



Yolo County ADHD Collaborative  
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Our efforts have focused on empowering parents to manage their children's chronic symptoms of ADHD. Helping children with ADHD requires a complex cooperation between the Parents, Teachers and school systems, mental health professionals, Pediatric care practitioners. Specific subcomponents of organizing the resources around parents include:

- Parent educational resources including the book *ADHD; A complete and Comprehensive guide*, resource libraries in multiple locations and parenting classes for several audiences
- Referral coordination among community agencies using Web based software (Vision Link's *Tapestry*)
- Standardization of the diagnostic screening process among community agencies that is founded on the AAP guidelines
- Care model redesign that includes opportunities for group visits for chronic maintenance combining the talents of mental health professionals and Pediatricians and encouragement of parental support groups

Approximately 5 % of school age children suffer from ADHD. For the town of Woodland with 12,000 school age children that means 600 children in need of chronic disease management. With very limited child psychiatry availability and fragmented services between educational, mental health and pediatric care systems care our initial estimates show less than 20% compliance with the AAP best practice standards for diagnosis and for ongoing treatment. We are now in process of tracking the care for some 400 patients cared for in our system for compliance with multiple standards from the 2001 AAP Guidelines through a registry that allows reporting of medication follow-ups, tracks parenting classes attended and progress on target behaviors.

Because the care for these children by the educational, mental health and pediatric care systems is so labor and resource intensive, collaboration opportunities have been well received. In our community, the Education Department at WHC and the Yolo Family resource center have anchored the administrative resources needed to pilot the programs. Start-up funding through the CHCF along with matching funding from participating partners have provided for educational materials, training for educators, administrative time, clinical group leadership and software licensing. It is anticipated the increase in efficiency of the new care model to reduce the total costs between the school system, pediatric offices and behavioral health networks will make the project self-sustaining.

### Take Home Messages

- Use the book *ADHD : A Complete and Comprehensive Guide* as a road map for teaching parents to assume responsibility for care of the patient (<http://www.aap.org/bookstorepubs.html>)
- Seek community partners to better coordinate resources including training in the *Parent Project* and *Loving Solutions* for parent education classes (<http://www.parentproject.com/>)
- Compare your current practice to the AAP guidelines for best practice and continually seek to improve your model