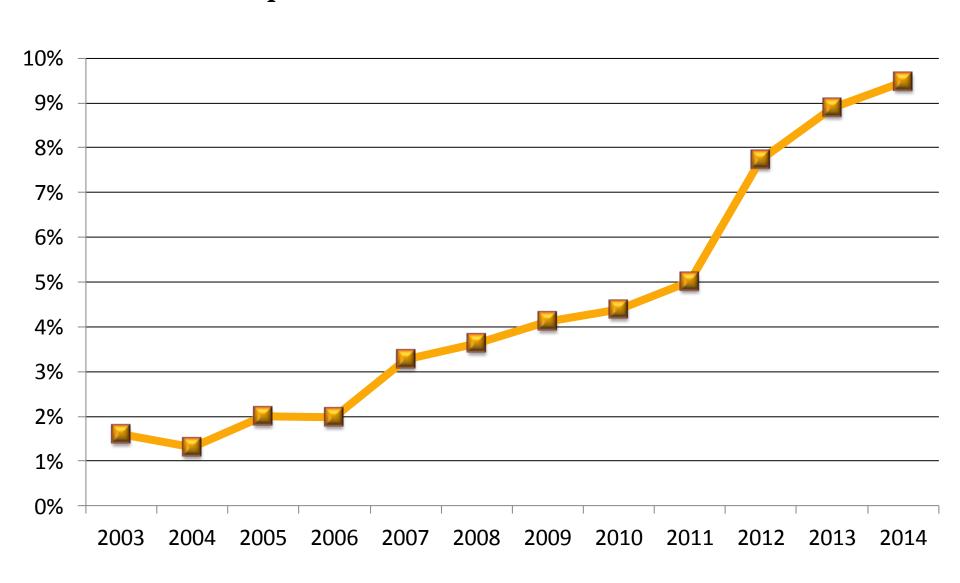
- \$20 million budget
- >120 therapists
- >7000 children 0-21 served annually
- About 1500 children with disabilities
- In >200 schools in all 15 districts as well as our 12 charter school campuses in San Diego County.

## What has Changed?

- Non-MediCal eligible receive services at no cost to school districts.
- Residential placement is now paid for by the SELPA
- Residential assessment
- Residential monitoring
- Provide school-based mental health services for neighboring SELPAs

