

# Arizona Medicaid School Based Claiming Program

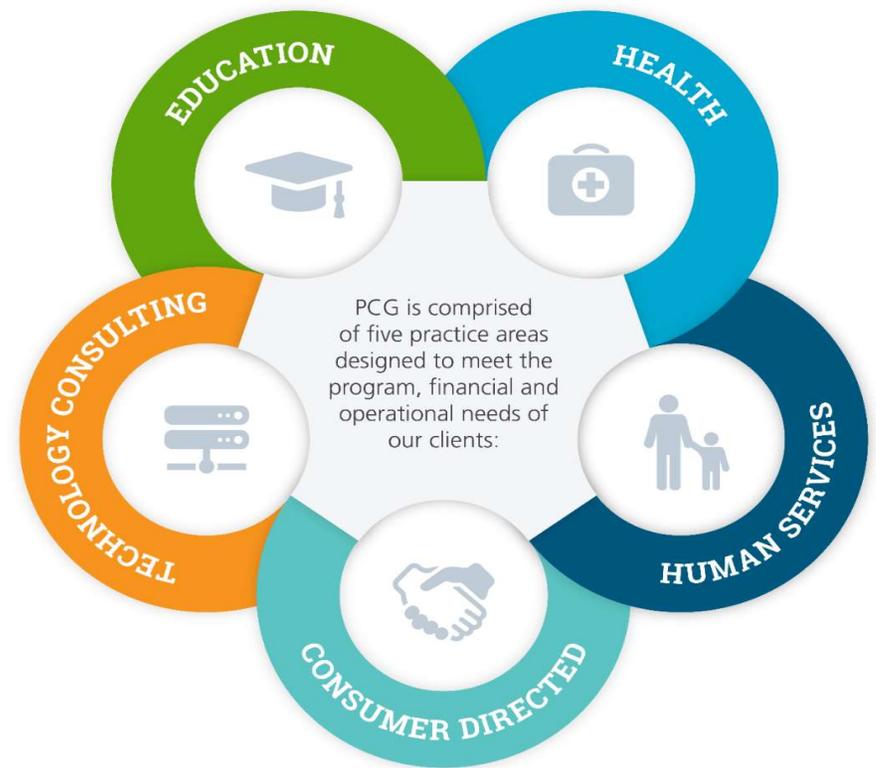
School Based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Services Forums

*September 2019*

## About PCG

Public Consulting Group, Inc. is a management consulting firm primarily serving public sector clients

- Founded in 1986
- Employs over 2,500+ professionals in 60+ offices located across the US, Canada, UK, Australia, and Poland
- Target Markets: Health, Human Service, and Education in the Public Sector
- Core Services: consulting, policy advising, information technology, and on-going operations support



## Education's hot topics

- PCG has worked with many states and districts to better understand and capitalize on the national momentum around mental and behavioral health support for adolescence
  - Some states have elected to work with the federal government to expand policy to obtain additional funding for health services
  - Others have started using case management technology to identify students at risk of self-harm or school violence and provide intervention / prevention support

## PCG's work in Arizona

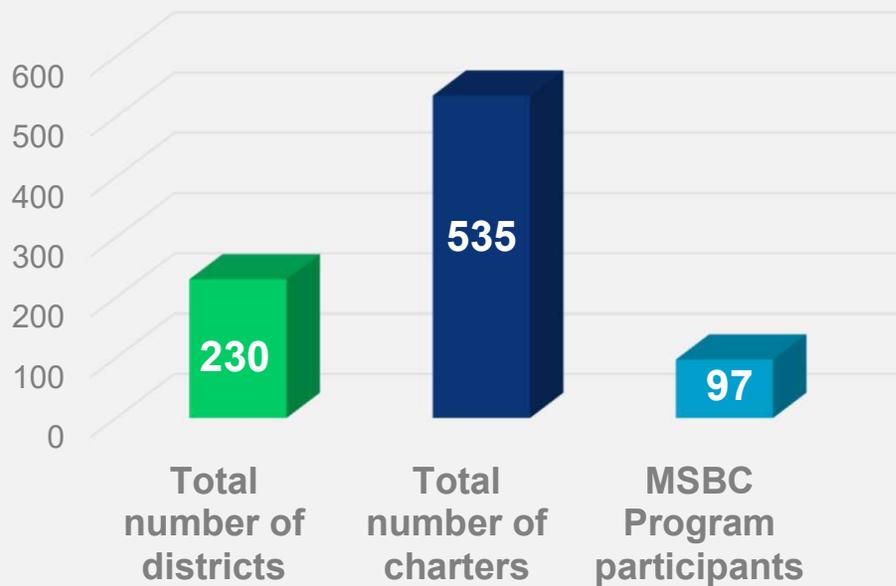
- Support AHCCCS in administering the Medicaid School Based Claiming (MSBC) Program since 2009
- Help Arizona Local Education Agencies (LEAs) **recover over \$48M** in statewide Medicaid reimbursement annually for administrative / outreach, health-related and specialized transportation services prescribed in Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
  - Health-related services: speech, occupation / physical therapy, mental / behavioral health, nursing, and personal care



