SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS:

Partnering to Promote Safety + Wellness

PRESENTED BY INSSWA

SPEAKERS

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- INSSWA President Elect
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- Pittsboro Primary School (North West Hendricks Schools)

OBJECTIVES

- Review current data and trends that directly relate to social work practice
- Demonstrate the scope and benefit of the School Social Worker’s role in promoting school safety and wellness
- Provide information on potential sources of funding

OUR CURRENT REALITY: INDIANA

HOMELESSNESS

ECONOMIC GAP

FOOD INSECURITY

https://www.iyi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/IYI_22Databook_final.pdf

OUR CURRENT REALITY: INDIANA

CHILD WELFARE

CHILD WELLNESS

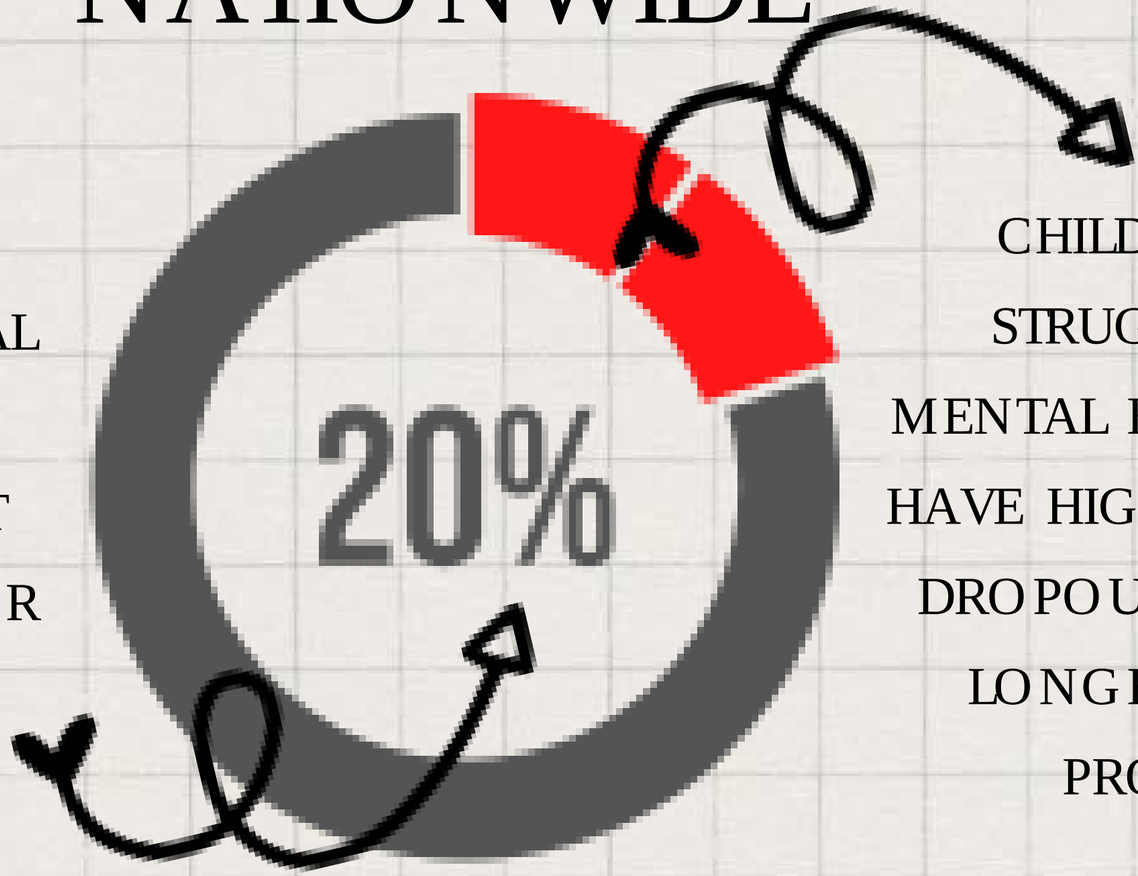
SEX TRAFFICKING

https://www.iyi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/IYI_22Databook_final.pdf

OUR CURRENT REALITY:

NATIONWIDE

STUDENTS HAVE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES THAT CAUSE A SIGNIFICANT IMPAIRMENT IN ONE OR MORE AREAS OF LIFE



CHILDREN THAT STRUGGLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS HAVE HIGHER RATES OF DROPOUT & DEVELOP LONGER LASTING PROBLEMS

https://www.sswaa.org/_files/ugd/426a18_15e982e913cb44418e96818749fd27b1.pdf

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

= trained mental health professionals with a degree in social work who provide services related to a person's social, emotional and life adjustment to school and/or society.

