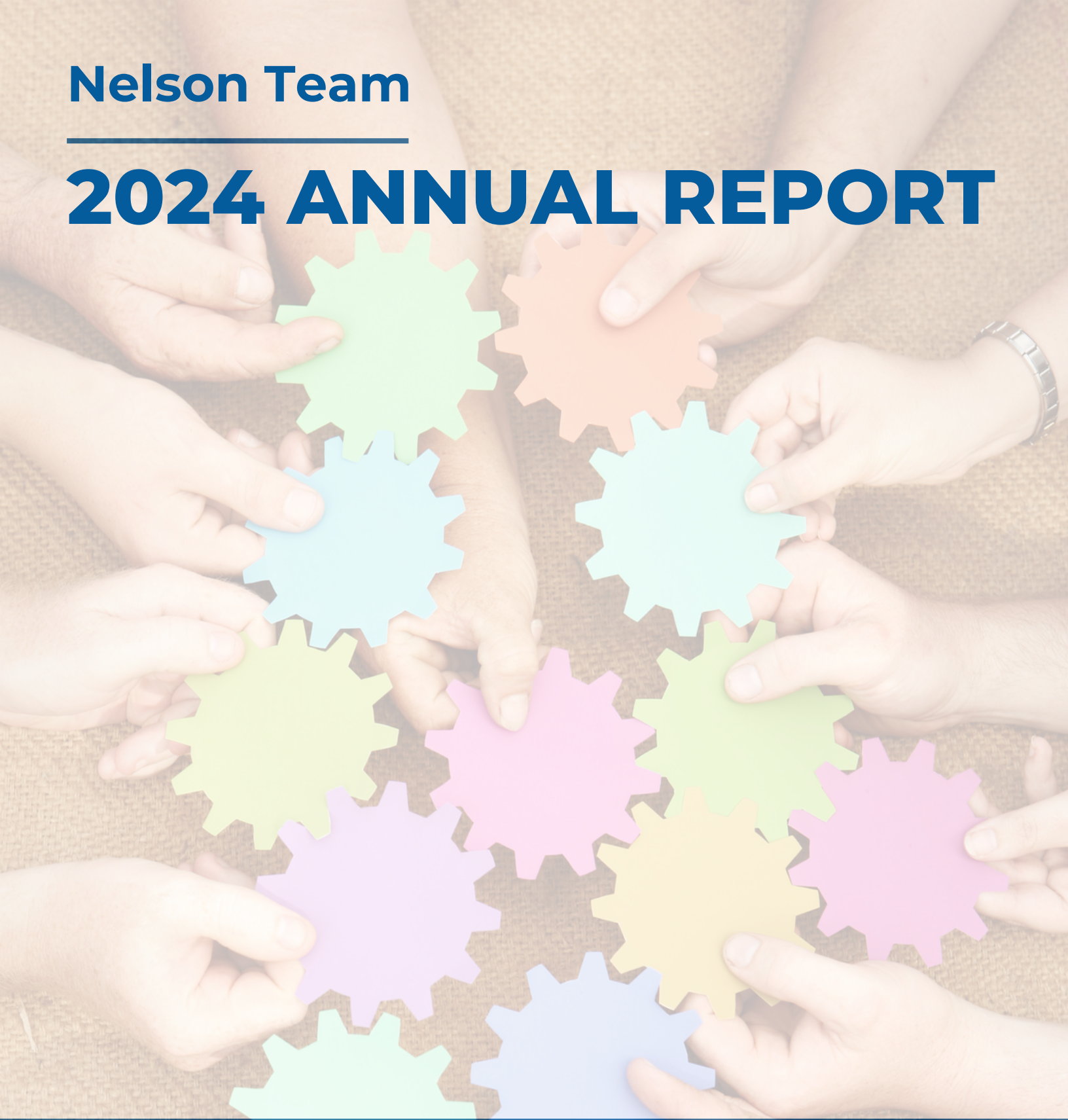


Nelson Team

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



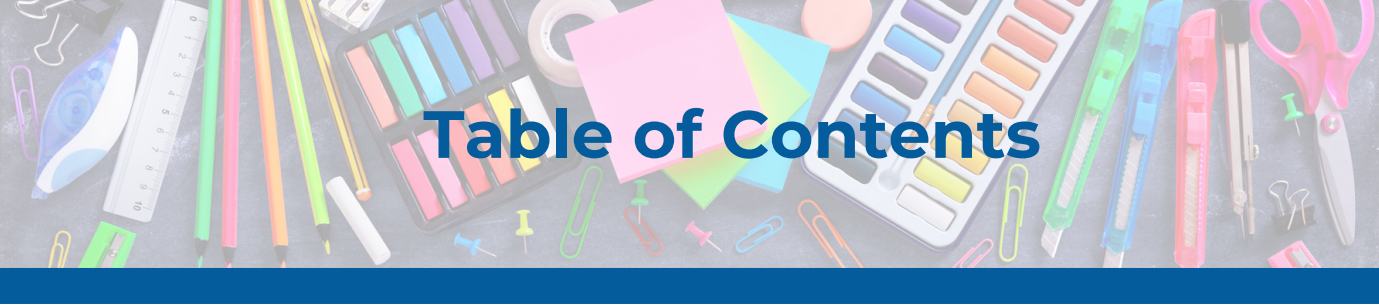


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Team Overview

Message from the Executive Director: Eve-Lynn Nelson, PhD, LP, FATA

It's my tremendous pleasure and honor to share our 2024 annual report across the Telehealth ROCKS and Heartland Telehealth Resource Center programs. Hand-in-hand with a growing number of partners, the report shares our impact through facts, figures, and a few of the amazing community stories. We're lucky to have new and returning faces across partners, staff, trainees, and faculty working together to advance happy, healthy, thriving children, families, and communities!

I'm inspired and grateful every day to see the progress the group has made on the big challenges that our communities face, including the child mental health crisis. For 20+ years, I've been fortunate to advance telebehavioral health innovations as part of the solution by increasing access and training in child behavioral clinical interventions, and our team continues to champion these options.

Our team's current collaborative work with schools and communities—innovating to meet social determinants of health needs as foundational to mental health—is an even greater innovation to advance child mental health, family and 2gen health, and well-being. This, of course, continues to be paired with the ongoing evidence-based prevention, early intervention, and clinical care/telehealth work. Thankfully, our table continues to grow with more partners dedicated to advancing life success across all students and their families.

I want to close by saying how hopeful I feel around the transformational work that's advanced each and every day, and I can't wait to see what the next exciting year brings! - Eve-Lynn

OVERALL VALUES

Collaboration:

Our work is better together.

Courage:

No problem is too big or too difficult.

Evidence:

We do not compromise on quality.

Respect:

We are honest, ethical, and fair.