## Mental Health Services

As a Proportion of All Students with Disabilities







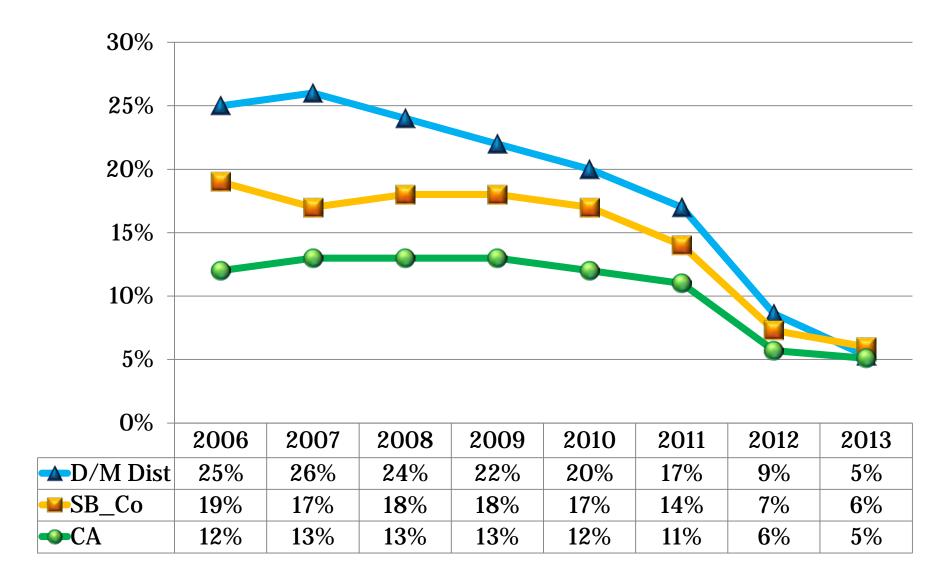


New Referrals 4017

Serving 3712

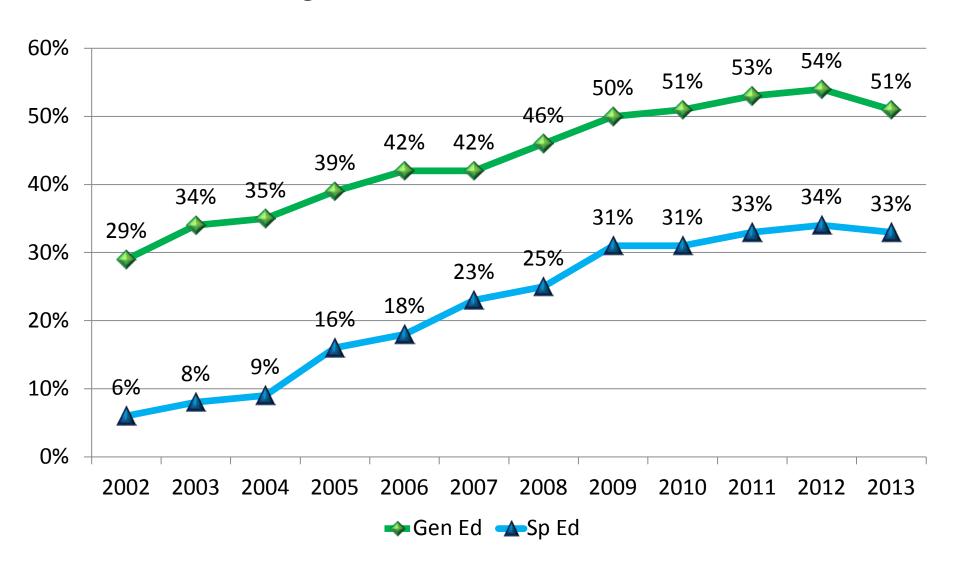
Successful Closures 1410

## Suspensions Per Enrollment



## Academic Achievement Gap

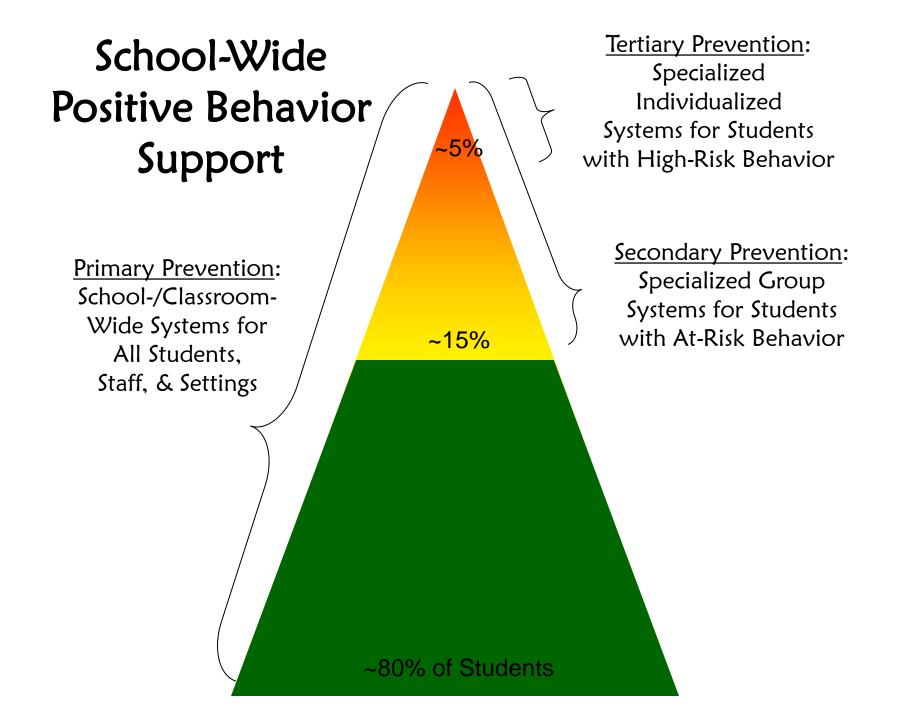
**Average Percent Proficient on ELA CST** 



# Where do we go from here?

# Where do we go from here?

- Keys to successful mental health treatment:
  - Early identification and treatment,
  - Comprehensive system of supports,
  - Family training and engagement,



