

RURAL **HEALTH** WORKSHOP

Louisiana Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program



Speakers

- Jody West, LCSW
 - Louisiana Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program Project Manager
 - Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health
- Paulette Carter, MPH, LCSW
 - Mental Health Consultation Program Manager
 - Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health

Louisiana Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (LaPMHCA) Program

Jody West, LCSW, LaPMHCA Project Manager

Paulette Carter, MPH, LCSW, Mental Health Consultation Program Manager

Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health

Session Objectives:

- **Participants will learn about the Louisiana Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (LaPMHCA) program.**
- **Participants will gain a better understanding of how mental health consultation can be helpful in their work with patients.**
- **Participants will learn about the services that will be available through LaPMHCA.**
- **Participants will provide feedback on their experiences of encountering and addressing mental health issues in their practice.**

Questions for participants

Put your answers in the chat.

1. What percentage of your pediatric patients have mental health needs?
2. What are the mental health issues you are seeing that worry you the most?



Mental Health Needs of Louisiana's Children

3rd highest percentage of children with identified mental health problem

27% of LA's children live in poverty

The entire state is a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area

2x the youth attempting suicide compared to nation

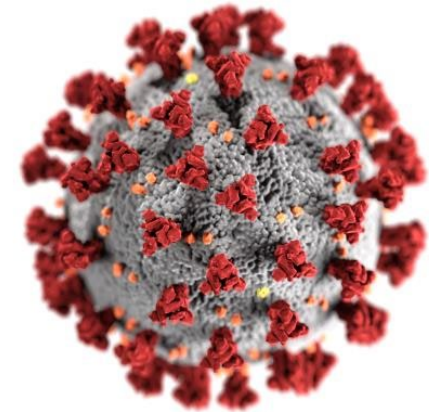
Over 25% of LA children have 2+ ACEs

Ranks 48th in the nation for overall wellbeing of children

Sources: HRSA, 2019; KidsCount Data Book, 2021; Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health; Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2019)

Impact of Covid-19

- National survey results – 14% of parents reported worse behavioral health and 25% reported worse mental health in their children (Coller and Webber, 2021)
- Proportion of all emergency department visits for children’s mental health–related concerns increased from 2019 to 2020 (Leeb et al, 2020)
- More complexity to children’s mental health problems (Bettencourt et al, 2021)



Question for Participants

Who do you currently go to when you have a pediatric patient with a mental health issue that you are unsure of how to address?

HRSA awards Louisiana a 5-year PMHCA Grant!



[Find Funding](#)

[Maternal & Child Health Topics](#)

[Programs & Initiatives](#)

[Data, Research & Epidemiology](#)

[About MCHB](#)

[MCH Workforce Development](#) > [Funded Projects](#) > Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA)

Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA)

Training primary care providers through telehealth to integrate behavioral and mental health services into their practices

PMHCA Teleconsultation

[Providers - access information and teleconsultation services in 21 states](#)