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

WE ADHERE TO:

-NASW CODE OF ETHICS

-INDIANA SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK STANDARDS

VALUES

-SERVICE

-SOCIAL JUSTICE

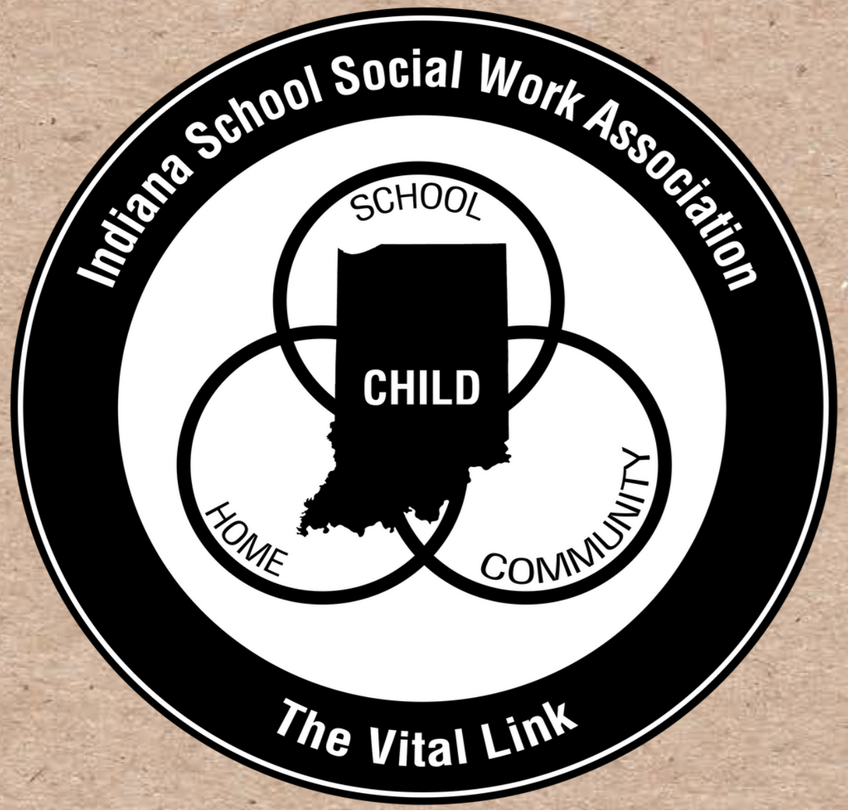
-DIGNITY, WORTH OF THE PERSON

-IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

-INTEGRITY

-COMPETENCE

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS ACT AS A LINK



SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS LINK

SCHOOL

Direct +indirect services:

- Support students
- Support educators
- Provide staff training
- Provide assessments

HOME

Indirect services:

- Referrals
- Provide education +training

COMMUNITY

- Outreach
- Advocate for students, parents, and school district
- Collaborate with community organizations

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

= DUAL LICENSED (LSW/LCSW & LSSW)

Overlapping and Unique Roles of OH Specialized Pupil Services Personnel*

Adapted from Sun Prairie Area School District, Wisconsin

*** NOTE: This model is not intended to be comprehensive. It offers *examples* of *some* of the overlapping and unique roles of OH SPSP**