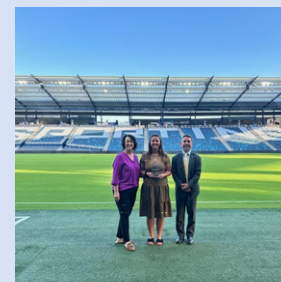
PILLARS

Impact	People	Partnerships	Sustainability
Making a measurable difference	We work better when we work with other people	Capacity to take on the toughest challenges	Meeting needs now and for the future

2024 Telehealth ROCKS Highlights

In 2024, Telehealth ROCKS made significant strides towards its mission by collaborating with communities to identify and address the unique needs of their youth and families. By forging collaborative partnerships that break down barriers, the goal is to provide every child with the tools essential to achieve their full potential in school and life. View a few selected highlights from 2024 below.

Hailey Collins from partner school district Coffeyville USD 445 was named a Regional Community Health Worker of the Year during the 2024 Heartland Conference on Health Equity and Patient-Centered Care in Kansas City. Telehealth ROCKS is proud of the work our School-Based Community Health Workers do to advance health and support children and families across the region.



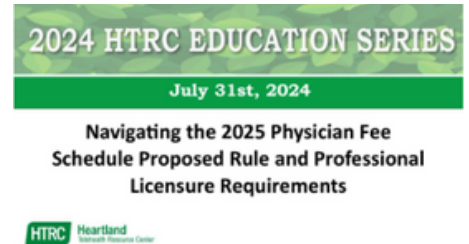
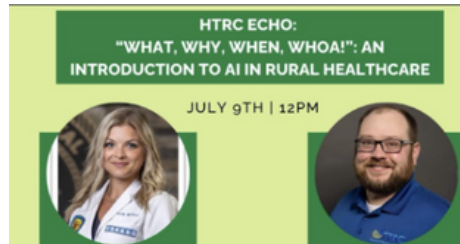
In July 2024, Telehealth ROCKS hosted the first Collaborative School Futures Conference. We brought together various school-based and community partner organizations to present innovative programs being implemented in school districts throughout the region and share available resources to help meet student and family needs.

The Telehealth ROCKS team attended and presented at the National School-Based Health Alliance Conference in July 2024. The presentation “Meeting Student Social Determinants Needs and Engaging Communities” drew a large crowd and connected us to new partners.



Telehealth ROCKS received two new federal awards, each focused on advancing network priorities around the model linking schools and communities and ensuring all children and families have the same opportunity for success in school and life. *Telehealth ROCKS Missouri* will expand our collaborative behavioral health work, including meeting family social determinants of health needs. *TeleCollaboration ROCKS* will expand our training program to advance behavioral health best practices and learn innovations from one another.

2024 Heartland Telehealth Resource Center Highlights



Telehealth Everywhere! Conference: The HTRC co-hosted the "Telehealth Everywhere" conference with the Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center in May 2024, with members of our team as well as new education partners attending. Samuel Karns from Oklahoma Complete Health, Gaurav Kulkarni, MD FAPA from Compass Health Missouri, and Molly Brown, PhD from the Heartland Telehealth Resource Center represented our region, presenting innovative work in telehealth during breakout sessions. With over 150 attendees, the HTRC and partners learned about innovative approaches and trends in telehealth across the Midwest.

HTRC Telemedicine ECHO Series: The "Introduction to AI in Rural Healthcare" session drew over 50 participants eager to learn about artificial intelligence applications in rural health settings. Jordan Berg, Director of the Telehealth Technology Assessment Center, a National Telehealth Resource Center partner, and Dr. Ashton Clayborn, CMIO at Choctaw Nation Health Service Authority, led an engaging discussion on AI fundamentals and shared real-world clinical implementation experiences (link to session - <https://youtu.be/QnrtpGoJ4tM>).

HTRC Education Series: The "Navigating the 2025 Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule and Professional Licensure Requirements" webinar attracted over 80 participants for an in-depth review of upcoming Medicare telehealth changes. The session covered significant proposed modifications to the CMS fee schedule, implications for telehealth services, and critical updates to professional licensure requirements that impact provider compliance. (Link to session - <https://youtu.be/-WHVEenYQM>)

17

Total outreach events
(webinars & HTRC ECHO)

235

Total technical
assistance recipients

150+

Attendees at the Telehealth
Everywhere conference

2000+

Clients served through
outreach and training events

Internal Team



Eve-Lynn Nelson, PhD, LP, FATA
Child Psychologist, Professor,
Executive Director



Molly Brown, PhD, MPH
Heartland Telehealth
Resource Center Director



Sage Brown, MA
Director of Operations



Robert Stiles, MA, MPH
Telehealth ROCKS
Director



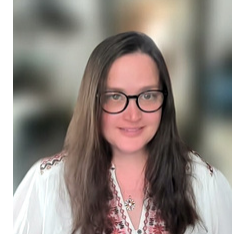
Haley Bell, BS
Telehealth ROCKS Family & Youth
Engagement Manager, Heartland
Telehealth Resource Center
Program Manager



Kristy Gagnon, BS
Telehealth ROCKS
Training Manager



Chase Koob, BA
Telehealth ROCKS
Community and
SB-CHW Manager



Sonita Loyd, MSED
Telehealth ROCKS
Education Manager

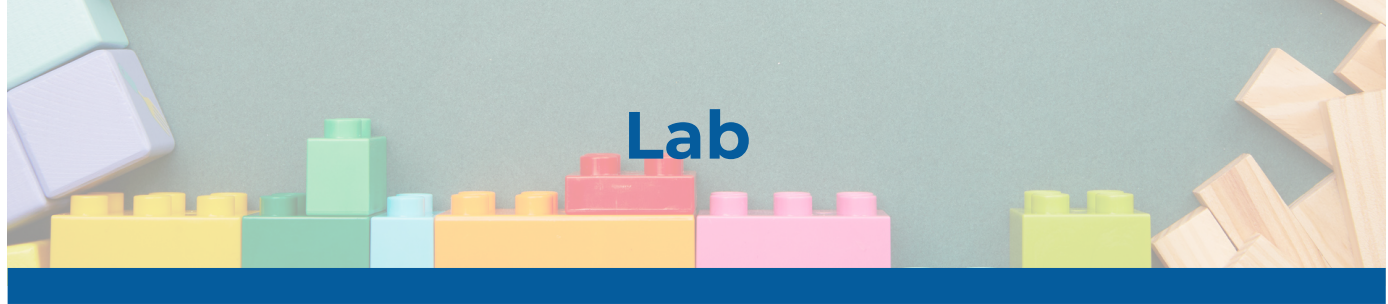
COLLABORATORS

Telehealth ROCKS

- Sharon E. Cain, MD – Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Ann Davis, PhD, MPH, ABPP – Healthy Lifestyle and Nutrition
- Linda Heitzman-Powell, PhD, MPH – Autism, IDD
- Melissa Maras, PhD – Trauma-Responsive Schools
- Stephanie Punt, PhD – Resilience and Self-Care
- T. Ryan Smith, MD – Pediatrics and Medical Complexity
- Leni Swails, PhD – Autism, Developmental Disabilities
- Barbara Unell, Robert Unell and Jerry Wyckoff, PhD – Relational Health
- E Alice Zhang, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA-KS – Autism, IDD

HTRC Regional Partners and Collaborators:

- OSU Center for Health Sciences & College of Medicine:
 - Tim Davis, DHA, MS – Telehealth Director, OSU Center for Health Sciences, Oklahoma Partner
 - Denna Wheeler, PhD – Executive Director, OSU Center for Rural Health, Oklahoma Partner
 - Heather Hagan, BT – Telehealth Analyst, OSU Medicine, Oklahoma Partner
 - Jared Droze, MHA – Director of Virtual Care, OSU Medicine, Oklahoma Partner
- Missouri Telehealth Network:
 - Dan Lund, MBA – Telehealth Specialist, Missouri Telehealth Network, Missouri Partner
 - Rachel Mutrux, BS – Senior Program Director of Telehealth, Missouri Telehealth Network, Missouri Partner
- Education Partners:
 - Richelle Marting, JD, MHSA, RHIA – Healthcare Coding, Billing and Reimbursement
 - Diane Bellquist, JD – Professional Licensure and Compacts
 - Jonathan Barrille, MBA – Telehealth Implementation and Virtual Health Strategies
 - Samuel Karns, MLIS – Rural Health, Telehealth, and Community Engagement
- Telehealth Alliance of Oklahoma
- National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers



LAB

In the Telehealth ROCKS Lab, post-graduate, graduate, and undergraduate assistants gain experience with research, grant writing, evaluation, communications, and more. All team members are encouraged to speak up, share ideas, and be engaged. We are fortunate to have a variety of perspectives that drive our innovation. Everyone strives to make a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

TRAINEES



R. Keith Beeman, PhD
Graduate Assistant
Health Psychology



Cordaris Butler, MS
Graduate Assistant
Counseling



Mariana Rincon Caicedo, MA
Graduate Assistant
Health Psychology



Ruhi Chand
Undergraduate Assistant
Neuroscience and Pre-Med



Alyssa Dye, MA
Graduate Assistant
Counseling



Ilana Engel, PhD
Graduate Assistant
Health Psychology



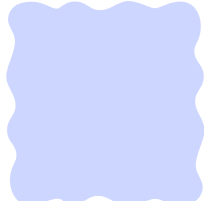
Ghina Fares
Graduate Assistant
Audiology



Annaleis Giovanetti, PhD
Graduate Assistant
Clinical Psychology



Daryl Rosenblum Hesse, MS
Graduate Assistant
Child Psychology



Logan Hurla, BA,
LEND Trainee
Physical Therapy



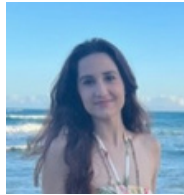
Emma Muller, BS
Graduate Assistant
Clinical Psychology



Sookyung Shin, PhD
Graduate Assistant
Special Education and
LEND Trainee



Meena Sreedhara
Graduate Assistant
Medicine

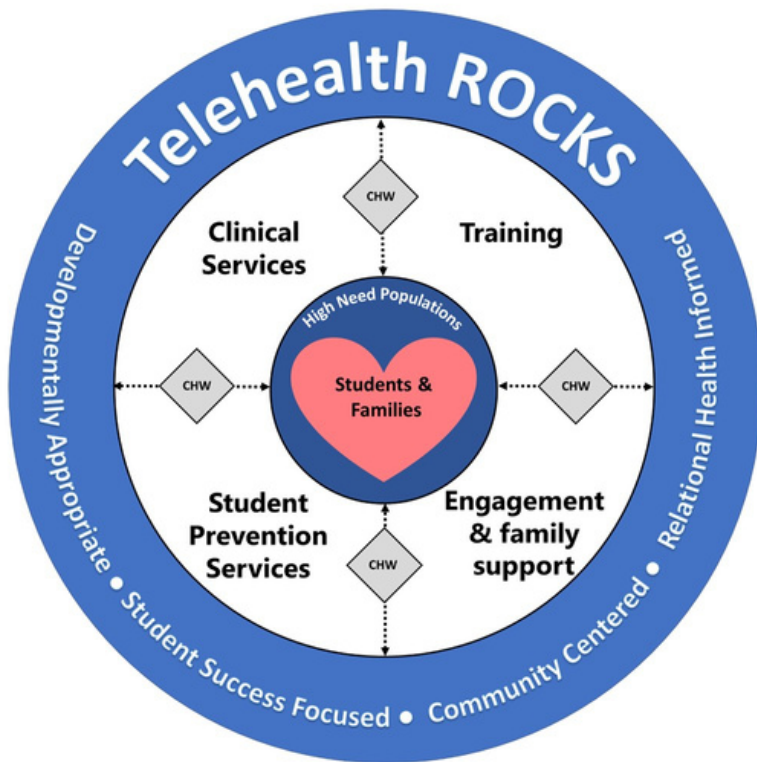


Samantha Ruelas
Undergraduate Assistant



Kat Wright, BA
Graduate Assistant
Child Psychology

Telehealth ROCKS Rationale

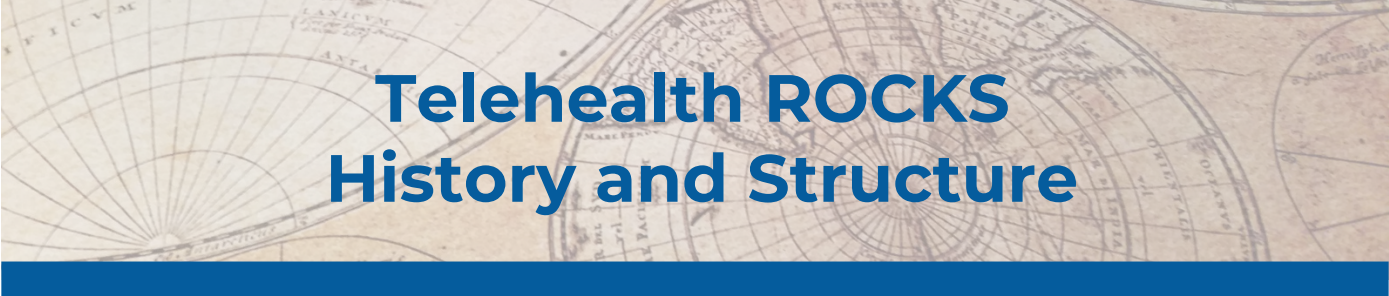


Telehealth ROCKS (Regional Outreach for Communities, Kids, and Schools) rests on a foundation of high unmet child health and behavioral health needs and high unmet social determinants of health needs in rural communities. Mental health issues and suicide attempts have risen among young people under 18, resulting in a declaration of a national state of emergency for child mental health (AAP-AACAP-CHA, 2021) and the Surgeon General's warning about social media risks (Office of the Surgeon General, 2023). This state of emergency is part of an overall U.S. pediatric health crisis with increasing all-cause mortality (Woolf et al., 2023).

Rural children continue to face greater access barriers to mental health services, with 44% of schools in rural areas reporting school-based clinical mental health services compared with approximately 61% of urban counterparts (RISCS, 2022). Nationwide reading and math testing scores are at the lowest levels in 30 years, chronic poor attendance/truancy is soaring, and classroom disruptions, inability to self-regulate, and disciplinary actions are increasing, even among young children.

