



Center-Based Emotional Support with Clinical Supports Option 2023-2024 Program Profile

Description

The CAIU's Center-Based Emotional Support Program provides individual and group counseling opportunities within the context of an emotional support educational placement. The primary goal of the program is to provide educational and therapeutic support services, connecting with professionals who can address the student's cognitive, emotional and behavioral struggles, increase his or her functional daily living skills, and ultimately, facilitate the return to a less restrictive, appropriate educational placement in the home school district. The program is designed to capitalize on the student's strengths and potential in order to enhance their functioning in the home, school and community. The Center-Based Emotional Support Program classes are designed to meet the needs of students who have a combination of complex educational and mental health needs. Center-Based Emotional Support Program classes feature a therapeutic component in addition to a strong collaborative nature in working with a child's outside agency providers to ensure that each child is receiving coordinated services. The program is committed to identifying any student who may be in need of services from the mental health system and will assist our families in accessing these services and making appropriate recommendations. The program will also work with school districts to facilitate referrals to any case management services that a student may be in need of, above and beyond what is provided in the program.

A recent ER or RR, including a psychiatric or psychological evaluation is requested for determining the appropriateness of placement and necessary level of support; a team review with CAIU and Hill Top administration is also conducted. If a student is being considered for enrollment, a meeting and IEP review will be conducted. Once a student is enrolled in the program, the goal is to meet his or her needs for therapeutic care in addition to providing coursework in the general curriculum and in accordance with the IEP to meet specific academic needs.

The core program team consists of a Teacher, Social Worker/Mental Health Treatment Specialist, Paraprofessionals access to Related Services Personnel as required.

Clinical Support Option *

Although the Center-based Emotional Support program offers extensive foundational therapeutic and social work support, Enhanced Clinical Supports may be added to any Hill Top placement for a deeper and more robust level of interventions, supports and expertise. More specifically this may include:

- Individual counseling and social work services above/beyond 30 mins per week
- Collaborative integrated support from a designated Mental Health Worker(s) and/or BCBA
- Defined consultation and/or support from our Clinical Psychologist and consulting Neuropsychologist
- Enhanced level of interventions/supports (ie., CICO, MHW case management, crisis intervention plan implementation)

* This may be collaboratively decided at intake or at any point during placement.

Placement Criteria

- Chronic and/or severe mental health issues that impact educational progress or participation
- Evaluation/recommendation for mental health supports, services or treatment
- Needs not successfully met through district emotional support services
- Student/parent/guardian agreement to participate in the supportive mental health services
- Eligibility for SPED and/or current IEP
- Clinical review indicates ability to benefit from program and there are no significant counter-indicated issues of concern
- Student eligibility for special education and/or current IEP
- Student may be transitioning to or from a Residential Treatment Facility or hospitalization
- Likely to benefit from ongoing counseling services
- May require extensive case management, including interagency coordination

Exit Criteria

- IEP team recommendation based on IEP goal progress or services or the need for an alternate placement

Location

Center-based classroom

Staffing

- Classroom teacher
- Master’s level treatment specialist/Social Worker
- Paraprofessional Mental Health Workers
- Health services (as needed)
- Clinical Psychologist/neuropsychologist (Clinical)
- Consulting Psychiatrist (Clinical)
- Scheduled Mental Health Worker and/or BCBA support (Clinical)

Services included in tuition fee	IEP Services not included in tuition fee*
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- Psychiatric consultation to program team when available
- Skills training including social, communication skills, coping skills, anger management, and leisure skills
- Consultation and coordination with community agencies to initiate or continue services/ongoing interagency coordination
- Weekly program teaming and consultation with teacher, treatment specialist, psychiatrist (when available) paraprofessional and/or mental health worker, and related services staff.
- IEP progress monitoring and review
- Benchmark assessments, such as Acadence, HMH iread, Aimsweb and others as appropriate for the individual student
- Comprehensive positive behavior support planning, including Functional Behavior Assessments and development of Positive Behavior Support Plans
- Administration of state assessments (PSSA, PASA, Keystone Exams)
- Transition planning for students ages 14 – 21
- Specialized software programs designed to meet students’ unique needs.
- Access to enrollment in online courses (CAOLA) for course credit or credit recovery per IEP team decision
- OT consultation to classrooms
- Nursing support to develop health plans and coordinate with host district, including mandated health screenings
- Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy for team meetings and training in special initiatives
- Art, Health & Physical education
- Psychological Programmatic Consultation
- School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports
- Transition/Vocational Support services based on students age, level of need and identified post school outcomes
- Job coaching

- Personal Care Assistant (PCA)
- Functional Analysis
- Speech & Language intervention
- Occupational Therapy (direct service)
- Physical Therapy
- Unique, individualized assistive technology needs
- Autism support
- Blind and Visually Impaired support
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing support
- Extended School Year (ESY) services when appropriate
- ES Clinical Services**
- Individual counseling and social work services above/beyond 30 mins per week
- Collaborative integrated support from a designated Mental Health Worker(s) and/or BCBA
- Defined case consultation and support from our Clinical Psychologist, Neuropsychologist or Psychiatrist
- Increased level of therapeutic and behavioral interventions and supports (ie., CICO, MHW case management, crisis intervention plan implementation)

*** May be provided by host district
Additional fee assessed