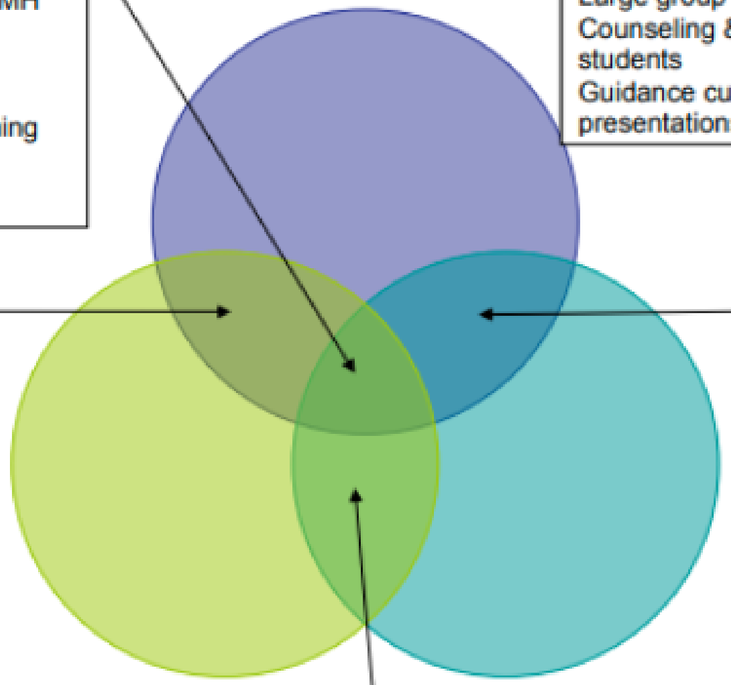
ALL School Employed MH
Research
Problem solving team (RTI)
Student progress & accountability
Inservice/Professional Development
Collaboration with community MH
Crisis intervention
Consultation
Parent education
Alternative & at-risk programming
Affective education
Classroom presentations

School Counselor

Student Advocacy
Orientation and transition services
Cumulative records and scheduling
Large group standardized assessment
Counseling & guidance support for all students
Guidance curriculum and affective class presentations

SC & SP
Learning appraisal
Educational collaboration

SC & SW
Behavioral collaborations



School Psychologist

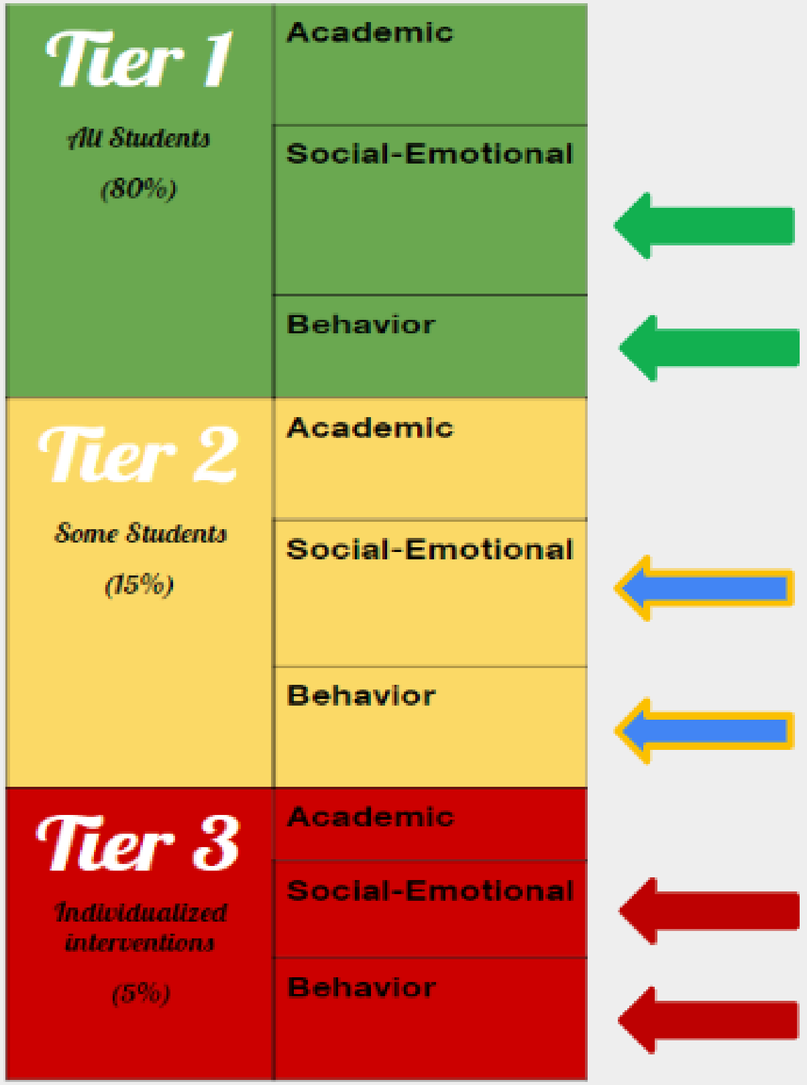
Direct services (counseling, affective education, skill development, crisis)
Screening
Behavioral assessment & intervention
Evaluation (intelligence, achieve, social-emot, adaptive, cognitive processing)
Consultation
Case Management and due process compliance