Our behavioral health approach innovates by focusing on strong community and school district engagement and ingenuity in community-wide, two-generational (2GEN) approaches supporting the whole family. Students, families, and communities are at the heart of the approach, with an additional focus on students with high needs (e.g., students involved/at risk for being involved with justice, students in out-of-home placements/at risk for out-of-home placements, and students with chronic poor attendance/at risk for dropout.)

Telehealth helps us advance all model components: foundational components of community engagement, family engagement, social determinants of health, and community health workers (CHWs) in schools.



Telehealth ROCKS History and Structure

HISTORY Telehealth ROCKS braids together two important lines of school-based behavioral health research and practice. Spanning over 25 years in Kansas and the region, a brief timeline below describes the questions that Dr. Nelson led to advance School-Based Telebehavioral Health and that Director Stiles spearheaded to advance Onsite School Behavioral Health.

School-Based Telebehavioral Health (Nelson)

- 1999—Is child telepsychiatry feasible in an urban school?
- 2000—What's the impact of teletherapy for pediatric depression in an urban telehealth setting?
- 2001—How can I see my patients in between outreach trips? Expansion to rural districts.
- 2001-present—What are best practices in implementing best telebehavioral health clinical practices in schools, across psychiatry, psychology, and developmental medicine?
- 2014-present—How can telehealth advance the broader rural community network of schools and community goals around family behavioral health?
- 2015-present—How can telementoring/ECHO services be leveraged to meet community-identified training needs around student health? How can these approaches maximize cross-system learning communities and capacity building?

Onsite School Behavioral Health (Stiles)

- 2011-present—How can an innovative FQHC advance school-based health centers in our rural state, including behavioral health services? How can these services grow across the region?
- 2015-present—What are the facilitators and barriers to school-based therapy and behavioral health best practices in an adjacent state?
- 2016—Is it feasible to advance a school-based community health worker to meet student social determinants of health needs?
- 2017-present—What is the impact of school-based CHWs in rural districts?

NETWORK STRUCTURE The Telehealth ROCKS Network is an organization of school and community partners, each with their own expertise in best supporting youth and families in their rural communities. Network partners bring an “all teach, all learn” mindset to maximize everyone’s passion and talents to meet daunting gaps in behavioral health access and workforce retention. Our multidisciplinary pediatric specialist core, with a variety of expertise in child psychiatry, developmental concerns, pediatric medical complexity, behavior analysis, and healthy lifestyle interventions, is particularly well suited to support the anticipated needs of local health care professionals within our rural network. Our well-established history of community outreach has demonstrated readiness to continue to develop a community of learners across rural areas. Additionally, the network builds upon a breadth of rich experience in program evaluation, practice facilitation, optimizing technology-enabled collaborative learning engagements, and developing workforce pipeline opportunities. The targeted health care provider workforce and career pipeline impacted through this collaborative effort is community-based clinical providers, medical and behavioral health clinicians, those working in school-based health centers, those working in social service and local agencies that impact child health. Additional targeted staff include school-based Community Health Workers, community-based Community Health Workers, school nurses, school counselors, school psychologists, and special education developmental staff.

Telehealth ROCKS

Mission, Vision, and Domains

Telehealth ROCKS is a federally funded program focused on meeting family-school-community needs. We do this by partnering with local communities to work on social determinants, supporting school-based services, and providing training.

Establishing strong family-school-community partnerships and utilizing telehealth to help bridge the gaps are important components that drive the program.

VISION



Schools and communities where **every child** has the resources and skills they need to have **the same opportunity for success** in school and in life.

MISSION



To transform our communities through comprehensive and integrated approaches that amplify existing resources and develop new solutions **to meet the needs of children and their families.**

DOMAINS



Intervention

Tailoring evidence-based interventions across prevention, early intervention, and intensive/clinical intervention to meet family-school community needs.



Evaluation

Evaluating the program's impact on students, families, schools, and communities by gathering data to reflect change.



Training

Providing training and resources to meet the needs of health care providers and associated learners across the workforce pipeline.



Community

Advancing whole family and 2Generation health by addressing social determinants of health.



Education

Partnering with schools to find and share innovative solutions.

Telehealth ROCKS 2024 Network Partnerships



GOVERNMENT FUNDERS & PARTNERS

United States Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
National Institutes of Health



EDUCATION

Kansas

Greenbush Education Service Center
Caney Valley USD 436
Chautauqua County Community Unified School District #286
Coffeyville Public Schools
Fort Scott USD 234
Iola USD 257
Labette County USD 506
Neodesha Public Schools USD 461
Parsons District Schools
Pittsburg Unified School District 250

Missouri

Eldon School District
Kennett School District 39
South Callaway R-11



STATEWIDE ADVOCACY

DCCCA
HeadQuarters Kansas
Families Together, Inc
FosterAdopt Connect
C.H.A.S.E.
Avenue of Life



STATE GOVERNMENT

Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Kansas State Department of Education
Kansas Department for Children and Families
Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
Kansas Department of Corrections
Kansas Department of Commerce
Attorney General of Kansas
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services



LOCAL ENTITIES

Crawford County Restorative Justice Authority
Southeast Kansas FosterAdopt Connect
Southeast Kansas Department for Children and Families
Crossover Youth Practice Model Montgomery County



HEALTH CARE

University of Kansas Medical Center
Four County Mental Health Center
Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
KDADS Mental Health Intervention Team Program

**.....AND MORE. THANKS TO
EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTES
TO THE MISSION.**

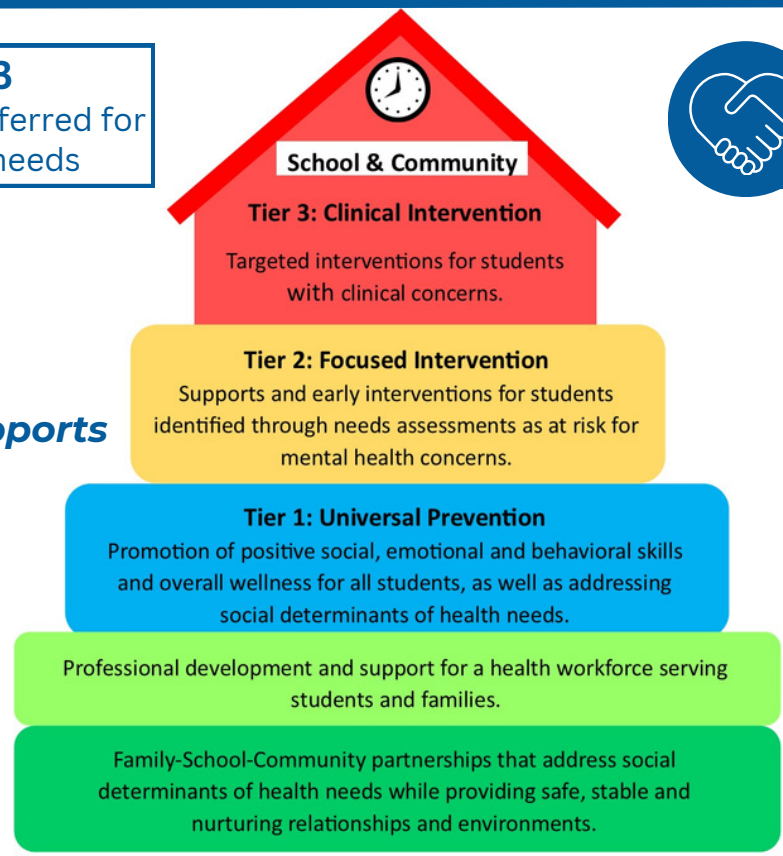


373
families referred for
unmet needs



1,012
CHW interactions

Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS)



Telehealth ROCKS works on **family-school-community partnerships** that engage every tier.

