

Comprehensive
Care Team Services from

**West County
Psychological Associates**

- ✓ Training with the entire team, which ensures a knowledgeable and cohesive start to your group.
- ✓ Consultation at every team meeting to facilitate success with difficult cases.
- ✓ Consultation with school administrators throughout the process.
- ✓ All services provided by licensed mental health professionals who specialize in school consultation.
- ✓ Our website, WCPASTL.COM, offers detailed information about our philosophy, services and staff.
- ✓ Please call our office if you are interested in a Care Team at your school, (314) 275-8599.

West County Psychological Associates

Comprehensive Care Team Services

*Promoting student success
and school wellness...*

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A Comprehensive Approach

Today's schools are challenged as never before by societal and family issues. Some common problems include family instability, parental inadequacy in disciplining strong-willed children, substance abuse by both students and families, and the often negative impact of the media and modern technology on students.

Understandably, many schools would rather keep students' personal problems separate from the school environment. However, it has become clear that this is not possible. Unless students' emotional and family problems are addressed, they are unlikely to achieve in school.

Care Teams were developed to address these concerns. The needs of the total school environment, including students, parents, administrators and teachers, are addressed. Change develops from a continuing mix of professional inservice education, outside consultation, peer reinforcement, and support. Tea

Our program assists schools to develop a collaborative approach between school personnel and families, in order to resolve problematic situations. The result is the student's academic and behavioral success.

Care Teams

A Care Team is a group that:

Cares, about both the individual and the

system;

Assesses, by gathering information, discussion and planning;

Responds, by following through with interventions; and

Evaluates the effectiveness of the intervention and determines if a need to reassess exists.

The Care Team monitors and intervenes in specific, problematic, student situations. Composition of the team is based upon a school's needs and size, and may include the entire faculty and administration. Most teams meet monthly, although some teams choose to meet more frequently. Any team member may propose a specific at-risk student for the team to address. The team then gathers information about the situation, plans and implements interventions, evaluates the outcome and continues monitoring the circumstances until the situation is resolved. West County Psychological Associates' professionals first train team members, then function as the group's consultant.

Care Team Training

Training is provided to the entire team, resulting in increased understanding of children and families and how to best intervene using a Care Team. Among the topics discussed in training are:

- An introduction to Care Teams, including their purpose, goals, methods, and problem solving;
- Understanding the impact of families on student behavior;
- Methods of addressing difficult students and families;
- Identifying at-risk students and appropriate interventions;
- Optimizing classroom and school climate; and
- The legal and ethical issues that effect Care Teams.

Care Team Consultation

The WCPA consultant attends each meeting of the team, and functions as a team leader. The consultant guides the team in developing a solution-focused approach that uses school and community resources to determine the most appropriate response to each case discussed. The consultant insures that all cases presented are dealt with as completely and effectively as possible. Through audio or video conferencing, consultation can be easily provided to any school across the country.