INVESTING IN LINCOLN COUNTY KIDS

FREE, LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR LINCOLN COUNTY KIDS (AGES 0-19)



OUTCOMES FOR LINCOLN COUNTY KIDS

The Lincoln County Resource Board (LCRB) funds and collaborates with non-profit entities to provide mental health and substance use prevention and outpatient treatment services to Lincoln County kids (ages 0-19), in accordance with our funding statute. Appointed by the Lincoln County Commissioners, the volunteer members of the LCRB oversee the administration, allocation and distribution of Lincoln County's children's services funds.

During the LCRB's 2023–24 contract cycle, which began July 1, 2023, and concluded on June 30, 2024, the LCRB allocated approximately \$2.2 million in funding of 12 non-profit agencies, which provided 24 mental health programs and services in Lincoln County kids' homes, schools and communities. LCRB funding connected local kids to direct treatment services, early intervention and prevention programming to address evolving mental health needs.

DIRECT SERVICES

During the 2023–2024 contract cycle, LCRB-funded providers served:

Approximately 2,147 youth through direct services. (The total number served, 2,683, was reduced by 20 percent to account for potential duplication when multiple agencies serve a child or youth, such as in cases of mental illness and homelessness.)

LCRB-funded direct services include counseling, case management, school-based therapy, therapeutic mentoring, forensic interviews, respite care and more.

PREVENTION

Approximately 11,585 Lincoln County youth participated in LCRB-funded prevention programs. (LCRB-funded providers reported serving 16,550 Lincoln County kids with prevention programs. This figure was reduced by 30 percent to account for student duplication when youth participate in more than one program.)

LCRB-funded prevention programs address topics including anger and conflict management; bullying and cyberbullying; coping and resiliency skills; body safety; self-esteem; healthy relationships; substance use prevention; toxic stress management; Internet safety; and more.

Additionally, 2,242 family members, other adults, and teachers benefited from LCRB-funded prevention programs, such as mandated reporter trainings.

Lincoln County Resource Board of Trustees

PUTTING KIDS FIRST; PROTECTING TAXPAYER INVESTMENTS

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The board's funding allocations are guided by:

- The children's services fund's governing Missouri statutes
- The LCRB strategic plan
- · Lincoln County Needs Assessment
- School-based assessments of student behavioral health
- The Missouri Student Survey
- Program utilization rates
- Proven clinical outcomes

LCRB funding requires that:

- Funded providers submit annual clinical outcomes, financial statements and thirdparty audits
- Funded providers participate in LCRB onsite audits, conducted twice each contract cycle
- Funding follows a reimbursement-based model (no pre-billing allowed, unused allocations remain with the LCRB)
- LCRB undergo an annual third-party audit

To learn more visit:
www.lincolncountykids.org



PUTTING KIDS FIRST

How does the LCRB impact the health, education and future for Lincoln County kids? Meet Jessica* and Katy*.

Jessica and Katy were referred to the LCRB-funded therapeutic mentoring program, provided by Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services, during middle school. The goal for the mentoring program and students called for improving academic performance.

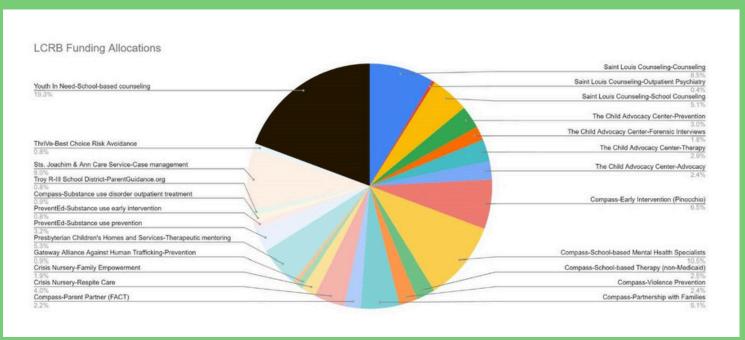
During their time in the program, their mentor learned of the students' significant trauma history. The girls also were diagnosed with anxiety and depression.

Through the mentoring program, the students learned how to identify and manage daily stressors with healthy coping skills. Their mentor also referred the students to a therapist.

With weekly mentoring meetings and the support of therapy services, their grades improved to As and Bs and the mentor noticed a change in their motivation and a new focus on their career paths.

Katy began taking health classes at Pike-Lincoln Technical Center, graduating from high school and now attending college. Jessica also graduated high school and now is enrolled in a technical college pursuing a career in mechanics. *Names changed to protect privacy.







On Oct. 4, approximately 75 community leaders met at the Silex R-I School District—at the intersection of education and mental health—for the **2023 LCRB Legislative Summit & Mobile Outreach Tour sponsored by Toyota Motor**Manufacturing, Missouri.

Attendees included: Superintendents from Lincoln County schools; Missouri Representatives Doyle Justus and Chad Perkins; Missouri Senator Travis Fitzwater; representatives Brian Nichols from U.S. Congressman Sam Graves' office and Madeleine Castle from U.S. Senator Josh Hawley's office; Lincoln County Resource Board (LCRB) members; funded providers; and other community and civic leaders.

At Silex, summit participants explored how to navigate the dangerous intersection our rural schools and communities face when working to address unprecedented student mental health needs while operating from a small-town tax base.

Attendees heard remarks from Superintendent Nick Heggemann; Toyota's Donna Orf; Compass Health Network's school-based prevention team (demonstrating how they empower students to manage emotions and self-regulate); and the Silex R-I guidance counselor regarding student needs and how the LCRB partners with schools to support students' health and academic pursuits.

Thank you to the Silex School District for hosting this critical forum, asking policymakers to: Provide consistent investments in our schools' and students' mental health supports to retain educators, educate modern students, and maintain an educated and skilled workforce.

From Silex, we visited the Troy R-III Early Childhood Education Center. According the to 2023 LCRB Needs Assessment, Lincoln County is considered a national child care desert. There, we learned from early childhood educators regarding how our district and state-funded early childhood programs are working to prepare our children while the demand for services far exceeds local care and educational opportunities.

We ended the 2023 summit at the site for Bridge of Hope Lincoln County, exploring our community's response to substance use and homelessness. During the 2024 LCRB Legislative Summit & Mobile Outreach Tour, we returned to Bridge of Hope, now a thriving operation dedicated to bridging Lincoln County residents from crisis to health and independence.