Training the next generation



Telehealth ROCKS' clinical and school partners—similar to hospitals, clinics, and organizations across the U.S.—are experiencing the effects of a nationwide shortage of behavioral healthcare providers. In 2023, Telehealth ROCKS started several initiatives to help improve the workforce shortage in rural communities. We have been working with Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas and Four County Mental Health Center to recruit two Clinical Child Psychology Postdoctoral Fellows to increase access to behavioral health services for children in two high-need rural communities.

Telehealth ROCKS also supports the work of our partners in the Leadership in Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (LEND) program. The training program provides graduate and post-graduate level professionals with training to become future leaders in the field of developmental disabilities.

Working Together



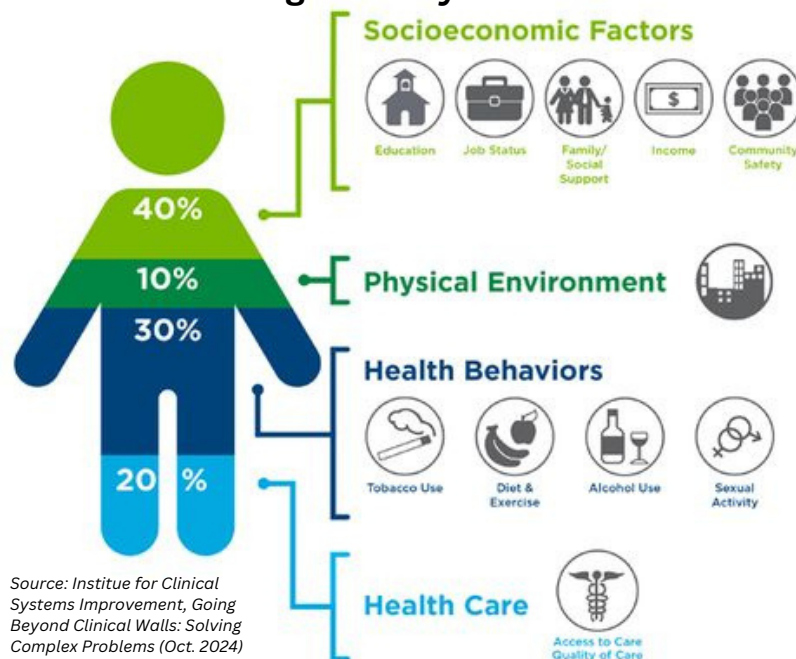
Telehealth ROCKS supports the work of our local clinical partners including Four County Mental Health Center and Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas. In many of our partner school districts, our work is done collaboratively with the school district's participation in the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Mental Health Intervention Teams program.

Telehealth ROCKS

Social Determinants of Health

In order to impact the behavioral health needs of children and their families, we need to first **address and prevent the underlying trauma** that makes individuals at higher risk for behavioral and mental health issues. Telehealth ROCKS believes children and families living in poverty and struggling to overcome barriers to meet their most basic needs experience daily background trauma that contributes to behavioral health issues throughout childhood and adulthood. By addressing the Social Determinants of Health and helping families access needed resources to become more self-sufficient, Telehealth ROCKS believes we will have more successful children, families, and communities.

What goes into your health?



Aligning with the framework of Healthy People 2030, the Social Determinants of Health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. The social determinants of health can be grouped into 5 domains: Economic Stability, Education Access and Quality, Health Care Access and Quality, Neighborhood and Built Environment, and Social and Community Context. Digital access spans across all social determinants and often disproportionately affects those living in rural areas.

Social Determinants of Health

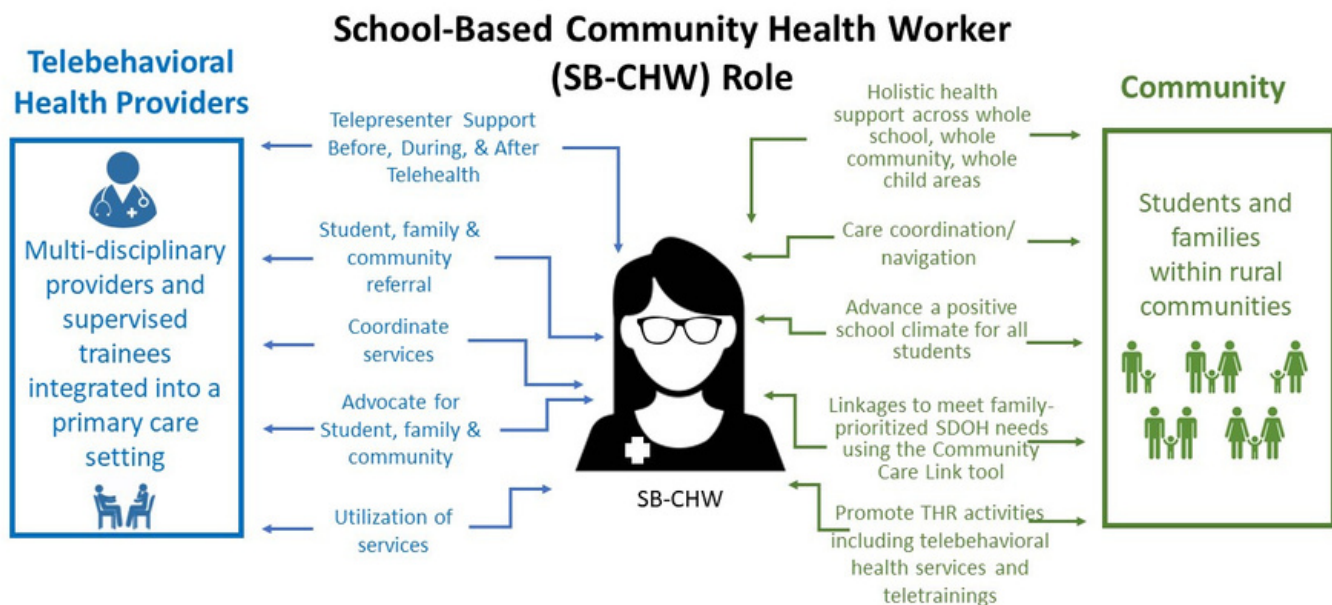


Telehealth ROCKS School-Based Community Health workers assess social determinants of health using the **Arizona Self-Sufficiency Matrix**, a validated tool to assess an individual or family's progress over time across 18 domains:

- Housing
- Employment
- Income
- Food
- Child Care
- Children's Education
- Adult Education
- Health Care Coverage
- Life Skills
- Family/Social Relations
- Mobility
- Community Involvement
- Parenting Skills
- Legal
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Safety
- Disabilities

Telehealth ROCKS School-Based Community Health Workers

School-Based Community Health Workers (SB-CHWs) are trusted members of the school and the community they serve, coordinating across school staff and connecting students and families to resources and services. SB-CHWs support school staff in addressing the social determinants of health needs of families allowing teachers, school behavioral staff, and school administration to focus on a student's academic success. They also address the needs of the school and community through facilitating community partnership and education.