#### Investment in Prevention

- Universal Academic, Behavioral and MH Screening
- Early Intervention for those not at "benchmark"

#### Multi-Tiered Approach

- Frequent Progress-Monitoring
- Data-driven decisions

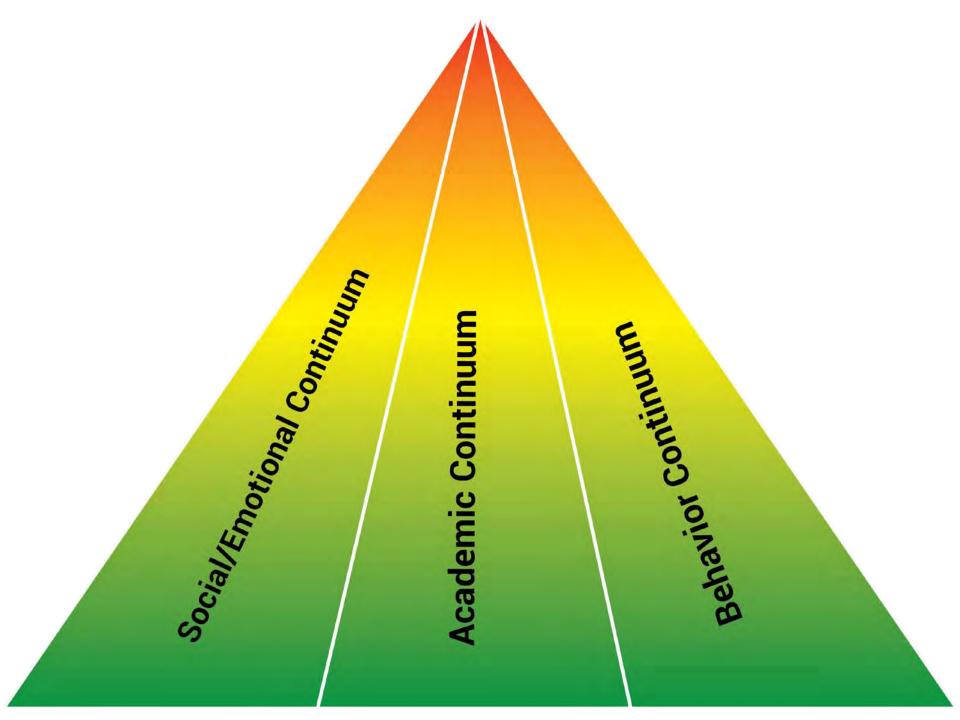
#### **Evidence-based Interventions**

Implementation with Fidelity

# Social Culture







"The quality of a civilization may be measured by how it cares for its elderly. Just as surely, the future of a society may be forecast by how it cares for its young."

Daniel Patrick Moynihan





#### Three Themes of Collaborations

1. Enhance Delivery of Service

2. Maximize Funding

3. Address a Specific Local Issue

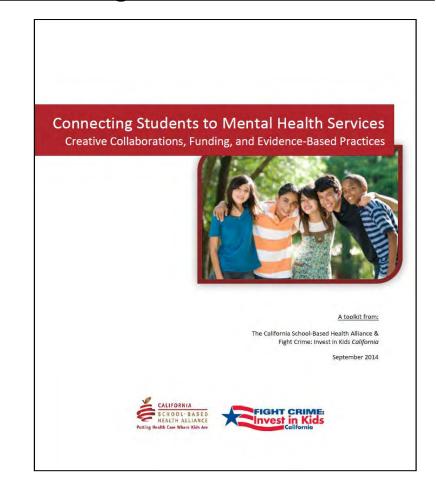




#### Toolkit available online at

http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/about-us/toolkits-and-

services/toolkits/







#### **Toolkit Outline**

- Importance of student mental health & linking care through schools
- 7 county case studies
- Overview of 10 mental health funding streams
- Information about 9 evidence-based practices
- Additional resources for school administrators, mental health staff, counties, etc.





### Questions?







#### **Contact Information**

- Alicia Rozum, arozum@schoolhealthcenters.org
- Lisa White, <a href="mailto:lwhite@schoolhealthcenters.org">lwhite@schoolhealthcenters.org</a>
- Michael Klein, <u>mklein@calfightcrime.org</u>

http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/about-us/toolkits-and-services/toolkits/