



Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project



Connecting Primary Care with Child Psychiatry

# Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project Overview

**John Straus, MD, Founding Director**  
**Barry Sarvet, MD, Medical Director**  
**Marcy Ravech, MSW, Director**

# GOAL

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- ▶ Support PCPs in meeting the behavioral health needs of their pediatric patients
- ▶ To make child psychiatry services accessible to PCPs throughout the Commonwealth
- ▶ Provide timely access to child psychiatry **consultation** and **care coordination** for families needing to access behavioral health services in the community
- ▶ Insurance blind: point of entry via PCP

# ORGANIZATION

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## Program Administration:

John Straus, Founding Director

Barry Sarvet, Medical Director

Marcy Ravech, Director

## 6 Regional Teams

PCPs assigned to teams by geography and corporate affiliation

# MCPAP Teams

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Teams operate Monday–Friday 9AM–5PM

Western:	Baystate Medical Center
Central:	Umass Medical Center
MetroBoston 1:	MGH
MetroBoston 2:	Tufts / CHB
Northeast:	North Shore Medical Ctr.
Southeast:	McLean Southeast

# TEAM SERVICES

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- Team members function as consultants to PCPs
- Develop relationships with PCP practices
- Personal mentoring of PCPs over time:  
Results in increased comfort with addressing behavioral health issues and prescribing in appropriate circumstances
- Teams offer education and training activities to practices:  
Screening – Toolkit training – Grand rounds
- Increased integration of behavioral health and physical health care
- Care coordination and follow-up

# HOW MCPAP WORKS

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- PCP calls Regional Hub with diagnostic, medication, or other behavioral health question: child-specific or general
- PCP receives call back from psychiatric consultant within 30 minutes or at time requested
- Possible outcomes:
  - PCP receives answer to question / recommendations
  - PCP receives recommendation for:
    - Face-to-face evaluation with child/family for acute psychopharmacologic or diagnostic consultation
    - Referral to care coordination to assist family in accessing community-based behavioral health services
    - Referral to team therapist for transitional face-to-face care or telephone support until family can access routine behavioral health services