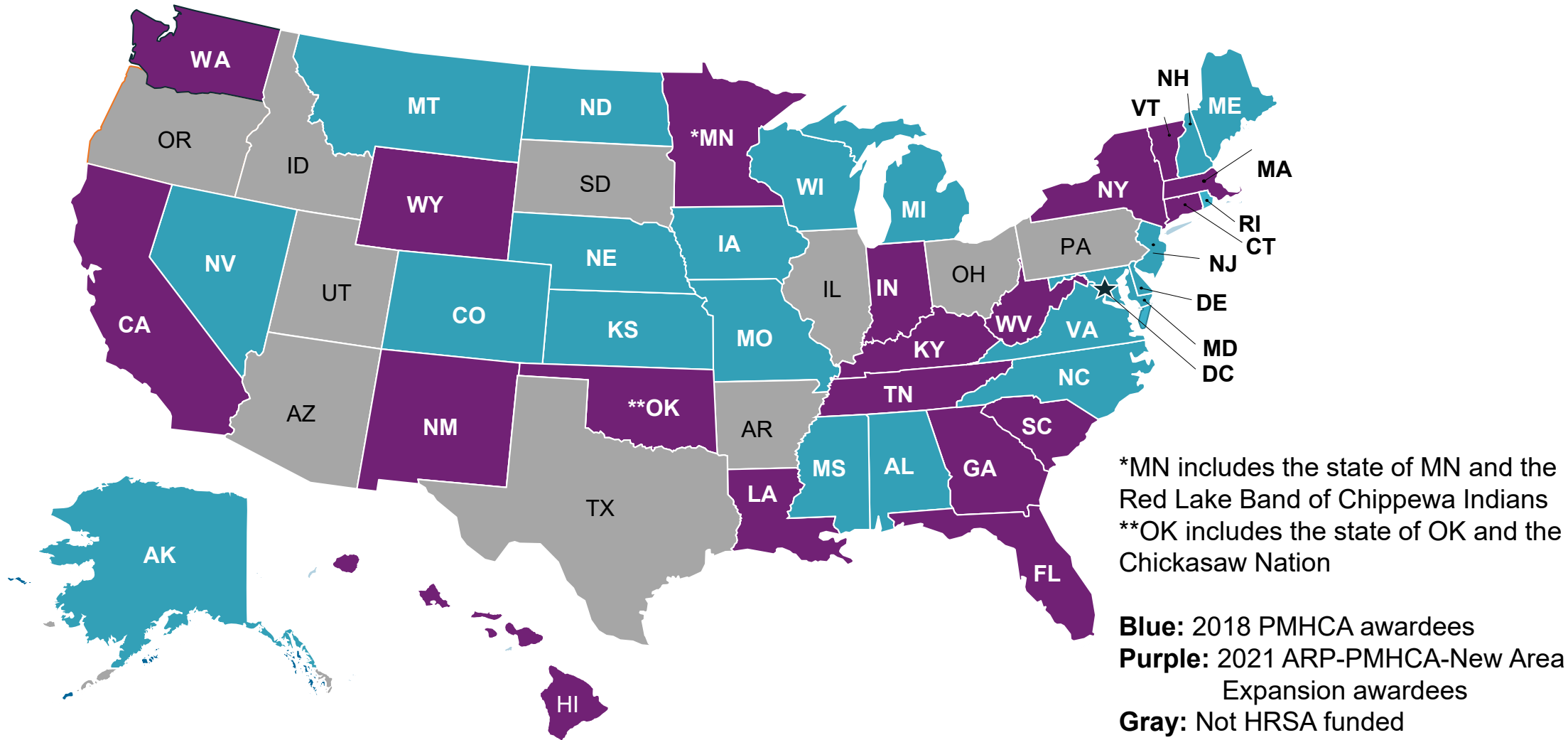
Increasing Access to Pediatric Mental Health Care

We want to make sure that pediatric primary care providers are confident and competent to screen and help children with [behavioral disorders](#). Our Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA) programs build workforce capacity.

Purpose of the PMHCA Programs

- Promote behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care through mental health care telehealth access programs.
- Provide training and education to support the treatment of children and adolescents with behavioral disorders.
- Support referral to behavioral health providers, when needed.
- Serve as a resource for pediatric primary care providers serving children and adolescents.

PMHCA/ARP-PMHCA Program Reach 2021



Our Partners



TULANE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL *of* MEDICINE

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS
School of Medicine



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Louisiana Chapter



LOUISIANA VIRTUAL
MEDICINE ALLIANCE



TULANE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH
& TROPICAL MEDICINE

**Louisiana Department of Health,
Office of Behavioral Health**

**Overall Goal
of the
Louisiana
Pediatric
Mental
Health Care
Access
(LaPMHCA)
Program**

All children and adolescents in Louisiana, especially those in rural and underserved areas will have equitable access to comprehensive integrated behavioral health services by increasing capacity among primary care providers to screen, diagnose, treat and refer as needed to mental health and supportive services.

