

OSUWMC/OLSD School-Based Mental Health Program

Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center has partnered with Olentangy Local School District to offer mental health services to students, currently free of charge, within each of the high schools in the district. Each high school including Olentangy High School, Olentangy Berlin High School, Olentangy Liberty High School, and Olentangy Orange High School, has one full-time OSUWMC staff embedded within the building serving as a mental health specialist (MHS). Additionally, there is a lead mental health specialist providing oversight and additional clinical support within each high school.

Treatment Approach/Role of MHS:

The role of the OSU mental health specialist is designed to provide limited, targeted mental health treatment to students for a variety of mental health concerns. The mental health specialist can provide individual, group and limited family therapy interventions from evidenced-based practices, crisis intervention and management, psychoeducation, suicide prevention and will work in collaboration with outside providers and school staff members. The mental health specialist can partner with the district to assist with varying needs related to mental health.

Access to Care:

Students are referred to the OSU mental health specialist through their school guidance counselor and school social worker based on varying criteria for eligibility. Appropriate referrals include students who are in need of targeted interventions for a mental health diagnosis or concern which impacts overall academic performance or functioning and to those who may have difficulty accessing outside therapy. Referrals that may be considered inappropriate would include students with significant mental health needs requiring more intensive or more specialized treatment, significant school avoidance preventing the mental health specialist from being able to meet with the student, students who are already linked with an outside provider (not automatically exclusionary criteria), and/or a student who may be behaviorally reinforced by being pulled from class.

Students who are linked with an OSU mental health specialist are NOT considered patients of OSUWMC. OSU mental health specialists are functioning as staff of Olentangy Local School District and cannot access OSU patient records of the students they are seeing.

Current Treatment Team:

Staff Member	Assigned School Building	Office Number
Joel Barcalow, LPCC-S	Olentangy High School	740.657.4146
Megan Pawsey, LISW	Olentangy Liberty High School	740.657.4223
Sarah Leonard, LISW-S	Olentangy Orange High School	740.657.5100
Jill Archibald, LISW	Olentangy Berlin High School	740.657.5931
Kristen Armbrust, LISW-S - Lead	Central Office	614.361.1712

For more information contact Kristen Armbrust, LISW-S at 614.361.1712.