

Legislation

S. 90: An act relating to coordinating Vermont’s response to adverse childhood and family experiences.

Question

Some rural schools, especially in the Northeast Kingdom, are reported to be under resourced in mental health for students. Is that a local budget decision (Dept. of Ed issue) or a mental health budget issue?

Comments

The following information is taken from a 2014 Report on Act 68 Of 2013. It shows the amount of Medicaid and local school funds spent for school based mental health services. Please note the following:

- In most cases the amounts spent are quite close
- In 2014 schools spent slightly over two million dollars more than what Medicaid funded
- There is large variability in the dollars spent across regions
- Just two regions spend fewer dollars on school based mental health services than Northeast Kingdom Human Services
- It is important to note that the decisions to fund school based mental health services are made locally not at the Agency of Education.

Here is a link to the full report: <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/reports/2014ExternalReports/296271.pdf>

Medicaid is the source of funding for Success Beyond Six (SBS) services. In State Fiscal Year 2012, the SBS funding mechanism for school-based clinicians moved from a per-student based fee-for-service mechanism to a more flexible funding model. This shift allowed those Designated Agencies who voluntarily participate (7 of the 10) to have flexibility in school-based clinician service delivery to include prevention and early intervention supports, while reducing administrative burden. The table below shows the amount of approved SBS Medicaid spending by DAs through contracts with their local school system.

Designated Agency	FY 2012 Total Medicaid	FY 2013 Total Medicaid	FY 2014 Total Medicaid	FY 2014 Total Local School Funds Paid to DA (Match/Revenue)
CMC	1,991,854	1,887,259	1,887,259	1,968,209
CSAC	2,941,843	3,166,476	3,494,252	3,789,408
HC	9,939,563	11,280,570	12,065,223	14,743,774

HCRS	2,808,000	3,160,000	3,459,880	3,503,489
LCC	2,499,880	2,499,880	2,499,880	2,499,880
NKHS	1,301,607	1,373,689	1,690,543	1,727,440
NCSS	5,693,786	6,593,787	6,728,307	7,697,107
RMH	1,377,379	1,441,465	1,501,805	1,512,959
UCS	227,032	223,808	221,497	230,711
WCMH	10,599,251	10,629,566	13,456,272	15,072,916
TOTAL	39,380,195	42,256,500	47,004,918	52,745,893



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