

## **K-12 Educators and Professionals**

### **Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) Screening Referral**

#### **Worried about a Youth who may be struggling with complex behavioral health concerns?**

WISe is a tier 3 community-based support for students demonstrating a need for services. The services are available for Medicaid eligible youth up to 21 who are struggling in school due to possible behavioral health concerns (mental health and substance use disorder concerns). For WISe, the youth must have a primary mental health diagnosis.

These students should be considered for a WISe screen by making a WISe referral. A WISe referral should be completed by educators in effort to support students with their behavioral health needs when it is impacting their success in school.

If eligible for WISe, students receive intensive care coordination with a team of individuals that include the student, family members, natural supports, therapist, members from the child serving systems, and youth and parent partners. The team works together to reduce mental health symptoms and keep the student in school and in their home and community. There is no set length of time for WISe services as long as the student continues to qualify

The core elements of WISe include:

- Time and location of services (community-based): Services provided in locations and at times that work best for the student and family.
- Team-Based Approach: Intensive care coordination between all partners and team members. Team creates one cross-system care plan that is individualized and includes student voice and choice.
- Help during a crisis: Student and family have access to crisis services, including face-to-face interventions any time of day, 365 days a year.

Implementation of WISe, utilizing the Washington State Children's Behavioral Health Principles, will:

- Reduce the impact of mental health symptoms to student and families, increase resilience, and promote recovery.
- Keep student safe, at home, and making progress in school.
- Help student to avoid delinquency.
- Promote student development, maximize their potential to grow into healthy and independent adults.

### ***Who should be considered for a WISE referral?***

- Students receiving frequent behavior referrals, have frequent absences, and frequent referrals to school health providers.
- Exhibiting behavior that leads to suspensions and expulsions.
- Receiving special education services and/or has a 504 Plan, with multiple school suspensions for mental health and/or behavioral issues.
- Involved in multiple systems (i.e. child welfare, juvenile justice, substance use disorder treatment).
- At risk of out-of-home placements, such as foster/group care, Children's Long Term Inpatient Treatment (CLIP) or acute hospitalization.
- At risk based on history of running away or disengaging from care due to behavioral health difficulties.
- A student whose family requests assistance for resolving complex behavioral health challenges with their child and are in need of intensive targeted support.
- Other circumstances not mentioned may also indicate a need for a WISE referral. Not sure? Contact the student's BHO or MCO.

### **How Do I Refer to WISE?**

Referrals for a WISE screen can be made at any time by school staff, parents, therapists, and concerned adults.

To find out who to contact in your county go to:

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers-partners/behavioral-health-recovery/wraparound-intensive-services-wise>

### **What Information is needed for the Referral?**

When making a referral, please the following information:

- Student's name and date of birth
- Caregiver's name and relationship
- Provider One Identification Number (if known). This is the student's Apple Health insurance number.

Additional information will assist with the screening, such as:

- Any known child-serving system involvement (legal/ justice involvement)
- Risk factors (i.e., suicide risk, danger to self or others, runaway, medication management)
- Knowledge of the student's personal life (i.e., living situation, school functioning, physical health)

## **What Happens Once I Make a Referral?**

All referrals should result in a WISE screening. A WISE screen must be offered within 10 working days of receiving a referral. All WISE screens include:

- Information gathering, to complete the Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) screen, which consists of a subset of 26 questions. This screening tool can be completed over the phone or in-person.
- When the screening tool shows that WISE could potentially benefit the student, they are referred to a WISE agency so that an intake evaluation can be completed. The WISE provider agency will then assign a new team to the student and all care will be coordinated through that agency/team.
- If it is determined that the student does not appear to meet the level of care WISE provides, the student will be referred to other mental health services, as appropriate, to have his/her needs addressed.

### **Special System Considerations**

Educators might consider referring for a WISE screen for a student with tier 3 support needs.

WISE can be an intensive intervention (or Tier 3) option teams can consider as part of a layered support system for students. To ensure rapid access to these services, school teams should have an established referral process for WISE that includes description, criteria for referral, and contact information for the WISE provider. Information about WISE should be made available to all staff, families, and students.