



Telemedicine Within the PMHCA Model

Alabama's Early Experiences



CLINICAL TEAM

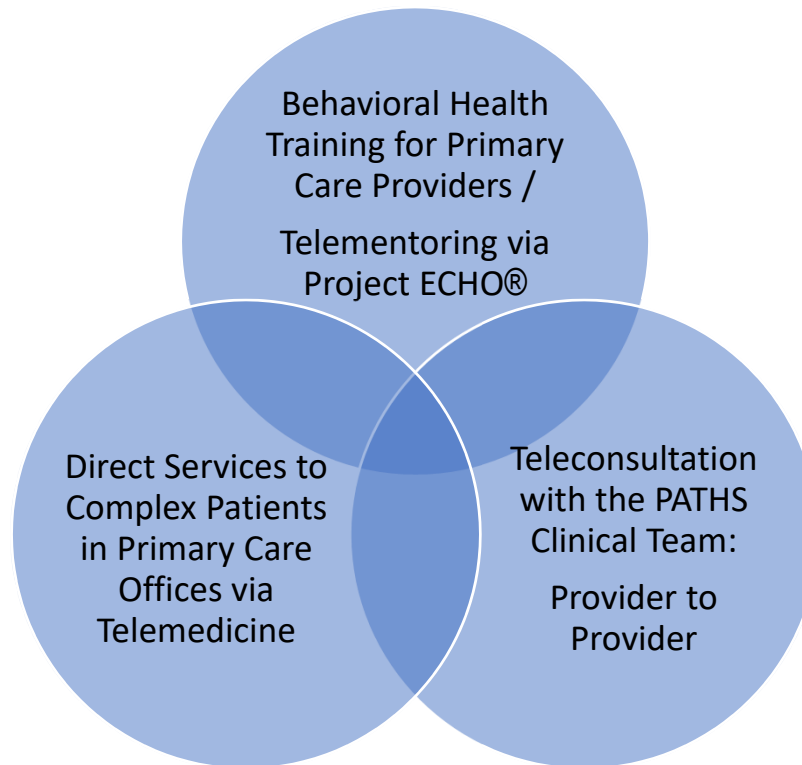
- Child Psychiatrists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
- Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers
 - Care Coordinator
 - Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant
- Licensed Professional Counselor



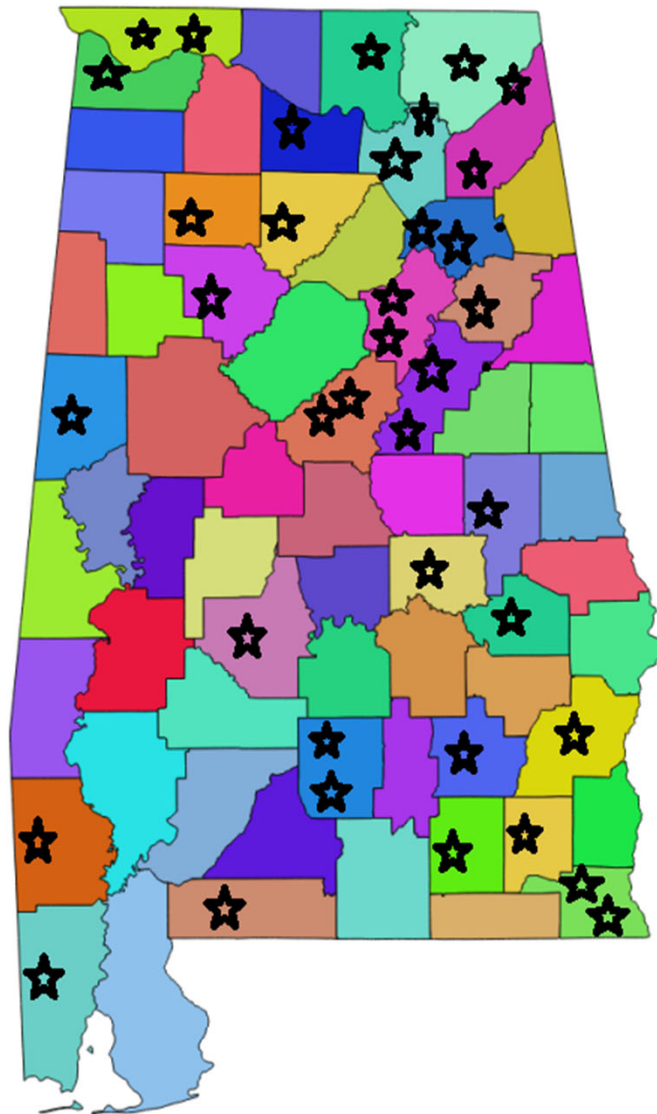
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PATHS PRIMARY COMPONENTS



