



## SCHOOL-BASED PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKERS (PSWs)

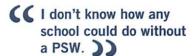
improve outcomes for all students and support whole families and school communities

Research indicates that children and school communities benefit from receiving school-based mental health services in the following ways:

- Higher GPA
- Increased standardized test scores
- Decreased incidences of suspension and expulsion
- Increased high school graduation rates
- Decreased involvement with the juvenile justice system
- Decreased absenteeism
- Increased ability to successfully cope with problems, crises, or traumatic experiences
- Increased parent/guardian, family, and community engagement
- Improved school climate

## School-Based PSWs...

- Collaborate with teachers to support core instructional services in order to increase academic engaged time
- Provide individual, group & family therapy, including evidence-based mental health interventions that address barriers to learning and achievement
- Build positive school climate using a trauma-informed lens through the following: school-wide and classroom trainings, activities and presentations on violence prevention; empathy, social and coping skill building; mental health awareness; anti-bullying and more
- Educate and train parents/guardians, family members and caregivers to decrease barriers to learning and increase social-emotional competence
- Offer professional development opportunities on topics such as Psychological First Aid; Staff Wellness and Self Care; Trauma-Informed Schools; Crisis Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- Conduct student risk assessments and provide appropriate safety planning for students; presenting with suicidal, self-injurious, and threat-related behaviors
- Provide linkage to school and community supports and resources, including case management
- Deliver crisis response/intervention services
- Provide a mental health perspective as active members of mandatory school-site multi-disciplinary teams such as the Student Support and Progress Team, Safe School Plan Team, School-Site Crisis Team and Threat Assessment Team



LD East Elementary
School Principal



C Having a Psychiatric Social Worker on site is a blessing. The amount of money allocated to the position has paid for itself in a number of ways.

 LD Northwest High School Principal