

GEORGIA PROGRAM

BUILDING THE STARS OF OUR FUTURE

June/July/August 2018

Issue 12





Newton Apex Clinician Team



June 20th-22nd: Newton Apex clinicians Melissa Brown, Anushka Fussell, Marcia Bryant-Cornelison, Cheryl Daugherty (not pictured) and Andrina Jordan (not pictured) attended the 11th Annual Georgia System of Care Academy at Stone Mountain Park Evergreen Marriott Conference Resort. Clinicians were able to receive training on a variety of topics related to mental health. Clinicians also enjoyed the opportunity to receive valuable community resources and interventions to use with clients & their families.

Liberty Middle School

Clinician's participation in Open House increased awareness of the Apex program by providing a chance for clinician to talk with parents about services offered through the program.



Clements Middle School



During the months of June and July, clinician provided individual and family counseling during the summer break. Clinician utilized play therapy and expressive art therapy based interventions which provided a fun opportunity for clients and their parents to learn new skills and strategies for symptoms management, create more structured home environments, strengthen parent-child relationships, and increase cohesiveness in the family.

Clinician along with school counselors provided training to teachers during planning week. The training focused on behavioral interventions to implement in the classroom to address students with emotional/behavioral challenges and creating trauma informed classroom environments.





Healthy Mind
Healthy Life

Middle Ridge Elementary

Middle Ridge, Fairview, and Porterdale Apex clinicians partnered with Newton County Schools ASAP (21st Century After School Program) to provide summer groups at the following sites: Middle Ridge Elementary, Fairview Elementary, and Washington Street Community Center. Groups focused on anger management, feelings, self-esteem, and coping techniques. Groups concluded with “Celebrating Healthy Minds” and group members were presented with a toolkit that included self-regulation items- bubbles, stress ball, journal, pencil, and healthy snacks.

Middle Ridge Apex clinician partnered with SEEK Atlanta, engineering camp for girls during the summer. Clinician volunteered as a judge on competition Fridays (wind turbine, drone) and spoke to girls about self-esteem.

Middle Ridge Apex clinician provided a welcome back breakfast for staff, where clinician was introduced. Motto for this school year is #bestyearever!

the BEST
YEAR
EVER



Indian Creek Middle School

This summer was busy as classrooms were cleaned! However, students continued with their individual and group therapy with the Apex clinician.

Students went to White Water for a therapeutic fun-filled outing where they were challenged to socialize with each other and utilize skills taught throughout the school year (e.g. social skills, making and keeping friends, refuting impulsive behaviors, and following directions). Only students who attended summer sessions were invited and they reported the following: "I can't wait to come back...I have never had this much fun...Maybe next time we can get a Cabaña... it's been 6 hours already."



Apex clinician attended Open House, providing the opportunity to introduce self to parents and students and discuss the Apex program including the referral process and the 2018-2019 Apex goals. Apex clinician is excited about continuing to collaborate with teachers and administrators to help students become more productive in their home and academic environments!





Middle Ridge Elementary

Clinician attended Newton County Schools' "Teach for Tomorrow" Technology Conference at Newton High School. Clinician had the opportunity to learn new technology strategies and explore innovative techniques that can be applied during counseling sessions with students.



Clinician attended Newton County Schools' opening session at Springfield Baptist Church where the keynote speaker, Tara Brown, addressed meeting students' basic needs using Marlow's Hierarchy. She also encouraged everyone to smile ("sling Dopamine") even when you don't want to.



Clinician provided a table at Open House which included information about Apex program. Clinician also provided sweet treats, water, and stress balls.

Clinician would like to welcome their new Assistant Principal Ron Edwards to Middle Ridge!



Indian Creek Middle



Apex clinician provided a “Teachers Back to School Lunch and Learn.” During the lunch and learn, the Apex clinician spoke to the teachers about the referral process, the intake process, and the new protocol that will allow clients to be seen and heard as needed outside of the open door policy that was implemented last school year.

Clements Middle

Clinician participated in Open House by hosting a table focused on bullying prevention and talking with parents about the Apex program. Parents expressed appreciation for learning about the Apex program, ways to assist their children with bullying prevention, and how to report incidents of bullying to school administrators.





“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelson Mandela