“We are able to get families set up quickly after traumatic events.”

A big part of what makes the work we do successful is networking with community partners. We support a family where one partner will assist in paying rent, another will help with furniture and other household goods, and another donates beds and bedding. With the collaboration of multiple community organizations working together, **we are able to get families set up quickly after traumatic events** and then we can assist with insurance, therapy services for the whole family, and employment assistance to help **set them up for long-term success.**

–School-Based Community Health Worker



School-Based Community Health Workers

In 2024, Telehealth ROCKS continued to grow the School-Based Community Health Worker model. We expanded to one new school district in Kansas and two new school districts in Missouri. Our network now includes partners with expertise in early childhood, economic development, and housing. We look forward to continuing to create informative materials and tools to keep growing our model and expanding our network in 2025.

8

School-Based Community Health Workers in Kansas

4

School-Based Community Health Workers in Missouri

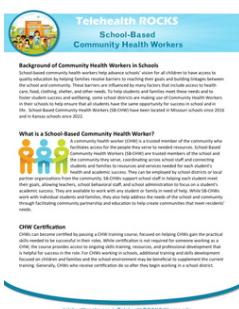
347

Students/ families supported

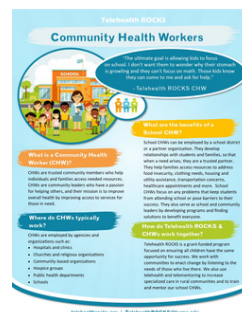
Learn more about School-Based Community Health Workers with these resources:



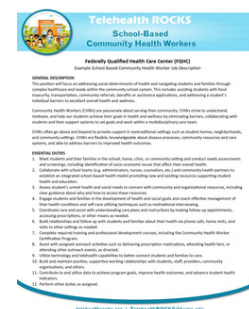
[From Classroom to Community: The Transformative Role of Community Health Workers \(3-minute video\).](#)



[4-Page Summary.](#)



[1-Page Flyer](#)



[Job Description Examples](#)

*“As a School-Based CHW, I have built strong connections with teachers and school staff. Through these connections, I was referred a group of students struggling with attendance and behavioral issues in the classroom. I meet regularly with these students to give them a space to connect, decompress, and build trust. Their teachers and school staff have seen a noticeable **improvement in grades, attendance, and behavior** throughout the school year.”*

–School-Based Community Health Worker

*“As a CHW certification instructor and school nurse, I am acutely aware of the complimentary relationship a CHW has with school health staff. This relationship creates **better outcomes for the students**—allowing the school health staff to focus on healthcare needs while the CHW can focus on the **social determinant needs of the student and family.**”*

–Community Health Worker Certification Instructor



Telehealth ROCKS Education

Telehealth ROCKS believes that schools are ideal locations for helping students and families, particularly in rural areas where it is often difficult to access resources. We partner with Kansas and Missouri school districts, local and statewide organizations, and statewide agencies such as the Kansas State Department of Education and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, which are required partners in our AWARE grant. The school districts we partner with face significant challenges but are among the most innovative districts, working with their students, families, and communities to provide the best possible educational experiences and opportunities for success.

In 2024 the Telehealth ROCKS team received two new federal grants which expanded our work into Missouri and resulted in our team working directly with 3 Missouri school districts. We established relationships with the Kennett and South Callaway school districts, which allowed for a full-time SB-CHW in their schools, and we expanded our existing relationship with the Eldon school district. We also received NIH funding, which allowed for the implementation of a SB-CHW in the Parsons, Kansas school district. We look forward to further exploring the needs and goals of our school and community partners and connecting more students to vital resources and support services.

12 school partners and growing

Missouri

- Eldon School District
- Kennett School District
- South Callaway School District

Kansas

- Caney Valley School District
- Chautauqua County School District
- Coffeyville School District
- Fort Scott School District

- Iola School District
- Labette County School District
- Neodesha School District
- Parsons School District
- Pittsburg School District

HERE FUNDING

Driven by community partner priorities, Telehealth ROCKS pursued and received funding for HERE, an R56 funded under the National Institute of Nursing Research within the National Institute of Health. HERE studies the effect of School-Based Community Health Workers on rural children with chronic poor attendance.

- **Phase 1:** Data collection completed. Focus groups and partner interviews were conducted to gain input to strengthen the School-based Community Health Worker (SB-CHW) approach in supporting students and their families. In all, thirty partners were interviewed representing a variety of professions including mental health, government, community health workers, child welfare, and others. Input was positive toward the school-based community health worker program and indicated increases in family engagement, increased knowledge of improvement areas and needs, and strength in building relationships with children and families. Activities are underway to share outcomes from the Phase One project through scholarly activities.
- **Phase 2:** Data collection ongoing. The feasibility trial with one intervention school with an attendance-focused school-based CHW and one enhanced usual care school network without a school-based CHW. Process measures include type and dose of CHW intervention with students with chronic poor attendance and their families, as well as utilization of school health/mental health resources. Outcome measures include: family SDOH needs, student health symptoms and strengths, family engagement, and school attendance.

Telehealth ROCKS Training



In 2024, Telehealth ROCKS was proud to offer six training series that covered innovative schools, community health workers, brain development, social determinants of health, and more.

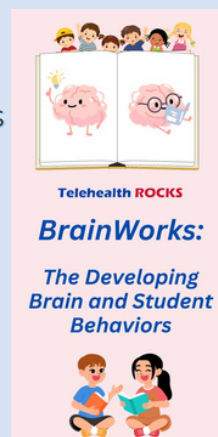
All trainings were offered virtually to address access needs. The sessions were led by university, school, or community organization partners who are experts in their subject matter. Each session included planning meetings with presenters and staff to ensure smooth and effective presentations that engage the audience. Sessions typically follow a format of a short didactic lesson, along with case studies and practical examples to further enhance learning and to encourage audience participation. Webinar and Project ECHO formats were used.

After each training session, all content is archived and made available for future use on the [Telehealth ROCKS website](#). Additional resources are also provided for asynchronous learning. Educators, clinicians, and others can find wrap-around resources such as videos, handouts, slides, resource links, and key takeaways from each training session presented, whether or not they were able to attend.

765 people registered for training sessions throughout the year. Telehealth ROCKS looks forward to continuing to serve the state of Kansas and beyond with [new training opportunities](#) in the upcoming year.

2024 TOPICS:

- Keeping Kids Safe
- Innovative Approaches to School Success
- School-Based Community Health Workers
- Early Childhood Wellness
- BrainWorks: Brain Development and Student Behaviors
- Impacting Social Determinants of Health



Telehealth ROCKS Training

97%

would recommend trainings to others

90%

plan to share with others

95%

reported increased knowledge

EVALUATING AND SHARING TRAINING SERIES INSIGHTS

All trainings are evaluated with carefully vetted surveys and expert analysis. Feedback guides programmatic changes, as well as contributes to publications and presentations. Team researchers especially focus on training put into practice. View the scholarship section for selected publications based on training research and insights.

