



CENTER FOR EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



THE CENTER

In 2018, the Center for Evidence to Practice was created to increase access to evidence-based programs (EBPs) that address key behavioral health needs for Medicaid-insured children and families in Louisiana. These efforts are accomplished through a partnership between the LSU School of Public Health, the Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health (OBH), and Louisiana Medicaid.

MISSION

The Center's mission is to support the state and its agencies, organizations, communities, and providers in the selection and implementation of evidence-based interventions to promote youth and family well-being, improve behavioral health outcomes, and address challenges related to sustaining quality practice.

THE PARTNERSHIP

The Center's partnership with OBH, Medicaid, behavioral health practitioners, and managed care organizations is invaluable to deliver behavioral health EBP services, expand the capacity of EBP-trained practitioners, increase access to EBPs, and better serve Medicaid enrolled youth and families throughout Louisiana.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Completed **new training cohorts** for behavioral health clinicians in nationally-recognized, high-quality evidence-based treatments:
 - Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
 - Youth/Preschool PTSD Treatment (YPT/PPT)
 - Eye-Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
 - Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)
- Achieved **153%** and **158%** increases in **EMDR-** and **TF-CBT-** trained clinicians, respectively
- Sustained **virtual EBP trainings** despite disruptions caused by two COVID-19 spikes and Hurricane Ida
- Facilitated **eight** research-informed virtual training events:
 - **Business Model Development** for administrators of Medicaid behavioral health agencies
 - **Understanding Complex Trauma of Child Sex Trafficking** and Practical Strategies for Addressing Common Barriers to Engagement
 - **Specialized training in EMDR and TF-CBT** strategies for youth victims of human trafficking
 - **Self-Care for the Behavioral Health Workforce courses:**
 - Self-Care for the Helper During a Crisis
 - Secondary Impact of Trauma
 - Longer Impact of Collective Trauma, Disasters, and Grief
 - **Skills for Psychological Recovery Training (SPR)**, a tool to help frontline providers manage distress and cope with post-disaster adversity as they treat patients impacted by the same disaster
- Overall participation in trainings rose to **796** attendees, up from 391 attendees in 2020
- Established the **EBP Capacity and Sustainability initiative** to offset the costs to meeting EBP benchmarks for Medicaid practitioners and agencies

EBPs TRAINING IN 2021

The Center's certified, in-state trainers provide courses in Youth PTSD Treatment (YPT), Preschool PTSD Treatment (PPT), Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR). Each new training cohort is recruited through a Request for Applications (RFA) process. Accepted trainees are selected according to their qualifications, availability to successfully complete the course, and their access to resources to the implement services.

86

Agencies
representing

172

new EBP
practitioners
completed
training



Since 2020, overall
participation
in training
increased

104%



+115%

Agencies
Trained in
EBPs

+112%

Providers
Trained in
EBPs

5

New training
cohorts initiated:

YPT/PPT (1)
EMDR (2)
TF-CBT (2)

4 Participating
Disciplines

- Counseling
- Social Work
- Ph.D./Psy.D.
- Agency Leadership



2021 PROGRAMS

Research-informed training and technical assistance opportunities offer an effective way to engage clinicians and introduce them to new skills for their practice. In 2021, the Center facilitated **eight** research-informed courses. There were **796** participants, a **104% increase in participation** since 2020.

RESEARCH-INFORMED TRAINING OUTPUTS

TOPIC	# PARTICIPANTS
Skills for Psychological Recovery Training	156
Self-Care for the Helper During a Crisis	138
Secondary Impact of Trauma	140
Impact of Collective Trauma, Disasters, Grief	124
Business Model Development	33
Complex Trauma of Child Sex Trafficking	121
EMDR: Special Training for Human Trafficking	56
TF-CBT: Special Training for Human Trafficking	28

796 Total Participants



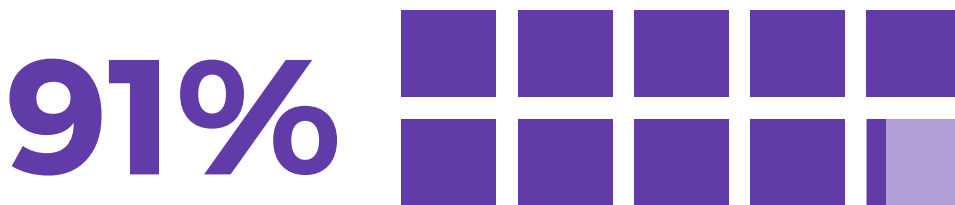
PARTICIPANT SURVEY

In 2021, the Center received **125 responses** to a survey of participants' satisfaction with training. The **majority** were in positive agreement regarding trainers and content:

The trainers were knowledgeable and prepared:



The training was organized and easy to follow:



I would recommend this training to other clinicians:



Comments from clinicians engaged in the Center's training cohorts illustrate the benefits of the trainings:

"Prior to training in EBP programs, I was not a big proponent of EBPs ... [Now] I am a strong advocate because of the trainings, and most importantly, due to the success experiences of clients when EBPs are used."

