

**School Based Mental Health Services directly impact student outcomes, special education costs and disparities in student success as evidenced in the research.**

**1. School mental health services in elementary schools have been found repeatedly to reduce special education referrals.**

Source:

Bruns, E. J., Walrath, C., Glass-Siegel, M., & Weist, M. D. (2004). School-based mental health services in Baltimore: Association with school climate and special education referrals. *Behavior Modification*, 28, 491-512.

**2. Students who receive social-emotional support and mental health promotion services) achieve better academically in school across the board. (This is the type of service funded by the “bundle” finance structure in Success Beyond Six).**

Sources:

Greenberg, M. T., Weissberg, R. P., Utne O’Brien, M., Zins, J. E., Fredericks, L., Resnik, H., & Elias, M. J. (2003). Enhancing school-based prevention and youth development through coordinated social, emotional, and academic learning. *American Psychologist*, 58 466-474.

Welsh, M., Parke, R. D., Widaman, K., & O’Neil, R. (2001). Linkages between children's social and academic competence: A longitudinal analysis. *Journal of School Psychology*, 39, 463-482.

Zins, J. E., Bloodworth, M. R., Weissberg, R. P., & Walberg, H. J. (2004). The scientific base linking social and emotional learning to school success.

**3. Students who receive school mental health services disrupt their classrooms less, thereby inhibiting the learning of others less frequently.**

Source:

Hussey, D. L., & Guo, S. (2003). Measuring behavior change in young children receiving intensive school-based mental health services. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 31, 629-639

**4. Students who receive school mental health services are less likely to be tardy, absent, suspended or retained.**

Source:

Foster, S., Rollefson, M., Doksum, T., Noonan, D., Robinson, G., Teich, J. (2005). School mental health services in the United States, 2002-2003. DHHS Pub. No. (SMA) 05-4068. Rockville, MD: Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**5. Students of Color are disproportionately referred to special education services. School social work provides a model to address disparities in education outcomes.**

Bean, K. (2011). Social Workers’ Role in the Disproportionality of African American Students in Special Education. *Advances in Social Work*, 12(2).