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PROJECT ECHO® CURRICULUM COHORT FIVE – FALL 2021

SERIES A

Launched September 16, 2021

- Neurocognitive & Emotional/Behavioral Effects of COVID-19 on Children/Adolescents
- ACES: What You Need to Know
- Creating Inclusive Spaces for LGBTQ Youth
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Child & Adolescent Bullying: The Problem and Its Practice Implications for Pediatricians and Other Youth Healthcare Providers
- Making Sense of Sensory Integration

SERIES B

Launched September 22, 2021

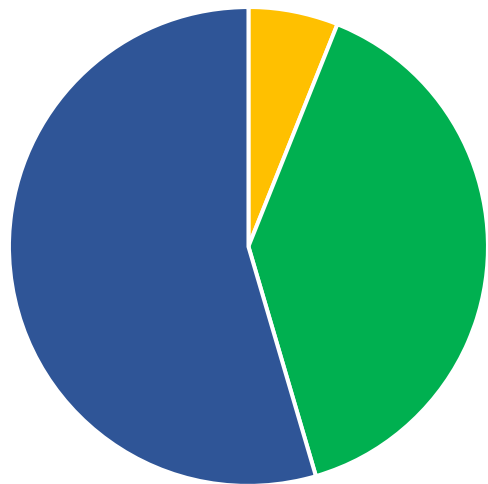
- The Overlap Between Non-Suicidal Self-Injurious Behavior and Suicidal Behavior
- Neuropsychological Testing vs. Psychological Testing
- Managing Anxiety in Teens
- Promoting Resilience Through Trauma-Informed Care
- School & Community Services to Support Youth with Mental Illness
- Dear Stress: Let's Break Up



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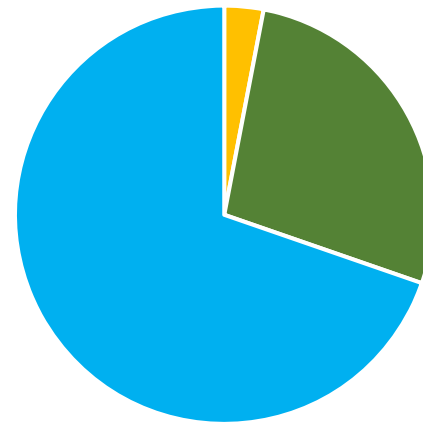
Project ECHO Case Presentations