LaPMHCA Strategy

Consultation

- Access to psychiatrists and mental health professionals
- Guidance on screening, diagnosis, treatment, medication management
- Response to general questions or patient specific issues

Resource and Referral Support

- Real-time support connecting patients to mental health and other community resources
- Localized community resource lists

Provider Education and Training

- Didactics/case consultation
- Webinars
- Provider resources (e.g. Screening Toolkit, patient materials)

Providers are more knowledgeable in identifying, diagnosing, treating, and referring patients with mental health concerns which results in an improved EPSDT System

Key information about LaPMHCA

- **Statewide, provider-to-provider** phone consultation
- **Providers register** for the program
- Special focus on **Rural Health Clinics**
- Full-time **resource and referral** phone consultation
- **Psychiatrists** are available for consultation
- **TeleEcho** series
- Live and recorded **webinars/trainings**
- **Web site:** Clinical tools, handouts, registration form

Why provide consultation to frontline healthcare providers?

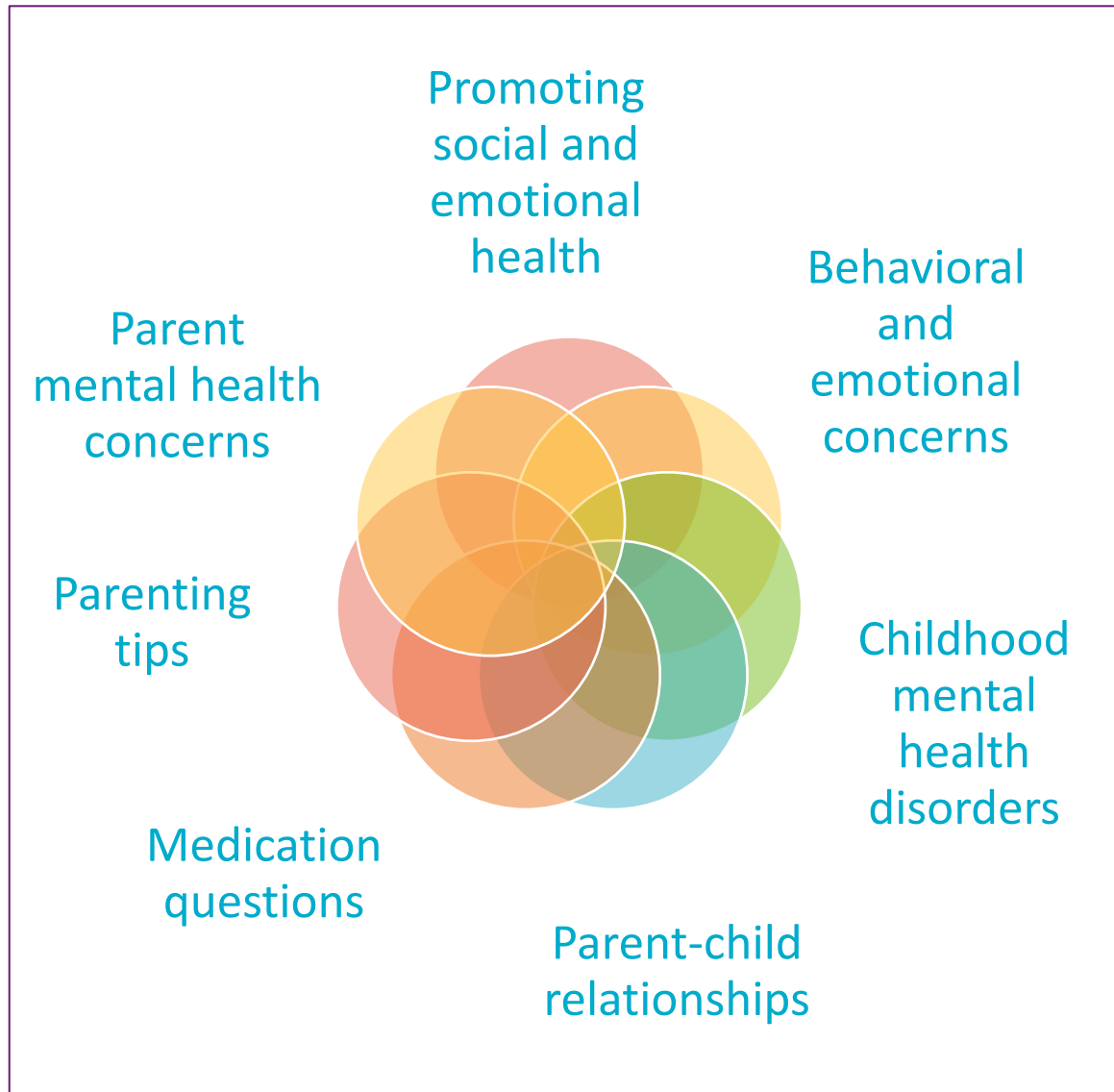
- It's where children and families are
- Frontline healthcare clinicians are trusted experts; have relationships over time with patients and families
- Consultation leverages scarce psychiatric resources
 - With support, training, and resources, frontline healthcare clinicians can manage mild to moderate mental health concerns
- Telephone/video consultation increases access to more providers – especially those in underserved, rural areas



