



CONTACT INFORMATION

Schools that are interested in participating during the 2011-2012 school year should contact:

Jeana Bracey, Ph.D.
School-Based Diversion Initiative Project Coordinator

Center for Effective Practice of the
Child Health and Development Institute of CT, Inc.
270 Farmington Avenue, Suite 367
Farmington, CT 06032

Email: bracey@uchc.edu
Phone: 860-679-1524



Project Partners

Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (CSSD)
Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Connecticut Center for Effective Practice (CCEP) of the
Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI)
Funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Models for Change Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Action Network

Footnotes

- ¹ Rausch & Skiba, 2004
- ² Costenbader & Markson, 1998
- ³ Shufelt & Cocozza, 2006; Teplin, Abram, McClelland, Dulcan, & Mericle, 2002



“Our students have benefitted from the new ways we respond to all kinds of challenging behaviors, and we have built stronger connections to our families because we have new resources to offer them which were identified through our work with SBDI.”

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

KNOW THE FACTS!

- Exclusionary discipline practices (e.g., suspension, zero tolerance) result in higher in-school and out-of-school suspensions and reduced time spent in classroom instruction.
- Exclusionary discipline results in more arrests leading to academic failure¹ and to eventually drop out of school.²
- Many children who are arrested in schools have unmet behavioral health needs. In fact, approximately 65 - 70% of youth in juvenile detention have a diagnosable behavioral health condition.³

GOALS OF THE CONNECTICUT SBDI:

- **REDUCE** the number of youth who come into contact with law enforcement and juvenile justice
- **BUILD** knowledge and skills among school staff to recognize and manage behavioral health crises in schools
- **LINK** youth at-risk for juvenile justice involvement to appropriate community- based services and supports

The Connecticut School-Based Diversion Initiative (SBDI) can help!

INTEREST

Does this Initiative sound like it would benefit your school? Does your school have buy-in from the superintendent, school administrators, school resource officer and key staff members?

Many youth who are arrested would benefit from better access to community-based behavioral health services and supports!

NEED

Does your school have youth who exhibit behaviors that leave you no option but to call the police? Youth with unmet behavioral health needs? Desire for more effective community collaboration?

CAPACITY

Do you have the time (professional development days), space, and the ability to share key data elements with project coordinators?



TRAINING

for administrators, guidance and counseling professionals, school resource officers, and classroom teachers on key juvenile justice and mental health competencies



SCHOOL POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

including a Graduated Response Model and other efforts that are individualized to your school's needs



COLLABORATION

between schools, local service providers, and law enforcement to ensure that youth receive the services and supports that they need



SBDI IS CUSTOMIZED BASED ON YOUR SCHOOL'S NEEDS, INTERESTS, AND CAPACITY
Contact us for a more detailed description of the program and how it may benefit your school.