Age of Patients Reviewed



■ 0-3 Yrs ■ 4-11 Yrs ■ 12-19 Yrs ■

Race/Ethnicity of Patients Reviewed

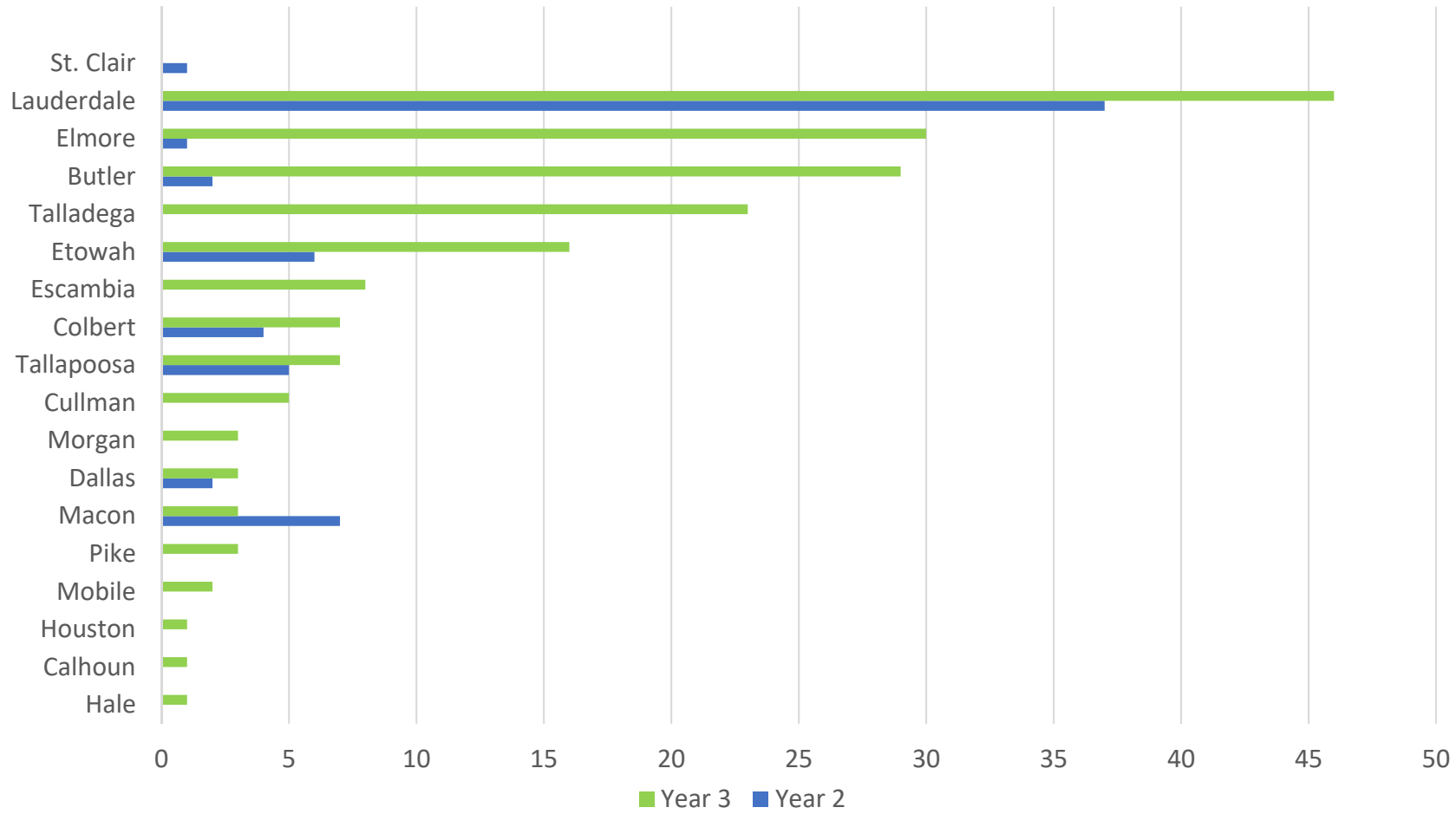


■ Hispanic ■ African American ■ White



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CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY COUNTY