Question for Participants

**What components of the
LaPMHCA program excite you
the most?**

What Does Consultation Look Like?



Consultation Team



The mom of one of my 7 year old male patients is reporting that he is rubbing his genitals during bath time and every night when he goes to bed.

A 15 year old came into the clinic today. Mom reports he came home “blackout” drunk from a football game last week, and, when searching his room, his parents found marijuana. Dad is a recovering alcoholic and the family has experienced lots of loss from both the hurricanes and COVID 19. The parents are really worried about their son.

The mother of a two-year old male patient is reporting that her son has just been kicked out of his child care center due to behavior. This is the second center that has kicked him out.



I have a 5 year old female patient who is scratching herself to the point of bleeding and creating sores. We have ruled out any medical conditions as the cause of this behavior.

Benefits of Mental Health Consultation

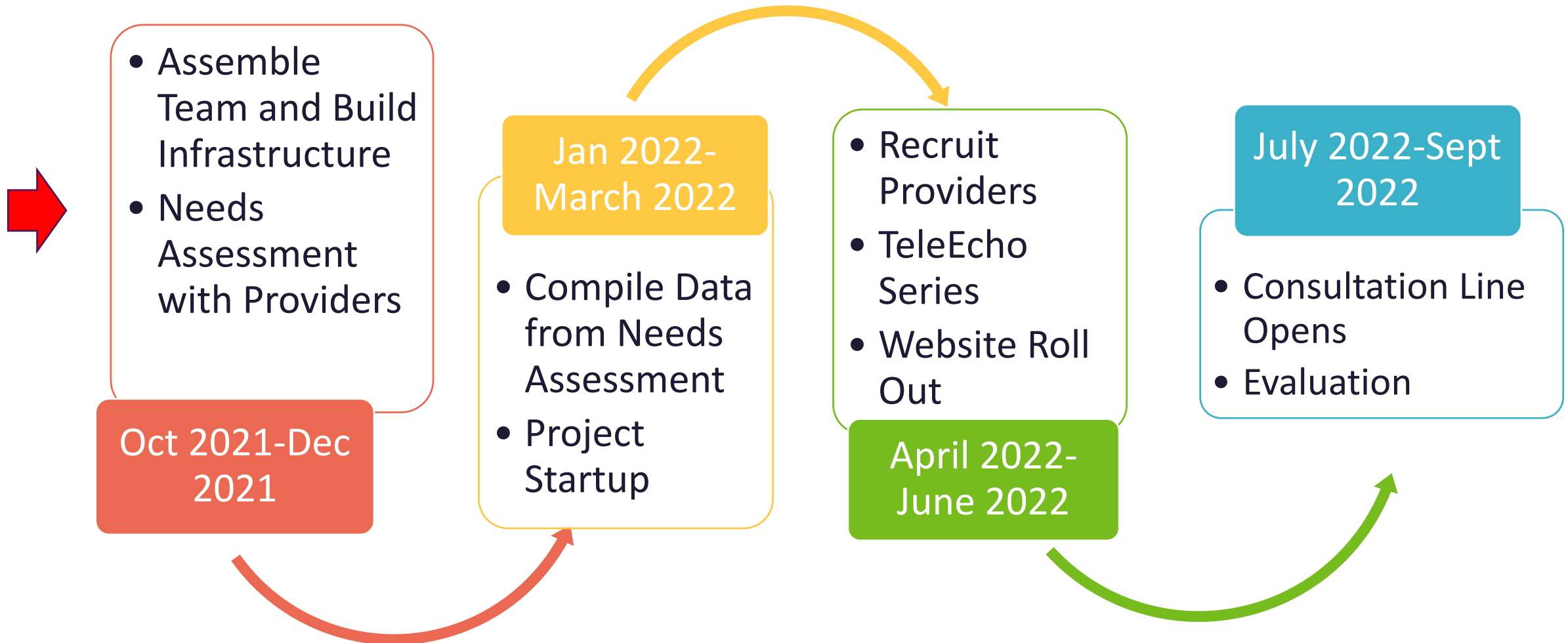
Providers

- **Increased access to psychiatry**
- **Increase in knowledge and competence**
 - Providers feel better equipped to meet the psychiatric needs of the pediatric patients
