

Youth Behavioral Health Navigators (Kids Mental Health WA)

The Youth Behavioral Health Navigators program is designed to support each region in:

- Standing up community wide teams that convene to support the children youth and families in their regions.
- 2. Building an access portal for individuals concerned about a child or youth to reach out and request support.
- Convene multi system disciplinary team, pulling partners from the community wide team who have potential assets that can support the child and family in accessing what they are seeking, and/or to develop a plan of stability while the resource options get worked out.

Requests for support for young people needing intensive services will be prioritized by the Navigation teams. Health Care Authority (HCA) is partnering with Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization, Kid's Mental Health Pierce County and Department of Developmental Administration (DDA) to stand up 3 regions per year for the next three years.

Technical assistance and support, collaborative learning teams across the state, and pathways for real time input on regional strengths and needs will be developed as the first teams begin standing up.



Technical assistance and supports are provided by Kid's Mental Health Pierce County team.

FY 2024 budget

Services provided through clinical response teams that receive referrals for children and youth

inpatient services and manage a process to coordinate treatment plans:

\$2,148,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$499,000 of the general fund—federal appropriation was provided solely for the authority to contract for youth inpatient navigator services in three additional regions of the state. The services must be provided through clinical response teams that receive referrals for children and youth inpatient services and manage a process to coordinate placements and alternative community treatment plans. Of these amounts, \$445,000 of the general fund—state appropriation and \$79,000 of the general fund—federal appropriations are provided solely to contract for services through the existing Kids Mental Health Pierce County.

Continued support for Kids Mental Health Pierce County:

- GF-S \$445,000
- GF-F \$79,000

Elegibility requirements

- Children, youth, young adults, and their families in WA regions where there are teams will have access to seek support.
- Teams are asked to prioritize children and youth stuck in inappropriate placements.
- Access is available to all WA children youth and families, there are no insurance coverage barriers to access supports.

Authority

ESSB 5693; Section 215 (113); Washington State Health Care Authority

Partners

Kids Mental Health Pierce County is the existing model for this work. Mary Bridge staff and team are providing technical assistance and support the regional teams being stood up through the Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization for statewide implementation.



The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) is supporting at the headquarter and regional levels to ensure coordination and education to create seamless skilled cross system supports.

Family Youth System Partner Round Table (FYSPRT), Children's Long-term Inpatient Program (CLIP) review teams, mental health, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and social service partners, regional child welfare social workers, juvenile justice and regional DDA teams, schools, and Educational Service Districts (ESD) navigators are being connected to the project.

Oversight

Health Care Authority

For more information

Edward Michael, MS Statewide Youth Behavioral Health Access Administrator Edward.Michael@hca.wa.gov

Diana Cockrell MA, SUDP Section Manager, Prenatal to 25 Lifespan Behavioral Health Mental Health & Substance Use Diana.Cockrell@hca.wa.gov

Ruth Leonard, MA, SUDP Section Manager, Strategic Design & Program Oversight Ruth.Leonard@hca.wa.gov