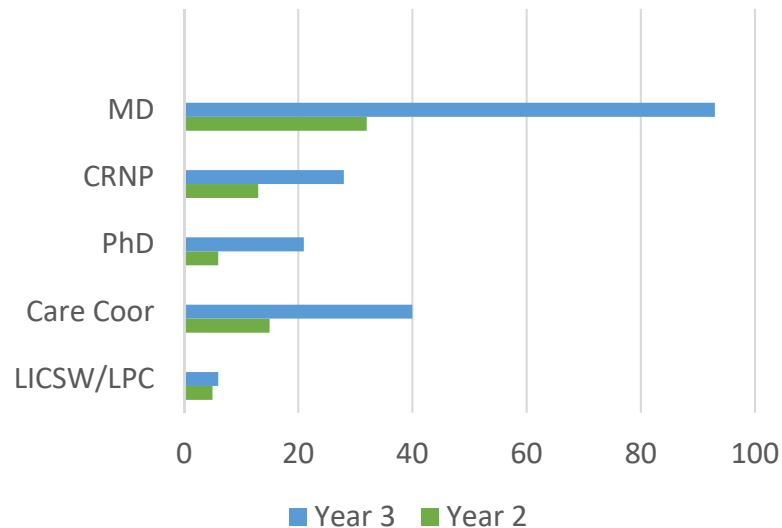
Year 2 N=65, Year 3 N=188



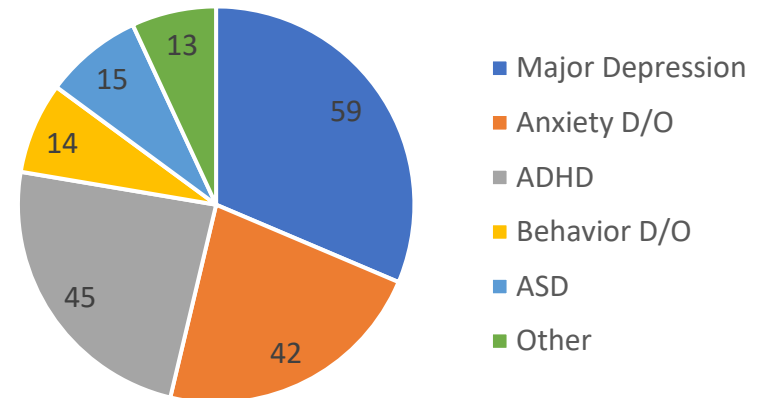
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PATHS PROVIDER TO PROVIDER CONSULTATIONS

PATHS Provider Responding to Consult Request



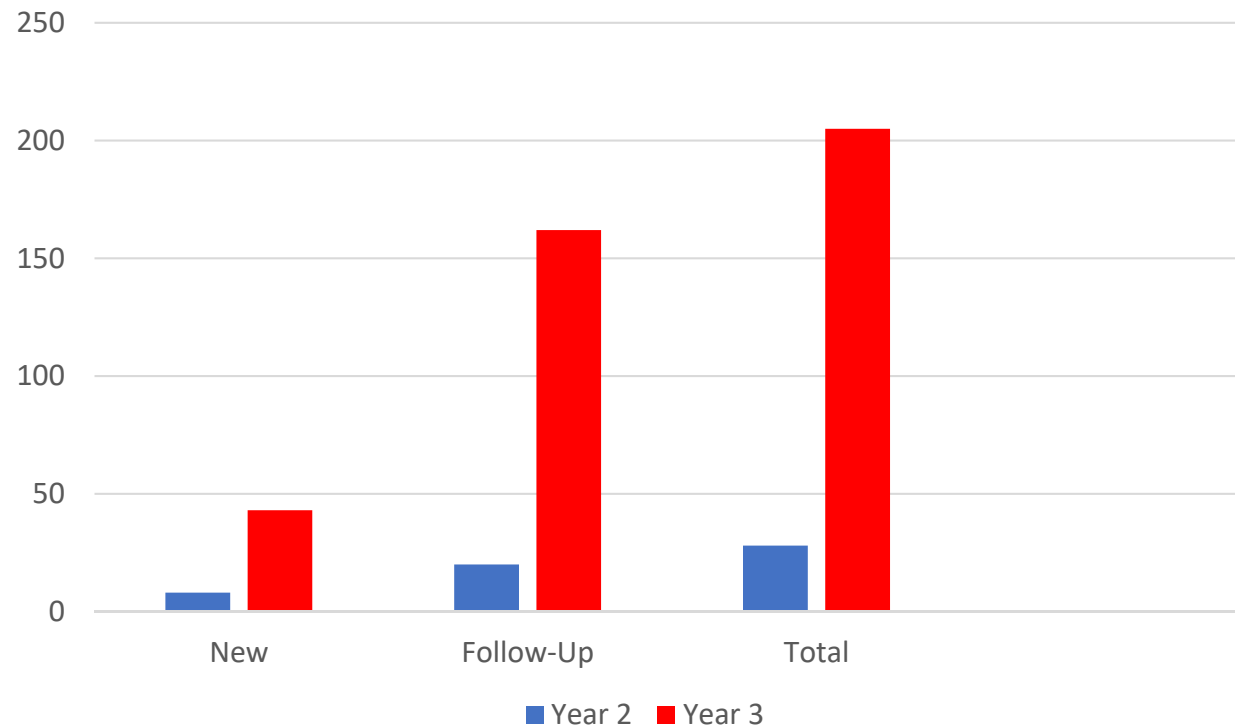
Conditions for Which Consultation is Sought



