

## Teachers and Parents as Partners: A Family-School Intervention Supporting Rural Students

### What is TAPP?

- **Teachers and Parents as Partners (TAPP)** is a research-based problem-solving intervention that improves student outcomes and parent-teacher partnerships in schools. It is **led by school specialists (consultants)** who support teachers and parents as they implement consistent and effective plans at school and home.
- A **collaborative consultation approach** that helps teachers and parents jointly identify and address student concerns by sharing input, ideas, and plans for improving student success at school and home.
- A structured process, conducted via **three to four meetings** over **approximately 8 weeks**, whereby parents and teachers together:
  - Identify and prioritize a student's strengths and challenges that interfere with learning.
  - Set goals and develop strategies that can be used cooperatively at home and school.
  - Implement a joint plan at home and school.
  - Evaluate the plan and monitor the student's progress toward goals.

### Goals of the TAPP Online Study:

- Collaborate with schools and **school specialists** to implement TAPP to address social-behavioral or learning concerns of students.
- Provide **virtual professional development with coaching** as a means of assisting school specialists as they create family partnerships for students with social-behavioral or mental health concerns.
- Promote the **academic and behavioral success** of students.
- Improve **parent and teacher skills** at supporting students who are struggling.
- Strengthen **relationships** between students' families and schools.

### Participation of All School Specialists:

- Requires Bachelor's degree (or higher); **two years** of professional experience in schools; one year of experience delivering evidence-based interventions and no previous TAPP training.
- Involves collaborating with the research team for two years.
- Includes working with researchers to identify **four-six PreK-5 students per year**, and their teachers and parents who may benefit from participation.
- Requires some documentation of study experiences including:
  - Thirty minute surveys four times over two years.
  - Recordings of meetings with teachers and parents of participating students.
- Assignment to one of two groups (TAPP, typical services) will be made randomly.

### For School Specialists in the TAPP Group, Participation Involves:

- Completing virtual training of the TAPP intervention, including how-to readings, online modules, and practice sessions. Training is self-paced, expected to occur over **one to two weeks**, and will take approximately **20 hours**.
- Engaging with a project-provided coach who will support school-based TAPP casework. Coaching will be provided via **weekly individualized meetings** via distance technology (e.g., Zoom) and informal means as needed.
- Implement the TAPP intervention for approximately **four to six students per year**, involving the school specialist and a student's teacher and parent. Services involve:
  - Attending and facilitating the meetings
  - Strengthening relationships between parents and teachers
  - Assisting in identifying and replacing specific behaviors that interfere with each student's progress
  - Assisting in the development of a feasible home-school plan
  - Providing ongoing support to all parties
- Compensation of up to **\$6,152 for two-year participation**

### For School Specialists in the Typical Services Group, Participation Involves:

- Continuing typical services provided in school(s)
- Compensation of up to **\$1,600 for two-year participation**

### For more information, please contact:



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