"These trainings are so beneficial to our clinicians in helping others in our community!"

"The lesson on working with young children was excellent. I was able to ask questions ... and [the trainer's] answers and perspective were encouraging and refreshing."

E2P LEARN

In April 2020, the Center launched its online learning platform: E2P Learn. E2P Learn is designed to serve as a home for on-demand EBP training while also tracking utilization rates. Registered participants may complete on-demand training at their own pace and receive auto-generated Continuing Education Certificates in EBPs.

COURSES HOSTED ON E2P LEARN

INTRODUCTION TO EBPs

- Introduction to TF-CBT
- Introduction to PCIT
- Introduction to CPP
- Introduction to EMDR

IMPLEMENTING EBPs VIA TELEHEALTH

- Introduction to Telemental Health
- Implementing CPP via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing EMDR via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing PCIT via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing PPT/YPT via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing DBT via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing MST via Telehealth Platforms
- Implementing FFT via Telehealth Platforms

RESEARCH-INFORMED TRAINING

- Business Model Development
- Motivational Interviewing: Basic Training
- Accurate Empathy in Motivational Interviewing
- Eliciting Change Talk in Motivational Interviewing
- Developing Discrepancy in Motivational Interviewing
- Building Hope and Confidence in Motivational Interviewing

228%

Increase in
registered users
representing

485

Providers using
the E2P Learn
interface

MAPPING EBPs

The Center's interactive, web-based mapping tool is designed to monitor the availability of quality treatment models throughout Louisiana, and aid parents and professionals in finding and accessing providers of evidence-based treatment models.

- In the last year, all **172** practitioners from the new training cohorts were added to the map
 - Includes those with advanced training in human trafficking intervention services
- Overall, the total number of active providers remained stable since 2020
- Notably, active providers for **TF-CBT** and **PPT** increased by **53%** and **21%**, respectively

1,504

New page views of the mapping tool, representing a

12%

increase in utilization of the interactive map

704

Providers featured on the map

OUTREACH

The Center's website, email campaigns, and social media are central points of communication with providers and stakeholders. Data shows the Center continues to increase its reach to larger audiences through multiple outreach methods.

Website

- Since 2020, the website's page views **increased 56%**
 - There were **37,302** total page views
 - The length of session activity **increased 9%**
 - Of all visitors to the website, **68%** were **new visitors**

Email Campaigns

- Subscribers to the Center's emails **increased 60%**
 - The total number of subscribers reached **3,000**

Social Media

- The number of people who saw any content from the Center's Facebook page rose to **2,963 views**, a **29.5% increase**
 - Thirty posts reached **970** viewers and produced **62** clicks on links, **33** Likes, and **18** shares



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PRESENCE IN THE FIELD

The Center's professional publications are a contribution to the children's behavioral health, evidence-based practice, and implementation science communities, offering unique insights and lessons learned on a statewide rollout of EBPs.

Select Publications

- Financial and Policy Challenges to EBP Implementation: Insights from Louisiana Providers
- Examining Behavioral Health Services for Louisiana Youth with January 2019 to June 2020 Medicaid Claims Data
- Provider Survey of Use of EBP Billing Codes vs. Utilization
- Transitioning Behavioral Healthcare in Louisiana During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Policy and Practice Innovations to Sustain Telehealth Expansion in Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science

Select Presentations

- Implementation Frameworks as a Tool to Support Scale-up of Evidence-Based Behavioral Health Practices for Low-Income Children presented at the Global Implementation Conference
- Behavioral Health: The Urgency of Broadening Collaboration for Trauma Informed and ACEs Services - Presented at the Louisiana Department of Health's Louisiana Health Summit