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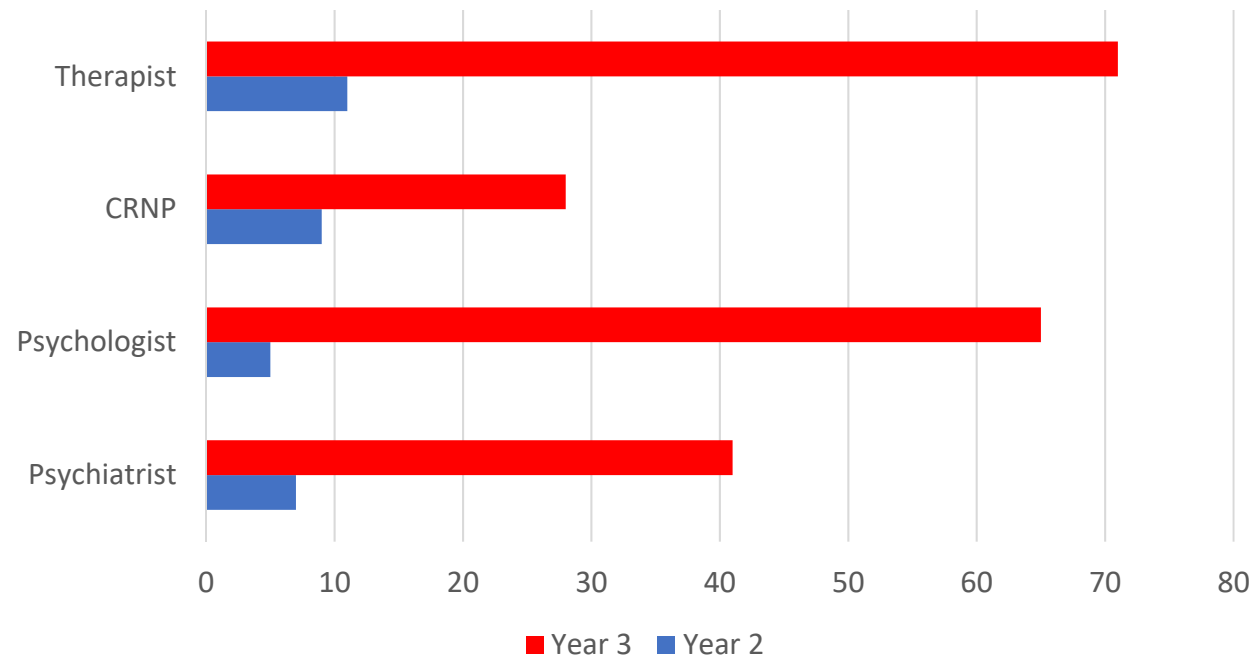
PATHS Telemedicine Visits



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Telemedicine Visits by Mental Health Provider Type



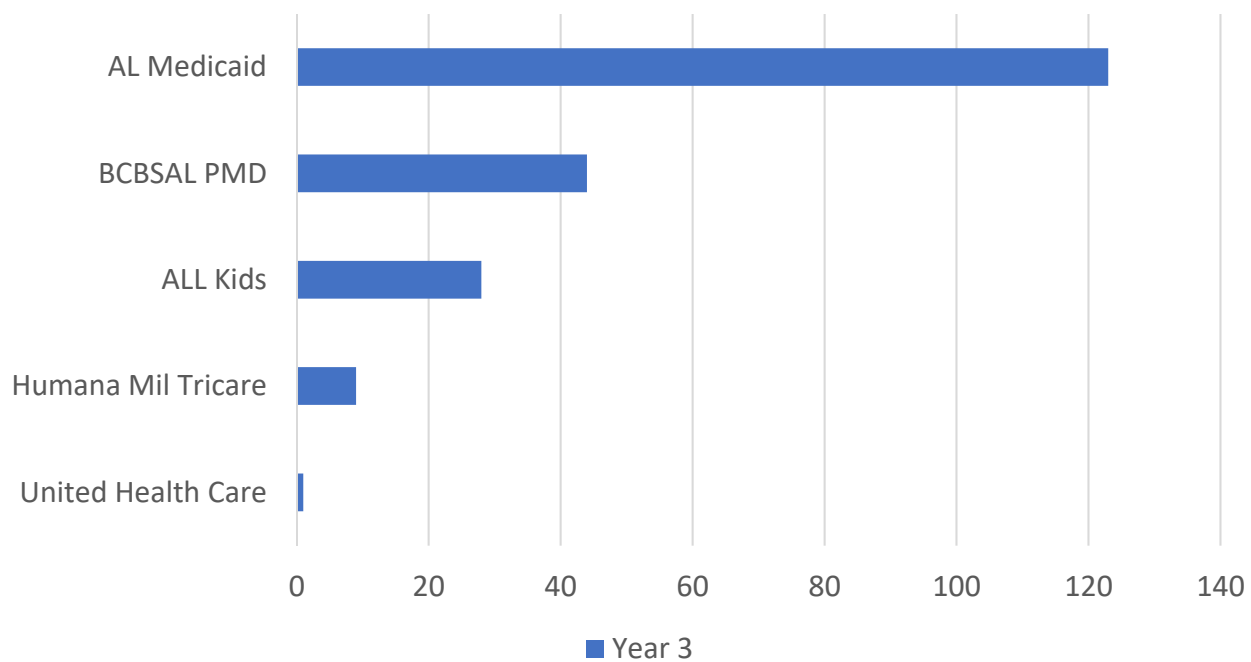
YEAR 3: Telemedicine for Med Management = 69, Telemedicine for Therapy = 128