TELEHEALTH ROCKS PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

We're fortunate to have a network of partners who share their time and expertise with our audience. View past presentations on the Telehealth ROCKS website.

2024 presenters included:

- **Michelle Alt**, Fidelity Specialist, Restorative Justice Authority
- **Aaron Berendzen**, Director of Special Programs, Eldon R-1 School District
- **Ali Bishop**, School Based Therapist, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- **Angie Brungardt**, Mental Health Team Program Manager, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
- **Anita Cooper**, Southeast Regional Director, Department for Children and Families
- **Dr. Craig A. Correll**, Superintendent of Coffeyville Public Schools
- **Brad Girard**, CHASE Program Director, Families Together, Inc.
- **Felicia Hall**, Director of School Health Nursing, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- **Leia Holley**, Program Director and Parent, Families Together, Inc.
- **Barbara Kempf**, Vice President of Family Programs, FosterAdopt Connect
- **Chrissy Mayer**, Chief Community Based Services Officer, DCCCA
- **Monica Murnan**, Director of Community Support Services, Southeast Kansas Education Service Center - Greenbush
- **Ashley Neely**, Director of School Based Behavioral Health, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- **Meghan Opie**, Community Health Worker, Eldon R-1 School District
- **Krista Postai**, CEO, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- **Jenny Westerman**, Greenbush Education Service Center

Telehealth ROCKS Impacting Social Determinants of Health ECHO

--Featuring --

Monica Murnan
Director of Community Support Services
Southeast Kansas Education Service Center - Greenbush



Leia Holley
Program Director and Parent
Families Together, Inc.



Join us

Dec. 12 from 9-10 AM to learn how Southeast Kansas Education Service Center - Greenbush and Families Together, Inc. support students and families on education needs and outcomes.

Audience

School and community organizations interested in impacting the social determinants of health for children in their community

Follow up sessions

- Jan. 16 from 9-10 AM: Neighborhood & Built Environment
- Feb. 13 from 9-10 AM: Social & Community Context
- Mar. 13 from 9-10 AM: Economic Stability

Contact us

Email telehealthrocks@kumc.edu

Register

Scan the QR code or click the link below.
There is no cost to attend and training is online via Zoom.
Sign up link: <https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/7a-WTFMRHTNPA4HKN9L>



Presenters



- **Meghan Opie**, CHW, Eldon R-1
• meghan.opie@eldonmustangs.org
- **Aaron Berendzen**, Director of Special Programs, Eldon R-1
• aaron.berendzen@eldonmustangs.org

Telehealth ROCKS
Regional Outreach for Communities, Kids and Schools

Heartland Telehealth Resource Center (HTRC)

The Heartland Telehealth Resource Center is funded through the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Health Resources and Services Administration. The aim of the HTRC is to advance and enhance telehealth adoption across the region, supporting efforts in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma in rural, frontier, and tribal areas. As a member of the National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers, the HTRC contributes to developing new resources, participating in special projects, and informing on advances in research.

HTRC PRIORITIES

1

Outreach and Education to Rural, Frontier, and Tribal Communities

A primary function within the HTRC is to provide outreach and education to support the evolving landscape of telehealth, focusing on trends in the field, needs across the region, and changes that impact adopting services.

2

Technical Assistance

The HTRC provides up to 10 hours of one-to-one assistance for clinics, community health centers, rural health centers, health systems, and telehealth organizations. With access to experts in the field, HTRC can connect clients to resources and support as needed for their organization.

3

National Contributions

As a member of the National Consortium, and through partnerships with the American Telemedicine Association and other professional organizations, the HTRC provides insight and updates to needs, innovation, research, and practice for the region.

HTRC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- University of Kansas Medical Center (Kansas Site PI M. Brown and PI Nelson)
- University of Missouri Telehealth Network (Missouri Site PI Mutrux)
- Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (Oklahoma Site PI Wheeler, Director Davis, and Director Droze)

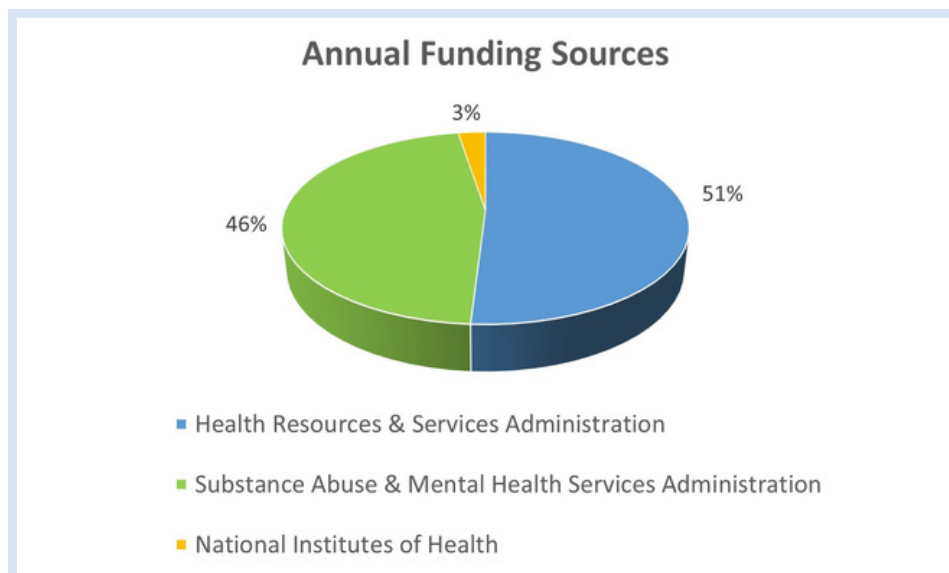


Team Funding

\$18.4 MILLION IN OVERALL FUNDING

\$3.9 MILLION ANNUALLY

- \$1,800,000 per year. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education). Grant #H79SM086348 (PI: Nelson)
- \$475,000 per year. Health Resources and Services Administration Office for Advancement of Telehealth. Telehealth Technology-Enabled Learning Program. Grant # U3143512 (PI: Nelson)
- \$350,000 per year. Health Resources and Services Administration, Office for Advancement of Telehealth. Evidence-Based Tele-Behavioral Health Network Program. Grant # G01RH42541 (PI: Nelson)
- \$325,000 per year. Health Resources and Services Administration, Office for Advancement of Telehealth. Regional Telehealth Resource Centers. Grant #U1Uth42530 (PI: Nelson)
- \$200,000 over two years. National Institute of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research. Bridges-to-Care. Grant # 1R56NR021161 (PI: Nelson)
- \$350,000 per year. Health Resources and Services Administration, Office for Advancement of Telehealth. Integrating Behavioral Health into Primary Care through Telehealth Evidence-Based Telehealth Network. Grant # UL8TH53328 (PI: Nelson)
- \$475,000 per year. Health Resources and Services Administration, Office for Advancement of Telehealth. Technology-Enabled Learning Collaborative Program. Grant # UU7TH54332 (PI: Nelson)



Team Communications

TELEHEALTH ROCKS

1,500
newsletter
recipients

11,255
views on
YouTube

10,213
website
page views

A comprehensive communications program helps build community and ensure continuity. Telehealth ROCKS layers asynchronous and two-way communication methods to meet a variety of audience needs.