SP & SW
IEP services
Behavioral Assmt
Behavior Contracts
Student Progress
Soc Emot Assmt

School Social Worker

Home-School-Community Liaison
Home visits and truancy intervention
Social Emotional & Behavioral Assessment
Direct services (individual/group therapeutic services, social and emotional learning)
Treatment of emotional disorders
Professional Case Management
Consultation for Behavior Intervention Plans

MTSS


Tier 1
All Students
(80%)
Academic
Social-Emotional
Behavior
Tier 2
Some Students
(15%)
Academic
Social-Emotional
Behavior
Tier 3
Individualized interventions
(5%)
Academic
Social-Emotional
Behavior

SSW IN MTSS FRAMEWORK

TIER 1

- Universal screeners
- SEL classroom lessons
- Body safety/bullying lessons
- Staff development
- Parent education

TIER 2

- Skill based groups
- Direct observations of specific students
- Development and monitoring of individual behavior plans
- Short term individual interventions

TIER 3

- Crisis response
- Long term direct therapeutic services and referrals

SSW IN FEDERAL AND STATE LAW

PREVENTION

School social workers have the proficiency to educate and lead efforts on bullying prevention (IC 20-28-3-6), suicide prevention (IC 20-18-2-22), and child abuse prevention (IC 20-30-5-5.7).

TIER 1

F.A.P.E.

School social workers assist students in accessing free and appropriate public education by removing barriers and supporting students with IEPs, 504s, and other needs.