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Telemedicine Visits by Payer Type



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UAB SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Pediatric Access to Telemental Health Services

Applied Evaluation and Assessment Collaborative
Department of Health Care Organization and Policy
UAB School of Public Health



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PATHS Evaluation Overview

The AEAC uses a mixed methods approach to program evaluation

Enrolled Practices	Continuing Medical Education Surveys	Post-ECHO series Survey	Key Informant Interviews
Internal PATHS team	Key Informant Interviews	HRSA Data Reporting	
Family and Child Outcomes	Surveys	Key Informant Interviews	Other Outcomes Data



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Caregiver Semi-Structured Interviews

Overview

May 2021 – June 2021

GOAL: Understand the caregiver experience related to the services provided by the PATHS programs.

Interviewees

- 8 Interviews
- 8 rural counties represented
- Interviews represented various types of caregivers including mother, father, and grandmother



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Telemedicine

Caregiver Perception of Needing Service

- Inconvenient
- Initially skeptical
- Trust pediatrician guidance
- Trust in Standard of Care

Child Improvement

- Comfort and trust with PATHS providers
- Improved symptoms
- Improved communications



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Plan of Care and Scheduling Process

Plan of Care

- Frequent communication and discussion with providers
- Pediatrician follow-up

Scheduling Process

- Organized and efficient
- Responsive and supportive team



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Strength and Areas of Need

Strengths

- Easy to access, convenient, and flexible
- Good communication and connection
- High quality care across Alabama

Areas of Need

- Internet access and improvements
- Community recruitment and education



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CAREGIVER FEEDBACK

“As far as improved, she’s not as anxious as she was. She was having a lot of crying episodes and was very depressed. She was suicidal and homicidal and now she is totally different...At one point she wanted to give up, and now she’s talking college. She’s engaging in extracurriculars.”

It’s opened up the opportunity for families to take advantage of things that were not available to them.

At first, I was skeptical about it because I feel like you can read a person better through the face-to-face visit vs. talking to someone through a screen, but I was willing to try it to see how it worked out. I have not been disappointed. It wasn’t as impersonal as I thought it would be. They have really connected with their psychiatrist.

I didn’t know what to do or know which way to go but after being introduced to the PATHS program, it’s been a complete turnaround in our household with my daughter. For the first time in a long time, I feel she has an opportunity for a great future.



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PROVIDER FEEDBACK

“Just this morning we had a crisis with a patient, and my whole team knew just what to do because we’d participated in ECHO. We handled it fine!”

“I just wanted to call and tell you how much I appreciate PATHS and how valuable the support is. The telemedicine piece is working great! I appreciate the psychiatrist’s call to follow-up with me regarding my patient – that never happens normally.”

“Please pass on to the team that the two huge challenges they took on from my clinic were Grand Slams! The little six year old with a diagnosis of Autism was really a child sexual abuse case. The child is off all meds. She is able to talk openly with family about her painful memories. She is a model student with great success in the classroom thus far. The other patient has made such great strides. I greatly appreciate the efforts to make this work. This program is changing lives in rural Alabama.”



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