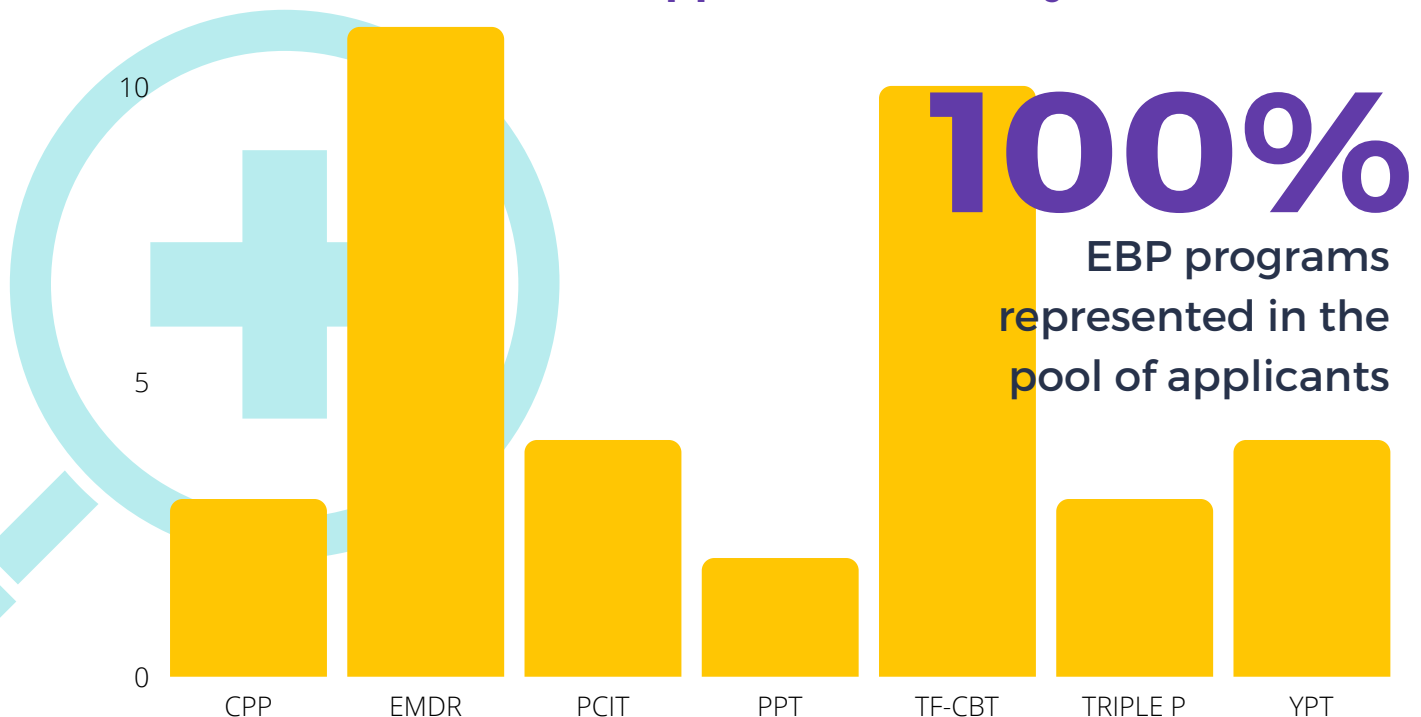
In 2021, the Center generated **six** technical reports or briefs, presented research at **five** academic conferences, and published **two** manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals.



EBP CAPACITY AND SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING

During 2021, OBH earmarked federal block grant dollars to offset the costs to providers in achieving EBP qualification, retaining EBP qualified clinicians, integrating EBP data tracking within billing procedures, and expanding the delivery of EBP services. In partnership with OBH, the Center is tasked with implementing this funding opportunity.

Available EBPs at Applicants' Primary Locations



Feedback from applicants about the Capacity and Sustainability funding project is enthusiastically positive:

"I am excited about the opportunity to gain more training on EBP and that these trainings are offered at low to no expense. I have been using EBP for some time and would like to keep up with the progression of these practices."

"This grant will allow me to expand my practice and see more patients."

"This is a great incentive to encourage practitioners and mental health providers trained in EBPs to utilize learned skills when working with vulnerable populations. EBPs can be difficult to implement due to time constraints and financial barriers. This helps bridge the gap and will allow me the comfort of knowing I can provide frequent and quality EBP skills efficiently without having to compromise financially."

THANK YOU

Thank you to Louisiana's behavioral health practitioners, administrators, and countless stakeholders. Your skills, leadership, and perseverance continue to contribute to the growth and success of the Center for Evidence to Practice. We appreciate your support, and we look forward to collaborating with each of you in 2022 and beyond.

Authors and recommended citation for this report:

Phillippi, S., Singh, S., Hoffpauir, S., Danos, D., Staples, L., Dupre, B., Whiting, W., Simpson, L., Beiter, K., Thomas, C.L., Rubin, R., & Bumbarger, B. (2022) Center for Evidence to Practice: 2021 Annual Report. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Public Health. New Orleans, La.