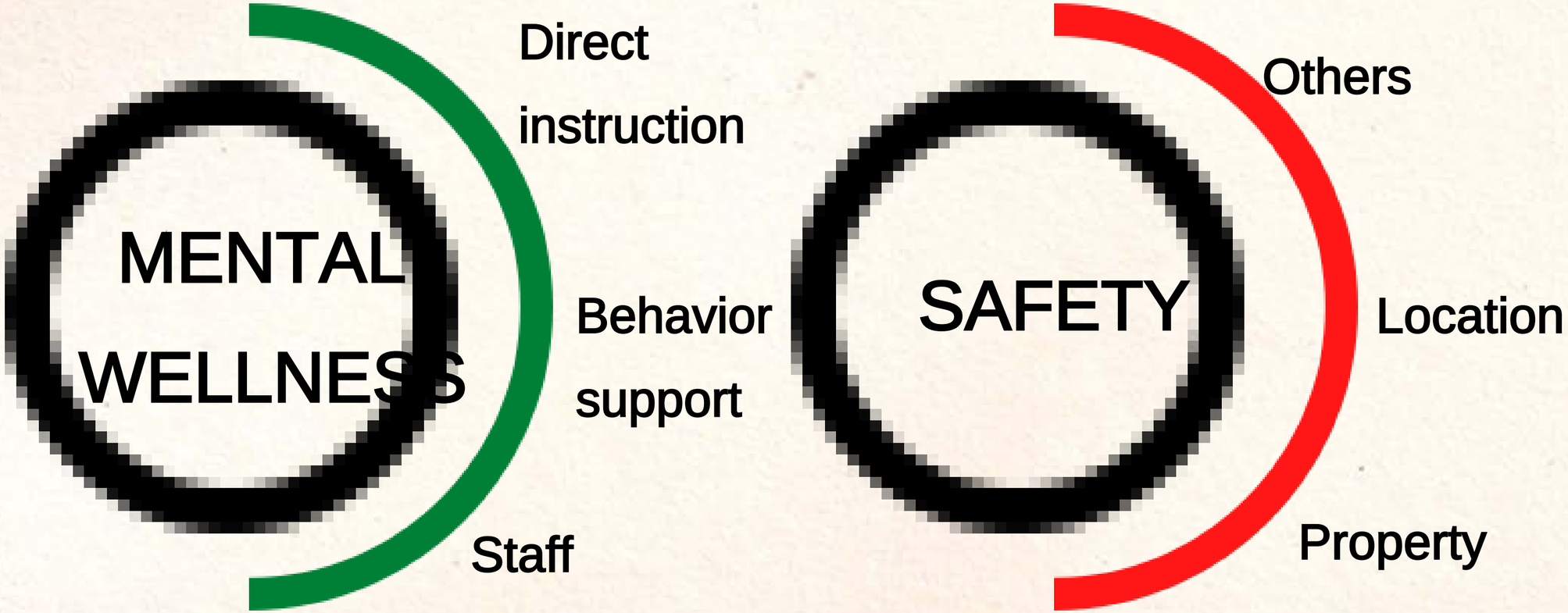
TIER 1

EQUITY

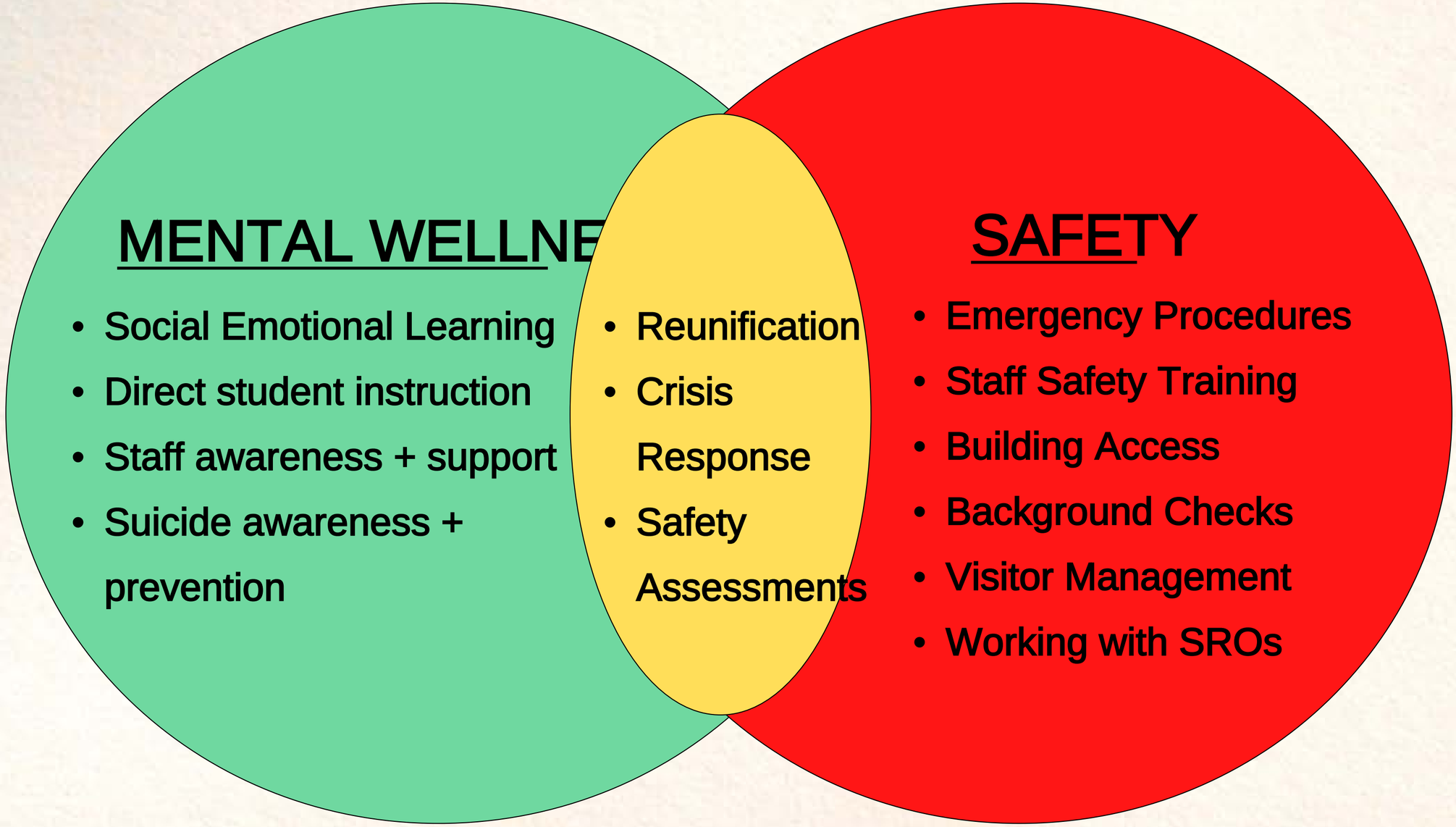
School social workers promote equity by supporting student outcomes regarding homelessness (Mckinney Vento Act), foster care (ESSA), compulsory attendance (IC 20-33-2-4), & gender equality (Title IX).

