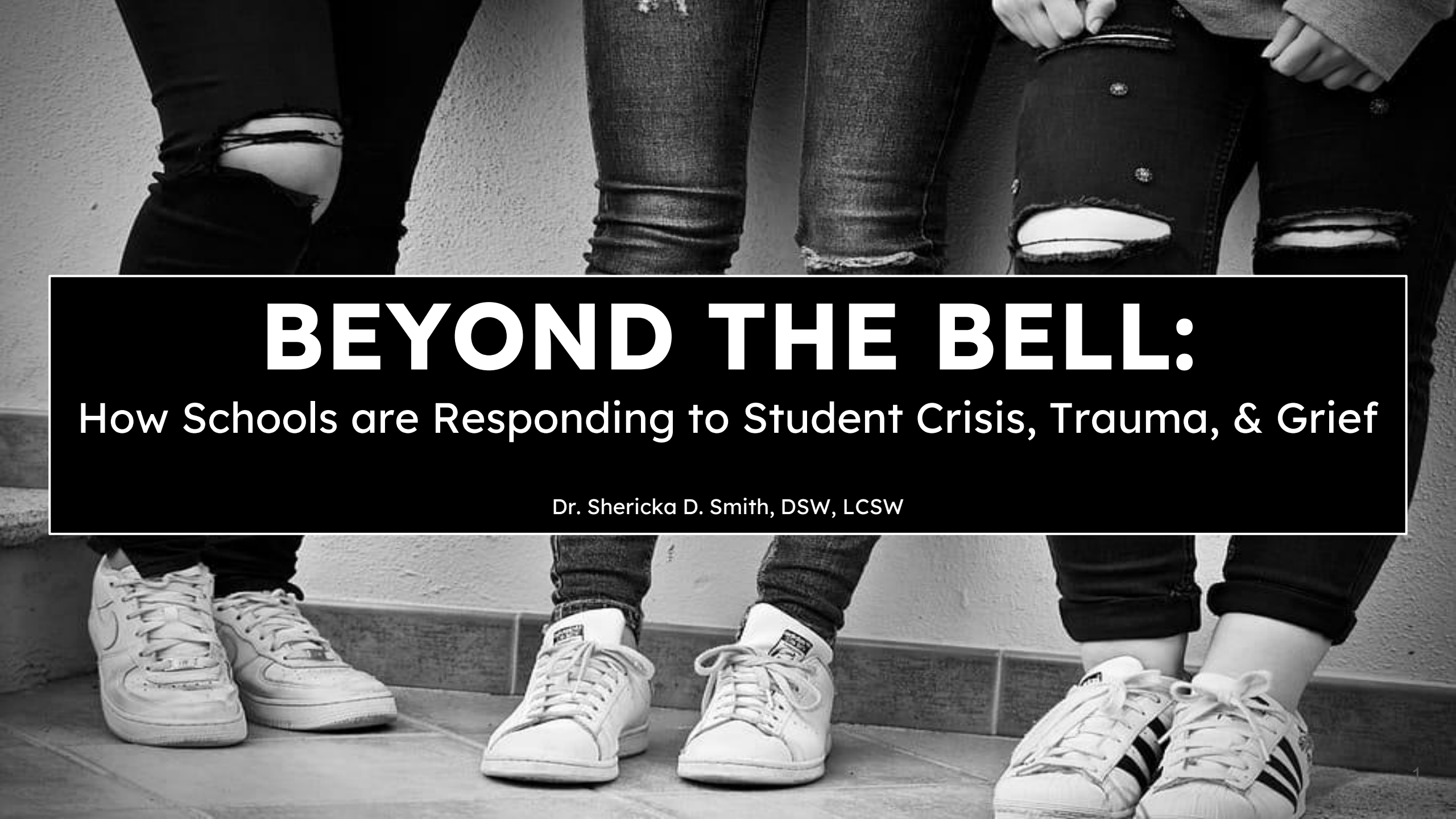




BEYOND THE BELL:

How Schools are Responding to Student Crisis, Trauma, & Grief

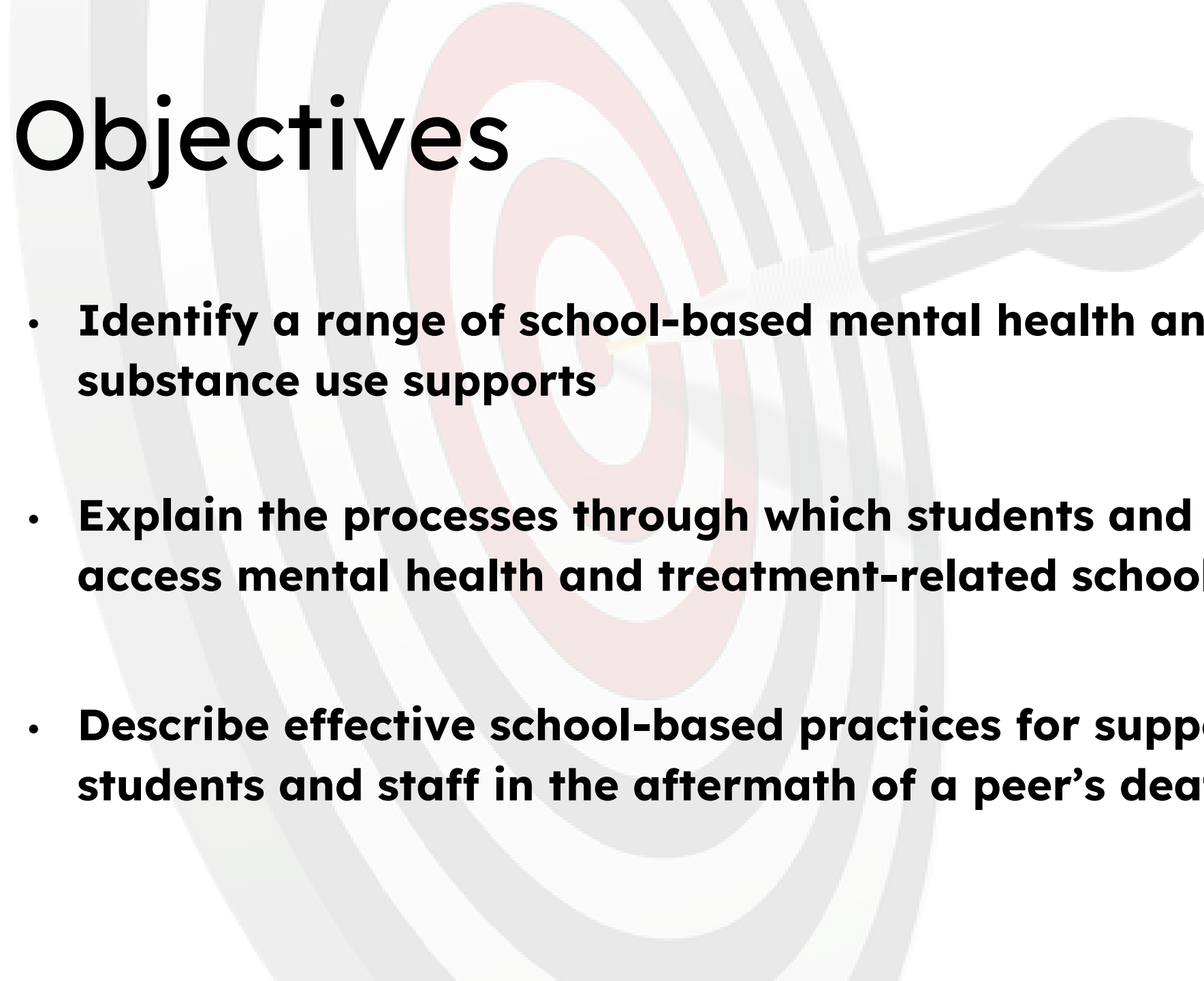
Dr. Shericka D. Smith, DSW, LCSW

About Me

Dr. Shericka Smith was born and raised in Lexington, Kentucky and is a mental health coordinator and crisis team lead for Fayette County Public Schools. Shericka obtained an undergraduate degree from Transylvania University where she studied Spanish and Psychology. She then earned her Masters in School Social Work from the University of Louisville. In May 2022, she graduated with her Doctorate in Social Work from the University of Kentucky where she is currently teaching classes for the College of Social Work. She also serves as a business manager at a private practice, Wellness Within, working with people of all ages.

