



EMPS-SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This document serves as a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) between Clifford Beers Clinic and Milford Public Schools and has been developed in order to specify roles and expectations between these parties for meeting the behavioral health needs of Milford Public Schools students. The MOA has been developed for the following purposes:

- To promote earlier identification of students with behavioral health needs and support timely linkage to appropriate supports and services;
- To develop a uniform process to identify and refer students who have behavioral health and psychiatric needs to community-based services including the Clifford Beers Clinic Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services team (“EMPS”) and other appropriate services;
- To promote alternatives to psychiatric emergency department visits among students with behavioral health concerns;
- To reduce unnecessary arrests, suspensions, expulsions, police contact and other juvenile justice involvement among students with behavioral health concerns;
- To enhance communication and coordination among Clifford Beers Clinic’s EMPS teams and Milford Public Schools regarding students experiencing mental health concerns.

The aim of the EMPS program is to provide a community-based crisis stabilization service to children and families in the least restrictive setting possible, and support their transition to ongoing treatment services, as appropriate.

Clifford Beers Clinic agrees to the following:

- Have mobile EMPS available to respond in person to crisis calls from Milford Public Schools during EMPS mobile hours (Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.);
- Respond by offering telephone support Monday through Friday 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. through the EMPS 24 hour centralized access number (211);
- Respond to all requests for service by Milford Public Schools within 45 minutes or less;
- Offer Milford Public Schools students brief in-school crisis stabilization services with appropriate follow-up services;
- Develop a student-specific crisis plan within the episode of care and share that plan with the family, school staff, treatment providers, and other relevant parties upon execution of a proper release from the parent or guardian;
- Provide case management service linkages to students referred by Milford Public Schools, and their families; and;
- Collaborate and maintain close communication with the appropriate educational staff to develop an effective plan of care for each student referred for EMPS services.


Milford Public Schools agrees to:

- Contact EMPS at 211 (at menu, press "1" for crisis and "1" again for EMPS) when, in its discretion, a student is determined to be experiencing a psychiatric or behavioral health crisis which requires EMPS intervention and can benefit from in-person crisis stabilization services;
- Collaborate with EMPS staff as needed to develop community-based plans for students receiving EMPS services;
- If available, provide space for Clifford Beers Clinic EMPS clinician(s) to meet with student(s) requiring EMPS intervention;
- When possible and as deemed appropriate by Milford Public Schools staff, provide educational staff support to the EMPS clinician(s) providing services at a Milford Public Schools facility;
- For an appropriate period of time to be determined by Milford Public Schools, in consultation with Clifford Beers Clinic as needed, maintain contact with the family or legal guardians of students requiring EMPS intervention, so long as all necessary consents are provided.

Both parties agree to:

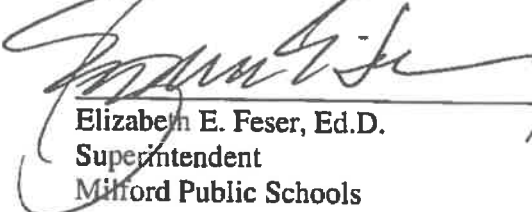
- When mutually agreed to by the parties or when required by law, collaborate to adopt and implement new recommended protocol in EMPS crisis assessment and referral; and
- Maintain consistent working relationships with each other and designate a representative from each agency to participate in an annual assessment meeting on a mutually agreeable date and time to review the terms of this agreement. This meeting shall be discretionary and may be cancelled upon notice by any party.

This Memorandum of Agreement will remain in effect unless one or both parties wish to terminate or modify the agreement, or the EMPS program is no longer in operation. Both parties agree to provide 30 days' notice in advance of terminating or modifying this agreement.



Alice Forrester
CEO
Clifford Beers Clinic

1/31/17
Date



Elizabeth E. Feser, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Milford Public Schools

1/30/17
Date