TIER 2 TIER 3

HOW CAN WE MERGE SEPARATE LENSES?



SSW SEE THROUGH BOTH

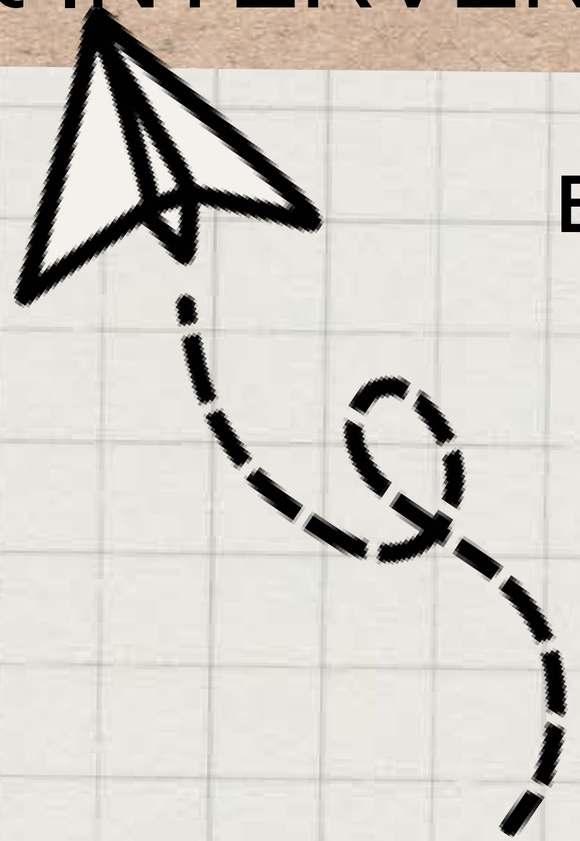


SAFETY SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS & INTERVENTION

Suicidal Ideation

- Columbia

PrePare Model of Crisis Intervention



Behavioral Threats

- Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)
- Secret Service report

HTTPS://WWW.SECRETSERVICE.GOV/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/REPORTS/2021-03/USSS%20AVERTING%20TARGETED%20SCHOOL%20VIOLENCE.2021.03.PDF

SSW IN MASLOW'S HIERARCHY

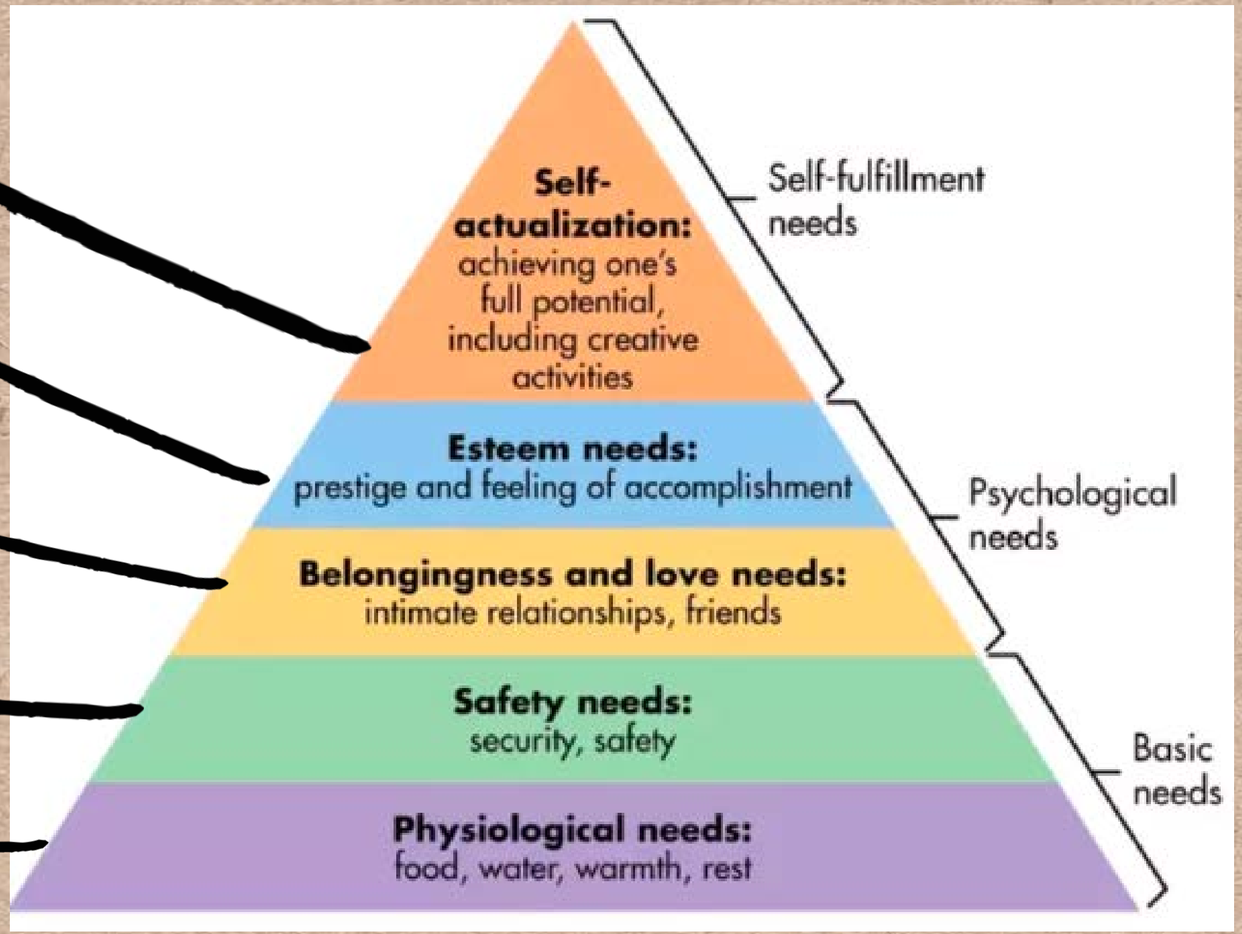
Helping students achieve their social, academic, + personal goals

