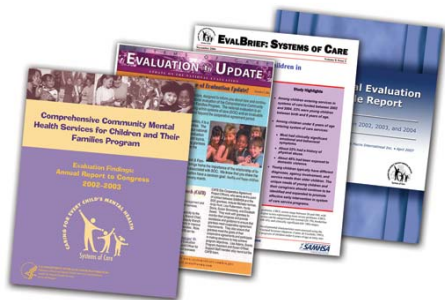


What Have We Learned From the National Evaluation?

- **90%** of children remained stable or had reductions in behavioral and emotional needs after 6 months in systems of care.
- **75%** of children's school performance increased or remained the same.
- **36%** of children/youth decreased self-harmful or suicide-related behavior within 6 months after entering services in system of care.
- **24%** of caregivers who were unemployed because of their child's or youth's behavioral and emotional needs became employed within 6 months after their child entered system of care services.
- **\$366.58** per child/youth was saved because of decreases in the average number of arrests per child/youth.

Where Are the Data Reported?

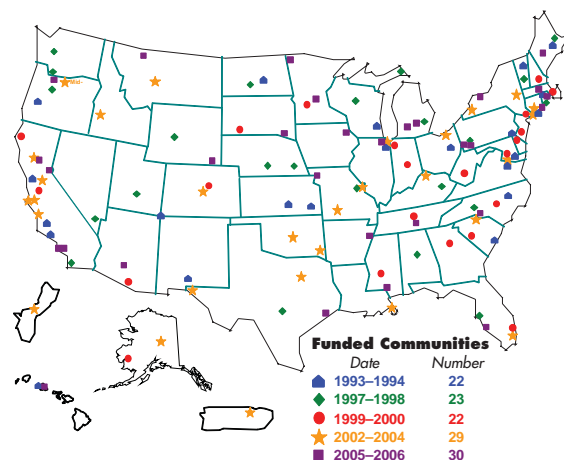
National evaluation findings are available in several publications, including an **annual report to Congress**, *EvalBriefs*, *Evaluation Updates*, and Data Profile Reports.



Your community also produces its own local evaluation reports. If you would like copies of these local and national publications, please contact your local system of care program.

Who Participates in the National Evaluation?

Your system of care is part of a coordinated network of community-based services and supports working to meet the challenges of children, youth, and their families. Every funded system of care community participates in the national evaluation.



What Can YOU Do?

- Encourage children/youth and families to enroll into the national evaluation
- Help interpret and disseminate local data
- Read evaluation reports
- Promote the importance of evaluation

Support your local community's evaluation efforts! For more information about the national evaluation, contact your local system of care community.



NATIONAL EVALUATION OF SYSTEMS OF CARE



COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES PROGRAM

What Is the National Evaluation?

The national evaluation provides information about your local community's program achievements, child and family outcomes, and mental health service needs. It is an important part of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program (Child Mental Health Initiative), which is the **largest federally funded child mental health services initiative**. Since 1993, over \$1.16 billion has supported systems of care in 126 grant communities. The number of funded grant communities continues to increase.

Why Is the National Evaluation Important?

What works in your system of care community? What are the outcomes for children and families who participate in your program? What about program costs? The national evaluation answers such important questions. **By collaborating with communities, the national evaluation** promotes sound evaluation practices and collects reliable and valid information about program processes and results.

Who Makes the National Evaluation a Success?

Your local community helps to make the national evaluation a success. The national evaluation is made possible by the involvement of families and youth, your local community's evaluation team, the National Evaluation Team, and YOU. **Everyone dedicated to the development of systems of care** shares a common goal: a vision of hope and equality, and "A Life in the Community for Everyone."

Who Collaborates to Make the National Evaluation Successful?

Your community has worked hard to develop plans for data collection and reporting. This work is supported through the collaboration of system of care partners. **The family and youth voice is vital and central** to all aspects of the system of care, service delivery, and evaluation.



Which System of Care Principles Guide the National Evaluation?



What Questions Does the National Evaluation Answer?



Who are the children and families we serve?



What services do children and families receive? What do they cost?



How much do outcomes improve for children and families over time?



How do systems of care develop over time?



How do children and families evaluate their experience with systems of care?



What factors help to sustain the system of care after federal funding ends?

Additionally, the national evaluation examines important topics such as cultural and linguistic competence, evidence-based practice, family involvement and support, and provider knowledge and practices.