 - Increased comfort talking about mental health
- **Improved connection to resources**
 - Access to referral and resource information
 - Increased knowledge of mental health resources

Children and Caregivers

- **Improvement in quality of care**
 - Increased screening for mental health issues
 - Appropriate identification of mental health issues
 - Increased connection to mental health services
 - Improved behavioral and pharmacological treatment from the PCP
- **Increased trust of PCP and clinic**
 - Improved sense of safety at the clinic/practice
 - Increased belief that needs will be met

Timeline for Year One (of Five)

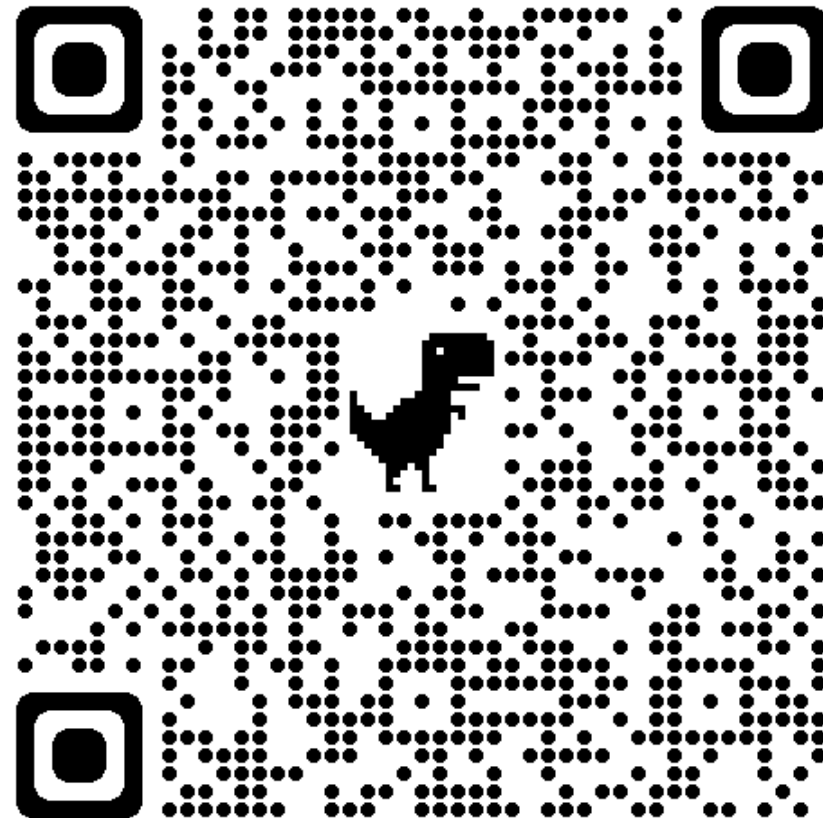


**You will be
hearing from
us soon!**

- **Needs assessment survey that is being launched today**
 - **Louisiana Rural Health Association (LRHA)**
 - **Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**
- **TeleEcho Series launches in Spring 2022**
- **Provider registration for LaPMHCA in Spring/Summer 2022**

**We want to
hear from
you!**

- **Can you please take a few minutes to complete this Practice Survey on Mental Health Services and Needs?**



Questions?

RURAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Thank you for joining us!