Utilizing a strengths-based approach

Improving school climate + promoting positive peer relationships

Supporting emotional + physical safety and wellbeing

Mobilizing community resources + connecting families to basic needs



STUDENT SERVICES

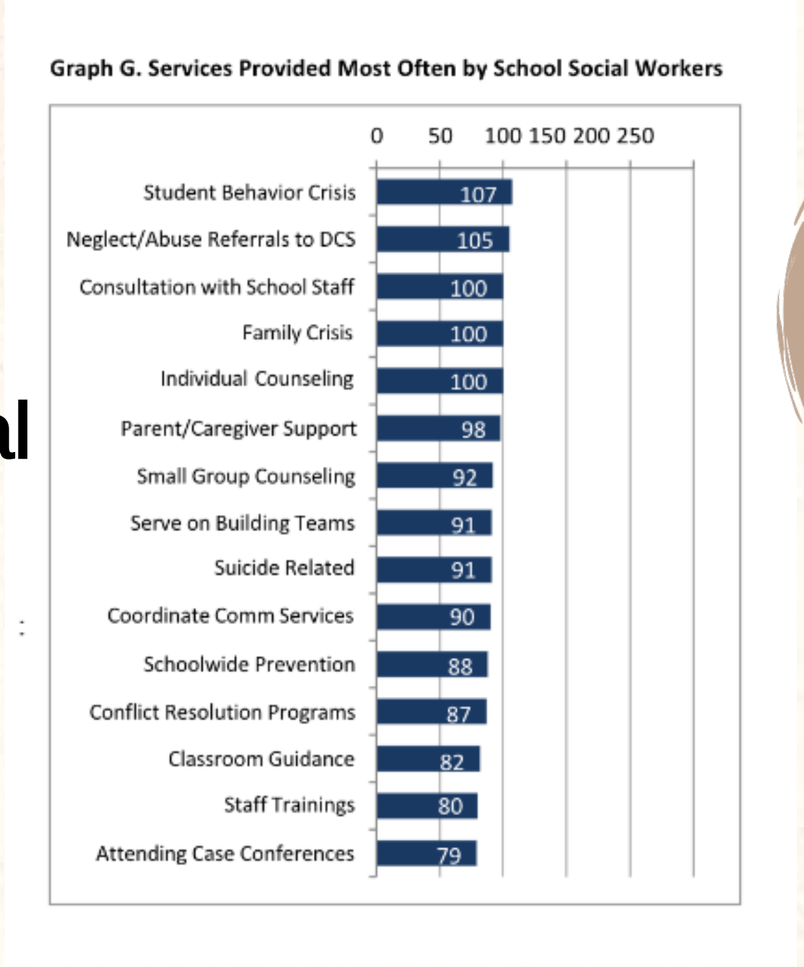
NEEDS ASSESSMENT (2018)