The Telehealth ROCKS website shares a multitude of resilience, trauma, and past training resources to enhance engagement with its expanding network. The website is complemented with an active Facebook page, YouTube Channel, and newsletter, all facilitating ample communication about program efforts.



@TelehealthROCKS



@telehealthrocks6796



Newsletter sign up



telehealthrocks.org



telehealthrocks@kumc.edu

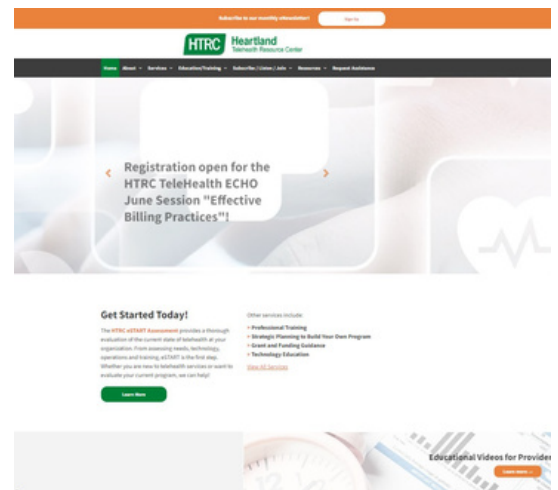
HEARTLAND TELEHEALTH RESOURCE CENTER

877
newsletter
recipients

2,093
views on
YouTube

3,458
website
visits

Heartland Telehealth Resource Center collaborates to maintain up-to-date regional and national information in the ever-changing telehealth climate. In 2024, HTRC continued sharing telehealth content, news, trainings, and more via a myriad of established channels: quarterly newsletter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, website, and podcast. You can access any of our channels and hear from leaders in telehealth about emerging trends and innovations. Our YouTube videos feature experts providing in-depth training on billing, coding, licensure, compacts, and reimbursement. The latest news can be found on Facebook and LinkedIn, and overall resources are located on the HTRC website.



@heartlandtrc



@heartlandtrc



HTRC LinkedIn



Newsletter
sign up

REGISTRATION

Education Series
registration



Apple
Spotify



heartlandtrc.org



htrc@kumc.edu

Team Scholarship

5

presentations

3

posters

7

scholarly publications

PRESENTATIONS

Nelson, E. Telebehavioral Health & Pediatric Psychology: Overview of Best Practices. Society of Pediatric Psychology Telehealth Summit. February 2024.

Nelson, E., & Stiles, R. KanAWARE: Leveraging Relationships to Advance Community Engagement & Meeting Social Determinants Needs. SAMHSA AWARE Summit, May 2024.

Nelson, E., & Stiles, R. School-Based Community Health Workers: Meeting Student Social Determinants Needs and Engaging Communities. National School-Based Health Alliance Conference. June 2024.

Nelson, E. The Evolution of the Telehealth ROCKS Telebehavioral Health Program. National OAT Grantee meeting. July 2024

Koob, C. et al. School-Based Community Health Workers and Working Upstream. National Association of Community Health Workers Unity Conference. August 2024.



POSTERS

Rosario-Vicente, G., Chuning, A. E., Lancaster, B. D., Dreyer Gillette, M. L., Nelson, E-L., Befort, C., & Davis, A. M. (April 2024). Does parent BMI explain the relationship between food insecurity and child BMIz in a rural pediatric obesity intervention? Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference. April 2024. New Orleans, LA.

Gilbert, R., Alzman, K., Fleming, K., Lowry, B., Nelson, E., & Bates, C. Social and Biological Barriers to Transition Among Adolescent and Young Adult Survivors of Pediatric Cancer. Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference. April 2024. New Orleans, LA.

Chuning, A. E., Rosario-Vicente, G., Lancaster, B. D., Nelson, E.L., & Davis, A.M. Rates of food insecurity and its influence on parent/child dyad mental health and BMI in a rural pediatric obesity intervention. Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference. April 2024. New Orleans, LA.





Team Scholarship

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Davis A, Lancaster B, Fleming K, Swinburne Romine R, Forseth B, Nelson EL, Dreyer Gillette M, Faith M, Sullivan DK, Pettee Gabriel K, Dean K, Olalde M. (2024). Effectiveness of a paediatric weight management intervention for rural youth (iAmHealthy): Primary outcomes of a cluster randomised control trial. *Pediatric Obesity*, 19(3):e13094. doi: 10.1111/ijpo.13094.

Ward MM, Bhagianadh D, Carter KD, Ullrich F, Marcin JP, McCord C, Law KB, Nelson EL, Merchant KAS. (2024). Comparison of treatment modality crossovers in telehealth and in-person behavioral health treatment in rural communities. *Telemedicine and e-Health Journal*. 30(3), 677-684.

Nelson, E. (2024). Clinician commentary on addressing suicidality safety risk in students through a hospital-school-community tele-partnership program. *Families, Systems & Health*, 42(2), 275-277. doi: 10.1037/fsh0000902

Nelson, E., Punt, S., Stiles, R., & Cain, S. (2024). Community health workers: Bridge to mental health equity. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. doi: 10.1016/j.jaac.2024.07.917.

Law, KB., McCord, C., ...Nelson, EL, Merchant, K. (2024). Differences in Behavioral Health Treatment among Rural American Clinics Utilizing In-Person and Telehealth Treatment Modalities. *Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41347-024-00436-4>.

Zhang E, Snyder M, Alduraiddi W, Kaiser E, Hunley S, Wright L, Swinburne Romine R, Nelson EL, Cheak-Zamora N. (2024). Health care transition for autistic adolescents and young adults: A pilot rural and urban comparison survey study. *Autism*. doi: 10.1177/13623613241304495. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39673373.

Hilty, DM, Zhang, EA, Giovanetti, A, Vaduvathiriyani, P, Stubbe, D, & Nelson, E. (2024). Telemental health improves access to care, facilitates early intervention, and provides evidence-based treatments at a distance. In: Mucic, D., & Hilty, D. (eds), *Digital Mental Health*. Springer, NYC.

OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Executive Director Nelson served as a federal grant reviewer for the National Institutes of Health and National Institute of Mental Health.

THR Director Stiles served as a federal grant reviewer for the Health Resources & Services Administration.

HTRC Director Brown became affiliate faculty with the KU Center for Health Informatics and launched the HTRC-supported telehealth curriculum as a focus area in the Healthcare Informatics Master's program.

Transforming the Future

FOCUS AREAS IN 2025

Telehealth ROCKS

- Early childhood
- Community and economic development initiatives
- Promoting pro-social behaviors and fostering hope

Heartland Telehealth Resource Center (HTRC)

- Increasing training opportunities
- Evaluation of telehealth services
- Telehealth Everywhere! 2025 Conference

Contact Telehealth ROCKS

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Contact HTRC

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 htrc@kumc.edu