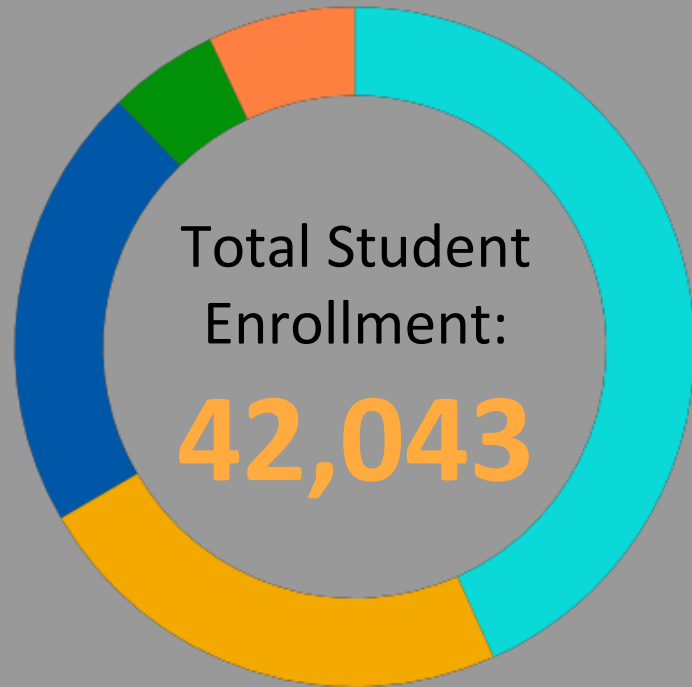


Objectives



- **Identify a range of school-based mental health and substance use supports**
- **Explain the processes through which students and families access mental health and treatment-related school service**
- **Describe effective school-based practices for supporting students and staff in the aftermath of a peer's death**

Our Students



White:
41%



Black:
24%



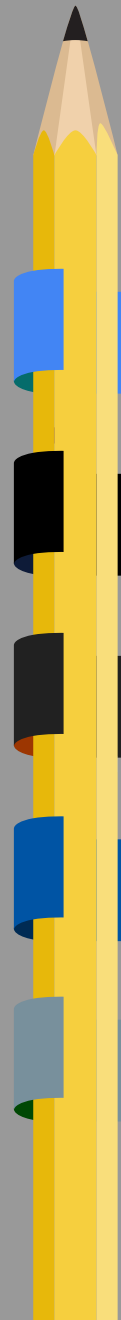
Hispanic:
22%



Asian:
5%



Other:
7%



Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch:**54%**

Students identified as gifted and talented:**15%**

Students receiving EL services: **18%**

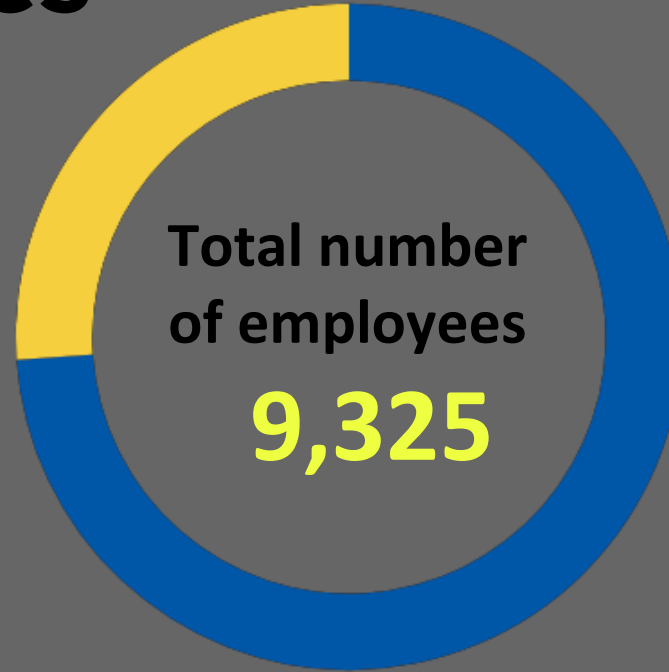
Students identified for special education:**14%**

Students experiencing homelessness:**1.7%**

Our Employees

Total number of
contracted employees:

6,915



Total number
of employees

9,325

Total number of
subs/non contracted:

2,442

Total number
of certified:

3,850

Total number
of teachers:

3,059

Total number
of classified:

3,065



School-based Mental Health Supports

**BY THE
NUMBERS**

85

District Mental Health
Specialists

28

School Social Workers

50

FRYSCs

130

School Counselors

84

School Police Officers

School-Based MH Supports

- Required Trainings
- Individual counseling
- Group counseling
- Outside Agency Support

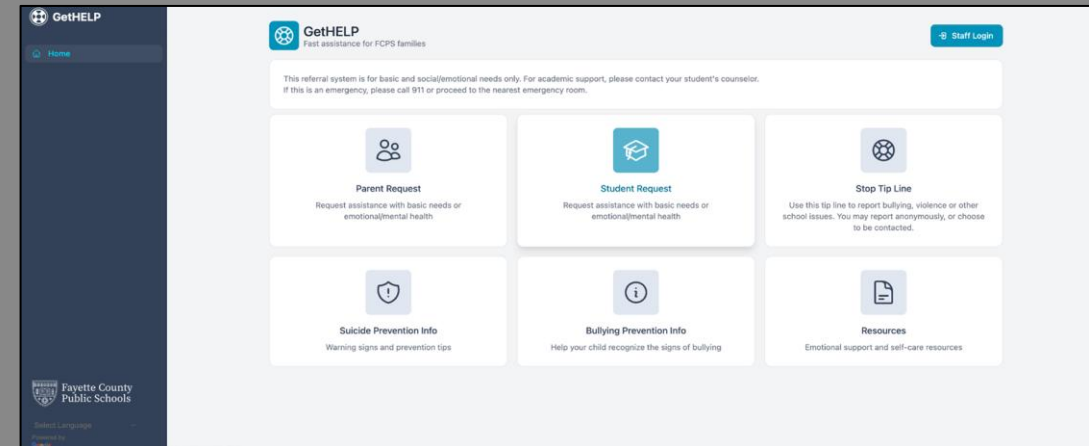




Accessing School Mental Health Services

How to Seek Help?

- fcps.net/gethelp
- Emotional Support & Self Care
- STOP Tip Line
- NEXUS
- Parent referrals

A screenshot of the "Safe School Reporting Tool" website. The header features the title "Safe School Reporting Tool" and a circular logo with "SAFETY TIP LINE, ONLINE PREVENTION" and "STOP!" in the center. Below the logo, there is a "Select Language" dropdown menu and a note: "Use this tip line to report bullying, violence or other school issues. You may report anonymously, or choose to be contacted." A red banner below this says "If this is an EMERGENCY please dial 911." The main body of the page contains text from the "Kentucky Office of Homeland Security" stating the tool's purpose. At the bottom, there is a "County:" label and a "Select" dropdown menu. A note at the bottom left says "Required fields are marked with an Asterisk *".

