

School Mental Health Liaison



Project AWARE 2024-2029

The School Mental Health Liaison is employed by Riverbend Community Mental Health Center and plays a critical role in supporting and strengthening the district's multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) for student mental health. This position originated from the NH MTSS-B System of Care project. It is designed to foster collaboration between schools, families, and community mental health providers—especially Riverbend—by coordinating care, facilitating referrals, and consulting with staff across all schools in the district. The role emphasizes sustainability, systems-thinking, and equitable access to mental health services.

District-Wide Systems Support

- Intentionally participate in MTSS-B teams 1-3 throughout the district for mental health systems support and consultation through a sustainability-focused lens.
- Host open office hours at each school and Riverbend for consultation, support, and accessibility.

Tier 1: Universal Interventions (NH MTSS-B Fidelity Inventory: S6, S10, S18, S21)

- Collaborate with each school to identify mental health focused Tier 1 initiatives to promote: awareness of behavioral health issues, mental health literacy, de-stigmatized school climate, and student voice
- Support school staff in implementing preventative, school-wide mental health education, in addition to providing professional development in areas of need related to mental health.
- Provide all teachers access to behavioral health consultation to support implementation of all classroom-level behavioral health programming and procedures.

Tier 2/3: Advance Tier Interventions (NH MTSS-B Fidelity Inventory: A2, A7, A8, A11-15)

- Develop, maintain, and refine facilitated referral pathways for school, community, and office-based services.
- Facilitate and support the selection and implementation of Tier 2 mental health supports, including those provided by Riverbend Outreach Counselors and Liaison.
- Serve as a navigator between Tier 2 and Tier 3 services provided by Riverbend through a clinical screening/assessment, brief intervention, and facilitated referral process to the appropriate service.
- Act as the communication liaison between school and community mental health services regarding student care and mental health referrals, providing ongoing consultation.
- Facilitates school-based processes related to referrals, releases of information, and care coordination.