300

School Social

Workers

in Indiana



RECOMMENDED

250:1

(SSWAA)

REALITY

4,639:1

FUNDING SOURCES

1. SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT

grant finder- schoolsafety.gov

2. ESSER I, ESSER II, ESSER III + the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

3. HB 1405: Medicaid Reimbursement

4. Indiana Behavioral Health Commission Report (September 2022)

5. SAMHSA Grants

- Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness + Resiliency in Education)
- Resiliency in Communities After Stress + Trauma (RECAST)
- Cooperative Agreements for School-Based Trauma-Informed Support Services + Mental Health Care for Children + Youth

HIRING

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

Sample job description

https://www.sswaa.org/copy-of-addressing-mental-health-ne

Sample interview questions

https://www.sswaa.org/_files/ugd/426a18_90fd00cbb3ad45b58aa0031147fe2741.pdf

IDOE Foster Youth and Social Work Specialist

Koyauna Jones kjones2@doe.in.gov

THE TRADEOFF

= STUDENTS' READINESS TO LEARN

Students being unable to access food, health care or child car

can influence a child's brain development and readiness to lea

as well as behavior and emotional well-being.

https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-2022kidscountdatabook-2022.pdf

WOULD YOU RATHER?

A teacher spends class time mediating a major conflict between two peers while other students become agitated and distracted from the task, losing out on instruction.

VS.

A SSW is able to facilitate a restorative discussion and return the students to class.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

A student goes without a sports physical and misses out on participating on the swim team.

VS.

A SSW connects the guardian with a convenient sports physical and the student becomes more engaged and successful in the school community.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

A teacher pays out of pocket for school supplies for students who can’t afford them.

VS.

A SSW partners with a local Church to provide extra school supplies at the beginning of the year.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

A student that doesn’t have have appropriate gym shoes sits out and fails the class.

VS.

A SSW utilizes donations to provide attire and the student is able to participate.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

An SRO transports a student to a hospital for a suicide assessment.

VS.

A SSW completes the assessment and collaborates with the guardian and student on a school safety plan.

WORDS FROM ADMIN

SHORTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

ELEANOR SKILLEN ELEMENTARY

PITTSBORO PRIMARY SCHOOL

SHORTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

“Social Workers are crucial to the success of all schools. Many students in urban education have suffered or are currently dealing with trauma. Having trained staff to work with these students has led to growth for the individual student and has aided in created a safe and welcoming environment for all students at Shortridge High School. We know that students act out for a reason, but it is difficult to find the time or people to dig into why students make the choices they do. This work has been picked up by our social workers providing our students with reformative interventions instead of "one size fits all" punishments. Additionally, our Social Work team pushes into classrooms to model vital SEL practices, lead multiple student groups, and assist in parent meetings.”

-Buffy Hoyt, Assistant Principal at Shortridge High School

SHORTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

“Social workers bring a supportive and different perspective to the table as thought partners when working with students. Our social workers are constantly working with students through different barriers they come across as they grow into seeking opportunities outside of high school. Our social workers also provide our guardians ways to support their student outside of the classroom, whether that is counseling services or connecting them with wrap around services that may need to be added in order to support the whole child.”

-Andrea Salmon, Assistant Principal at Shortridge High School

ELEANOR SKILLEN ELEMENTARY

"A social worker is imperative in any elementary school, but especially in settings where students come to us with a great deal of trauma. In order to help our students succeed we must ensure their social and emotional needs are met and that families have the resources necessary to support their children. A social worker is the liaison between home and school, and is oftentimes the most trusted adult for many of our students. A social worker's office is a safe place for all members of the school community."

-Krista Douglass, Principal at Eleanor Skillen Elementary

PITTSBORO PRIMARY SCHOOL

"The difference with a school social worker is that they see the entire child. They help u understand how the child's background affects their ability to access education because if they aren't coming from a place a safety, they'll never learn. Our job is to make sure they learn, so we have to make sure we're supporting their mental health needs to ensure they're able to access education. A school social worker helps to open the doo for families and school to connect and work together as a team for the greater good of the child."

-Jenny Hollingsworth, Principal at Pittsboro Primary School

Any questions?

yes!

www.insswa.org