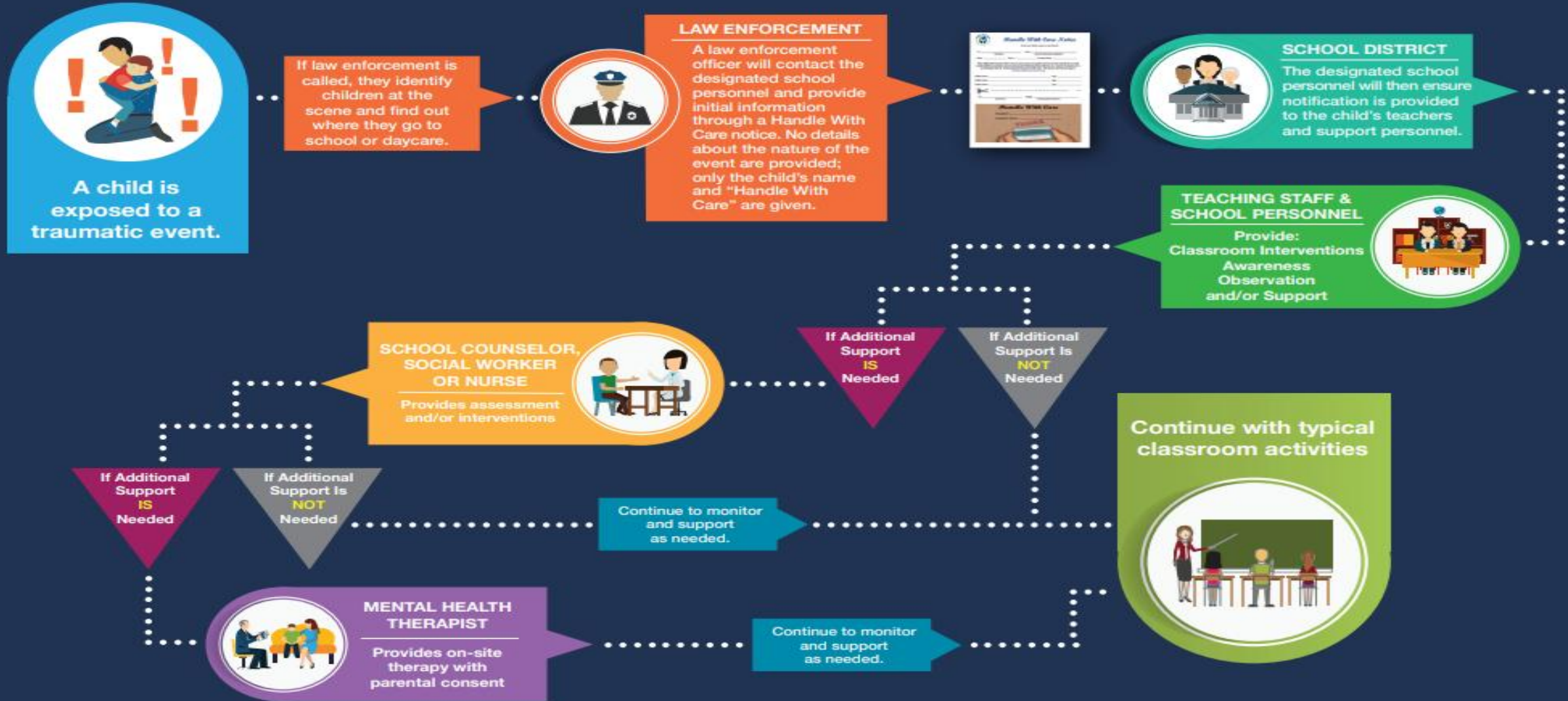
Additional Services

- DESSA
- Juvenile Treatment Court
- Handle With Care
- GoGuardian
 - TA/SA Assessments



HANDLE WITH CARE

Process Flow Chart



Outside Resources

Mental Health Emergency Services

- Emergency rooms
 - mobile assessments
 - substance stabilization
- Mental health screening/drop-off centers
 - Ridge/Peace/S.U.N./UK Good Sam/EmPATH
- Crisis Lines
 - 988 (Sucide Hotline)
 - 1-866-488-7386 (Trevor Project)
 - 800-799-7233 (DV Hotline)
- Other emergency service providers
 - Mobile crisis team (New Vista)

Non-psychiatric Emergency Services

- Youth shelters
 - Arbor Youth Services
- Safe Places
- Youth and Family Services





Supporting Students and Staff After a Crisis

Crisis Response Team (CRT)



The What & Why

CRT members are encouraged to get trained in the PREPaRE Curriculum. This two-day workshop strengthens school safety, crisis management plans, and emergency response. Completing this evidence-based training assists with mitigating the emotional and psychological impact of a crisis and to help the school community return to a state of normalcy as quickly as possible.



The Who

The team consists of a CRT lead and approximately 120 school-level student support team members. These members are assigned to serve during a specific month and they are only called upon during that time.



The How

Upon notification of a confirmed death, the team activates and begins to provide individual counseling, group sessions, and classroom support to students where needed. The team also follows up to assess the response's effectiveness and long-term recovery plans.

Employee Wellness Services

School based check-ins and crisis response services for staff

Individual counseling for staff

Small group support based on employee needs:

- **Grief Recovery**
- **Caring for the Caregiver**
- **Stress & Anxiety Management**
- **Conflict Resolution**

Referrals to outside therapists and support with TELUS Health and LiveHealth Online services

Preventive wellness practices shared through Wellness Leads, newsletter, professional learning, etc.

Training Opportunities





Questions?

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