# MSBC Program by the Numbers

# MSBC Program Participation in Arizona

## Districts/Charters in Arizona



## MSBC Program Participants



### Districts/Charters:

Districts: **94**

Charters: **3**

Accounts for **~78%**  
of all AZ students

**110 total Behavioral Health  
Providers in 34 of the 97 LEAs:**

Marriage & Family Therapists: **1**

Licensed Professional Counselors: **20**

Psychologists, PhD: **36**

Licensed Clinical Social Workers: **53**



# Behavioral Health Billed Services

## Behavioral Health Claims by the Numbers

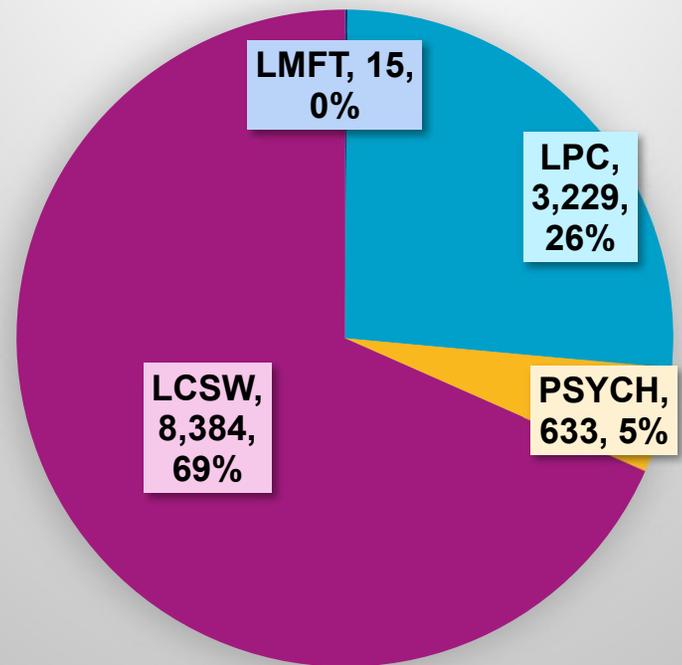
**1,220** students had a behavioral health service billed (3%) of the ~37,000 of all service types

**94%** of all billed BH services are “Behavioral Health Counseling”

Providers Billing:  
**68 of out 110 (62%)**

On average, students received **only 5.4 hours** of services per school year

## Total Service Lines Billed in FY19 by Provider Type



# Compliance and Program Requirements

# Establishment and Management of an IEP

- Student suspected of requiring special education services must be evaluated to determine eligibility
- Special education concerns noted during a screening must be communicated to parents
  - With parental consent, the student is referred for an initial evaluation
- Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) meets to discuss evaluation results and determine eligibility
  - If eligible, the team must meet to write an IEP
  - Parental consent must be received prior to implementing the IEP
- IEP team must review the IEP at least annually and revise as needed
- Student must be reevaluated for eligibility every three years



# Provision of Behavioral Health Services Under the MSBC program

- A qualified behavioral health provider determines eligibility for behavioral health services based on medical necessity
- Behavioral health services must be provided through psychological / developmental testing and therapy sessions
  - Services must be rendered by a qualified behavioral health provider
  - Situational or episodic events are not serviced through an IEP but still provided to the student in the school setting
    - Currently these services are not reimbursable under the MSBC program
    - Situational services may include short term support such as:
      - Grief counseling
      - Support for bullying
      - Addiction counseling
      - Domestic support



## Curious to know more? PCG can...

- Discuss your LEA's specific MSBC Program reimbursement and if there's opportunity for optimization?
- Talk about what we are doing in other states and LEAs around the country with respect to policy work and identification / prevention / intervention technology

# PCG Contact Information

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